



WINTER 2011 CAMP NEWS

Summer Camp and Campground

A NEWSLETTER TO KEEP YOU INFORMED ON YOUR CAMP!

Camp Concordia is recognized Service Organization of the LC-MS in Michigan.



Summer Camp Programs Grow for 6th Straight Year!

For six years running, Camp Concordia Summer Programs have seen double digit growth. **To God all Praise and Glory!**

Families and Congregations continue to talk about camp and get involved. We look forward to continued growth next summer.

Though growth and numbers are important, it is what happens during summer camp that is vital. Wonderful Christ-centered summer staff sharing God's love with campers and living in the joy of Christ's Salvation. Wrap it around the wonder of God's creation, and what better atmosphere can you ask for?

Growth...Yet Times Are Still Tough

We celebrate summer camp growth, yet trends and economic times still concern us. Our growth came mostly from families choosing shorter (Day Camp) programs over week-long camps. It is our goal to keep summer programs affordable without compromising quality. Campground and retreat income is intended to help support the summer program along with operations.

However, Mild Growth, Along With Rising Costs and Improvement Projects, Has Caused a Short-Fall This Year.

Yet...

Support by Friends and Volunteers Continue to Humble Us.



As this Newsletter went to press, several camp friends stepped forward with a **\$10,000 Matching Gift Challenge!** (see flier)

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving and Celebration, please consider a gift that will help keep us focusing forward.

Without **YOUR** support, the camp gate would have closed years ago. We truly see the Lord's hand in caring for our needs, blessing our efforts and leading us forward! **Thank You So Much!**

Thrivent's 'ThriventChoice' Dollars Program



Qualifying members can designate Camp Concordia as a recipient. Nearly \$4,000 has been received this year!. **Thanks! Go to www.Thrivent.com for information.**

'Friends of Camp Concordia' Memberships

Donate \$100 (Ind.) or \$500 (Cong.) to become a member. Get discounts on site use and more. More importantly, it sends a positive message of interest and support to the camp. This Program **Needs** to grow! **Membership has its privileges!**



Look Inside: There's Lots More Information to Share With You!
Also check out: camppconcordia.org

What's New Around Camp



Camp saw many improvements this spring and summer. We are excited to be moving forward and thankful to everyone who is supporting our efforts with their donations and time. Many volunteers donated hundreds of hours, spending from a day to a week in helping us. Reactions to these improvements has been very positive.

Servant Event Participants: Over 100 youth and adults from four states came through-out the summer, helping with MEGA Day Camp and doing several camp projects. We want to thank:

Immanuel, Random Lake, WI Our Redeemer, Solon, OH
St. John, Edgerton, WI Our Savior, Chelsea, MI
Muskegon/Holland Confirmants St. Paul, Sadorus, IL
West Michigan Lutheran HS Peace, Beaver Dam, WI
Thrivent Financial for their financial support of several events.

*Septic Field Complete and paid for...

What an amazing accomplishment!

Campground Welcome Center *Waterfront Stairway Railings*
Expanded Low Ropes Course *Woodshed Relocated*
Pavilion and Bathroom improvements

Lodge:

'The Cove' Basement Game Room *East Room Windows*

Recreation Improvements:

Football Field *Deca-Ball*
Horse Shoe Area *Sail Boats*



2011 Camp Events: Awesome!

Camp Events are Great! Join us next year!

Spring Fling and getting ready for summer.
Golf Outing with a chance to win \$10,000!
Summer camp with the awesome staff.
Summer Celebration with GranDesign.
Annual Meeting and Board Elections.
Bike Challenge- Paul did 100 miles.
Fall Festival: Food, Fellowship & Music!
Fall Splendor- **Then came leaf raking!**





Summer Camp & Campground

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**BUILDING FOR
CHRIST, BODY
AND SOUL**

**We Are On The Web!
campconcordia.org**

Nonprofit Org.
U.S; Postage
Paid
Gowen, MI
Permit No. 5

Return Service Requested

Summer Camp Gift Certificates: Great Stocking Stuffers!

