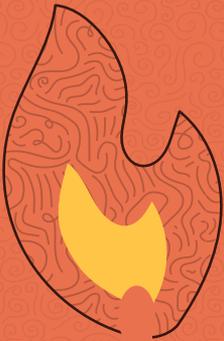


CCCA
SIERRA
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SECTIONAL

FAN THE FLAME



2026



CHRISTIAN CAMP
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Greetings

CCCA Sierra Pacific Sectional 2026



WELCOME TO THE 2026 SIERRA PACIFIC SECTIONAL!

In 2 Timothy 1:6-7 Paul writes an encouragement to Timothy reminding him to “fan into flame the gift of God” (ESV). The term used here, *anzōpyreō* is translated as: to kindle up, inflame one’s mind, strength, zeal (Strong’s).

For myself, there is a distinct image that pops up. For many years I kept a long aluminum tube near our campfire ring. When the flames would die down or when I was first getting the fire going, I would blow into it. A concentrated blast of air in the right spot would result in a burst of flame and if I was strategic, it would take hold. As followers of Jesus, we have been given spiritual gifts and are responsible in partnership with God’s Spirit to use them.

For some of us, these flames are burning brightly! For others, our flame is only gently flickering, or perhaps there is only a small ember. No matter where you are in that spectrum, be encouraged! Even though flames will naturally diminish when they are starved for air, where there is an ember, there is opportunity and hope.

As we dig into 2 Timothy together, our hope and prayer is that your flame is kindled up so that it can burn brightly through which God is glorified.

Erik Johnson
President
Sierra Pacific Section

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER



GARY GADDINI

A San Francisco native with deep roots in the Bay Area, Gary served for 24 years as lead pastor of Peninsula Covenant Church following more than two decades in Student and Family Ministries. He is now Executive Director of Transforming the Bay. Gary and his wife, Anne, have been married for 31 years and are the proud parents of five daughters. He enjoys trail running, reading, and spending time with his family and close friends.

WORSHIP LEADER



DAVE MATSUMURA

Dave is a multi-instrumentalist/singer/songwriter who has a passion for using music as a vehicle to gather people in worship of God. He is married to Jenn and is dad to Isaiah, Elli and Sebastian. He loves Jesus, surfing, music, and donuts. You can hear some of his recorded music under the band name Kokua on any streaming platform.

CCCA NATIONAL REP



JEN HOWVER

Jen serves as the editor of CCCA's flagship publication, InSite magazine. She is also CCCA's training manager, planning the EIT webinars, RoundTables and seminars offered at the National Conference. Jen was a camper and later worked on staff at Camp Paradise (Newberry, Michigan), Jen and her husband Jay live in Colorado with their daughters, Noelle and Chloe, and way too many pets.

Conference Schedule

CCCA Sierra Pacific Sectional 2026

MON MAR 2

4:00-5:00	Check-in/Arrival	Heartwood
4:30-5:15	First Timers Session	Youth Memorial
5:30	Dinner	Dining Hall
6:30	Opening General Session - Gary Gaddini	Auditorium
8:00	Campfires and Wings	The Commons/ Central Lounge
8:30	Game Show	Auditorium
10:00	Night Owls - Barn Dance	Youth Memorial

TUE MAR 3

7:00	Coffee	Heartwood
7:00	Morning Devos	Youth Memorial
8:00	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8:45	Morning Huddle	Dining Hall
9:00	Seminar Session #1	Various
10:30	Break	The Commons
11:00	Seminar Session #2	Various
12:30	Lunch	Dining Hall
	Women in Camping Lunch	Side Dining
1:30	Free Time	
1:30-3:45	• Explore Santa Cruz	
1:30-3:45	• One Wheels and Laser Tag	
	• Group Surfing	
	• Open Gym	Field House
2:00	• Tour of Other Camps - will need to carpool	
5:30	Dinner	Dining Hall
7:00	General Session - Gary Gaddini	Auditorium
8:30	Comedy Sportz Improv	Auditorium
10:00	Night Owls - PJ & Cereal Party	Youth Memorial

WED MAR 4

7:00	Coffee	Heartwood
7:00	Morning Devos	Youth Memorial
8:00	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8:00	Directors Breakfast	Side Dining
9:00	General Session - Soul Talks	Auditorium
9:45	Soul Care Breakouts	Various
10:30	Solo Time	
11:30	Vendor Lunch	Dining Hall
1:30	Seminar Session #3	Various
3:00	Free Time	
	• Photo Scavenger Hunt	
	• Mini Golf and Field Games	
	• Open Gym	
5:30	Round Table Dinner	Dining Hall
7:00	General Session - Gary Gaddini	Auditorium
9:00	Free Time/S'mores	The Commons
9:00	Vlasic Classic Pickleball Tournament	Field House
9:00	Laser Tag	Outside Field House

