



Pathfinder Pathways...

A Publication of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Pathfinders

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Why Jesus is Better Than Santa Claus

Santa lives at the North Pole...
JESUS is everywhere . . .

Santa rides in a sleigh...
JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.

Santa has cute little reindeer...
JESUS created them.

Santa comes but once a year...
JESUS is an ever present help.

Santa fills your stockings with goodies...
JESUS supplies all your needs.

Santa comes down your chimney uninvited...
JESUS stands at your door and knocks,
And enters your heart by invitation.

You have to wait in line to see Santa...
JESUS is as close as the mention of His name.

Santa lets you sit on his lap...
JESUS lets you rest in His Everlasting Arms.

Santa doesn't know your name, all he can say is "Hi little boy or girl, what's your name?"

JESUS knew our names before we did. Not only does He know our names, He knows our history and future, and He even knows our hearts & how many hairs are on our heads.

Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly...

JESUS has a heart full of love, grace, mercy & forgiveness.

All Santa can offer on a bad day is HO HO HO...
JESUS says "Cast your cares on me for I care for you."

Santa & his little helpers make toys...
JESUS & His angels make new lives, mend wounded hearts, repair broken homes and build mansions.

Santa may make you chuckle but...
JESUS gives you joy that is your strength.

While Santa puts gifts under your tree...
JESUS became The Gift and died on a tree, for you & me.

It's obvious there is really no comparison.

We need to remember WHO Christmas is all about.

We need to put CHRIST back in Christmas.

Jesus is still the reason for the season.

Yes, Jesus IS better,
He is much better than
Santa Claus



Merry CHRISTmas!!

Coordinator's Corral

Get to know the Coordinators

Marlene & Ron Derrick



Ron & Marlene have both been in Pathfinders for 23 years and this is their 7th year being coordinators. Between the two of them they've been everything from camp cook to Director and everything in between.

They have two children (son 27 & daughter 23) and two grand-daughters (ages 6 & 7).

When not working with Pathfinders, Marlene is a Domestic Engineer and church Deaconess, and Ron is the Senior Communications Analyst at a local hospital.

Marlene's hobbies include reading, Internet research, crafts and cooking. Ron's include golf, stargazing and computers. They both enjoy Geo-Caching. If you don't know what that is, grab your GPS and ask them.

Another of Ron's hobbies is presenting the gospel as a Christian Illusionist; he's been doing this for 12 years and if you're lucky you'll get to see him perform at one of the Pathfinder events.

Ron is the person to call on if you need help with Drilling & Marching, he's the conference drillmaster and has published the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Drill manual. Other areas that Ron or Marlene are a resource for are Christian Storytelling or crafts.

The thing Marlene enjoys most about Pathfinders is reaching out and touching people's lives. She says, "I love my God, I love my family and I want the world to know and feel God's love."

Ron said that the thing he enjoys most about Pathfinders is his contact with the young people. "When I quit enjoying the kids, I will be 'waiting for Jesus, asleep'. I love to see their eyes sparkle with excitement knowing someone cares about them. I cherish my adult friends but my mission is caring for God's kids."

Lucile Mann



Lucile has been a coordinator for 22 of the 28 years that she has been in Pathfinders. She started out as a counselor and worked her way up to Director.

In real life Lucile is an accountant for Lanier Health Services in Lakeland, GA. She also teaches piano and music at the local church school.

Lucile has three grown children – her two girls, Elizabeth and Laura, have blessed her with three grandchildren. She also has a son who lives in Kettering, OH.

She enjoys music, cooking, hiking and traveling. And her specialty is organizing programs and working with children.

The things that she loves about Pathfindering are hiking on the Appalachian Trail, white water rafting, and going on camping trips. She has always enjoyed the spiritual messages brought to us by many special speakers over the years. She really like the candle lighting services where we light up the darkness with many candles. She has enjoyed watching the young people in Pathfinders grow in Christ and many have taken their place in witnessing about Christ to others. She has also enjoyed the mission trips that she was able to take to Romania and also to work with Habitats for Humanity in Savannah. She said, "These trips were a real blessing. Pathfinders gives us an opportunity to be a service to our community and to the world. It has been a good 28 years."

Hot Tip

Take a pair of work gloves on your campouts. It will make it easier to collect wood for the fire, and will also make it easier to tend the fire.

Outreach Activity Ideas

The NAD website has an article on Outreach ideas called *Love by the Month*. Here's the idea for December. Don Santa hats, and deliver to needy family's boxes of nonperishable food and gifts collected by your church/club.

Honor Toolbox



Basic Sewing

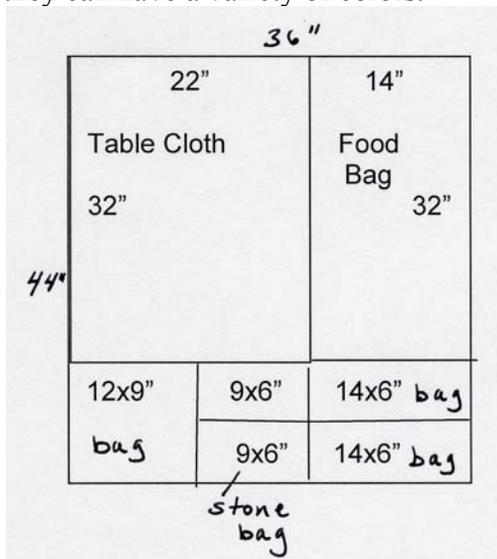
Teaching the sewing honor is a great way to introduce Pathfinders to the fun of sewing. Here are some ideas of things that they can make to use for camping or backpacking besides earning their honor.

