

Please Note...

- No smoking in any buildings or porches. Designated areas: gazebo by Dining hall, shelters in front of Flower Dorms, picnic table in front of cabins.
- Alcohol is Not permitted on campus. Firearms must be locked in vehicles.
- Please do not move furniture/beds OR move mattresses outside. (Earplugs available)
- Please text/call any needs (forgot pillow/blanket, etc.) to 863-264-9018
Maintenance requests: fixit@lakeaurora.org
- **Need a ride?** Golf cart shuttles available in between sessions/workshops.
Please notify driver if you need a ride back after your drop off.
Please note: Rides end at 11 pm.
Transportation Coordinator: 863-350-3697
- Information table in the foyer of the dining hall for questions or first aid.
- High Ropes courses have 250 lb weight limit and must be able to have upper body strength.
- *Bring your camp/lawn chair to workshops to guarantee seating.*

Thank you!

Evaluations

We take your suggestions seriously and want to provide the type of retreat that benefits, encourages, and strengthens you as a Christian sister.

Opportunities Ahead

Many opportunities are ahead for either you or someone you know...

- Camp Open House - May 19
- Camp Friendship - Special Needs - June 30-July 2
- SUMMER CAMP - June 2 - August 2
- Mother/Daughter Retreat - October 4-5, 2024

Wi-Fi LAGuest
Password: 149600LA



Lake Aurora Christian Camp & Retreat Center
237 Golden Bough Road
Lake Wales, FL 33898
www.lakeaurora.org 863.696.1102



LAKE AURORA CHRISTIAN CAMP

presents the 2024

50TH WOMEN'S Retreat



APRIL 12-13 / 13-14

Keynote speakers:

BETTY GRAY &
LOVE LOCKMAN



Legacy

Welcome

Welcome to Lake Aurora Christian Camp. For many of you, this is your first time, and for others, it is a yearly tradition that has been going strong for 50 years! All were planned by a group of volunteer women from our supporting churches. It is time to celebrate what God has done and the legacy that has been and continues to be built. The strength of these retreats is that they encourage you to draw closer to Him during this time away.

This retreat is about more than just the speakers, workshop leaders, or the theme. It's about your personal journey with God and the legacy He wants you to leave by standing firm in your faith. Our theme verse, "The Lord our God, The LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and all your soul and with all your strength," is a call to deepen your relationship with Him and discover the strength of your faith.

God longs for us to display an undivided love and loyalty to Him because He alone is our God. In an effort to step away for a few days, try to leave behind home issues, work situations, and the cell phone, as God wants to meet you here.

Remember, this is your retreat. You have the freedom to engage as much or as little as you'd like, guided by your personal needs and the whisperings of God in your heart. The campus of Lake Aurora, with its serene beauty and tranquil surroundings, is a perfect place to reflect, recharge, and feel the peace that comes from knowing that God has blessed this space for your enjoyment.

In His grip,
2024 Women's Retreat
Planning Committee



DAY 1 (FRIDAY/SATURDAY)

7:15 pm Option: _____

Location: _____

DAY 2/3 (SATURDAY/SUNDAY)

9:45 am Workshop #1: _____

Location: _____

10:45 Workshop #2: _____

Location: _____

11:45 Play/Relaxation Option: _____

Location: _____

DON'T MISS 2025! APRIL 4-5 OR 5-6

Kelly comes to us highly recommended and will take us in a unique direction to connect Biblical principles to tangible lessons that reveal not just the characteristics of Christ, but how to abide with Him in daily life.

Kelly Brinkmann is a working artist and writer. She came to faith in Jesus in her teen years and by connecting her faith to art making, she continues to learn how to reclaim every part of her heart to align with God's best design. Often drawing on illustrations and analogies, her writing and spoken messages invite women to know Jesus and experience God at work in their daily lives.



Kelly studied studio art in painting and earned her B.A., equipping her to use creative thinking and problem-solving in various non-profit and corporate leadership positions.

She serves as a writer, public speaker, and creative instructor in her community at her studio, Art & Souls Creative Studio. She serves, learns, teaches, and mentors alongside women in her home church while starting her first term on the local school board in 2022. Her husband serves as judge in their county and they are raising their three school-aged children to love and know the Lord.

Our thanks to...



Betty Gray and Love Lockman

What an amazing opportunity to celebrate our 50th Women's Retreat with a mother/daughter legacy team. They share family, faith, and legacy with the Lake Aurora ministry.

Worship Leader:
Jennifer Smith and
Friends from Dade City
Christian Church.

