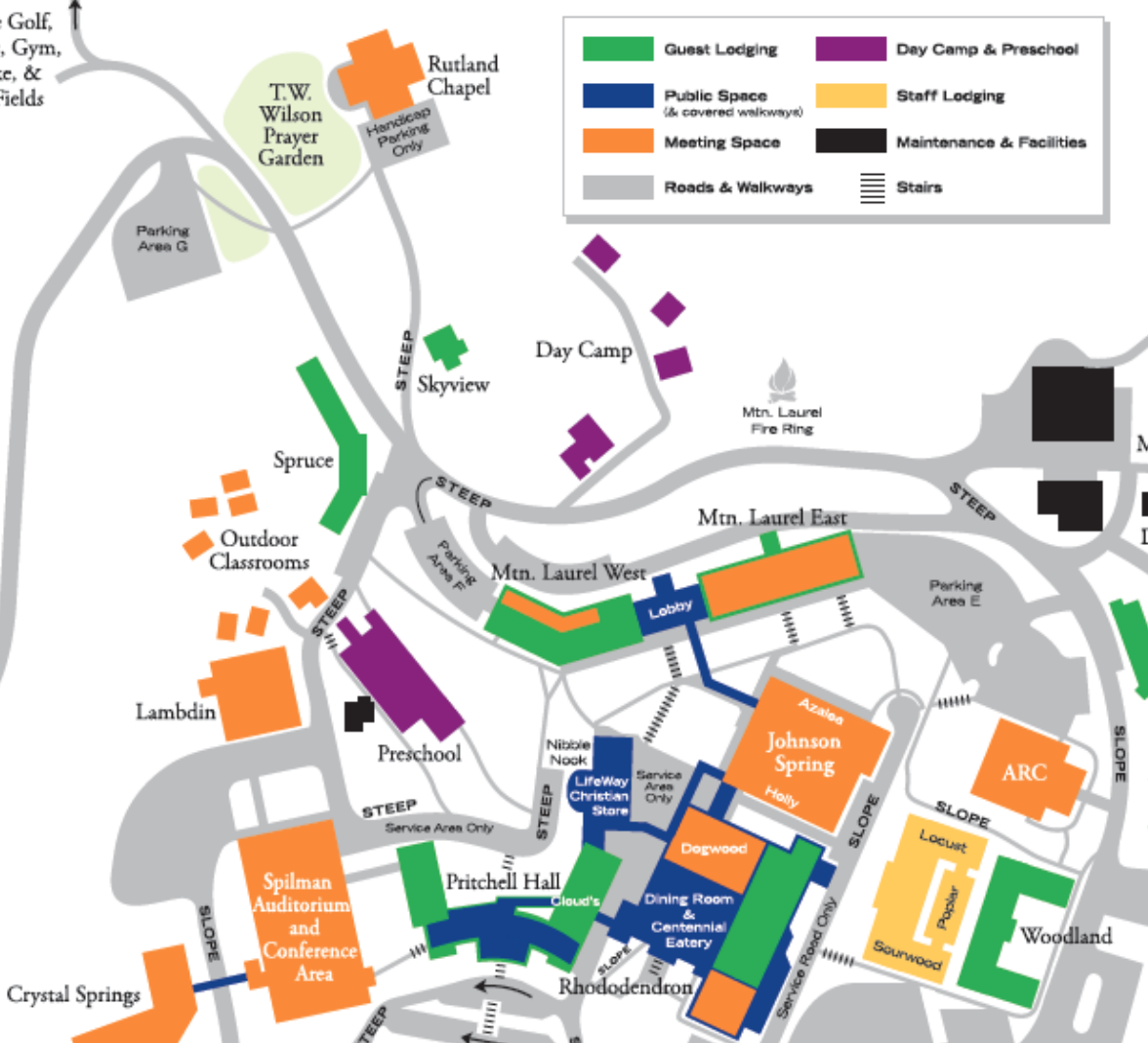


To Miniature Golf,
Tennis Courts, Gym,
Hiking, Lake, &
Recreation Fields



Not yours, or your father's and mother's Ridgecrest of yesteryear. Not all the changes were well thought out, including changing to the generic name of "LifeWay" and allowing questionable hard rock and hip-hop musicians (who have ties to, and recommend secular entertainers, who do not love the Lord Jesus) to use the Spilman Auditorium as their venue for profit.

