



An Invitation for Congregations to Partner with Mount Carmel

We are inviting congregations to join us in our ministry of Bible study and Christ-Centered fellowship at Mount Carmel.

- We believe that Mount Carmel can be a blessing to the members of your congregation.
- We believe that Mount Carmel can be an important outreach mission of your congregation.
- We believe that Mount Carmel can be a place where your members can grow in their faith in Jesus, their knowledge of the Bible, and their commitment to your congregation.

Mount Carmel is an independent inter-denominational organization with a Lutheran heritage. We are not affiliated with any denomination. Almost all our support comes from fees and from gifts from individual supporters. A few congregations have supported us in the past. We are starting a new initiative in 2022 to invite congregations to partner with us in our ministry.

Congregations that choose to partner with Mount Carmel are called Mount Carmel Proclaimer Congregations. Here is how Mount Carmel defines a Proclaimer Congregation:

1. The congregation agrees to recognize Mount Carmel as one of its mission partners in reaching out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
2. The congregation affirms its support of Mount Carmel's teaching guidance.
3. The congregation agrees to pray for Mount Carmel's ministry.
4. The congregation agrees to inform its members about Mount Carmel's ministry.
5. The congregation agrees to provide financial support to Mount Carmel. For 2022, the minimum expected support from a Proclaimer Congregation is \$250.

How can Mount Carmel provide a unique mission opportunity for your congregation?

- Mount Carmel was founded as the facility to host the summer classes of the Lutheran Bible Institute. It was a place for young adults to come for Bible study while enjoying a beautiful Minnesota lake vacation. Mount Carmel still provides that. We are a place where you can have a vacation – a vacation that is enhanced with the encouragement and New Life that comes from God's Word.
- Mount Carmel is not a youth Bible Camp (though we do host congregational youth retreats). We do an excellent job of providing youth programming, but we only do that for youth who come with their families. We offer events for adults, for families, and for congregations. For those congregations that are already associated with a youth Bible Camp – please also consider being a Mount Carmel Proclaimer Congregation. We will not and cannot replace your existing youth Bible Camp. That's not what we do. We offer your congregation a different set of ministry opportunities.

- Family Camp, offered in 7 or 8 sessions from mid-June through early August, is our most popular event. In the morning we have Biblical teaching and activities for all ages. We have excellent teachers for the adults. We hire thirty young adults to run our youth programs, with age-appropriate teaching for pre-school, elementary, middle school, and high school groups. In the afternoon and evening, we have a wide variety of activities that involve the entire family. Couples come with their children. Grandparents bring their grandchildren. Many families come as multi-generational groups. Single people come. Family Camp is for everyone! We also have a weekend Family Camp in February, which we call the Family Camp Recharge.
- We have many opportunities specifically for adults – Adult Camps in August, a Hymn Festival in September, a Fall Retreat in late September, Young Adult Retreats, and a choir workshop in June. All of these provide Biblical teaching, worship, and fellowship – and a wonderful time at the lake.
- Many congregations encourage their members to sign up together for one of our Family Camps or Adult programs. In that way, the members of a congregation can grow in their friendship with one another as they enjoy the spiritual encouragement of being at Mount Carmel.
- We encourage congregations to come and have a retreat at Mount Carmel. If desired, you can provide your own teaching and worship. Or, you can have Mount Carmel staff help lead the retreat. Either way, Mount Carmel can provide excellent accommodations and meals – and a beautiful, relaxing setting.
- We encourage your members to come throughout the year, with our 50% cabin rental discount for members of Proclaimer congregations. We are building a year-round community of Bible study and fellowship. Mount Carmel is a beautiful place to stay, and it can be a wonderful place of spiritual renewal. We invite your members to be a part of this community. This 50% cabin rental discount is offered at all times that we don't have a special program that is using our lodging (Family Camp, Adult Camp, weekend retreat, congregational retreat). Cabin rental is available most weekdays and many weekends outside of the summer months.
- We encourage Proclaimer congregations to consider recruiting for our year-long young adult Bible and ministry training school known as The Awaken Project.
- We want Mount Carmel to be a place of growing opportunities for Bible study and the renewal of faith in Jesus Christ. We hope that many congregations will choose to partner with us and, by God's Grace and Power, make that a reality!