

THE CAMPSITE

CAMP JOY



Issue One ♦ January ♦ 2009

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“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.”

II Peter 3:18

Looking out of the windows of the Main Lodge, you see a frozen lake, framed by snow-laden evergreens, and ice-skaters playing. You are glad to be inside the warm Fireside Room, enjoying a caramel latte from the Espresso Station. Some of your friends are having a fun time playing a wild game of Round Robin Ping Pong. Your mind flashes back to the toboggan run the night before—twelve times down! What makes winter camp so unusual? Is it because you have to pack all that fun into just a few days? Or, that in this short time, the Lord has given you a greater understanding of who He is and has changed your heart?

IS WINTER CAMP REALLY ALL THAT IMPORTANT FOR MY TEENS?

When you look at it as a battery charge for the rest of the school year, it is vitally important. There are so many pressures and responsibilities that teens face daily. Winter camp helps protect teens from their “holiday comforts” and gets them vulnerable to the Word of God and the things of the Lord. They are confronted with Bible preaching, and they are given an atmosphere that nurtures change—real change!

THE TIME IS SO SHORT—CAN A

WINTER RETREAT MAKE AN ETERNAL DIFFERENCE?

“So little time. So much to do.” That means time well spent. With a winter retreat, teens are given so many opportunities and activities in such a limited time. There is never time for boredom. There is almost a sense of urgency that develops because the teens know they won’t be here long, and they want to get everything in before they leave. That same spirit is in the preaching and in the decisions that are made. Winter Teen Retreats have proved to be spiritually beneficial in the lives of many young people. The philosophy of CAMP JOY remains the same in the winter as it does in the summer—a main focus on the Word of God.

A Winter Teen Retreat is a vital time for the Lord to have an opportunity to work in the hearts and produce new growth in the lives of your teens. ♦



A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

By: Scott Hatchett - Camp Director

The battle rages in our land as we seek to reach the families of America. As sin is on the rampage and wickedness seeks to destroy the Christian home, your time, prayer and financial investment in a ministry such as CAMP JOY will reap eternal rewards. It is exciting to behold what the Lord is doing in this place as we seek to reach the lost and edify the believers. We will have the privilege of ministering to over 180 teens from the end of December into the first of the new year, and we are looking forward to what the Lord will do in the hearts and lives though that first-of-the-year kickoff retreat.

Going into that first weekend, we will be hosting our annual Pastor and Deacon's retreat for men in leadership where Bro. Ron Allen will be ministering and preaching to us men through the Word. Pray for these ministries as we seek to be a blessing to many people in the churches that attend.

I would also like to let you know about our latest addition of what we are calling Driftwood Village. Driftwood Village is a group of condos that will be wonderful retreat get-aways for Christian church families and individuals. Each of these beautiful cottages has its own cozy fireplace with a sitting area as well as a roomy bathroom and homey porch. It is exciting to see this project move ahead, even in the midst of these challenging financial times.

We are also busy making preparations for summer and working to get our summer staff lined up. Please pray for this important need and let us know if you have someone who might do well at camp this summer.

I trust you will come up to see what the Lord is doing here in the ministry. Please join us in prayer and financial support at this time and see the ministry launched forward for the Lord. ♦

STAFF SPOTLIGHT! JIM APPEL, JR.

Three years at CAMP JOY serving the Lord through Promotion and Camp Operation.

CURRENT PROJECT: Promotional phone calling and ceramic tiling in the new Driftwood Village Cabins

FAVORITE RESPONSIBILITY: "I love directing the parking lot and getting to meet the campers."

PERSONAL TESTIMONY: "The Lord worked seemingly backward in my family. I didn't come to Christ until I was thirty-four and two of my boys had already trusted Christ."

MOST IMPORTANT SPIRITUAL TRUTH LEARNED WHILE SERVING AT CAMP JOY: "In my own strength I fail. Being stretched has never been my strong point."

PERSONAL HOBBY: "Enjoying the eight grandchildren the Lord has given me. (Number nine is coming in May.)"

"Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies."

Psalm 103:1-4



SNOW BRINGS GREAT FUN!

By: JC Rogers - Program Staff

This is my first winter here at CAMP JOY. Having grown up in Pennsylvania, snow is not a new experience for me, although I have never experienced a winter like this!

Snow brings a completely different aspect to CAMP JOY, other than everything being covered in white fluffy “marshmallow cream.” It displays another venue of God’s greatness, beauty, and the parallels to Scripture: *“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool”* (Isaiah 1:18).

There are many benefits to snow. My favorite is the toboggan run. We are talking the ride of your life – a little wooden chute that is wide enough for a toboggan, a very fast (but not dangerous) downgrade, and a field long enough to coast to a comfortable stop. You have to be careful to lean back and pull the front of your toboggan up a little bit, or you will have a face full of snow. You will stop thinking, “I didn’t even get to see where I was going.” Trust me, that’s a very disappointing feeling.