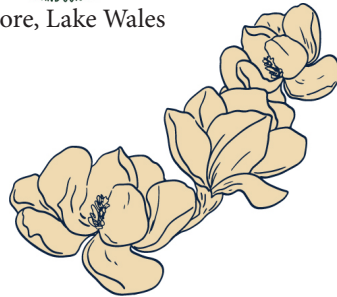


- Our Workshop Leaders
- Our Play and Relaxation Personnel
- Our Craft and Activity Leaders
- Our Camp Personnel
- Stirring Waters Info Booth
- Natalie's Orchid Island Juice Co.
- Our Guest Bookstore....Kathryn's Christian Bookstore, Lake Wales



Our 2024 Women's Retreat Committee...

- Jolee Beamer, Lake Wales
- Kristen Beers, St. Cloud
- Anne Martinelli, Vero Beach
- Susan Prater, St. Cloud
- Tina Runnels, St. Cloud (Chair)
- Cora Schwingel, Sebring
- Tammy Weaver, Sarasota
- Lake Aurora liaisons: Emmalee Raigoza & Phyllis Bornemann



THIS YEAR'S OFFERING GOAL.... \$12,000

The 2023 offering took us over the top to replenish the double oven price increase while also allowing us to purchase additional dishes, coffee mugs, silverware, and cups!

Continuing our tradition of funding the needs of the Food Service and program areas, we need to replace our 34 year old dining room tables. We need to purchase 45 and the total cost is \$23K. Thank you for prayerfully considering your gift.



Online Giving on our donation page...
Scan the QR code or
www.lakeaurora.org/donate/donate.html -Select "Designation- Other" and state "Women's Retreat" in Comment Section.



Your gift will be a blessing to thousands! — Enhancing Trust



ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

- ➔ Check in at the Redmon Ministry Center & receive name tag/meal ticket.
- ➔ Buy craft ticket(s) & Retreat T-shirts outside the Dining Hall.
- ➔ Locate your housing assignment, & get settled in. Please honor the bed assignments unless both parties agree to change. (Grace & Love!!)
- ➔ Plan your weekend (see schedule & options on page 3).
- ➔ Pray about and prepare for your offering gift. (see page 13).
- ➔ Enjoy, relax, and reflect on our Lord and His beautiful creation.
- ➔ Visit Kathryn's Christian Bookstore in Scrub Oak. See open hours on door.
- ➔ Take out a boat at Pt Aurora or take a dip at the waterfront.

DURING THE RETREAT:

- ➔ Please ask questions if something is not clear.
- ➔ Enter Dining Hall when doors open with clean hands and gracious heart. You will be dismissed by tables.
- ➔ Please sit according to housing unit or day use. Tables labeled. Additional outdoor seating on the Miller Patio to the south
- ➔ Share your photos and memories from past retreats. Hang on display in foyer.

Meal times: 6 pm, 7:45 am, 12:45 pm.

Prayer Requests

If you have a specific need, please write it on the paper provided and place it in the prayer basket located inside the Dining Hall entrance. If you would like to pray for any of these requests or other needs, feel free to pick one up and pray over its needs.



SCHEDULE

AFTERNOON OF FRIDAY OR SATURDAY

- 3-5:30 pm Waterfront Open (Boats/Swimming)
Bookstore open - Scrub Oak Building (Lakeside)
- 4:00 pm Check in with Craft, Activity, and T-shirt Selections
- 6:00 Dinner in the Dining Hall (Doors will open when ready)
- 6:50 Welcome
- 7:15-8:00 Bible Study, Craft or Activity Opportunity
- 8:15 Outdoor Worship, Main Session #1 in the Hillside Steel Tent
- 9:45 pm Late Night Activities
- Coffee House - Lower Deck (Lakeside)
 - Campfires- Lakeside & Hillside Lawn Chapel Rings
 - HayRide (last ride at 10:40 pm - p/u campfire ring)
 - Kathryn's Christian Bookstore- Scrub Oak Bldg.
 - Complimentary Snacks/Cold drinks - Drive of Dining Hall

Midnight... Lights Out

If you like to laugh and have fun late at night, **please be considerate** of those who want to sleep. If you like to sleep, please be realistic of the fact that there are many women and only 75 acres... **please respect those who have gone to bed earlier than you so they can respect you when they get up early.**

MORNING OF SATURDAY OR SUNDAY

*Coffee available in the Dining Hall starting at 7 am (South end at Miller Patio)

- 6:45 am Calm Stretching - Lakeside Steel Tent. Bring towel/mat.
- 7:15 am **Personal** Communion Opportunity

Pick up your individual communion in your housing unit.

If staying off campus, communion will be available at the Dining Hall foyer.

