



The Newsletter of Camp Westminster on Higgins Lake

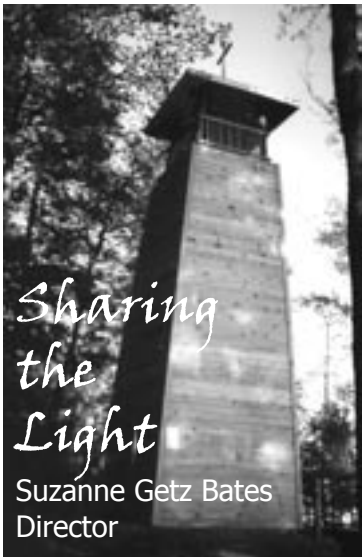
Camp Mission Statement: "Experience God's love in a fun, outdoor, Christian community."

What was the magic number of campers this past summer? 576! Wow! Campers traveled from Alaska, Vermont, Japan and everywhere in between. Staff were hired from Michigan, New Hampshire, Northern Ireland, England and Scotland. They led trips to the Upper Peninsula, South Manitou Island, on the Manistee and Au Sable rivers; taught countless skills on site including outdoor cooking, sailing, sailing, climbing, kayaking, and knots;

engaged campers in Bible study and worship each and every day; listened to stories from the kids and gave never-ending numbers of hugs!



From top left, clockwise: Santa Claus visited for Christmas in July during Aqua Mania! ~ Leadership Development Trainees take off on a practice hike up Ski Jump Hill. ~ Counselor Declan McInness, of Glasgow, Scotland, loved to teach soccer this summer. ~ Deep-water swimmers enjoy the floating dock in addition to two water mats and a Saturn.



Wow - 85 Years!

This is the time- put it on your calendars NOW and don't miss it. **July 8-11, 2010** is the date for **Camp's 85th Anniversary**. Alumni have been calling, posting on Facebook and emailing- we can't wait for the big celebration and for everyone to see the updates at Camp! If you haven't been back, now is the time! *(Please note:*

the anniversary celebration follows Family Camp, July 4-8. Why not plan to join us for the week?)

Activities and programming will exist for all ages. Here is the tentative schedule:

Thursday, July 8

Early evening arrival and check-in, settle into wakeyas

Friday, July 9

Intergenerational Canoe Trip on the Au Sable River (includes lunch and lazy day on the river)

OR Golf Outing at local golf course

Opening dinner, meet and greet

Saturday, July 10

Breakfast

Morning: Camp activities... crafts, climbing, archery, canoeing, Camp Store

85th Anniversary Luncheon

Afternoon: waterfront open, camp tours, ropes course, sailing, tea on the porch, Camp Store, silent auction bidding

Dinner

Auction closes

Candlelight vespers

Campfire

Sunday, July 11

Breakfast

Westminster-by-the-Lake worship

Goodbyes

Accommodations will be provided in wakeyas, the Holland House, and at MacMullan Conference Center (next door to the Camp). All meals will be served in the Odell Dining Hall or on the Camp Green.

On Facebook? Become a fan of Camp Westminster on Higgins Lake at the official page!

"[The] staff do a sensational job of creating a God-centered, positive, and fun camping experience for all who attend."

- A Family Camper

"Camp Westminster is an absolute treasure- a safe and fun place for kids to grow spiritually and personally! We can't wait until our youngest is old enough to attend!"

- Parent of 2 first-time campers



Strategic Plan in Place - Now What is Happening?

A lot! Here is a sample:

- Construction of boardwalk to the Adventure Village
- Construction begun of the first tree yurt in the Adventure Village (this is Yurt #2)
- Completion of the Guest House addition for a staff/volunteer use (includes 2 bedrooms and small kitchen)
- Planting of garden and improvements at the Holland House in Roscommon
- New lighting in the Camp Store
- Expansion of parking area at camp entrance

Please follow the link from the website to "Come to the Water" for more information on the strategic plan!

Visiting Workcamps Accomplished So Much!

Thanks is due! In addition to volunteers from Westminster Church of Detroit, there were eight groups who spent a week doing a great variety of tasks necessary to the smooth functioning of the camp including painting, trail maintenance, carpentry, parking lot expansion, music camp directing, firewood cutting and splitting, yurt building and electrical wiring.