With the Southern Baptist's "Glorieta Baptist Assembly" in New Mexico (the equivalent of Ridgecrest in the West,) now in financial straits, and their seeking to sell off the property, this may be the reason the Ridgecrest leadership is trying to "look" generic, and turn it into a "money-maker" instead of it's intended purpose as a spiritual retreat.



N-253 - WORSHIP HOUR AT THE AUDITORIUM, RIDGECREST BAPTIST ASSEMBLY, RIDGECREST, N. C.



45495

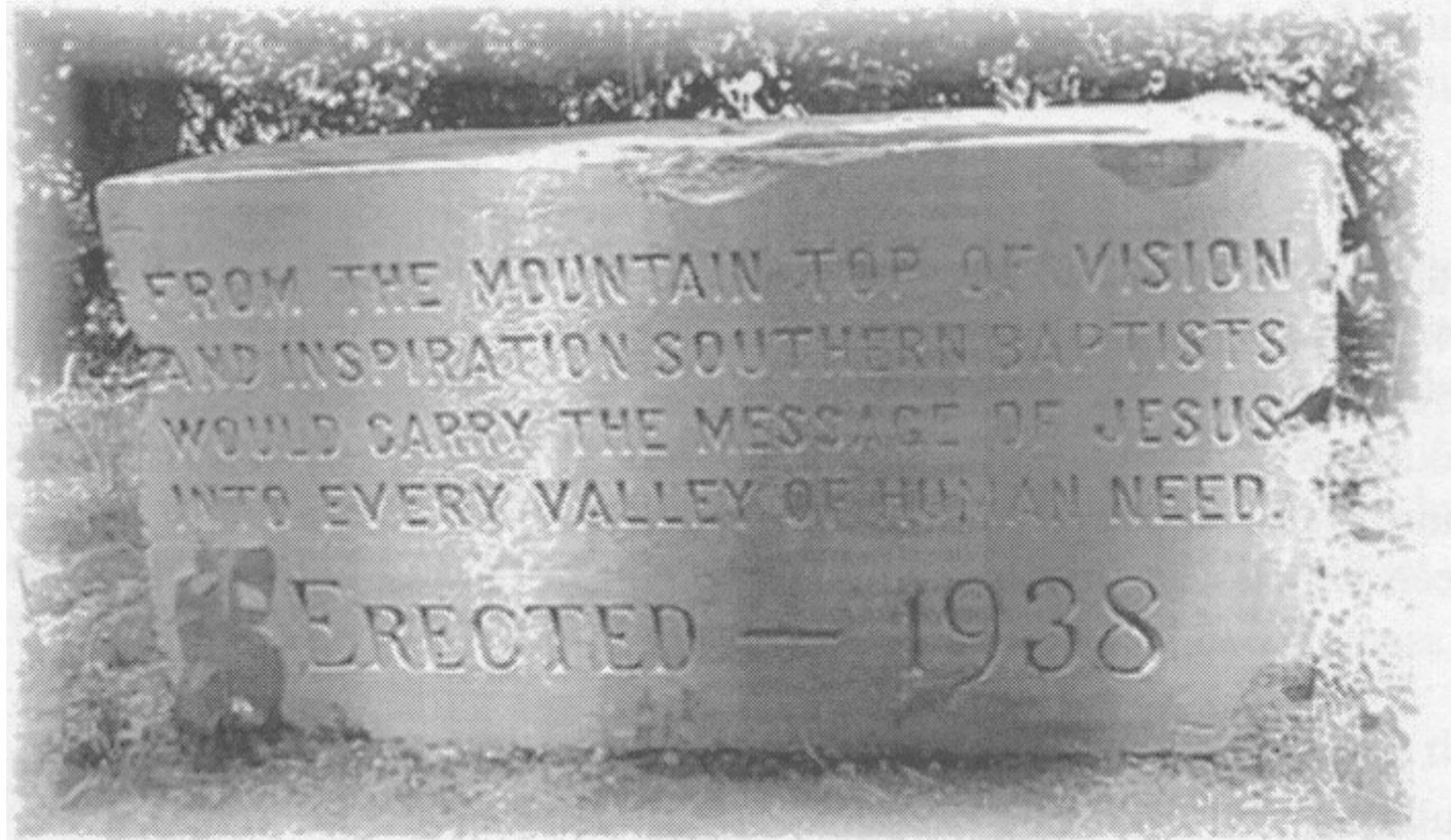
Artist's conception of Auditorium interior, before it was first enlarged.