Youth Programs
(Child, Grandchild, Student, Anonymous Sponsor)
RV Campground Site Coupons
Call The Camp For Your Gift Certificate!

A Camp Christmas Card & Gift Request

We send you Christmas Greetings. We now ask to hear from YOU!
Each year, we rely on the generosity of our friends:

Individuals Churches Organizations

This helps us keep summer camp fees affordable,
and helps keep the camp moving forward.

We pray you continue to support our efforts and we appreciate your involvement. Please remember Camp Concordia during this season of giving. By cutting out this portion and returning it with your gift, it will serve as a reminder of your love and support, as well as your faith which causes us to celebrate the Blessing that was... "Born this day in the city of David...A Savior...Christ the Lord!" **Thank You for Your Support!**

Yes! I want to support the Outdoor Ministry
of Camp Concordia through my gift of \$ _____

Please place it towards: _____ Sponsor _____

____ Friends of Camp Membership _____ General Fund (item)

____ Christmas Wish List _____ Campership Fund

Gifts to Camp Concordia are tax deductible under MI tax codes

____ Please remove my name from your mailing list.

Name: _____

Cut along line and return this side with your gift. Hang the other side as an ornament.



**"And The Word Became Flesh
And Dwelt Among Us,
And We Beheld His Glory."
John 1:14**



**May Christ,
Whose Birth We Celebrate,
Bless You And Those You Love,
With Peace And Joy.
Wishing You a Blessed Christmas!**



Board of Directors and Staff

Testament To Outreach Ministry

Written by a guest attending the Great Lakes Newfoundland Dog Club Water Test event held at Camp:

Dear Director:

Although I have been to Camp Concordia a few times beginning in 2006, I think I am moved to send you this note to tell you how much I appreciate the opportunity to use your facilities.

What really makes it special is that whenever I am there, I feel a sense of optimism that the children who come to camp are learning about Christ, their Savior.

To come to the entrance and see the motto "Building for Christ Body and Soul" makes me very happy, as well as seeing the plaques in various places, and the Peace, Love, Joy, Goodness, Kindness, Self Control and Patience cabins.

Thank you for building their bodies and souls for Christ. God Bless you.

Let all that has breath, Praise the Lord!

Christmas Wish List

There are many ways that people can help. We provide this list as a way to let you know our needs and dreams. If you would like to help sponsor one of the larger items below, we would love to talk with you:

Commercial Dish Washer
Heating Systems Maintenance Building
Fireplace Repairs Basketball stands
Building Materials (2x4's, 2x6's, screw/nails)
Vacuum Cleaner, AED's (2), Video Projector

Dry & Canned Goods: Cereal, sugar, veggies, soups, puddings etc.

Paper Products: towels, napkins, TP,
Cleaning Supplies, brooms, gloves, bleach, Pinesol, mops, etc.

Office Supplies: paper reams, pens/pencils, tape, markers, etc.



Waterfront Dreams...



Voyager canoes
Wibit Aquagames
Ice Burg Climbing wall & slide
Canoe Paddles & lifejackets

Winter Retreat Use

Don't forget camp this winter!

Heated Housing and meeting space for up to 20 people!

Day Trips: Camp Concordia is a great place for X-country skiing, ice fishing, ice skating, tubing, warm fires and getting away!

Book Your Retreat / Event!



Annual Meeting

On Sept. 17, nearly 50 friends of Camp Concordia assembled for this annual "State of the Camp" meeting and to elect eight (8) Camp Board members.

Re-Elected Members: Lori Spenle- Holy Cross, Belding; Greg Pohlada- Our Savior, Grand Rapids.

New Members Elected: Al Koons- Bethel, Grandville; Jennifer McClure- Our Savior, Chelsea; Annette Sandtveit- Mt. Calvary, Grnvl; Rev. Robert Wagner- Holy Cross, Belding; Jason Parson- Holy Cross, Jenison; Rev. Mark Love- St. Peter, Rockford as Pastoral Advisor.