Calvin Presbyterian Church, Zelienople, PA
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 New Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Peters, MO
 Overbrook Presbyterian Church, Columbus, OH
 St. Timothy Presbyterian Church, Livonia, MI

Without the assistance of all these willing workers it would be impossible to properly maintain and develop Camp Westminster.

A Glimpse at **One Week** of Camp this Past Summer

These are the numbers from only one week of life-changing ministry on Higgins Lake:

327 PFDs (lifejackets) worn for canoe trips on the Au Sable River, kayaking, playing on the deep water toys, sailing and fishing trips

1115 arrows shot at the target on the archery range

32 attempts to conquer the Lighthouse Climb

69 floors swept during capers

10 harnesses worn at Grand Ledge for the first-ever Climbing Camp

59 musical instruments played during worship, campfires and more (that doesn't include voices!)

104 hands creating in the Craft Cabin

90 lives touched through Bible Quest each morning, compassion from counselors, and the Christian community

Numbers. Is it possible to quantify camp? Measure the impact? Compute the change that occurs in each heart or mind?

No. But we do know one thing: Positive change and growth is certain. This is all to say that the ministry on Higgins Lake is vital, powerful and growing. Thank you, thank you to everyone who supports Camp!



Planning a Retreat?

In addition to workcamps this past summer, Camp Westminster hosts many groups for retreats all year long. From school groups tackling the ropes course to sailors to skiers, groups come to camp during winter, spring, summer and fall to enjoy all that we offer. The groups range in age from middle school to adult, with some intergenerational workcamps too. Know a group looking for a beautiful spot to retreat to or volunteer at? A youth group, adult group, scouts or elder mission team? The camp office is taking reservations for 2010. Popular dates fill up quickly!

The **GREENIE GAZETTE** is published by the Camp Committee of Westminster Church of Detroit, 17567 Hubbell Avenue Detroit, MI 48235 phone 313.341.8969 fax 313.341.8616 www.campwestminster.com



Workcampers help unload the front door to one of the yurts delivered this past summer. A platform has been built in the trees to host the 2nd of four yurts to be erected, as part of the new Adventure Village.

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2008 Camp Westminster Donor Report

Camp Westminster is most grateful for the support received from the donors listed below. The gift total was \$154,706 from 288 donors. The number following each name denotes the number of years the donor has supported the camp financially. Records have been kept since 1998.

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Capers on the Dining Hall porch still include sweeping and tidying the waterfront items every day!



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Susan (Sweet) Scott by 'Kay Kay' Turner
Susan Ashton by Beverly (Dunn) Ashton
Suzanne (Getz) and James Bates by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Jessup, Joseph R. Neall, Mr. & Mrs. William D. Johnson
Thanksgiving for fun my grandsons had at camp by Freida B. Greene
The Great Camp Counselors by Lucie Fornasiero

Frehse Society

Members of the Frehse Society are individuals who have contributed a cumulative total of \$5000 or more over the past 11 years. The Frehse Society is named in memory of Robert M. and Lydia King Frehse. Bob 'Chief' Frehse was Associate Pastor of Westminster Church of Detroit and the first director of Camp Westminster.

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
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Multiple gifts from the same donor are listed once. If you have given in 2009, your name will be published in the Spring '10 issue of the *Greenie Gazette*. If you prefer a different name format, please send a note to the Camp or indicate so with your next donation. We regret any omissions or other errors. Please notify us with corrections.



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What's Happening?

2010

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| March 7 8:30am 11:00 am | Camp Sunday Westminster Church |
| April 1 | Early Bird Registration Deadline |
| May 14-16 | Spring Clean-Up Weekend |
| June 13 11:00 am | Staff Commissioning Westminster Church |
| June 20 11 am | Westminster-by-the-Lake Summer Worship Services |
| July 8-11 | Alumni Reunion/ 85 th Anniversary Celebration |



Yep, it is online already!
 See the 2010 summer
 camp schedule at
www.campwestminster.com

Fishing continues to be a popular option during the 2-week Just Camp. Captain Bob (alumnus Robert Edwards) continues to organize fish fries, donate supplies and take fishing trips on South Higgins Lake. Thank you!