THU MAR 5

7:00	Coffee	Heartwood
7:00	Meet at Loading Zone	
8:00	Breakfast	Pancake Ridge
9:00	Short Goodbye/Devo	Pancake Ridge
10:00	Check Out	
10:30	Adventure Courses - Register with Mount Hermon Adventures	

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Seminar Session #1

Tuesday AM 9:00-10:30

<p>Faye Hogue Fireside</p>	<p>BEYOND THE FRONT DESK: SERVING WITH A HEART THAT IS CONTAGIOUS TO ALL STAFF</p> <p>This session will focus on serving guests and staff in ways that build bridges, strengthen relationships, and help groups feel that we are an extension of their ministry. We will explore skills that support healthy team dynamics, including navigating conflict with grace and demonstrating care through action—not just listening, but showing guests they have been truly heard. After sharing practical examples of effective guest service, we will open the discussion for participants to share the tools and approaches they use to build strong connections with their own teams and guests.</p>	<p>Mitchell McWilliams Meadow View</p>	<p>WHERE FAITH MEETS RISK: CHRIST-CENTERED ADVENTURE RECREATION</p> <p>Adventure recreation has long been a powerful tool in camp ministry—but without intentional theology, it can drift toward self-promotion, thrill-seeking, or performance. This workshop explores how adventure can be rooted in the life and teachings of Jesus. Participants will examine how risk, wilderness, challenge, and community become pathways for discipleship. This session invites camp leaders to re-center adventure recreation on humility, trust, service, and dependence on God, shaping programs that form Christlike leaders rather than just confident participants.</p>
<p>Joshua Kerr Forest View</p>	<p>BUILDING A VOLUNTEER MENTAL HEALTH TEAM</p> <p>Every camp faces the growing reality of mental health needs among both students and staff. This workshop explores how Christian camps can faithfully and effectively respond by integrating volunteer mental health professionals into their teams. Drawing from real stories, lessons learned, and recent trends, we'll discuss how to build a sustainable model that strengthens both campers and staff. From the big picture to nuts and bolts, we'll envision how mental health ministry can support their mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ. Come ready to share your own experiences and creative suggestions!</p>	<p>Steven Johnson Newton Memorial: Cascade</p>	<p>LEADING CHANGE IN YOUR MINISTRY</p> <p>Change can be hard, even feared. But sometimes changes is needed to help get your ministry to where God is leading it. Learn some practical tools that will assist you in leading your ministry into the future.</p>
<p>Mark P. Fisher Lakeside</p>	<p>THE POWER OF MAYBE: HOW CURIOSITY & HUMILITY INSPIRE GROWTH IN LEADERS</p> <p>What if the breakthrough your camp needs isn't a new strategy, but a better question? In this engaging session, Mark invites camp leaders to rediscover the power of curiosity and humility in leadership. You'll explore how "maybe" creates stronger teams, healthier culture, and wiser decisions—especially in moments of uncertainty. Through relatable camp stories and practical insights, Mark equips leaders to turn challenges into opportunities for growth. Walk away encouraged, energized, and ready to lead with greater clarity, connection, and confidence.</p>	<p>Cam Staman Newton Memorial: Creekside</p>	<p>FACILITY TIPS, HACKS, AND OTHER INFORMATION YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED TO KNOW</p> <p>This roundtable seminar will explore the fundamentals and mid-level complexities of managing camp facilities. In an open-forum format, participants will help shape the topics and share practical tips. Planned discussions include workflow and project management, demonstrations of Asana and ClickUp, and a review of essential tools every maintenance worker should carry. The session will also address managing different team sizes and working with various materials such as Pex A vs. Pex B, PVC repair methods, and multiple water_heater types, including the new Rinnai storage tank. Attendees will connect, learn from one another, and gain practical, adaptable skills.</p>
<p>John Han Laurel Lounge</p>	<p>HOW TO KEEP YOUR SANITY IN A SPECIAL DIET WORLD</p> <p>The goal is for all the industry personnels to collaborate and find best practices in cooking and serving the guests with special diets. It goes beyond the "Big 4" of Gluten Free, Dairy Free, Vegetarian & Vegan. How can we all share, learn and create ideas and discuss solutions for key takeaways to be better equipped to serve our campers when we go back. I like to also spend time discuss how we can use special diets as a tool in our ministry.</p>	<p>Gretchen Phillips Tour (Starting at Central Lounge)</p>	<p>TOUR OF MOUNT HERMON OUTDOOR SCIENCE SCHOOL</p> <p>An opportunity to see the property and inner workings of Mount Hermon Outdoor Science</p>
		<p>Jen Howver Youth Memorial</p>	<p>THE ART OF REPURPOSING: MAXIMIZING EVERY STORY YOU TELL</p> <p>One story, many uses. Instead of constantly reinventing the wheel, discover how you can stretch one story across newsletters, social media, emails, websites and more. Using a simple "Capture, Adapt, Slice, Schedule" framework, former marketing professional and current editor of InSite Jen Howver will guide you through a repeatable process that makes your communications more efficient, consistent and engaging. You'll leave with a plan to multiply the impact of the content you already have.</p>