Photo/postcard showing interior of Spilman Auditorium after it was first enlarged; as it looked in 1966.



Spilman Auditorium, as it looks now, after it was enlarged a second time.



For some strange and unexplained reason, the original cornerstone of Spilman Auditorium was not returned to its rightful place, when the building was enlarged the second and last time. It sits on the lawn between Spilman Auditorium and Pritchell Hall. This “says something” about the new leadership at Ridgecrest, and their spiritual values. It sends the wrong “message” about the true purpose of Ridgecrest!

(Source: “The Mountain, the Man and the Dream,” by Kent A. Barnes, Authorhouse Publishers, 2004)



**The B.W. Spilman Auditorium at
Ridgecrest is now the venue for
“Contemporary” worship-lite.**



Great hymn singing and music that honors the Lord, has become a thing of the past in the B.W. Spilman Auditorium. Secular concert websites now list the “Spilman Auditorium” as a venue for secular musicians to hold their rock and hip-hop music concerts.

The B.W. Spilman Auditorium at Ridgecrest, goes “contemporary,” with theater lights, concert sound system, and gospel “rock” acoustics to match.



Ridgecrest is now managed by “Contemporary Worship-minded” individuals, who have no respect for the real Baptist tradition. They have allowed hard rock and hip-hop musicians, like “Needtobreathe,” to perform “concerts” in the B.W. Spilman Auditorium for profit. Investigation of these groups indicates their endorsement of questionable/secular musicians, who do NOT love the Lord Jesus Christ. *Programs* here are, indeed, *performances*, not worship that honors God.

Tickets to “Spilman Auditorium” concerts are offered online at such websites as, “JamBase” and “Eventective.” These sites have, on the same web page, information about local taverns, and other places of questionable Christian behavior, for the concert-goer to be aware of.





Of course, today's Ridgecrest Staff, seen in this photo, are the minimum wage employees that support all these rock concerts/events.

Lifeway Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center is now being used to facilitate the replacement of traditional worship with contemporary 'Christian' rock, in churches across the Southern Baptist Convention.

“Worship Leader Bootcamp” is offered this year (2013) at Ridgecrest with conference leader, **Kenny Lamm**, senior consultant for worship and music for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. He claims 23 years as “worship pastor” of Front Street Baptist Church in Statesville, North Carolina, *although he is not listed on their website*. He touts his brand of contemporary worship with his own blog, which includes a detailed section titled, “Worship Wars” where he writes detailed advice on how to derail traditional worship in a church, and install contemporary rock music.

He even includes details on what the worship leader needs to do to orchestrate this wholesale derailment, from what equipment to buy to how to use it. Needless to say, he has been given an entre into SBC’s Lifeway Ridgecrest to promote his avowed purpose of bringing the contemporary rock sound into the sanctuary, of as many churches as possible.

Lifeway Ridgecrest Conference Center executives, in addition to not vetting the rock group singers that grace the Spilman Auditorium platform, have not vetted a key resource book being touted for their “Lifeway Worship Leadership Conferences.” The book, **“Experiencing Worship,”** written by **Steve Newman**, has *two graduate degrees from an online diploma mill*, and his agenda is to transform all church worship into the contemporary style.

Lifeway Ridgecrest Conference Center continues to pander to the worldly rock and roll entertainment of today, by allowing such groups to use the Spilman Auditorium at “2013 Centrifuge:”

“The Museum,” a ‘Christian’ rock group, is named for a museum they visited during the Romania revolution.



“Rush of Fools,” is a Christian rock/contemporary music band from Alabama. The band, which bases its name in 1 Cor. 1:26-31, is interesting, in that it seems to be an incongruous name, when juxtaposed against what standard Bible commentaries say about the interpretation of those verses.



Thomas and Dita Rose, a bi-racial couple, and their rock band, **“The Rose Factor,”** is involved in “Kickstarter” a plethora of cultural/art/modern film initiatives that invite you to pledge money to. From their website: “The filmmakers, musicians, artists, and designers you see on Kickstarter have complete control over and responsibility for their projects. Kickstarter is a platform and a resource; we’re not involved in the development of the projects themselves. Anyone can launch a project on Kickstarter as long as it meets our guidelines.”

These “Kickstarter” initiatives are secular in nature and have nothing to do with evangelization of the lost.





