



Bear Tracks

BEAR LAKE CAMP

“That They May Know Him” Phil. 3:10

September 2006

Summer 2006 Highlights



We are again thanking God for His faithfulness this past summer for all the ways in which He worked and moved among our campers and staff – both visibly and in not so noticeable ways among hearts and minds.

There are many landmarks for which we can pause and offer up praise to our Almighty God.

I think of the way the summer staff came together during staff training to develop the “Transformation Stations” which we would

use for the rest of the summer in teaching spiritual disciplines in a very experiential yet Word-focused way. These Transformation Stations were extremely well received by our campers.

I think of the many testimonies from campers who understood for the 1st time the importance of spiritual disciplines and opening up space in our lives for God. One comment that still rings loud in my mind is how one girl realized how lazy she had become as a Christian and how she was determined to put spiritual disciplines into practice.

I am also especially thankful for the safety we experienced this summer through all the different activities.

This year’s Service Crew

again would make anyone proud – the way they served God by serving the campers. Their attitudes were excellent. It gives us hope that there are young godly leaders to assist us in leading the church of tomorrow.

Again coming out of another season of summer camp I am more convinced than ever of the importance of this Christian Camping Ministry in challenging, shaping, nurturing, and motivating young people into authentic, God-focused, God honoring individuals He can use in a world that seems to be drifting further from the Truth.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: From Trees to Benches

This spring we had several dead trees that needed to be cut down. Thanks to Mike & Jennie Sevits of “Sevits Tree Service” in Angola, who donate their services to BLC once a year, that was accomplished. After this we had a neighbor—Gerald Pinsinger—graciously volunteer to donate his time and equipment to cut these logs

into various size boards for our use around the camp. As a result, one of the main projects that our Service Crew worked on this summer was the construction of new benches at our campfire circle. This was greatly appreciated by both campers and staff. This camp improvement wouldn’t have been possible but for the

sacrificial giving of volunteers using their gifts to help build the Kingdom.



Service Crew workers Emme Davis and Libby Winebrenner “Dig a Bench!”

Special points of interest:

- SUMMER 2006 HIGHLIGHTS
- VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT
- DEVIN REED, INTERN
- SUMMER STATISTICS
- BLC WISHLIST
- WEBSITE UPDATES

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.BEARLAKECAMP.COM TO VIEW AN ONLINE VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER AND CHECK OUT A FEW NEW FEATURES !

Inside this issue:

DEVIN REED, INTERN	2
SUMMER RECAP	2
BLC ON THE ROAD	2
NEXT ON THE DOCKET: CABIN #2	2
COMMUNITY MINISTRY UPDATE	3
SENIOR DAY AWAY	3
PLAN YOUR NEXT RE-TREAT AT BLC	3
CONSIDER SUPPORTING BEAR LAKE CAMP	3

Bear Tracks

Devin Reed, Intern

Devin Reed, a senior Youth Ministries Major at Huntington University and a member of the Olive Branch Church of God in Roann, IN, has joined our ministry team for the fall semester. He is fulfilling his internship requirements while giving the community ministry much needed help in our Youth Ministry Program.

Devin has grown up coming to Bear Lake Camp and has served on Summer Staff the past several years as a Counselor and as lifeguard. This past summer Devin was our head counselor and served as Chapel Speaker for our Jr. High II Camp. Please pray for Devin this Fall as he leads our Youth Ministry Program and builds

bridges to the youth in our community.



“WE ARE
BEING
TRANSFORMED
INTO HIS
IMAGE. . .”

II COR. 3:18

Summer Recap

Summer 2006 Statistics

Theme: FUSION – We are being transformed into His image....” II Cor. 3:18

Focus: Spiritual Disciplines – making room in our lives to connect with God and allowing Him to change us from the inside out.

GENERAL:

Number of Campers: 424

First Time Campers: 123

Churches represented: 83

First Time Commitments: 19

\$2480 of BLC scholarship funds used for 19 campers.

STAFF:

Resident Staff: 6

Counseling Staff: 10
(all summer)

Support Staff: 4
(all summer)

Service Crew: 25
(2 weeks)

Guest Staff: 40
(one week)

BLC on the Road

The camp is looking to schedule Fall and Winter visits on Sundays for any church interested in getting current updates and learning how they can get more involved in partnering both as individuals and as a church in this exciting and growing ministry. Retired Pastor & past Camp Director Lloyd Harlan will be representing the camp with a display and valuable information regarding Bear Lake Camp. He will be available on these visits to answer questions about the ministry and share BLC's vision, mission and needs. We would like to ask churches to consider promoting the Camp by scheduling a "Camp Sunday" and possibly taking a special offering in support of Bear Lake Camp's Ministry.