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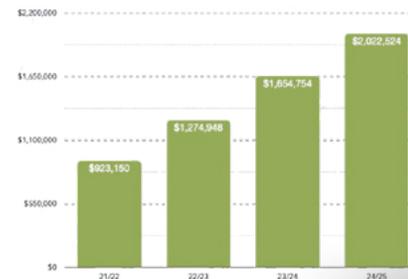


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Seminar Session #2

Tuesday AM 11:00-12:30

<p>Tom Beaumont Fireside</p>	<p>LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE: NAVIGATING SUCCESS WITH YOUR TEAM Every direct report needs to be able to answer the following questions: What is expected of me? Do I have what I need to be successful? Does authority accompany my responsibilities? How will I know how I am doing? It is the responsibility of a leader to make sure those they lead can answer these and that they are aware of the consequences if the questions are left without answers. Leadership is all about people and the movement of those people towards a desired outcome. We will dig into these questions as they relate to leading a successful team.</p>	<p>Ernie Zielsdorf Newton Memorial: Creekside</p>	<p>WHY DESIGN, ART, AND CREATIVITY MATTER We'll talk through some ways design, art, and creativity can have an impact on what you are doing. Whether it's branding your organization, creating fun tees, or just enticingly curating your space. There are many ways that creativity comes into play in day-to-day life, and so we might as well come at it intentionally. This workshop will be very interactive and conversational. I would love to share my experience, give insights on working with designers, explore ways to be intentional with creativity, and work on some live illustration/ design during our time to practice getting those creative juices flowing!</p>
<p>Christian Warne and Erin Neckers Forest View</p>	<p>SKITS AND WHY THEY MATTER Skits have been a part of camp since the early years of youth camps. It's important to be silly and let the kids laugh. However have you asked are they making an impact? What skits make a spiritual impact on kids. How do you know when to be silly vs when to have a serious skit. We will teach you about skit techniques, yes and, and how skits can be used for the kingdom.</p>	<p>Josh Anacker Shop - Meet at Loading Zone</p>	<p>CHAINSAW SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE We will be covering both basic and advanced chainsaw safety and maintenance techniques. The gear and knowledge to stay safe. Tools and techniques to cleaning, maintaining, and repairing your saw. Discussion and Q&A is part of this as well. Hope to see you there.</p>
<p>Mark P. Fisher Lakeside</p>	<p>COACHING THE ANXIOUS GENERATION In this interactive session, we'll explore how technology is impacting campers' social and emotional development, the roadblocks parents face when deciding to send kids away, and what camps can do to ease those concerns. You'll leave with practical tools to strengthen parent communication, design programs that foster resilience, and help campers truly disconnect to reconnect.</p>	<p>John Han Tour (Starting at Kitchen)</p>	<p>MOUNT HERMON KITCHEN AND DINING TOUR We will walk through the kitchen and front of house to discuss and answer any questions on how we operate at Mount Hermon and hopefully share some knowledge with each other to bring back to our respective camps to positively impact its guest experience</p>
<p>Scott Barnett Meadow View</p>	<p>ADVENTURE: A CALL TO BE COUNTER-CULTURAL Modern American life is centered around comfort, convenience and efficiency. We live life vicariously, watching rather than doing, mediated by screens. How can our programs call people into a life of adventure, counter to society's current messages?</p>	<p>Jen Howver Youth Memorial</p>	<p>A YEAR OF COMMUNICATIONS: FROM BLANK PAGE TO CONTENT PLAN Stop scrambling for last-minute ideas. In this collaborative session, you'll map out a year's worth of communications for your camp or conference center. With guided prompts and practical templates, we'll brainstorm seasonal themes and creative approaches for social media, email, newsletters and more. You'll walk away with a working calendar and fresh ideas tailored to your camp's unique voice.</p>
<p>Steven Johnson Newton Memorial: Cascade</p>	<p>SABBATH AS RESISTANCE Life, especially in ministry, can feel over scheduled and always busy. Dive into scripture to see why God commanded us to make sabbath a regular part of our routines and walk away with some practical ideas of how your family can develop habits of sabbath that will refill and empower you to live and thrive in both your personal and professional life.</p>	<p>WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK! SCAN HERE TO FILL OUT A SEMINAR EVALUATION FOR ANY SEMINAR YOU ATTEND.</p> 	



