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## RETREATS ~ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### OVERNIGHT EVENTS, F.A.Q.

**Q: Does MCC host overnight events? Who is your general clientele?**

A: Merriwood has been providing quality camp facility, food service, and some programming for hundreds of middle school, high school, and college-aged attendees for decades now, each fall and spring. Due to our housing being mostly cabins (as opposed to motel/hotel style units) Merriwood is not set up well to host couples, ladies retreats, or families. We would recommend searching on [www.ccca.org](http://www.ccca.org) (Christian Camp and Conference Association) for another camp/conference center if we cannot meet your needs.

**Q: Can you describe your housing?**

A: We have 192 beds. We have 12 cabins that have 12 beds (6 sets of bunk beds) in each room. Each room has mirrors and sinks. Two cabins are connected through a bathroom which includes two showers and two bathroom stalls. Total housing in our normal 12 cabins equals 144. We also additional housing that could house an additional 48 students. (These four cabins use the bath-house for restrooms and showers.) There are also 2-5 motel units available for adult leaders or a family if necessary. Some motel units consist of a large bed and a set of bunk beds. Other motels consist of 3 sets of bunk beds (so 6 twin sized beds). Retreat groups are asked to bring all their own linens (sleeping bags, sheets, blankets, pillows, towels, wash cloths, etc.) and toiletry items for cabins and motels as these are not provided. The cabins and motel rooms contain hand soap dispensers, toilet paper, and paper towels dispensers. If you have more than 192, we do have some other flex (dorm-like) spaces we can use to potentially house 36 more, in addition to the 192 cabin beds and motel spaces.

**Q: Does Merriwood require any minimum numbers for overnight events?**

A: Since we are a camp (and not a conference center with multiple break-out rooms) we typically host one retreat group at a time at our facility. The benefit in being the only group at our facility is that groups may use buildings, outdoor space, and activity times at their own leisure (not having to work around other groups). Because we only have one group at Merriwood at a time, we do ask for a minimum of 50 paying persons for a one-night retreat. The minimum for a two-night retreat is 40 paying persons. \*MCC is willing to book two, smaller groups together if both are willing to be flexible with one another; however, MCC cannot guarantee a second group would book. If only one group attends, they would be responsible for the minimum numbers. Spring would have the most availability to "double-book" two groups/weekend.

**Q: What months are available for overnight retreats?**

A: We do retreats from February through the first weekend in May and then again from the last week in August through mid-November. We do not usually do retreats from mid-November through January. (Our cabins are closed down during this time.)

**Q: How does pricing work for overnight events and what is included in that?**

A: Our rates are per-person. For example, a shorter retreat of one night and three meals would be \$89 per person as of 2025. A longer retreat of 2-nights and 5 meals would be \$147 per person as of 2025 (rates subject to change). We can custom-make your event, adding more or less meals depending on when you arrive and depart. Please contact Merriwood for current rates.

**Q: What is included in the price of an overnight retreat?**

A: Included are meals, cabin housing, all of our facilities (motel units, gymnasium and chapel area, dining hall), all our activities (three campfire areas, paddle boats, canoes, and outdoor fields, gaga, baseball field, arena soccer, 9 square in the air, 9 hole disc golf, tetherball, playground areas, corn hole, bottle bash, can jam, spike ball, tetherball, and more! For a complete listing of additional free time activities, at no additional charge, please see the retreat page on our website or the overnight retreat or day camp event details. The above activities should be supervised by the retreat group leadership.

**Q: Can Merriwood staff facilitate any additional activities for our retreat group?**

A: Included with the price of an overnight event are two, MCC-staff facilitated activities. You can choose from: Team building, climbing wall, large group games, blob and water activities, (in season), pool (in season), archery, axe throwing, and sling-shots. There will be a place in the contract process to choose your activities. Later, the timeframes will be agreed upon by both parties. MCC will facilitate these activities; group leaders are encourage to participate and help with supervision as well.

**Q: Does Merriwood program fall and spring retreats where I can drop off my youth group or individual child?**

A: Currently, Merriwood does not offer programming and counselors for fall and spring retreats. The group attending is free to bring their own speaker, programming, worship leaders, etc.

DAY EVENTS, F.A.Q.

**Q: What kinds of day events does Merriwood host?**

A: Merriwood can host school field days, team building days, youth groups events, church picnics, youth leadership events, Sunday School Class picnics, etc.

**Q: What activities are available for day events?**

A: We can design a package that will fit your needs. Typically, paddle boats, canoes, gym use (ping pong, carpet ball, foos ball, basketball, indoor volleyball), sand volleyball, softball field, soccer area (not regulation), fishing (gear not provided by MCC), tetherball, 9 Square in the Air, 9-Hole Disc Golf, three campfire areas to choose from, and cafeteria use are available. For additional rates, Merriwood staff can facilitate team building activities, Climbing Wall, Large Group Games, Axe throwing, Archery, Sling shots, and/or Blob and Water activities (in season), or Pool (in season). See the one-day event package listing on our retreat page on our website for more details.

**Q: Does Merriwood require any minimum numbers for one-day events?**

A: Yes, for a day event on a Friday through Sunday, the minimum required is 60 persons. For a day event Monday through Thursday, the minimum is 30 paying persons.

**Q: What are the day event rates?**

A: The rates depend on what the group uses and if Merriwood Staff facilitation is necessary or not. A one-day event detail page with several different packages is available on the retreat page of our website. Please feel free to call the office if you have additional questions or to discuss specifics.

**Q: What is a sample day event schedule?**

A: We can modify this schedule for the group attending. If a group wishes for MCC staff to facilitate some of the programming, typically, MCC staff would facilitate one activity in the morning, followed by lunch, followed by a second activity in the afternoon. There would be additional timeslots for the group to hold their own meetings and free time (if they desire). The schedule can be modified to meet the needs of the group attending in a way that works for both MCC staff and the attending group.

**Q: How can I book an event?**

A: Call MCC's office at 336-766-5151 to check availability or email us at [office@campmerriwood.net](mailto:office@campmerriwood.net). Once a retreat date and activities are decided upon, MCC will email a contract packet to the group. There is a deposit of 10% of the total anticipated amount due in order to save the date (or minimum of \$400; maximum of \$1,000 deposit). The deposit is non-refundable and will be deducted from the full amount. For day-events, the deposit is 10% of the total estimated amount (or \$200 minimum non-refundable deposit) which is deducted from the full amount, to be returned with the contract. Once the contract and deposits are returned, the retreat will be confirmed. Final numbers are due 14 days out. Balances are due during your time with us.

We hope you'll consider Merriwood for your overnight or day event. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Please contact the office at 336-766-5151 or email [office@campmerriwood.net](mailto:office@campmerriwood.net) for more details.