They Join: Bill Brinkman- Messiah, GR; Sandra Dahl- Holy Cross, Belding; Bill Goetsch- Holy Cross, Belding; Paul LaVigne- St. Mark, Kentwood; Sandee Lovett- St. Thomas, Trufant; Terry Ludford- St. Peter, Rockford; Gerry Malling- St. Paul, Greenville; Rob Riegler- St. John, Grand Haven.

We Acknowledge For Their Past Service: Rev. Bob Weidmayer- Bethel, Grndvl; Michelle Kranz- Bethel, Howard City; Richard Monti- St. Luke, Haslett; Brian Klein- Grace, Wyoming.

Topics Discussed: 2011 Summer Camps, Possible Purchase of Neighboring Property, (Property just north of the camp entrance) Future Building Improvements (dining hall, bathrooms, gazebo, winterization) 2012 Goals, Looking ahead to 2012. **Its An Exciting time!**

Thanks For Joining Us!

Camp was blessed with many congregations and organizations that used and supported the camp this past year. We pray for a continuing relationship.

Arrow Swift Printing, Greenville
Bethel, Howard City
Bethel, Grandville
Bostwick Bakery, Rockford
Boy Scout Troop 3134
Brookside Golf Course, Gowen
Brownie Troop 3352 Mecosta
Central Wesleyan, Holland
Christ, White Cloud
Christ Our Savior, Holland
Church Extension Fund (LCMS)
Cub Scout Pack 338
Cub Scout Pack 3283
Cub Scout Pack 282 St Michaels, Portage
Dental South Family Dentistry
Dorcas Guild, Mecosta
Faith Community Christian School, Belding
Go the Distance Ministries
Good Shepherd, Lake Orion
Grace, Wyoming
Great Lakes Newfoundland Club
Greenville Community Church
Greenville Community Foundation
Heartwood Construction, Grand Rapids
Holy Cross, Belding
Holy Cross, Jenison
Hope, Grand Rapids
Immanuel, Random Lake, WI
Hurst Funeral Home, Greenville
Jesse James Outdoor Specialists, Alto
Lutheran Church of the Lakes, Addison

LWML- Rapid Waters Zone
Mike Tawney Accounting Firm
Mt. Calvary, Greenville
Messiah, Grand Rapids
Orthodox Presbyterian Church
Our Savior, Chelsea
Our Savior, Grand Rapids
Our Redeemer, Solon, OH
Peace, Beaver Dam, WI
Rehmann Financial, Grand Rapids
St John, Edgerton WI
St. John, Grand Haven
St. John, Ionia
St. Luke, Grand Rapids
St Luke Haslett
St Matthew, Ada
St. Michael, Portage
St. Paul, Caledonia
St Paul, Lapeer
St Paul, Sadorus, IL
St Peter, Rockford
St Thomas, Trufant
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
Local and Regional Offices
Montcalm-Ionia Chapter
North Kent Chapter
South Kent Chapter
West Michigan Lutheran High School
Woodbeck Chain of Lakes Association
Work of Christ, Lansing
YFU Exchange Students

2012 At A Glance, Mark Your Calendar!

Theme: God's Great Get Together!

March — April

Summer Camp Promotions

Apr 27-28 Spring Fling

May: Campground Open
25-28 Memorial Day wknd

June:

5-16 Staff Training

9 Golf Outing

17-22 MEGA Day Camp & Servant Event

24-29 Mini Camps

24-29 Family Camp

July:

TBA Summer Celebration

1-6 Summer Youth Camp

8-13 Summer Youth Camp

15-20 Summer Youth Camp

22-27 Summer Youth Camp

August:

14-31 Other Camping

Opportunities in the works

31-03 Labor Day wknd

Sept. TBA Annual Meeting

22 Bike Challenge

Oct: Fall Harvest Festival

More Details Coming Soon!

See You Again!