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Seminar Session #3

Wednesday PM 1:30-3:00

<p>Tom Beaumont <i>Fireside</i></p>	<p>WHEN FAITH MEETS UP WITH CULTURE Knowing and then responding to cultural shifts and challenges in and around your camp ministry can be a daunting task. Matters relating to sexuality and gender can be especially complicated to navigate. This is a seminar that deals less with policies and more about perspective. In other words, how do we look at these cultural matters from a big picture view in the context of what we do at camp. How does 'what we believe' become more than words on a page. How does our 'faith' grow feet? Come prepared to engage in the conversation.</p>	<p>Erin Hastey, PhD <i>Meadow View</i></p>	<p>HOW REBUILDING THE BOARD HELPED TRANSFORM A CAMP: A BOARD DEVELOPMENT STORY In 2020, Redwood Christian Park's board of directors had four members. The executive director of thirty years retired shortly after the pandemic broke out, and the staff of the 400-acre facility dwindled to four employees. Now, RCP's board has twelve members, a healthy and supportive relationship with the executive director it hired three years ago, and better metrics than pre-pandemic. How did this camp go from barely surviving to thriving? This session tells the story of a board who stepped out in faith and rewrote its governance story. This presentation will include discussion of how to apply governance strategies.</p>
<p>Chris Gudnason <i>Forest View</i></p>	<p>COLLABORATION OF TOOLS AND METHOD FOR ACCURACY AND EFFICIENCY IN ACCOUNTING We will explore and share in a collaborative format some of the tools and technology that Mount Hermon uses in the areas of Banking, Budgeting, Credit Card and Expense Reimbursement, Separation of Duties for Audit and Payroll. We will discuss benefits, concerns and challenges as we seek to help one another to use and navigate new technologies in the area of Accounting and Finance.</p>	<p>Randall Chastain and Raymond Molina <i>Newton Memorial: Cascade</i></p>	<p>FOOD IS MINISTRY Food Is Ministry explores how food service can be a powerful expression of God's calling. We will share our heart for using food as a tool for discipleship, connection, and care, showing how everyday moments in the kitchen become opportunities for ministry. This seminar will highlight practical ways to serve with intention, build relationships, and point others to Christ through hospitality. Food is never just about meals—it is about people, presence, and reflecting God's love through faithful service.</p>
<p>Dawn Balcazar <i>Lakeside</i></p>	<p>DON'T WAIVE YOUR STATUTORY PROTECTIONS This seminar equips ministries to navigate state and federal legal protections for religious organizations. Attendees will explore specific exemptions under California's FEHA and Federal Title VII, along with the constitutional ministerial exception. The primary goal is to provide actionable strategies for maintaining these safeguards through correctly structured hiring documents, employee handbooks, and workplace posters. Participants will learn how to avoid inadvertently waiving critical protections through inconsistent policies or generic employment practices.</p>	<p>TJ Morris and Jeff Neckers <i>Newton Memorial: Creekside</i></p>	<p>TOOLS - NOT REPLACEMENTS: USING AI IN CAMP LEADERSHIP AI is everywhere. In an environment designed to unplug from distraction, how do we use this powerful tool without giving up the heart of camp ministry. Discover new tools. Discuss limitations and concerns.</p>
<p>Erik Johnson and Becky Borst <i>Laurel Lounge</i></p>	<p>ONE CAMP, ONE MISSION: BRIDGING SILOS THROUGH SERVANT LEADERSHIP AND TRUST This seminar tackles the challenges of interdepartmental communication by merging Patrick Lencioni's Five Dysfunctions of a Team with the heart-centered principles of Blanchard, Hodges, and Hendry's Lead Like Jesus. We identify that the root of communication breakdown is often a lack of trust and the presence of ego. Participants will learn how to replace departmental ego with Christ-like humility, and will walk away with a deeper understanding of vulnerability-based trust. By prioritizing missional success, teams can move from artificial harmony to productive conflict. Join us to transform your staff from disconnected groups into one unified body, ready to model God's love to every guest.</p>	<p>Christi Robertson <i>Tour (Starting at Central Lounge)</i></p>	<p>HANDS ON HOUSEKEEPING AT MOUNT HERMON This session will provide a practical walkthrough of our systems and spaces, including our computer process for checking guests in and out, recommended floor-care products, and effective organization of laundry and linen closets. Alongside these tools and techniques, we'll explore how each task—big or small—reflects a posture of serving God rather than ourselves.</p>
		<p>Bill Fernald <i>Youth Memorial</i></p>	<p>THE FLOW OF FAITHFUL LEADERSHIP - LEADING WITHOUT CARRYING WHAT ISN'T YOURS This session invites Christian camping leaders into a formative reflection on how leadership is meant to be carried. Drawing from global ministry experiences and long-standing friendships with leaders across cultures, the seminar explores common patterns of over-functioning, fatigue, and misplaced responsibility. Through a coherent leadership framework held in an invitational way, participants will consider what is truly theirs to carry—and what is not. The goal is not to prescribe a single model, but to help leaders remain faithful, sustainable, and aligned with the life-giving flow God intends, leading with trust rather than pressure.</p>