Please find a quiet area to be with God.

Page 11 has some guiding thoughts.

- 7:45 Breakfast (**Offering gifts**)
- 8:30 Outdoor Worship and Main Session #2 (Hillside Steel Tent)
- 9:45-10:30 Workshop #1
- 10:45-11:30 Workshop #2
- 11:45 **Play or Relaxation Options**
- Coffee House - Lower Deck
 - Craft or Activity Options (see page 4)
 - Giant Swing (Ticket needed) or Double Zip (weight limitation of 250 lbs)
 - Waterfront Swim, Disc Golf, Volleyball, Boats
 - Kathryn's Christian Bookstore (Scrub Oak)
 - The Lake Aurora T-shirt Shoppe (Lower Deck)
- 12:45 pm Lunch in the Dining Hall
- 1:30 Outdoor Praise & Worship - Hillside Steel Tent
Closing Prayer

Retreat 1 Only participants... please clear housing units by 2:30 so we may get ready for new guests of Retreat 2.



Communion Thoughts

BY CORA SCHWINGEL

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”

Deuteronomy 6:4-9



Communion kits in housing areas and Dining Hall Foyer

When I think of “Legacy,” I think of family and how they have impacted me. I was recently conversing with a young girl who attended our church in her teens. She was in a girl’s group that I led and is now leading our Middle School Ministry. She shared a family issue with one of her siblings, and I asked, “Do you ever wonder how you turned out the way you did?” Her reply to me was, “I blame you and Tod.” That took me back a bit and made me realize that we can impact people’s lives even when we do not know it. We can leave a “Legacy” in many places outside our immediate family, even when we are not thinking about it. What could we do if we were more mindful of our actions?

Here are ideas to consider that I did and did not realize the impact it was making. Spend time with others, pray with them and for them, and show them the ease of praying and talking to the Lord.

Serve alongside others. Give them examples of how they should serve others with kindness.

Love people where they are. The Lord loves and instructs us to love others, so love them with the love the Lord has shown you.

Encourage others with scriptures. Write them notes or share your favorite scriptures.

Think of those in your past who have shared with you and have influenced your life. Pass this on to those around you. Build a “Legacy” for the Lord.

LAKE AURORA MAP



If you have an immediate need regarding the facilities, or an emergency, feel free to contact Lake Aurora staff by text/call 863-528-9360. Golf Cart shuttles will run between workshops and sessions for those with walking disabilities. Please notify drivers for specific needs.

➔ PLAY & RELAXATION ACTIVITY ➔

CHOICES

Coffee House (9:30 pm & 11:45 am) Lower Deck of Chapel (Lakeside)
 Bookstore - Kathryn's Christian Scrub Oak - See posted hours
 The Camp Store Lower Deck - 11:45 am/2 pm
 Craft Tickets- \$7 Dining Hall Porch & Foyer

● = See Gold circles on map for locations of Option activities

Crafts...\$7 fee (Fri/Sat) 7:15 pm & (Sat/Sun)- 11:45 am
 Painting Project Lower Deck (Lakeside below Chapel)
 Wall Hanging VG Gilbert Pavillion (Lakeside)
 Framed Art Lakeside Chapel
 Leather Craft Scrub Oak Shelter (Lakeside)

Organized Activity Option...

(Fri/Sat) 7:15 pm and (Sat/Sun) 11:45 am

More than a Foot Soak \$7 Dining Hall Lakeview Porch
 Archery Behind Dining Hall Path
Sat/Sun 11:45 am -
 40ft Giant Swing Downhill, East of the Office
 Double Zipline Cross brick patio of Dining Hall
(250 lb limit and closed toe shoes recommended)

Late Night Options

Late Night Snacks Dining Hall (front circle drive)
 Late Night Campfire Lakeside/Hillside Lawn Rings
 HayRide (last ride 10:40 pm) Chapel Fire (one pick up area)
Please disembark after each ride to allow for as many as possible to enjoy.

Prayer Opportunities -

The 2024 Prayer Journey is located on **page 7. Feel free to walk the campus and stop at your favorite spots.** Prayer Basket in the Dining Hall if you desire to pray for another's specific need or have a need.

Women's '24 Retreat Shirts

Dining Hall \$20
 Waterfront Swim Area/Pt Aurora

Waterfront Activities

3:00-5:30 pm & 10 am-12:30 pm. "Swim at own risk"
 Canoes/paddleboats/kayaks - please use a life jacket!

Kathryn's Christian Bookstore...

Please take time to browse this local bookstore! Their time and commitment to bringing treasures for us to enjoy is greatly appreciated! Located just behind the dining hall towards the Lakeside campus in the Scrub Oak building. They only here for our women's retreats. Actual store located downtown Lake Wales at 205 Park Ave.

