

# **Living Witnesses:**

## **Learning from Native Americans of the Northwest**

**Alton Collins Retreat Center and Wallowa Lake Camp – Portland, Oregon**  
**July 17 – 24, 2009**

The Nez Perce and other Native Americans of the Northwest are alive and well. They are passing on to their children a rich cultural and spiritual heritage. This Primetimers event will tour various areas of Oregon, exploring the historical and current day context of Native Americans in the Pacific Northwest. This cross-cultural journey will explore hallowed homelands of Columbia River tribes ranging from the slopes of Mt. Hood on the west to the depths of Hells Canyon and soaring peaks of the Wallowa Lake region in NE Oregon. Participants will travel along the Columbia River to rural NE Oregon, returning via Baker City and retracing the Oregon Trail with views of Mt. Hood and Mt. St. Helens to the north.

During this event, you will meet with historians to trace the movement of settlers westward, beginning with Lewis and Clark and followed soon after by traders, other explorers, pioneers, and missionaries. Explore the resultant impact on the Nez Perce, Yakama, and Umatilla Native Americans. A visit to the Tamástlikt Cultural Institute will enable you to experience the “storied past, rich present, and bright future” of the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla tribes. One highlight of the event will be the opportunity to participate in a traditional cross-cultural family gathering designed to build understanding and skills, including spiritual awareness. At this gathering, elders from several tribes will teach how values and customs are transferred to new generations through hands-on beadwork, leatherwork, food gathering dancing and storytelling. Participate in a Pow Wow and a Salmon Feast, and build relationships with native and non-native participants in the gathering. This Primetimers event will also be an opportunity to learn about current ministries with Native Americans in the UMC in rural and urban settings. Participants will meet with Portland-area United Methodists who are engaging in ministry with urban Native Americans in a cooperative ministry. Experience how Lapwai United Methodist Church on the Nez Perce Reservation is working with the rural native community it serves. This event will encourage participants to examine in-born prejudices and stereotypes about persons from other racial and cultural backgrounds and how to apply their new learnings to their own communities as we reach out to persons who speak other languages or encounter persons from other faith traditions. Participants will serve in mission through opportunities such as assisting with the summer clean up of the Nez Perce Homeland Project in the Wallowa Valley and preparing traditional crafts to share back home.

### **Primetimers**

**A Mission Volunteers Program of the General Board of Global Ministries**  
**The United Methodist Church**  
**toll free: (877) 882-4724**  
**email: [primetimers@gbgm-umc.org](mailto:primetimers@gbgm-umc.org)**  
**website: [www.primetimers.info](http://www.primetimers.info)**

# **Living Witnesses: Learning from Native Americans of the Pacific Northwest**

EVENT CODE: 1OIC

## **EVENT HOSTS:**

Oregon-Idaho Camping  
1505 SW 18<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Portland, OR 97201  
[www.gocamping.org](http://www.gocamping.org)

Alton Collins Retreat Center  
32867 SE Highway 211  
Eagle Creek, OR 97022  
[www.collinsretreatcenter.org](http://www.collinsretreatcenter.org)

Wallowa Lake Camp  
84522 Church Lane  
Joseph, OR 97846  
[www.gocamping.org/wallowa.html](http://www.gocamping.org/wallowa.html)

## **EVENT DATE:**

July 17 – 24, 2009

## **EVENT COST PER PERSON:**

\$895.00 – Double Occupancy Room [includes housing, meals, local transportation, supplemental accident insurance, entrance fees, and a GBGM administrative fee]. Participants are also responsible for the cost of their transportation to and from the event.

## **ROOMS:**

Participants will be housed in several different locations: Alton Collins Retreat Center, Wallowa Lake Camp, and two different hotels. The four nights in Oregon's version of the Alps (Wallowa Lake Camp) features recently-constructed cedar yurts fully equipped with in-unit baths, microwave, coffeemaker and small refrigerator, queen and single beds with handmade quilts.

## **MEALS:**

The first meal of the event will be dinner on Friday, July 17 and the last meal of the event will be breakfast on Friday, July 24.

## **TRANSPORTATION:**

Participants should not make travel arrangements until instructed to do so by the Event Coordinator. Participants who are flying should use the Portland International Airport (PDX). Transportation to and from the airport is available by shuttle for an additional \$30 roundtrip.

## **ESTIMATED PHYSICAL DEMANDS OF THE EVENT**

Description of terrain: Wallowa Lake Camp is gently sloping or flat ground nestled in trees.

Amount of walking per day: Average: 15 minutes Maximum: 25 minutes

Number of flights of stairs per day: 0

Requirements for entering/exiting transportation: climbing into/out of vans or bus

Distance participants will have to transport their luggage: 40 ft.

## **REGISTRATION:**

The registration deadline for this event is: **April 17, 2009**

Please send completed registration and deposit to:

**Primetimers, Mission Volunteers, General Board of Global Ministries  
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1400, New York, NY 10115**

## **REGISTRATION LIMIT:**

Min: 8 participants Max: 12 participants

## **EVENT COORDINATOR:**

Dr. Larry McClure  
Telephone: (503) 692-5489  
Email: [larry.mcclure@gmail.com](mailto:larry.mcclure@gmail.com)

## **SHEPHERD:**

Ellie McClure  
Telephone: (503) 692-5489  
Email: [ellie.mcclure@gmail.com](mailto:ellie.mcclure@gmail.com)