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Mount Hermon Map

CCCA Sierra Pacific Sectional 2026



COLOR KEY

- Adventure
- AED Equipped
- Amenities
- Cabins
- Lodges
- Meeting Rooms & Spaces
- Recreation
- Aquatics

AMENITIES

- Welcome Center **C3**
- Front Desk/Registration
- Adventure Center **C2**
- Archery **C1**
- Boat Docks **E8**
- Bookshop **D4**
- Climbing Walls **C2**
- Common Grounds Espresso **D4**
- Commons **D4-D5**
- Day Camp/Newton **B4**
- Dining Hall Upstairs **E5**
- Bay Dining Room
- Birch Dining Room
- Ferndell Dining Room
- Ivy Dining Room
- Discovery Grove **C2**
- Fitness Center **D5**
- Fountain **E5**
- Game Room (Fieldhouse) **C2**
- Gymnasium (Fieldhouse) **C2**
- Health Center **D3**
- Historical Center **C4**
- Info Kiosk **D4**
- McAfee Fieldhouse **C2**
- Parking **B2&3, C5, E3, F4&5, H6**
- Pool **D8**
- Redwood Canopy Tours **C2&C1**
- Restrooms **C2, D3&5**
- Sequoia Aerial Adventure **B2**
- Sequoia Trail **C2-G7**
- US Post Office **D4**
- Wheelchair Access

MEETING ROOMS & SPACES

- Auditorium **C5**
- Maranatha
- Birch Meeting Room **F4**
- Central Lounge **D4**
- Chapel **C4**
- Child Care **D6**
- Commons **D4-D5**
- Dining Hall **E5**
- Brookside Meeting Room
- Fireside Meeting Room
- Multipurpose Meeting Room
- Forest Hall **D3**
- Lakeside Meeting Room **C3**
- Laurel Meeting Room **E4**
- McAfee Fieldhouse **C2**
- Forest View Meeting Room
- Meadow View Meeting Room
- Newton Memorial/Day Camp **B4**
- Newton Memorial Upstairs
- Cascade Meeting Rooms
- Newton Memorial Downstairs
- Creekside Meeting Room
- Victory Circle **B5**
- Youth Memorial **D5**

LODGES

- Aspen **F4**
- Birch **F4**
- Buckeye **F4**
- Evergreen **F3**
- Gwinn **D5**
- Fir **B3**
- Lakeside 500 **C3**
- Lakeside 600 **C3**
- Lakeside 700 **C3**
- Laurel 100 **E4**
- Laurel 200 **E4**
- Laurel 300 **E4**
- Madrone **B4**
- Maple **B5**
- Manzanita **D3**
- Oak **B5**
- Pine **B3**
- Sequoia **D3**
- Woodwardia **E3**

CABINS

- Acorn **D2**
- Alder **D2**
- Chestnut **E3**
- Dogwood **D6**
- Founders **D2**
- Heather **C2**
- Lilac **G6**
- Upper & Lower **C6**
- Live Oak **E3**
- Meadowbrook **D2**
- Parkway A, B & C **D6**
- Redwood **C6**
- Sorrel
- Upper & Lower **E3**
- Strawberry **G6**
- Toyon **D2**

