



## S'more Camp and Retreat News

Volume 2, Issue 3

### Greetings!

This summer we have been "On The Way" with God in Christ as the focus for the summer camping program. What an awe inspiring summer it has been. As I write this various passages of scripture come to mind: from the breathe of God to awaken the soul; the love that is shared through the friendships of Ruth and Naomi; to the awesome power of healing given by Christ and the Holy Spirit. All of this has been experienced this summer in our camps.

I personally want to thank all of the Deans who provided leadership to their week of camp. And a big thank you to the counselors/volunteers who gave of their time, but also their passion and love for Christ as they shared with the children and youth who attended. They have helped to make a difference in so many lives. All of these folks are seed planters. We may not see the results of those seeds but God and others will.

Here are some of the comments from campers this summer and the impact that God has made in their lives..

- \* I have more patience than I thought I had.
- \* That I am not just here taking up air and space, there is a reason.
- \* Christ is in all of us.
- \* I learned that I can help people.
- \* By using the Fruits of the Spirit I can over come troubles.
- \* God has become more personal in my eyes.
- \* I discovered a much deeper connection with God.
- \* I learned that I accomplish things better when I work with others.
- \* By being yourself people will accept you easier than trying to be something your not.
- \* My faith is stronger.

Thanks be to God! "God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good!"

Anne Horton, Director

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Make your reservation now

**Mount Asbury now  
accepting reservations  
for 2009**

With the anticipation that the new retreat center will be completed in December of 2008, we have begun the process of accepting reservations for all of our facilities at Mount Asbury for 2009.

Now is the time to call!  
717-766-7441.  
[camps@cpcumc.org](mailto:camps@cpcumc.org)

# S'more News

## Greene Hills RV Park and Campground

Greene Hills.....by Dean Hauser

"Places where all may encounter the living Christ"

We have had a wonderful summer here at the Family Campground and RV Park. Many folks from all over the country and locally come and stay at the park. The park is looking great and always improving. This was the best year so far for attendance.

This year we had a new pavilion, additional sites, new dump station, and new septic connection.

We had many churches have church gatherings, services and picnics at the park. Our local community has come out for baby showers, birthdays, picnics and a homemade ice cream social.

Planned for 2009;

- Wireless internet service
- Septic pumping service
- Playground improvements

Harts' log day is coming up on October 11, so take advantage of camping close to the festival, only 3 miles away.

"Open until the end of October"

2008 Family Campground and RV Park Prices

Nightly Tent Site	\$14.00
Nightly Regular Site	\$19.00
Weekly Regular Site	\$110.00
Monthly Site	\$295.00
Seasonal Site	\$1,300.00
Prime Site	\$23.00
Pavilion ½ Day	\$33.00
Pavilion 1 Day	\$62.00

Make checks payable to:

Central PA Conference of the United Methodist Church  
or C.P.C.U.M.C.

## Carpenter's Wanted

Wesley Forest.....by Pat Sullivan

At the close of every summer camp season, just after the last of the Deans and counselors abandon the site for another year, I sit on the big rock by the frog pond in front of our house and listen to the roar of silence that spreads over the camp. I usually sit there and think that it's been another good year. This past August 16th I did the same thing and thought the same thing. Only this time I was serious. It was an exceptionally good year. And I wasn't the only one that felt that way. Before I continue, allow me to digress

just a little.

I have to reluctantly admit that I've always been just a bit skeptical about the story of Noah and the ark thing. Here is, by today's standards, an almost tool-less carpenter who has been asked by God to build a boat that will house him, his family and two of every critter that walks the earth. And this boat will have to be sea-worthy for a yet undetermined length of time. Now that is one heck of a request. I can't imagine that many would even attempt tackling the task and at first, Noah probably scoffed at the crazy plan as well. But Noah soon realized that his faith in God was the only tool he needed and armed with that faith he believed he could do the job.

Now, getting back on track, I received several letters, emails and phone calls this summer from parents who were thrilled with the experiences that their campers shared upon returning home. They appreciated the facilities, great food, and hard work of the permanent and volunteer staff. But more importantly they were acutely aware of the value of our camping program and the positive effect it had on their children. I even received a testimonial letter from a camper whose life had been immensely blessed because of his camping experiences here.

I'm sure there are several good reasons why camp this year was so great but one thing is for sure. Our summer program needed a great year and it didn't just happen by chance. Every week I saw Deans and counselors who were here to do a job. They arrived with their tool bags overflowing with faith in God and they believed in the value of our program. And what an ark they built! If you were one of the carpenters here this summer you have my praise and thanks for being a part of something so special. If you've never taken the opportunity to get involved in our camping program you may want to consider grabbing a hammer. We'll be building a bigger boat next year.