#3

We must learn to live for God, as it doesn't come naturally. In Deut.6:6-8 Moses tells God's people, "These commandments that I give you today are to be on your heart [read them, hear them, memorize them – Anne's words]. Impress them on your children [repeat, engrave on the mind]. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up [all the time!!!!]" Although the above talks much about talking, James 1:22 says, "Do not merely listen to the word and deceive yourselves. Do what it says." I love the bluntness of this – Do what it says!

Our actions and living out our faith say more than all our talking. Since we are with our families the most, we influence them most. So we teach them divine laws and biblical truth (Proverbs 1:8, Gen.33:5, Ps.127:3-5). We teach practical wisdom (Prov. 6:20, 22:6, 31:1,26) and principles of discernment (Prov. 12:22,14:23,29:11, Eph. 4:32, 6:1-2).

And most of all, we love. This applies to our children and, if we are married, to our husbands. We have the chance to model Christian marriage to our children, our church, and our community. We as wives are to be servants (Phil. 2:18, Col. 3:18, Eph.5:21-30), to respect and love our husbands (Eph.5:33) (Titus 2:3-5).

Reflect – Do we talk about God and His word often?

Do our actions line up with God's word?
 Do we teach our children and grandchildren and model those behaviors?

Do we love, respect, and submit to our husbands?

#4

Growing spiritually is the primary way we can improve our legacy. "Feed your mind and soul from the Bible so that the goodness, strength, and insights from God's word fill and feed your life. When your life is full, your blessings and gifts will overflow into the lives of others. As a result, you minister to others." Elizabeth George from A Woman After God's Own Heart.

We mature to be transformed into Christ's image with ever-increasing glory (2 Cor. 3:18). We benefit from spiritual growth by staying attached to the vine and bearing fruit (John 15:5-8) by doing the good works God created us to do (Eph. 2:10), walking in the light and confessing our sins (1 John 5-10), living like Jesus and loving each other (1 John 2:3-11). Our spiritual growth should lead us to acquire skills, characteristics, and attitudes that change us and influence others (Eph. 6:10-11, Phil. 1:9-10, Col. 1:10-12, James 1:23).

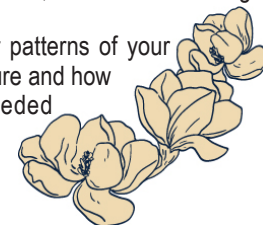
Reflect on whether you are consistently maturing in Christ.


#5

When discussing our legacy, we often think only of our families. While this is important, we have many others we come in contact with who can affect us. We can be mentors to younger women (Titus 2:3-5). We can be teachers to children, teens, and adults. These are our spiritual children. Ministering out of our love for God blesses others in service to the church and those outside the church who need Jesus. This requires our time, generosity, and the use of our talents and spiritual gifts. "At every encounter, make it your aim that people are better off for having been in your presence." – Elizabeth George. Reflect on who is watching and learning from you. Are others better off after being with you?

Can we leave a negative legacy? I believe we can, but each person is given an opportunity in each new generation to accept Jesus as their savior and begin a new legacy. This is a powerful chance for personal growth and transformation. We can change negative family patterns such as divorce, abuse, addiction, and racism. We can take the new life we have in Christ and build a new legacy on Him, filled with love, compassion, and understanding.

Reflect on whether patterns of your past affect your future and how you can make needed changes.





PRAYER JOURNEY

BY ANNE MARTINELLI



Use the thoughts that follow on your own prayer journey through campus.

Move to **your favorite spots** with each number and spend time in the Word.

A Personal Update

Last year's retreat theme was Even If... Many of you know my husband John was battling aggressive thyroid cancer for 3 years. I experienced my own "Even If" in November when John passed away. John was a devoted Christ follower and lover of people. During his celebration of life, I greeted people for many hours so they could share their memories and learn how John had impacted their lives. He left a profound legacy on our family and everyone who knew him. Despite our grief, I know that even though God didn't heal John according to our desires – He is fully healed and living a life victorious with Jesus. I continue to trust God and His plan for my life without John. And I can only hope to leave a legacy like his.

#1

A friend said she wanted to be like her grandmother because her grandmother asked everyone she met, "Do you know my Jesus?" This weekend's theme is "Legacy" – what is a legacy? A dictionary definition is "anything handed down from the past, as from an ancestor or predecessor." Who can leave a legacy? – everyone.