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Seminar Leader Bios

CCCA Sierra Pacific Sectional 2026

<p>BECKY BORST Senior Director of Guest Services Mount Hermon</p>	<p>Becky's passion for camp ministry began in Michigan's Upper Peninsula through Willow Creek's Camp Paradise. In 2011, she joined the summer staff at Kidder Creek, where her calling to serve through camp ministry was solidified. After graduating from Azusa Pacific University, Becky served with Mount Hermon's Outdoor Science School, discovering the impact of immersive environments on learning and transformation. She returned to Kidder Creek as an apprentice in 2019 and joined the Guest Services team at Mount Hermon's Santa Cruz Mountains campus in 2021. Today, Becky is grateful to help create spaces where guests experience renewal, connection, and lives transformed by Jesus.</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN WARNE Executive Director Redwood Christian Park</p>	<p>Christian Warne serves as the Executive Director at Redwood Christian Park, bringing two decades of experience in program and camp ministry. He values team development, relationship-building, and creating impactful ministry environments. His tenure in camp leadership continues to shape his passion for fostering meaningful experiences for guests and staff alike.</p>
<p>BILL FERNALD CEO Christian Camping International</p>	<p>Bill Fernald has served in Christian Camping for 35 years, starting at Sugar Pine Christian Camps in 1990 and spending 27 years at Mount Hermon in Program, Marketing, Guest Services, and International Ministries. His passion for unity and interdenominational and cross-cultural partnerships led to many national and global ministry collaborations. Today, Bill is the CEO of Christian Camping International (CCI), an alliance of 29 Associations in 80 countries that reaches over 10 million campers worldwide.</p>	<p>DAWN BALCAZAR Director of Human Resource Services Church HR Network</p>	<p>Dawn Balcazar is a seasoned HR leader with over 30 years of experience, including 14 years as Director of Human Resources for a large church and school. She currently leads the client service team at Church HR Network, specializing in strategic HR management. Her diverse career began in leadership at a national nonprofit before transitioning to the entertainment industry, where she managed multi-million dollar promotional contracts for global brands. Dawn holds a SHRM-CP certification and pursued advanced studies in Legal Studies from the University of California, Riverside. Beyond her professional expertise, Dawn has been a worship leader for over 40 years. She brings a collaborative, mission-driven approach to her career. Her background across corporate and nonprofit sectors allows her to provide grounded, insightful support for religious organizations.</p>
<p>CAM STAMAN Director of Operations Calvin Crest Conferences</p>	<p>Cam has worked at Calvin Crest since 2019. He currently oversees facilities, food service, accommodations, and camp renovations. Before he and his wife Tiffany moved to California, Cam spent twenty years in management in the telecommunications industry and also owned his own fine woodworking and remodeling business. He loves to create beautiful spaces for people to connect with God and others and to mentor the younger staff on his team. Cam loves to camp and hike in the national parks, go boating and wakeboarding, create inspiring woodworking projects, and find any way he to enjoy art and beauty.</p>	<p>ERIK JOHNSON Sr. Director of Adventure Ministries Mount Hermon</p>	<p>Erik is, at his core, a camp guy. Camping is woven into his identity, and over the past 20+ years, he has served in a wide range of roles, from accommodations to programming. He currently serves at Mount Hermon in Adventure Ministries, a position that blends the three reasons he entered Christian camping: Jesus, people, and the great outdoors. One of his favorite phrases is "Welcome to camp!" because he believes every camper's arrival is a divine appointment. Collaboration and teamwork are essential to Erik. He believes that the stronger the team, the more fun everyone can have—and if camp isn't fun most of the time, something is off. Erik also loves adventure and good conversation. If you catch him over a meal, ask about mountain biking, his favorite Yosemite trails, or his family—topics that light him up as much as camp itself.</p>
<p>CHRIS GUDNASON Finance Director Mount Hermon</p>	<p>Chris has worked in Finance at Mount Hermon for 25 years and has served as Finance Director since 2021. She and her husband have been involved in full-time camp and youth ministry since their college years. Chris is the mother of four grown children and the grandmother of five. She enjoys gardening, reading, and swimming at her home in Atascadero, CA. This November, she and her husband will celebrate 40 years of marriage.</p>	<p>ERIN HASTEY, PHD Board President Redwood Christian Park</p>	<p>Dr. Erin Hastey helps boards build the relational strength they need to serve the organizations they steward. Erin has worked with nonprofit and publicly elected boards for over a decade, specializing in board evaluation and development, and executive evaluation. A lifelong family camper, she has served as the Board President for Redwood Christian Park since January 2024. At camp, you'll find her leading the "Morning Watch" Bible study, preparing for board meetings, and singing in the "Redwood Singers" choir, which her mom directs. Erin holds a PhD in Educational Leadership and Analysis from UW-Madison, where she wrote her award-winning dissertation on community college governing boards and student success. She also holds a Master's in the Humanities from the University of Chicago, where she wrote her thesis on the imago Dei in John Milton's Paradise Lost. Based in Wyoming with her husband, horses, dogs, and cats, Erin works with organizations nationwide.</p>
<p>CHRISTI ROBERTS Accommodations Manager Mount Hermon</p>	<p>Christi is a mother of three daughters and has been married for nearly 23 years. She had the privilege of staying home to raise and homeschool her children for much of their upbringing. Four years ago, God brought her to Mount Hermon, where she has had the honor of serving in housekeeping. Her time there has been an absolute blessing.</p>		

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Seminar Leader Bios

CCCA Sierra Pacific Sectional 2026

ERIN NECKERS
Education Director
 Comedy Sportz
 San Jose

Erin is a longtime member of the camp community, having served at both Camp Hammer and Mission Springs. Alongside her camp experience, she has spent nearly 15 years performing with ComedySportz San Jose, where she regularly appears in improv shows. Erin also oversees improv training programs and classes across multiple levels. With a background in teaching, writing, and creative production, she brings a vibrant mix of humor and heart to every environment she enters. Erin's passion for improv, learning, and community continues to shape her work both on stage and off.