Supplies needed per person:

1yd rip stop nylon (~\$5/yd.), thread, drawstring cording, 50' nylon rope.

Get bright colors of ripstop, if available.

Once the fabric is cut out some of the Pathfinders may choose to exchange pieces so that they can have a variety of colors.



By using the diagram a Pathfinder would end up with a tablecloth, a food bag to animal proof their food in, and several ditty bags. Use the stone bag to put several medium rocks in it to help when throwing the end of the 50' rope over a tree limb to pull the food bag up with. Or you can make your own plan.

Steps to make bags:

1) Cut out fabric

- 2) Sew up sides
- 3) Make casing at top of each bag
- 4) Run cording through casing (make sure to heat seal the ends of the nylon cording, adults only)

To make the tablecloth, hem all 4-sides, then fold it into a small square, roll it and secure it with a rubber band, this makes it really compact to carry. Some may wonder why have a tablecloth when backpacking? But it sure is a lot nicer than spreading all your food on the ground. Just remind the kids that nylon will melt and not to put hot pans on the tablecloth.

Sewing Tip

Find it hard to put patches on straight? Tape them in place first with two-sided tape. When you are halfway done sewing, remove the tape.

<http://www.angelfire.com/tn/blessthischild/kids.html>

<http://www.thecraftstudio.com/qwc/handsew.htm>



Safety Tip

Never use a flame or gas-powered heating device in a tent or camper. Not only could the tent catch on fire but also the heating device gives off deadly carbon monoxide. Also be cautious when using a propane stove. Read the instructions that come with the stove and propane cylinder. Use the stove as a cooking appliance only – never leave it unattended while it's burning.

Counselor's Corner

One way to make sure that you are successful as a counselor is to help the parents of your Pathfinders be successful. Introduce yourself and let them know that you are their Pathfinder's counselor. Let them know what you expect of them. Are there things that they need to help their child with at home? If so, let them know. To accomplish this, communicate. Use notes sent home, snail mail and email. Make sure that they know what is going on.

Camping 101 – Logistics

Help, I have to plan a camping trip for my club, my unit, or my family, where do I start?

Whether you've planned hundreds of campouts or this is your first, you will still have to answer these questions: "Where are we going, and how are we going to get there?"

When deciding where you are going, you will need to know how far away the campground is and how long it will take to get there. Sixty miles on a freeway takes a lot less time than 60 miles on curvy back roads.

Sometimes the process may seem to go round in circles while you are trying to find out the answers. Since the answer to one question may depend on the answer to another one. For instance you may not be able to decide where you're going until you know how many are going and no one will commit until they know where you are going.

If the location that you want to go allows only a limited number of people to camp in that area then you may want to keep it in mind for a unit or family campout or as a special place where only a select few can go. Start a notebook that includes a list of campsites and the information about them. Don't keep this information a secret; share it with the staff in your club, and add to it as new camp areas are found.

Here is the information that needs to be included:

- Location
- Cost
- Directions
- Max # people
- Group or Individual campsites
- Do reservations need to be made
- How to make a reservation (phone #s and/or websites)
- Directions

Once you've decided where you're going now you need to figure out how to get there?

Buses, vans and/ or automobiles?

Depending on what you have available you may use some of each. Make sure that you have enough vehicles and qualified drivers, and

make sure that the drivers can leave at the same time. One driver for two vans doesn't work no matter how you look at it. Count the number of seats available in all the vehicles and make sure there is one for each person, too many is a waste of money and too few is impossible.



Camp Cooking

Omelets-in-a-Bag

You will need: 1-2 eggs per person, a little milk for each, any add-ins you might like: cheese, mushrooms, onions (green or regular), tomatoes, green onions, a large freezer zip-lock bag, Pita Bread (optional).

What you do: Bring a pan of water to boil. Each person puts 1-2 eggs in a bag and adds a little milk. Then add any other items that you like. Squeeze the stuff in the bag to mix it. **BE SURE IT IS CLOSED TIGHTLY!!!!!!** Place bags in boiling water and cook until done, about 3-5 minutes. Viloa' instant omelets you can eat right from the bag, or put in pita bread for a breakfast sandwich. The best part... no pan to clean!



Nature Nugget

Insects of the Bible

Let's go on an insect hunt through the Bible. Below are twelve different insects mentioned in the Bible. Look up the verses and fill in the names.

Deuteronomy 1:44

Jeremiah 46:23

Deuteronomy 7:20

Amos 4:9

1 Samuel 26: 20

Jonah 4:7

Exodus 8:21

Matthew 6:19

Proverbs 6:6

Matthew 23:24

Proverbs 30:27,28

Luke 10:19

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