Next on the Docket: Cabin #2



Camper Offering: \$165.00 given by campers for the remodeling of Cabin # 2

Our final camper cabin is set to join the other 3 cabins for a complete overhaul beginning in September. This includes a 15x18 addition out the back for improved and expanded handicap accessible restrooms. Again we are calling for individuals and volunteer

work teams to help us with construction. Tim Tomcik, our camp manager, is overseeing and doing most of the work and would sure appreciate any help given.

Please let us know if you could help us keep costs down while we make this much needed improvement.

Help Needed with:

- Demolition and hauling block
- Concrete work
- Framing Addition
- Electrical and Plumbing
- Roofing and Siding
- General/Handyman

September 2006

Community Ministry Update

It is hard to believe that Bear Lake Ministries is fast approaching its 5 year anniversary this coming January. We continue to be amazed at how God is working in and through the lives of our church family. Whether it's a personal victory of overcoming an addiction, people becoming more bold in sharing their faith with their friends, seeing more people attend our weekly worship service, or witnessing 6 people publicly identify with

Christ through baptism – we are constantly being amazed at how God is working in our midst to build his church here in this local community. . .working through ordinary people who are standing on an extraordinary God.

We were extremely excited to sponsor 45 kids from the area to attend BLC this summer. Bear Lake Camp and our message of Christ is more known and appreci-

ated in Noble County than it has ever been in its 58 year history.

A couple of new activities we are adding this fall to our ministry include:

- ◆ Flag Football League for elementary kids
- ◆ Friday Night 5th Quarter Youth Outreaches
- ◆ The return of a community wide outreach called Bearfest on Oct. 29th



Jeremy Agler is baptized by Bill Cupp in the waters of Bear Lake.

Senior Day Away: September 28, 2006

Bear Lake Camp will again host the Annual Senior Day Away on Thursday, September 28th. Plan to get away for a few hours and enjoy some great fellowship, food, and inspirational music by the southern gospel group "Two Plus Two" from Nappa-

nee, IN. The cost is \$11.00 per person and R.S.V.P.'s are to be sent or called in to Lloyd Harlan by Sept. 25. The program begins at 10 a.m.

Mailing Address:
12529 St. Rd. 37
Grabill, IN 46741
(260) 657-1024

Email:
lloydjeanharlan@juno.com

CALL US TO
SCHEDULE A
RETREAT THIS
FALL OR WINTER
AT BEAR LAKE
CAMP!
260.799.5988

Plan Your Next Retreat at BLC!!

~A Few Weekends Still Open This Fall~

BLC has grown in popularity as a retreat destination as a result of the many improvements over the past several years. If you would be interested in holding a retreat this winter, don't delay in getting on our calendar. You may call Monty or Wayne to check availability and costs. We also are capable of providing Food Service for groups larger than 30.



Consider Supporting the Camp in your Church Budget

In order to keep BLC operating **we are dependent** on both individual donors and churches that regularly contribute to this ministry. We would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to each of the churches that partner with Bear Lake's ministry efforts by contributing financially on a regular basis. We would also like to challenge you to prayerfully consider asking your church's leadership to add BLC to their mission's giving budget for 2007, if the camp's not presently part of your church's budget. Bear Lake Camp is definitely a vital mission opportunity using the uniqueness of Christian Camping to effectively impact lives for God's Kingdom.

Bear Lake Camp Wish List

Thanks to the generosity of so many, our most-wanted or “wish list” seems to change each month. Our most pressing needs at the present time include:



<p><u>Programming:</u> Canoes/Oars Back/spine board for waterfront - \$200 Compasses Sleds/toboggans Storage bins for sports equipment Field marking equipment (paint/chalk liner)</p> <p><u>Technology:</u> Laptop Computer 15"-19" LCD monitor</p>	<p><u>Facilities and Grounds:</u> Buy a Chair for the Chapel (50@ \$22 per chair) 120 Cereal Bowls Lounge furniture for staff cabin Refrigerator Circular Saw Hammer Drill Shovels Log splitter Weed trimmer Roadworthy pick-up truck Compact tractor w/front loader Volunteers/work teams for cabin renovation project</p>
--	---

If you are interested in donating or finding one or more of the following items, please contact the camp (260)799.5988 or info@bearlakecamp.com.

BEAR LAKE CAMP

1805 S. 16th Street
Albion, IN 46701

Phone: 260-799-5988
Fax: 260-799-5988
E-mail: info@bearlakecamp.com



“That They May Know Him”
Phil. 3:10