What is so important about our legacy? Elizabeth Perry, writing about legacies, says, "It is the positive impact your life has on other people- friends, family, colleagues, even strangers. Your legacy is the sum of the personal values, accomplishments, and actions that resonate with the people around you." Your legacy is unique to you. We can pass on a legacy in business, with our finances, with family, etc., but the most important legacy we leave is our spiritual legacy. "Do you know my Jesus?" It is the best we can pass down.

Reflect on what legacy you are leaving so far.

#2

In Deuteronomy 6:4, Moses imparts a crucial message to the Israelites, one that resonates with us today as the Shema. "Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One." This declaration not only affirms the singular divinity of God but also serves as a reminder for us to proclaim to those around us that God is the only true God, and Jesus his son "is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:16)

Our purpose, like Moses, is to pass on these Biblical truths, a task that necessitates a complete love. Deut. 6:5 instructs us to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." This command is so fundamental that Jesus reiterates it for us in Mark 12:29-30. It's a reminder that we can't love others if we don't love God first, we can't share what we don't believe, we can't teach what we don't know, and we can't be an example if we don't live it.

Reflect on these truths. Think about the "can'ts" above and see where you can improve.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS/LOCATIONS

Bible Study 7:15-8 pm - Friday/Saturday evening
Workshop 1 9:45-10:30 am - Saturday am/Sunday am
Workshop 2 10:45-11:30 am - Saturday am/Sunday am
● See Numbered yellow circles on maps for workshop locations

“Stand Strong and Firm in the Faith”- Bible Study James/John Building (Hillside #7) Sherri Stiles

When we fix our eyes, thoughts, and hearts, on the perfecter and author of our faith, trusting in His teaching, His strength, His power, His Grace, and abide in Him, then we will be able to stand strong in faith and complete in Christ.

“Passing the Torch” Lakeside Steel Tent #4 Bonnie Martinelli/Bethany Baker

When running in a relay race the term “Passing the Torch” can be used as a way to signify passing the baton from one runner to the next or in more literal terms to transfer one’s role, position, or responsibilities to someone else. In order to “Pass the Baton” well two things must occur. First, the incoming runner must be running in a way that is worthy of emulation, and the outgoing runner must be properly prepared and equipped to take on the challenge of running the race with excellence. We will be discussing how to practically do these two roles. This session will apply to those in every season of life.

“Ties that Bind” Eagle’s Perch Shelter (Lakeside #3) Kellie Spencer/Beth Hercules

When we understand the values and systems of different generations, we can capitalize on them, instead of judging and rejecting them. When we don’t take the time to do this work, we can fall prey to common misconceptions. Each generation brings complementary strengths with them into a ministry. We need to always keep within focus that it’s not about us, it’s about how we are serving one another. When we can focus on our disposition instead of our current position then we can truly develop ties that bind.

“Walking the Path” Chapel-(Lakeside #1) Wendy Fitzgerald/Rebee Leeman

An egg, a carrot and a bag of tea walked into a bar...oh...wait. Which of these would you be? Or maybe a mix of the three? Come hear how to walk with God as we solve this riddle. We will spill the tea on Deuteronomy and talk about leaving a legacy.

“Creating a Legacy of Faith” Quails Roost Shelter (Lakeside #2) Wendy Warman Redmon

Our life is our living legacy of faith, not a stage of life, but focusing our energies on the people God has surrounded us with right now. We will explore how you can begin or continue your legacy that will bless the people God has put in your life now and for generations to come. In Romans 12:1-2 (The Message), Paul tells us that embracing your everyday, ordinary life is the best thing you can do for God. The best thing no matter what age or circumstance.

“Living to Become a legacy” Blue Heron Shelter (Hillside #5) Marilyn Randolph

Your legacy has two parts. First, how you live when you are here and second, how others will remember you when you are gone. Learn how to live as the truest reflection of you with a life balance that prioritizes health, fitness and self care and how your spiritual well-being plays a part.

“Iron Sharpens Iron” James/John Building (Hillside#7) Jill McGaffigan

This workshop title is Biblical Truth. However, there is a right and a wrong way to sharpen anything. We will explore why speaking the Truth is essential in all relationships and the best practices for doing so. We will see that when we interact in a way that looks to Scripture and honors God, we are more likely to leave a lovely, lasting legacy with our family, friends, and fellowship of believers because of the solid foundation on which that legacy is built.

Canopy High Ropes Challenge (Hillside#6) Sat/Sun morning LACC Staff

“Ticket” pre-sign up activity. Option to workshops only. 40 ft 11 sided high ropes course with 350 ft zipline dismount. Weight limit: 250 lbs - need closed toe shoes. Limit to 20 participants per session. Offered only during Workshop time.