Pat Sullivan  
Wesley Forest Site Director

## **Camp Penn Pool**

Camp Penn.....by David Hykes

It has been a personal make-over for the Camp Penn pool! Holy Ground funds have made a difference and we need to pat ourselves on the back for making these much needed improvements to an important part of summer camp life at camp.



The remodeling process for the pool started in early March. The fence was removed and the existing deck was broken out and removed. All new plumbing with new skimmers, electrical wire and a new ground system was next in April. A cobalt blue water line tile and a smooth finished edge coping tile were installed next with 39.5 cubic yards of concrete for the decking finishing the job by the end of May.



The pool was operational with the fence installed with just a week to go before camp started. A total of over 800 campers and counselors enjoyed the cool water of the newly remodeled Camp Penn pool. The make-over was a great success and the pool had a whole new attitude for the summer of 2008.

## Renewal

Summer is coming to an end, and fall is just around the corner. Already, some of the pine trees have begun to drop their needles. We often think of spring time as the time of renewal, a time of new beginnings. So how is it that I am looking at fall as a time of renewal here at Mount Asbury?

Scripture tells us that God will "give us a new heart and put a new spirit in us" (Ezekiel 36:26a). I believe that I have witnessed that transforming power here at Mount Asbury over the last 5 months, and that it is still continuing into the fall. The camp and retreat program here has been given a new life, a new chance for new ministry opportunities.

With the construction of the retreat and conference center well under way, we are now brainstorming ideas for ministry. We are looking at summer camping ideas, family ministry opportunities, retreat events, and more. And as always, we continue to welcome your church retreat events.



We invite you to be a part of this renewal process. Perhaps you have suggestions for ministry here. Maybe you would like to schedule a church event, or family event. If you are seeking a way to connect with the Lord on a different level, perhaps Mount Asbury can meet your needs. Please give us a call at 717-486-3827, or email us at [mountasbury@cpcumc.org](mailto:mountasbury@cpcumc.org). We'll be glad to work with you to meet your group or individual needs so that you too can experience God's renewing power, even in the fall.

## **Why Do You Seek the Living Among the Dead???**

Bethlehem Farm.....by Jason Schwartzman

What a treat! When I look out my bedroom window on the second floor of the farmhouse at Bethlehem Farm, I could see so many things! On any given day, I could see deer (which is a big deal for a guy from The Bronx), I could see groundhogs scurrying through the grass, turkeys--doing whatever turkeys do. I can see a

playground area that has entertained hundreds of children from York City and beyond. I have a great view! But for too long, I have NOT seen ministry happening at Bethlehem Farm. Not seeing any ministry happening at the farm led to the annual conference voting to sell Bethlehem Farm and as of this writing, there is a serious "contender" to buy it.

While I am saddened to see a piece of property going away, I am reminded of the words of the angel to the women at Jesus' tomb on that Sunday morning. "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" As a result of this sale, the CRC has put plans into place to begin a York City day camp ministry! As a result of this sale, kids who were previously not being reached are now going to be reached! As a result of this "death" of Bethlehem Farm, we are going to see LIFE in the ministry that is developed for an under-served community! I ask you--WHY DO YOU SEEK THE LIVING (a vibrant, lively, exciting, brand-new ministry) AMONG THE DEAD (Bethlehem Farm)?

As we move on in this journey, please be in prayer for the York City ministry. Be in prayer for the kids whose lives will be forever changed because of the amazing love of Jesus.

There will be other views from other bedroom windows, other deer, other groundhogs, other turkeys--but there will never be a kid as important as the ones that are reached as a result of this new venture!

Seeking life,  
Jason and Michelle

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

### CAMPERSHIPS

Contributions have been recieved in memory of:

Norman Kauffman by: Margaret Bennett  
Kathryn Kuharic  
Robert Lowe & familiy  
Emily White  
Mr & Mrs Larry Covert  
Mr & Mrs. Roger Shallenberger

### MOUNT ASBURY

Contributions to the building from:

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Boland  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Compton  
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Orr  
Rev. Dr.& Mrs. Thomas L. Salsgiver

### GIFTS-IN-KIND

E. J. Inscho  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Hepner

## Holy Grounds Project Update!

An update of the "Building Bridges to People on Holy Grounds" campaign can be found on the Camping Website.

[www.cpcumcamps.org](http://www.cpcumcamps.org)