ERNIE ZIELSDORF
Retail Supervisor
 Hume
 Christian Camps

Originally from Ventura, CA, Ernie has lived and worked at Hume for the past 9 years, doing design, and currently oversees the retail at Hume. Outside of the job, he loves creating, and his inspiration includes the outdoors, skate culture, nostalgia, music, pop culture, and Americana. He also enjoys running, reading, board games, learning new fun things, and time with his wife, Morgan, and kids, Forrest and Penny. He is passionate about using his skills for the Lord and to cheer others on in their own creative pursuits.

FAYE HOGUE
Guest Services Manager
 Alliance Redwoods
 Conference
 Grounds

Faye Hogue is the Guest Services Manager and Coordinator at Alliance Redwoods Conference Grounds. She is married to Randy, who is Services Director at Alliance Redwoods. They just celebrated 30 years of marriage last year. Together they have 6 kids, 10 grandkids and 1 great grandson. Her background has been in Hospice, Insurance, Oncology, Pastors wife, worship leader, as well as Guest Services at Sierra Pines for 10+ years. Faye serves as pastor at Alliance Redwoods, and Faye loves serving both guests and the staff. She says it is a privilege to pray, counsel, and care for both staff and guests.

GRETCHEN PHILLIPS
Outdoor Science School Director
 Mount Hermon

Gretchen has been working in camp ministry, getting her start at Black Rock Retreat, since 2010 and Outdoor Science (Education) Since 2014. Since then she has worked at various camps across the country working in Outdoor Education and other capacities. She currently works at Mount Hermon as the Outdoor Science School Director where she continues to share her passion for the outdoors and reaching students through the Wonder of Nature.

JEFF NECKERS
Program and Communications Director
 Mission Springs
 Camps and
 Conference Center

Raised in southwestern New York, Jeff graduated with a degree in Graphic Design and Photography before exploring a call to youth ministry. An internship at Twin Lakes Church brought him to California, and a position as Program Director at Camp Hammer convinced him to stay. His creative background has shaped a career built on inventive, camp-life problem-solving. For the past seven years, Jeff has served at Mission Springs, overseeing program and marketing, where he continues to blend creativity, leadership, and a commitment to hospitality. Jeff's wife, Erin, and their two daughters make life magical—and keep it constantly sprinkled with glitter.

JEN HOWVER
Editor of InSite Magazine
 CCCA

Jen Howver serves as the editor of CCCA's flagship publication, InSite magazine. She is also CCCA's training manager, planning the EIT webinars, RoundTables and seminars offered at the National Conference. Jen was a camper and later worked on staff at Camp Paradise (Newberry, Michigan), where she met her future husband, Jay. Jen and Jay live in Colorado with their daughters, Noelle and Chloe, and way too many pets.

JOHN HAN
Executive Chef
 Mount Hermon

John assumed the role of Executive Chef at Mount Hermon in the fall of 2023 and has been loving every minute of the journey, joyfully following God's calling to serve the community there. With a diverse background in hospitality, John has previously served as a Director of Operations, Regional Director, and in numerous leadership and management roles across respected hospitality organizations. In addition to his corporate experience, John is an entrepreneur who has owned his own consulting business as well as multiple restaurants, giving him a well-rounded, hands-on perspective on operations, leadership, and service excellence. John has been happily married to his wife, Shirley, for 19 years. Together they share an incredible son, AJ, and life with their two energetic dogs, Gibson and Yadi. Outside the kitchen, John enjoys watching and coaching baseball, deep-sea fishing, and intentionally investing time in strengthening his relationship with the Lord through faith and purpose.

JOSH ANACKER
Special Projects/Forestry Supervisor
 Hartland Christian
 Camp

Josh has been involved in both logging and camping ministry in various ways for more than 25 years. He loves being in the woods, serving in ministry, and sharing those experiences with others.

JOSHUA KERR
Program Director
 Calvin Crest
 Conferences

Joshua spent 15 years as an educator in higher education and has been involved in camping ministry for a decade. An ordained minister, he previously served as a church pastor before answering the call to become the Program Director at Calvin Crest Conferences. He loves mentoring young staff and enjoys life at camp alongside his wife and their three children.

