

The Executive Director Search Task Force



Representation

The Calvin Crest board selected two males and three females, three board members, one current staff person and one non-board-member donor/staff-alumni/parent to serve on the search task force.



Abby Arij, Task Force Chair, Board Member

Abby attended Calvin Crest as a camper starting in Miwok through High School Camp as well as served as a Child Care Assistant for Family Camp and as an AIMer. She has a B.S. in Child Development and is a Master of Social Work. Recently, Abby and her husband finalized the adoption of their daughter through foster care and are excited to be fostering three additional little boys at this time.



Rev. Adam Knudson, Board Member

Adam grew up in Fresno, California and graduated from Edison High School. He is a graduate of Whitworth College, in Spokane, WA (BA – 2001) and the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, (M.Div. – 2005). He was ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 2007. Adam met his wife Andrea at Calvin Crest where they served on the Accommodations Team together during the summers of 1998 & 1999. Adam and Andrea have a busy home with sons Jeremiah and Samuel and daughters Alexandra and Olivia. Adam is Associate Pastor for Youth and Family Ministries at Hope Lutheran Church in Fresno where he has served for the past 11 years.



Rev. Dr. Bill Ekhardt, MBA, Board Treasurer

Bill is Associate Pastor and Chief of Staff at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, IA. He is treasurer of the Calvin Crest Board. He recently served as Associate Executive Director. Throughout college and seminary, he served 10 years on summer staff and attended as a camper from 8 years old through high school. Bill, his wife Tracy and their four children regularly attend family camp during the summers.



Christina Melahn, Staff Representative

Christina is the Director of our Outdoor School. She first came to Calvin Crest as a member of the summer staff in 2012 after hearing about camp from a professor at Whitworth University. After graduating with a B.A. in Theology in 2013, she returned and has been at Calvin Crest ever since. She has served in a variety of positions over the years including Assistant Director of the Outdoor School, Acting Program Director, Crestview (Lead Counselor, Activities Director, Coordinator), AIM Coordinator, and Assistant Program Director.



Sarah (Steckling) Friesen, Staff Alumni/Parent/Donor

Sarah has a master's degree in leadership and organizational studies. She has volunteered with several non-profits while a stay-at-home mom. She, along with her husband and three children, have attended Family Camp for the last eight years. During the mid-90s she was on Calvin Crest's summer staff for 5 seasons including one as the Sherwood Activities Director. Ever since her first summer as a camper at Sherwood Forest, Calvin Crest has had a very special place in Sarah's heart.

(Turn over for Denominational Representation)

Denominational Representation

Our task force represents several churches with historic ties to Calvin Crest as well as several denominations and traditions. Our team of five grew up at:

| <u>Congregation</u> | <u>Denomination (Today)</u> |
|--|-----------------------------|
| • University Presbyterian in Fresno | PC(USA) |
| • Delhi Community Presbyterian Church | ECO |
| • Northminster Presbyterian Church | ECO |
| • First Presbyterian Church Colorado Springs | ECO |
| • Community Presbyterian Church of Gustine | PC(USA) |

Like many of our Calvin Crest constituents, our team now attends or lead churches in a variety of different denominations. On Sunday mornings you can find us at:

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| • Westminster Presbyterian, Des Moines, IA | PC(USA) |
| • Soma Christian Church, Clovis | Southern Baptist Convention |
| • Hope Lutheran Church, Fresno | Evangelical Lutheran Church of America |
| • Sierra Vista Presbyterian, Oakhurst | ECO |
| • Castro Valley First Baptist, Castro Valley | General Baptist Convention |

In addition, Bill Ekhardt and Adam Knudson are ordained PC(USA) pastors. Adam Studied at a Mennonite Brethren Seminary and Sarah attended a Mennonite Brethren church for 15 years until her move to Castro Valley.