(Actual picture from inside Spilman Auditorium)

Hippie ‘Christian’ rock singer “Matt Papa,” who is to appear at the Spilman Auditorium in July of 2013, has endorsed on his website such questionable people as secular singer **Justin Bieber**, **Joyce Meyer**, the jet-setting charismatic prosperity-gospel preacherette, who teaches an off-brand charismatic religion, and **Rick Warren** of the “feel good, purpose-driven religion,” whose books have taken scripture quotations out of context. Warren is the one who said that God enjoys rock music! At *Saddleback Church*, Rick Warren offers **a jazz service** for jazz lovers. **A rock-n-roll service for rockers**. Based on a mistranslation of Acts 5:42, Warren claims he’s following the apostles who provided different kinds of services in separate ‘courts’ of the temple.





(Actual picture from inside Spilman Auditorium)

Yet just as clearly as a march tune fits a military scene, jazz fits a night club scene and rock fits a festival scene, so there is a certain kind of sound that suits a prayer meeting - and it's not the rock, rap and jazz sound that the purpose driven church has borrowed from the world.

Music that has a corrupt origin, employs sensual rhythms and is accompanied by a fleshly breathy style of singing, with singers who scoop and slide from one note to another, is utterly unsuitable for the spiritual praise of God.

**But this is exactly what is happening now
in the B.W. Spilman Auditorium at Ridgecrest.**

In a taped, online interview, on the Ridgecrest website, the current director (Byron Hill, Executive Director, LifeWay Conference Centers and Camps) clearly states that he is in favor of opening up Ridgecrest to all “evangelical” groups (whatever that means.)



Ridgecrest has lost
sight of it's
intended purpose:
it now hosts
Bishops and Rectors
of the Episcopal
Church!



And one of those “groups” invited into the Spilman Auditorium in 2012, is one of the leaders of the Episcopal Church, no less. Ordained a priest in the Diocese of Sydney, Australia, **Dr. Youssef** founded The Church of the Apostles. His “service” in Spilman concluded with a hands-on healing service, which is doctrinally suspect. (The Rt. Rev. Dr. Foley Beach was consecrated on October 9, 2010, at the Church of the Apostles, in Atlanta, Georgia, the church that Dr. Youssef is the Rector of.)

Trying to be inclusive of every group imaginable, the Ridgecrest Conference Center leadership now invites the Boy Scouts (since 2003) to use the facilities for a pow-wow and Order of the Arrow activities.

It also has allocated space for Mormons to meet in one of it's largest facilities, Rhododendron Hall. Those of Jewish faith also met at a Ridgecrest facility.

“Indian Summer 2011 will be held at the Ridgecrest Conference Center, Asheville, N.C. the week of August 1 – 6, 2011.” (Source: Boy Scouts website).

The Order of the Arrow of Boy Scouts includes this interesting statement in their registration material:

“Use of the LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center for this event does not imply alignment with, or endorsement by LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Conference.”

From their Brochure:

“Indian Summer 2011 will offer an opportunity for Arrowmen across the country to participate in focus areas including American Indian material culture and OA Inductions and Ceremonies.”

“The American Indian material culture track will focus on learning about Indian dance clothes, dance (Powwows), song and Arrowmen will be able to complete a hands on craft experience under the direction of the best craftsmen in the Scouting movement.”

“OA Induction and Ceremonies will include a range of topics from ceremonialists to running an Ordeal and unit elections.”

“Highlights will include acting skills and techniques workshops taught by real-world theater professionals.”



“Service Projects
Arrowmen gave more than 800 hours of service to the Ridgecrest Conference Center over the week, building a new prayer garden, retaining wall, and trails.”

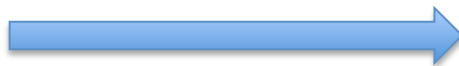
From their brochure: “Religious Services Held”

“Arrowman Conducting Service as Allowat Sakima told us, the greatest of a Scout's obligations is his duty to God. Respecting this important aspect that is a part of our Scouting lives, religious services were held during the early evening on Sunday. Arrowmen had a chance to participate in their respective services and came together for a time of self-reflection away from the flurry of the Indian Summer activities and training.”

“The non-denominational service was held at Spilman Auditorium and included a local gospel band.”

“A service for Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was also held at Ridgecrest while many Catholic Scouts traveled to Asheville for services at St. Eugene's Catholic Church. Jewish services were held on Saturday.”

