

The CAMPSITE | Camp Joy Newsletter



Issue Four ♦ July/August ♦ 2009

IN THIS ISSUE:

Revival In The Camping Ministry	1
Staff Spotlight	2
Out In the Wild!	3
Looking Back - Looking Forward	3
Prayer Needs For This Ministry	6

CAMP JOY

W7725 Kettle Moraine Dr.
Whitewater, WI 53190

Phone: (262) 473-3132
Fax: (262) 473-0941

E-mail: staff@campjoy.org

Visit us online at:
www.campjoy.org

“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

“I have learned, firsthand, the value of having the right equipment on the construction site. With the right tools, a large concrete project can go well or, without them, can be a recipe for complete disaster. Without the right equipment, simple framing jobs can be quick and accurate, or slow and tedious. Having the right tools can make all the difference between success and failure. An established and biblical Christian camp ministry can be that perfect tool in the toolbox of your local church to encourage young people’s hearts to be open to revival. While we as Christians seek to understand more about revival, we also see the Lord use the camp ministry as an obvious tool to work in the hearts and lives of believers.

First of all, and primarily, *we must recognize that revival is impossible to produce, humanly speaking.* Although we work at producing an atmosphere that is conducive to revival and prepare ourselves for God’s working, we must acknowledge that it is the Lord alone who is capable of reviving our sinful hearts. Revival is the work of God in changing the heart of a man. It’s what we all need. Revival is a work that God truly desires to do in our hearts and lives. We often sing “Revive Us Again,” yet are we personally taking specific action to be prepared to see revival in our own lives?

This spring, we had the opportunity to see God work in hearts at our Men’s Retreat. The Lord moved in the hearts of many men to rid their lives of sin and to exercise the freedom we find in our strengthened relationship with the Lord. It was exciting to see men respond to the solid Bible preaching of Tom Farrell. I loved to see the work God accomplished in the changed hearts of individuals through

His faithfulness to His Word. Camp offers a unique opportunity to see this on a regular basis. We continue to faithfully pray for revival in individual lives.

“An established and biblical Christian camp ministry can be that perfect tool in the toolbox of your local church to encourage young people’s hearts to be open to revival.”

Essential to seeing the Lord do a work of revival in a camp setting is, second of all, *creating a godly camp atmosphere.* We work diligently in the camp ministry to create an atmosphere which is conducive to the working of the Holy Spirit. We all know how sin distracts us from what is right, especially in the worldly atmosphere in which we live. Rock music prevails everywhere, television and modern media impose worldly thoughts and philosophy all the time, and Hollywood’s wickedness, the Internet, and many other devices allow sin to find its way into the believer’s life. In a society where even wholesome activities can sometimes become a distraction, camp provides a place of spiritual refreshment in which

(Continued On Page Two)



(Continued From Page One)

we remove most of these daily elements that can derail our Christian walk. At camp, one of the most important things is the confrontation with the preaching of godly men who minister the Word of God with His power. Another benefit is that we get out of our comfort zones and set ourselves apart for renewing our commitment to Christ: young and old alike can easily become involved in this process! Combined with all of the other aspects of camp fun, great food and good fellowship, camp produces an atmosphere that is positive and conducive to the Holy Spirit working in hearts. The Scriptures tell us that the Holy Spirit can be quenched; we attempt to create an atmosphere where He is encouraged and has freedom to work.

A camp environment is a place that not only removes the distractions of the world, but replaces them with wholesome activities that challenge the mind and body; i.e., group competitive activities, challenging ropes course, adventurous rides like our zip line, nature hikes, horseback riding, fishing, overnight camp outs, island cookouts, swimming, social interaction in game room activities, and regular sporting events like soccer, basketball, volleyball and softball. Then, there's the unique side of camp where you have the opportunity to enjoy clean humor that produces "a merry heart that doeth good like a medicine" from things like goofy skits, morning wake-up jokes, mail call, fun time and happy memories that last a lifetime.

Does it work? Absolutely! Having been involved in camp ministry for over 30 years, I've seen that it truly does have a lasting impact. I have had the privilege of seeing the results of camp demonstrated, not only in my own life and family, but in the hearts and lives of hundreds, if not thousands, of camp visitors. Only eternity will reveal how many lives have been impacted for the cause and glory of Christ. Ezekiel 3:21 says, "Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul." Statistically, it is reported that between 65% and 85% of those in full-time ministry made life-changing decisions at camp.

In the camp ministry, you hear the testimonies week after week as the Lord works in the hearts of people, you see it lived out in their lives over time, and you find those that are serving the Lord in the ministry repeatedly testifying of God's work through camp. There are countless testimonies in many lives of this.

