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April 2021

Helping you to feel the Pulse of Servant's Heart



2020 IN REVIEW

Wow, what a year! The year started very normally with Bible quizzing and two teen winter retreats. When we first started hearing about a major COVID scare in the beginning of March, we thought it would blow over in a few weeks. It was with great sadness that we cancelled the Joyful Heart Conference one week prior to the event. The decorations were ready, most of the food was bought, and we had exactly two hundred ladies registered for the conference. We also cancelled our quizzing for the month of March and the youth rally in April. With the help of Nathan, we did do a virtual youth rally to replace the in-person rally. The virtual rally included door prizes, auctions, games, camp updates, camper testimonies, interactive discussions of the best camp food, and a challenge from God's Word. The response to the youth rally was overwhelmingly positive. Although we were very excited about revealing our new lodge plans, we also cancelled our two banquets in April. (Make sure you check out the banquet information for this year on the reverse side of this newsletter.) As we approached summer camp, it seemed that we spent all of our time checking CDC and ACA guidelines as well as the mandates provided by the state of Pennsylvania. Although many camps were prohibited from having any overnight camps, our county turned green, and we were able to move forward with camp. We started staff training as scheduled but cancelled our first Young at Heart day. Although our numbers were down in comparison to the previous year, we had an outstanding summer. We did put two sheets of plastic in the chapel to maintain smaller groups. We also put up additional tents to keep the campers with their teams and in smaller groups while eating. In addition, we sanitized equipment, added washing sinks, put a Plexiglas shield in front of the serving line, placed sanitizer around the property, and added various other precautions. It was an outstanding summer, and we did not have one COVID related incident. Praise God!

Along with the 200 ladies cancelled from the Joyful Heart Conference, We were down 57 campers for all the other retreats for a total of 257 campers less than 2019. We were, however, abundantly thankful that we were able to go forward with camp, and we saw many significant spiritual decisions.

We were also able to make two major improvements to the camp property during this past year. Our new Lakeglide is a 900' zipline that crosses the lake. Although it is a little intimidating to step off the 32' tower, both young and old have thoroughly enjoyed the new zipline. There were several miracles that allowed us to install the zipline. Another wonderful addition to the property was a welcome wall, sign, flagpole, steps, and seating area at the entrance of the camp. Not only is it very attractive, but it also provides a huge safety advantage by replacing a steep bank with steps and handrails.

A year in review would not be complete without some testimonies of what God is doing at camp. For this space, I will share a few recent testimonies. This is part of an email from a 17-year-old young man. *Not sure if you knew this but it was at camp (right where that green electrical box by the swale is) that I surrendered my life to God to serve him in full-time Ministry! Also, at camp, God convicted me about doing devotions. It's a habit that has radically shaped my life!* The following is a portion of a text that we received earlier this year. *I talked to my sister today (her children came to camp with mine this past summer). She told me that her youngest daughter has not been the same since she came home. She reads her Bible every day and has a desire to follow Christ.* At Christmas we received a Christmas card from a 20-year-old young man. He described how he came to Christ at camp and about the life-changing decisions he made at camp. Humanly speaking, I would have not expected this young man to go on with the Lord. I am thankful that God's power is greater than my human reasoning and for His continuing work in the hearts and lives of campers. To God be the glory, great things He is doing!



Perhaps you are wondering about a revealing banquet. Gender reveal parties have become a huge phenomenon in the past several years. The primary purpose of these celebrations is to reveal the gender of the new baby. No, we are not having a baby, but we are excited about the lodge plans! Although we have been working on the plans for the lodge for several years, we have not revealed them to the public. At our two banquets in April, we would like to share our excitement with you as we show you the plans. This banquet is free to you and open to all our camp friends that are 18 or older. We would like as many people as possible to be at these banquets. We want you to catch the vision and start praying for God to show Himself strong in this adventure. Here are the dates and places for the two banquets:

6:00 pm on April 16, 2021 at Shady Maple Smorgasbord in East Earl

4:30 pm on April 24, 2021 at Prime Sirloin in Duncansville

Although there is no cost for this banquet, you must register.

You may go to our website and register or call the camp office at 814-497-4100

We look forward to seeing you at the banquets!



The Young at Heart days have been a one-day event for our guests 55-years-old and older. The day begins with a brunch at 10:00 and concludes with a meal at 4:00. The hours in between are filled with fun activities including wagon ride tours, ziplining, Blamzookas, skits, special music, preaching, and more. This year, we are even planning an amazing dog demonstration of two VERY well-trained dogs. Because many of our guests need to leave very early in the morning to arrive by 10:00, we are adding an overnight option for those that would like to come to camp the evening before. The date for this year's Young at Heart is August 3. Visit our website or call for more information.



In our last newsletter of 2020, we described a good number of projects that we were hoping to accomplish this year. So many of you were very generous, and we are already started on a good several of those projects. All the stumps were removed from the playing field and the excavators were planning to start leveling the field the very next week. Before they were able to return, a significant snow prohibited them from moving forward. They have now moved their equipment to other projects but they are hoping to return in April. The streetlights to replace the string of construction lights are all stacked neatly in the shed. Once again, the snow prohibited



us from digging the trenches for the conduit, but we are hoping to resume that project very soon. We are thankful and excited that the Lord is allowing us to make these improvements.

- April 16 - Shady Maple Banquet
- April 17 - Youth Rally
- April 24 - Prime Sirloin Banquet
- May 13-15 - Spring Work Days
- May 31-June 13 - Staff Training
- June 14-19 - Teen Camp 1
- June 21-25 - Junior Camp 1
- June 28 - July 3 - Teen Camp 2
- July 5-7 - Family Camp 1
- July 8-10 - Family Camp 2

- July 12-17 - Teen Camp 3
- July 19-23 - Junior Camp 2
- July 26-31 - Teen Camp 4
- Aug. 3 - Young at Heart
- Aug. 12-14 - Creation Retreat
- Aug. 19-21 - Father/Son Retreat
- Sept. 3-4 - Men's Retreat
- Sept. 9-11 Fall Work Days
- October 21-23 - Ladies' Retreat

If you are unable to attend these activities, please pray for us and for those who are attending.