**4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. LDS (Mormon) Service
(Rhododendron 61-63)**



Power Chicks '07

A History-Making Event

Ridgecrest leadership also invited the International Pentecostal Holiness Church of Oklahoma City to host a girl's conference on July 27, 2007. **This is the same religious group (IPHC) which recently ordained a woman bishop!**

It was definitely "history-making!"

One very questionable event during this conference was contributions made to the "India Dowry Offering."

As the girls and their sponsors gathered in the Spilman Auditorium at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center, the key word for the evening was *prayer*, and the theme was "Project I DO" (**I**ndia **D**owry **O**ffering).

The IPHC newsletter states:

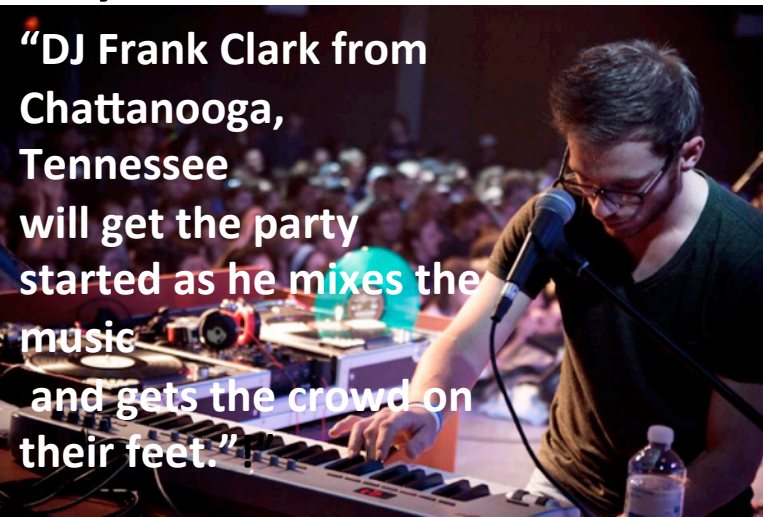
Everything on Friday focused on weddings. The first order of business was to auction off four wedding veils. Each veil was to be auctioned twice, once on Saturday and again on Sunday. The winning group would then choose a person to wear the veil that entire day. Bidding was fierce

From the “Tsunami Ministries” website:

“**FX2013** has already lined-up the following to be a part of this event that is expected to see more than 1500 youth fill **Spilman Auditorium** on the campus of **Ridgecrest Conference Center** the weekend of November 8th-10th, 2013.” “**7-Miles (a country rock band)** will once again lead worship in their unique style **that allows everyone in the room to lead worship! Led by singer Benton Blount” (with his multiple tattoos).** “Everyone in the room to lead worship?” Does that include everyone, who is NOT a Christian, and has NEVER made a profession of faith in Jesus? It is simply unbelievable, that a so-called Christian Organization, who’s CEO (Steve Keaton, a United Methodist Youth Minister at Mt. Tabor UMC in Winston-Salem, NC,) would even make such a statement!

This statement proves that “Tsunami Ministries” has no concept of what “Worship” is, and by Ridgecrest officials not properly vetting this organization, they don’t either.

“DJ Frank Clark from Chattanooga, Tennessee will get the party started as he mixes the music and gets the crowd on their feet.”



FX2013 will also feature,
according to their website:
“The “Saturday Night Live”
Late Night will experience the
unbelievable, and mind-boggling
illusions of internationally known
Christian illusionist **Jared Hall**. Jared
performs in front of hundreds of
thousands around the world each year
and we are blessed to have him at
FX2013.”



Also at FX 2013: Speakers: Steve Keaton (CEO of Tsunami Ministries), who stated that “everyone can lead worship.”

Tsunami Ministries **Mission statement:** “We are called to love all persons. Not just those who look like us or even believe like us. Its a striving to love all our neighbors as we love ourselves. We are called to be love in action, stand against injustice in this world and for those who cannot stand for themselves as we share God’s love, grace and mercy with a world in need of love. The cost of **FX2013** will be \$121 per person and covers the event fee, 2-nights light w/linens & towels, 4 meals from breakfast Saturday through breakfast on Sunday, bands, speakers, *the Stop Hunger Now* service project.”

What’s wrong with that picture?

**“A rock band, a DJ,
a tattooed club singer
(Benton Blount),
“emcees to get you on your
feet, and ‘get the party
started,’”**

**and a mission statement,
that says nothing about
confession of sin and
redemption through the
blood of Jesus Christ; but,
and I quote, “everyone can
lead worship!”**



Benton Blount