Seminar Leader Bios

CCCA Sierra Pacific Sectional 2026

MARK P. FISHER
CEO | Chief
Encourager
Inspiring Growth

For more than three decades, Mark has lived the camp story, from leading camps on the ground to helping camp leaders grow. Today, he serves as Chief Encourager at Inspiring Growth, guiding a team of twelve marketing professionals focused on helping camps thrive. Having sat in the Executive Director's chair himself, Mark understands the pressure, complexity, and heart behind camp leadership. He brings strategy and empathy, offering practical solutions shaped by real experience. Mark's speaking blends storytelling with actionable wisdom and consistently earns five-star ratings at national gatherings like CCCA. Whether addressing a conference or a small leadership team, his style is engaging, grounded, and encouraging. Featured in Entrepreneur Magazine and a contributor to Leading with Questions, Mark is the author of *The Power of Maybe*, *Marketing Without a Marketing Director*, fourteen songs, a spy novel, and three children's books. From conferences to NFL pre-game chapels, he continues inspiring leaders.

MITCHELL MCWILLIAMS
Assistant Director
The Salvation Army
Camp
Redwood Glen

Mitchell McWilliams serves as the Assistant Camp Director at Camp Redwood Glen in Scotts Valley, California. With a passion for developing Christ-centered leaders, he has spent 18 years in camp and youth ministry, blending outdoor adventure with spiritual formation. Mitchell has helped design programs such as the Sequoia Leadership Academy and Redwood Sojourn Gap Year, equipping young people to grow in discipleship, leadership, and service. He brings creativity and depth to his work, drawing from both classic voices in experiential education and a strong biblical foundation. Whether leading a backpacking trip, training summer staff, or writing curriculum, Mitchell's heart is to see lives transformed by the gospel in the context of camp ministry.

RANDALL CHASTAIN
Camp Manager
Camp Alta

Randall has had the privilege of serving at Camp Alta for the past 13 years, working alongside his wife and daughters, who often join him in the kitchen. For his family, Camp Alta is far more than a workplace—it is a ministry and a calling they share together. Randall's heart is to disciple those he serves with, walking alongside them as they grow in faith, character, and leadership. He believes God uses ordinary, everyday moments to shape future leaders, and he strives to be intentional and present in those moments. For Randall, ministry is always about people rather than tasks. His desire is to reflect Christ in the way he leads, serves, and invests in others.

RAYMOND MOLINA
Food Service
Manager
The Salvation Army
Camp
Redwood Glen

Raymond is the Food Service Manager at Camp Redwood Glen and has been part of the team for over 11 years, beginning his journey as a summer staff prep cook. As he worked his way up through the ranks, he has witnessed how God has shaped him to share the gospel with others, strengthening his commitment to supporting the camp's mission through a faithful food service ministry.

SCOTT BARNETT
Associate Professor
of Outdoor
Adventure
Recreation
Simpson University

Scott has been teaching about camp and outdoor programming for over 20 years. He currently teaches at Simpson University but also taught at Wheaton and Gordon. He has been blessed to be a part of camp programs in Kenya, Russia, China and many other countries. His PhD dissertation focused on spiritual formation through camp programs.

STEVEN JOHNSON
Family Ministries
Director
Mount Hermon

Steven Johnson is the Director of Family Ministry at Mount Hermon. Over the last 19 years, he has worked in the family ministry arena, serving in a variety of pastoral roles that focus on youth, children, young adults, and family. He has a Master's of Divinity with an emphasis on Youth, Family, and Culture from Fuller Theological Seminary. He has spoken at numerous camps, churches, and taught multiple parenting and family seminars on human and faith formation, spiritual practices, and leadership. He is also the author of a number of articles and curriculum for kids, students, and families.

TJ MORRIS
Director
Forward Bible
Camp

T.J. Morris serves as director at Forward Bible camp in Georgetown, California, where he oversees camp programming and trains volunteer and student leaders. He has spent years developing themes, teaching sessions, and experiences that help camps run well while keeping ministry and relationships at the center. As a life-long learner, T.J. has been exploring how artificial intelligence can be used as a practical tool in camp settings—supporting leaders with planning, communication, training, and creativity without replacing human connection or spiritual formation. In this seminar, he brings a camp-ministry perspective to AI, focusing on realistic, ethical, and helpful ways camps can use these tools to better serve staff, volunteers, and campers. From basics to application, this seminar will help you use AI at your camp.

TOM BEAUMONT
Section
Ambassador
CCCA

Tom has had the privilege of serving full-time in Christian camping for 40 years. Most of his career was spent at The Firs in Bellingham, WA, where he served as Executive Director for the last 18 years. Although now retired, he is currently serving as the interim director at Cedar Springs Christian Retreat Center. Tom lives in Lynden, WA with his wife, and together they have three children and five grandchildren. He serves the association as a Section Ambassador and has been a coach and presenter in the CCCA initiative Thriving Boards. He also supports camp directors through a program he developed called *Side by Side*.

Notes

CCCA Sierra Pacific Sectional 2026

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