Having stated the fact that camp provides a wonderful tool to encourage the work of God to be accomplished in our lives, this tool is rendered of no use if it is not applied. Many times on a construction site, you might have the right tool available that could help you accomplish the job in a more accurate and efficient way, but if you don't put that tool to work, it won't serve the purpose it was designed for. If not used, the ministry of camp is a tool in the church's toolbox that will reap no benefit to that ministry. We all know quite plainly that though we might make great investment in having a sharp and usable tool at the disposal of church ministries, it will not accomplish the work for which it is intended if it is not used, and that investment is then wasted. My father has often stated, "Empty chairs don't make decisions," and it is true that those who are not under the influence of camp ministry will miss the real opportunity of having their lives impacted in a significant way and their hearts drawn to the Lord in that work of revival. ♦

By: Scott Hatchett - Camp Joy Director

STAFF SPOTLIGHT DAVE GLASS

Dave Glass has served for five years on full-time staff as Building Development and Maintenance Supervisor. Dave and his wife, Janean, have two children, Hannah, 3, and Micah, 1.

CURRENT PROJECT: Building Driftwood Village and parking lot grading and cementing project.

UNIQUE ASPECT OF THE JOB: I get to work on major projects from the planning to work at the ground level up to the roof.

FAVORITE PART ABOUT CAMP JOY: Seeing a project completed and in service for the Lord's work.

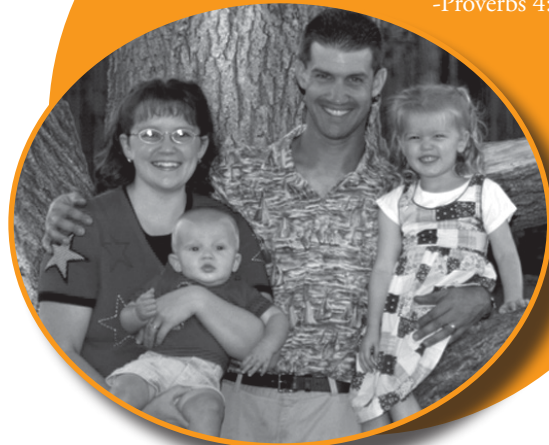
UNIQUE FACTS: My house burned down this past winter. President George W. Bush signed my driver's license and shook my hand. I went to Kenya on a missions trip during college.

MOST IMPORTANT TRUTH LEARNED AT CAMP JOY: Wisdom is the proper application of knowledge. Never stop learning or asking questions. Study the Word, accumulate knowledge, discern the application, hone it into wisdom, and wield that wisdom into every area of life swiftly and effectively. The school of hard knocks is filled by those who resist wisdom, choosing instead their own foolish way, and thereby disappointing the God in whose image they are made.

HOBBIES: Hunting, mowing grass, and fishing.

"Wisdom is the principle thing, therefore get wisdom, and with all thy getting, get understanding."

-Proverbs 4:7



OUT IN THE WILD!

By: David Troester - Wilderness Camp Director

Mosquitoes, rain and thunder! Oh my! Wilderness camp, a place where the bugs are bad, the tents leak and the food is burnt. OK, it's not that bad. Yes, we cook our meals over an open fire, sleep in tents and slap mosquitoes, but many other things make this a great addition to Camp Joy. Swimming, canoeing, hiking, orientation, and climbing fill our week with memorable experiences. Wilderness camp puts the camping back into camp! This once-in-a-lifetime camping experience is situated in a secluded corner of Camp Joy, but is just a hop, skip, and jump from the chapel, the lake, and a much-needed shower. Grassy, comfortable tent sites, an open pavilion for the dining hall and a fire pit for our kitchen stove create our cozy get-away. Birds, chipmunks, deer and maybe a raccoon complete the outdoor experience.

Wilderness Camp is about turning greenhorns into woodsmen. Knives, axes and hatchets transform from scary weapons into helpful friends, chopping wood, splitting kindling and cutting shavings for the fire. Smoky clothes and burnt fingers tell the tale of fire-building competitions and cooking over the glowing embers. The next day, campers bound through the woods clutching a map and compass to find their destination. Canoeing highlights the week, beginning with paddling in circles and tipping canoes to long canoe trip and a stop

at the swimming hole. *"The goal of the program is to bring young people out of their comfort zone into the outdoors, allowing them to see God work in their lives."* Some guys spend the week learning the difference between a tangled rope and a good knot. With much huffing and puffing, a few groans, sore muscles and a blister or two, the 18-mile overnight backpacking trip becomes the milestone of the week. A day at the bog confronts each camper with team building activities on the obstacle course, scaling the climbing tower, and a test of courage and coordination rappelling from the upper level of the tower. The week quickly passes with everyone being worn out, but having learned much about camping and themselves.

