

## **Let's Talk Camping!**

### **SAMPLE SUNDAY SCHOOL CAMPING PRESENTATION**

**This presentation description may be used to promote summer camping programs at Kirchenwald and Nawakwa.**

Time needed: 30-40 minutes

Setting: any room large enough to accommodate the audience, a large Sunday school room or a fellowship hall

Target Audience: Camp age children and their parents

Props: an audience, a few chairs and a desk, an "APPLAUSE" sign

**\*\*This is a basic outline of a creative way to do a camping presentation. This format lends itself to much ad libbing. It is intended to be lighthearted and informative...have fun with this and your audience will have fun too.**

Begin by explaining to the group that one of your secret aspirations is to be a talk show host. Ask them to indulge you for the next few minutes while you live out this fantasy. Something like, "I've been asked to talk to you about summer camping opportunities and I thought that putting on a talk show would be a great way to accomplish this."

You will need volunteers from the audience, the usual suspects in a live TV production. Ask for volunteers to be the ANNOUNCER, APPLAUSE/LAUGH PROMPTER, GUESTS, and anybody else you can think of. Explain their duties and even have them practice (this is particularly fun for the APPLAUSE person).

Have the audience choose a name for the show (so the ANNOUNCER has something to announce) and run down the order of the program (monologue, first guest, musical guest, commercial break, panel discussion, closing). Set up the stage area like a talk show set (or do this ahead of time) and ...it's SHOWTIME!

ANNOUNCER introduces the HOST and the audience is prompted to applaud by the APPLAUSE PROMPTER. (Often, there is not enough applause and the HOST must prompt the APPLAUSE PROMPTER to prompt some more.)

The host gives the monologue explaining why he/she is there – to share information about the Summer Camping Programs at Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, the Wittel Farm and the Congregational Day Camps. Be sure to stress that there are programs for all ages (Family Camp, Parent/Child Trips, Elder Camp) and comfort levels. Perhaps you could also mention job opportunities for high school and college students and volunteers. Tell some goofy nature jokes if you are so inclined, thank them for attending, give them a preview of the guests for the day, prompt some applause, and go to commercial.

The ANNOUNCER should announce the first guest (preferably someone who has been to camp) and there should be much applause. Spend a few minutes talking with the guest about her experience at camp (use questions like: Which camp did you go to? What was your first time at camp like? Who was your counselor? What do you remember most about the week? What did you like best/worst? ) When you feel like this conversation has run its course, thank your guest and invite her to stay for the last segment of the show. Go to commercial.

In this COMMERCIAL BREAK, it's often good to show the Lutheran Camping Corporation video, if you have the technology to do so smoothly. If not, just skip on to the MUSICAL GUEST after the break.

You may choose a volunteer to be the musical guest, or you may be the musical guest, it all depends on your audience. The MUSICAL GUEST(S) can teach or perform a camp song. If you have several people in the audience who have attended camp, they might want to perform/teach a song together...it's great when that happens. Otherwise, teach a song, preferably one that is silly with movement to keep the attention of your audience. Much applause should be prompted. Go to commercial.

The final segment is likely to be the longest as it is a panel discussion. Invite your first guest back to the stage as well as one or two others who have been to camp (NOTE: it's really fun to have an adult guest who attended camp back in the "olden days" as a second guest). Take questions from the audience. (Do the "Donahue Thing" running through the audience with your microphone.) This is when adults may raise question about the staff and their training, Family Camp, discounts on registration, specific programs, etc. You can end the show when you feel you're loosing your audience but please remain to answer any lingering questions folks may have. Be sure to thank your cast and crew for all their help and thank the audience for their attention.