

# What is the National Happening Leadership Conference?

Every two years, on even numbered years, Happening National Incorporated sponsors a leadership conference held on a small college campus in the U.S. The conference locations change, in order to allow Happeners the chance to visit a variety of locations in the different member dioceses. Recent conferences have been held in San Antonio, TX, Jackson, MS, Troy, NY, Scranton, PA, near St. Louis, MO, Trenton, NJ and the most recent one at Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, NC.

Perhaps of most value to those who attend (both youth and adults) is the opportunity to meet people from Happening from various regions of the U.S. including Hawaii, and perhaps from overseas. Happening now exists in Canada, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Peru, Bermuda, England, Wales, South Africa, and Australia. In formal groups and informally there is plenty of opportunity to share experiences of Happening.

Workshops are presented that speak to Worship, Music, Caritas, Boundaries, Quality Control, and Peer Leadership, among other topics. At NHLC 2006, Youth members of the Happening National Committee presented talks on leadership created by themselves, using the same format as the weekend. These talks included "Masks" with a commentary, Jesus Christ, Healing in the Weekend, Peer Leadership, Mission and Ministry – witnessing back home. Those attending shared their response to these talks in small group settings. Worship will include an opening and closing Eucharist and a Healing Service. Social events included a dance, an ice cream social, and a Talent Show held on the last night of every NHLC.

NHLC includes a business meeting or two at which a Treasurer's report and budget proposal are presented. Changes in the Bylaws may be presented for adoption. And from among attending persons, 6 youth, 4 adults, and 2 clergy (plus alternates) are chosen to constitute the Happening National Committee for the following two years. This committee works with the executive officers of Happening to plan for the next leadership conference, and to act as the official governing body of Happening National Incorporated between the leadership conferences.

National Happening Leadership Conferences therefore consist of Fellowship, Fun, Worship, Leadership Training, Sharing, and Business – all for the building and strengthening this treasure of the Church we call Happening – A Christian Experience<sup>SM</sup>.