While camping is fun, there is much more to Wilderness Camp. The goal of the program is to bring young people out of their comfort zone into the outdoors, allowing them to see God work in their lives. Stretching them beyond their perceived abilities teaches reliance upon God instead of self. Through pointed preaching, the camp evangelists confront spiritual needs within each camper's life, leading them toward a deeper walk with Christ. Targeted devotional material and time with God encourage a personal relationship with the Savior. The smaller number of campers promotes individual attention and a tight bond throughout the week.

Wilderness Camp is a great place to enjoy the outdoors, learn new skill, and be strengthened in your walk with God. If you or someone you know is interested in this program, hurry along - the mosquitoes are waiting! ♦

LOOKING BACK - LOOKING FORWARD

By: Charlie Hatchett - JBC Foundation Director

We are frequently challenged in Scripture to REMEMBER. Ecclesiastes 12:1 tells young people to remember their creator in their youth. In II Peter 1:12-13, Peter says that he would not neglect or stop challenging those to whom he wrote (us) to remember. In fact, the word remember, or remembrance, is used 198 times in Scripture. These references often encourage us to look back and not forget God's work and our previous victories. Certainly there are many things to remember and reflect from our last 30+ years here at Camp Joy: souls that have been brought into the kingdom, lives that have been turned from unrighteousness to righteousness, and the individuals who are now fruitfully serving God as a result of His call and their response to that call here at Camp Joy. These memories are just a few. Times that stand out include when God worked in a



very special way to produce revival throughout the entire camp and we were privileged to witness unusual and dramatic workings of His Spirit. Although such revivals are not always frequent, they certainly are cherished memories and we pray for God to do it again, and again, and again.

We also remember all the wonderful and special folks who have given of their personal time and selves to make Camp Joy possible and prosper. Their faithfulness and generosity means so much to us and to the ministry, and without them, camp would not be here today.

Camp Joy is more now than it was in 1976 when I first came here. There are more people, more and better facilities, and there is more potential. And, there is still much to do. The changes that have taken place in our society, the worldly pleasures and temptations that pursue our young people, and the attack on our homes and family's structure make Camp Joy, and places like it, even more important and needed than they ever have been. So, let's look ahead and think of yet more and better facilities, more lives changed for Christ's glory, more young people called into Christ's service, and more frequent and more powerful working of God's Spirit to convict, convince and convert.

We love to remember and it is good to do so, but we must not allow ourselves to be caught up in the past and lose our vision for the future. As wonderful as it is to remember what God has done, we must not be distracted from what God still wants us to do or lose sight of what needs to be done. Let's be challenged to pray, work and give of ourselves and our resources so that Camp Joy can be used to do more for God until He returns to take us out of the battlefield to our heavenly home. Let's look back to look forward. May the memories of His grace and goodness drive us on for His glory. ♦

SCHEDULE A SCHOOL CAMP OR PRIVATE RETREAT AT CAMP JOY

DATES AVAILABLE:

August 23-31
 September 1-7
 October 18-21
 October 25-31
 November 2-5
 November 15-30
 December 1-27

- Encourage a Christ-honoring atmosphere in your ministry
- Promote fellowship and Christian growth
- Services include: facility, meals, and operation
- Design your own program
- Savings based on group size



Call today to schedule your private retreat!
 (262) 473-3132

Visit us today at:
www.campjoy.org
 updated regularly

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Whitewater, WI
 53190-4218
 Permit # 126

CAMP JOY
 W7725 Kettle Moraine Dr.
 Whitewater, WI 53190

PRAYER NEEDS FOR THE MINISTRY

Camp Joy's number one need is God's people praying for the ministry; nothing eternal is accomplished without prayer. Three main prayer requests here at Camp Joy are: God's power, protection, and provision.

GOD'S POWER

Preachers – pray for the preachers to deliver God's message clearly and to be faithful in handling the Word of God.

Staff – pray for Christ-like service. The staff needs wisdom in counseling and faith to believe in what God can do with His Word.

Campers – pray for an open and receptive heart that is willing to submit to God and then to change into Christ-likeness. Pray for lost souls to be saved.

GOD'S PROTECTION

Travel – please pray for vehicles to run properly and for safety on the road.

Activities – please pray for protection during activities, and that there would not be any accidents.

Spiritual warfare – please pray for Satan to be hindered and bound so that Christ would be glorified.

GOD'S PROVISION

Campers – pray that God would provide people to minister to. Empty chairs don't make decisions.

Finances – pray that God would provide the supplies and food necessary to sustain the ministry on a daily basis.

Land – pray that the Lord would make additional property next to, or near the camp, available and that He would continue to impress on the hearts of His people to supply funds to purchase this property.

Volunteers – pray that the Lord would continue to send volunteers to help with building projects, office help, and other staffing needs.