There is also the tubing hill; a lot of fun, but a little slow after the toboggan run! There is still no comparison to an old fashioned “sleddin’ party.” With rubber inner tubes, snow discs, and snow boogie boards, you are guaranteed to have a blast! One ride down the hill is just not enough, the more you go down the farther you go.

Another on our list of snow attractions is our homemade CAMP JOY Ice Rink. We have poured sweat into that ice rink! It is a lot of slick, wet, falling fun. Where you can just skate around and be in your own little world, or you can be your favorite NHL player as you play hockey. (You do have to be careful. No matter how hard we try we can’t get the ice as smooth as a professional hockey rink. Pucks flying through the air aimlessly really does make for an interesting hockey game.)

Some look at snow with the wrong glasses on, it is either too cold, or too much work. But here at CAMP JOY, we take the snow and all the fun that goes with it! ♦

WINTER HIBERNATION AND BOOKS

By Charlie Hatchett

Any time is a good time to curl up with a good book, but winter seems to be the ideal time. Let me encourage you to turn off the television, set aside the newspaper and magazine, and pick up that Christian book which you have been intending to read. Many other things only tend to fill your mind with things that depress, discourage and destroy the “spiritual you.” Also, they tend to distort your thinking and affect your decision making. These influences damage rather than build up our faith and often cause us to make decisions with negative effects. The media puts you at the mercy of those producing the program. Although we can not completely avoid this input, we should at least control and balance it.

When you select a book to read you have the opportunity to choose from authors that have a world-view that is Bible-based. This is critical when you are developing your mind and the faith of your children. Since these influences are so important, you should choose them carefully. Choose a book that is by a trusted author or one that has been recommended by your pastor or some other trusted Christian. Remember that the author had a reason for writing.

Ask yourself: What was his motivation for writing? Can I trust his message to be Bible-based? This is especially important when you read commentaries



or devotional books on the Bible. Remember, almost every book is written with a prejudice or to teach or refute some point of view. Balance is very important; so, read both “sides” of the argument. In these cases, read two books at the same time, one from each side of the debate.

Read to your children! I am thrilled when I hear of parents who read to their children. They are developing in them a love for good books. In addition, if a philosophy is expressed or demonstrated in the story that needs to be addressed—what a great teaching moment! Reading to our children allows us to develop discernment and teach Biblical principles to them. Why leave the minds of your children to the philosophies of the authors alone?

So, eliminate some screen time by picking up a good book that is written from a Biblical and wholesome view point. Enjoy your winter hibernation! ♦

WINTER ACTIVITIES YOUR CHURCH CAN TAKE PART IN!

Winter Teen Retreat ♦ Jim Van Gelderen
January 8-11

Junior Winter Retreat I ♦ Ed Dunlop
February 20-21

Music Ministry Conference ♦ Kevin Bauder
January 22-24

Singles for Service ♦ Tim Lehman
March 6-7

Valentine's Banquet ♦ Carl Herbster
February 12

Junior Winter Retreat II ♦ Bob Loggans
March 6-7

Husband & Wife Get-Away ♦ Carl Herbster
February 13-14

Men's Retreat ♦ Tom Farrell
March 13-14

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NEEDS AND PRAYER

Please continue to pray for the health of **Cyndie Shelton**. The recovery time is still several weeks post-surgery. Please continue to pray that she would recover quickly and fully from her recent health emergency.

Please continue to pray for **Dave Glass**, as he has been ill with Mono. Pray that he will get over it quickly and for the Lord's strength to keep him every day.

Praise the Lord for allowing us to establish a **line of credit** at the camp.

Please pray that the Lord would provide volunteers to work on the **Driftwood Village** cabins. We currently need about \$5,500 to get the well in place and a water softener set up for the new cabins.

Pray as we continue to look for **summer staff**. We still need ten male and ten female counselors. We would like to have our summer staff lined up as soon as possible.

Continue to pray for the **Lord's power in the pulpit**. CAMP JOY's ministry exists for the sole purpose of edifying the saints and bringing the lost to the Lord.

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| <p>PHOTOGRAPHY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polarizer filter 58mm • Epson 500 inkjet printer • 18x17 mm wide angle • 100 fixed 2.8 macro lens • 70 to 200 f2.8 lens <p>MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three push mowers • Four gas weed whips • Gas leaf blower • Two chain saws • Safety helmet • Four cordless drills • Fifteen ear plug bands • Extension cords • Two garden hoses • Shovels & rakes • Wheelbarrow | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wheelbarrow handle • ShopVac <p style="text-align: center;">PROGRAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black paint ball netting • All sizes of ice-skates • Fishing boats • Paint ball guns <p style="text-align: center;">VEHICLES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm tractor 100 hp • 4x4 pickup • Used vehicles <p>These needs are also posted on our website:
www.campjoy.org/needs</p> |
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