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Smoky Mountain Christian Camp

MARCH 2009

Visit Our Website:

I have made our website look a little different. It will be easier for me to post videos and pictures. I am pretty sure I will be able to keep it up during the summer so that you can keep up with how the weeks are going and check out pictures of your kids more often. Please go and visit there and let me know what else you would like on it. Also, I am hoping by April you will be able to register online. It would be great if you do that; as it will save me, and mostly Jenni, a lot of time inputting all the information if you do it online. Right now you can go there and see the camp schedule or download the information. You can check out camp promo videos. You can check out some previous camp pictures, and download info regarding the children's ranch. You will be able to keep up with any changes made to weeks of camp as well as keep up with what faculty will be attending each week as that becomes available to me.

March Camp Board Meeting:

We meet for our next camp board meeting on Thursday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m. It will be held at Morrison Hill Christian Church. Anyone can attend. Our hope is that 2 representatives from each church attend. Some of your churches do not at this time have representatives. We make decisions about the camp during these meetings and want as many voices in decision making as possible. One of the items we will be talking about in March is the Policy, Procedure, and Dean's Manual; a committee has been working to put together.

Important Summer Camp News:

There is at least one mistake we did not catch in the Summer Camp Brochure: There is an Intermediate week that is July 19-24, but our Intermediate Wilderness Week is actually June 14-19. Be sure to note this change if you are going into 5th and 6th grade and want to attend wilderness camp. Also be sure to notice some changes we are making to try to make camp more appealing to parents as well as safer, including starting registration at 4:30 on Sundays and also doing background checks on everyone. Our paid staff will be college age and older; anyone younger than that will be considered volunteers.

What if we had the money?

I appreciate the response by many to the appeal letter we made. It has kept us afloat. We have several things that need to be done. If we have enough money, here are a few things I would like to get done by summer camp: 1 or 2 new heat/air condition units are needed to replace old ones in the dorm unit (\$500 per unit); 10 or 15 new mattresses to replace old mattresses (\$50 per mattress); playground needs to be fixed up for probably \$300; blades, belts and tune-up for the lawn mowers (250); and new ropes and harnesses for the ropes course (\$400). Those are probably the top priorities that take money. Several projects are being done that don't cost much money.

If we had endless money?

If we had all the money we wanted, our next two projects would be to put a metal building over the basketball court, which would have two huge doors to open it up when we wanted to; and also we would build a swimming pool inside that metal building. Those are our next two dream projects. Don't know if and when those will be realized.

Dear Friends,

Spring is finally in the air and summer is not far behind. It would be a huge benefit and would be appreciated if you would begin praying for our summer now. I believe in the power of prayer. I believe the more we pray and believe in God and what He can do for the camp this summer, the more He will bless the summer and the more we will overcome Satan's attacks. Camp is a place I am sure Satan wants to attack. It is a place many decisions have been made and the Kingdom of God has been blessed. I pray as the leaders plan for this summer they won't forget the impact that the camp has had in the past. It has put servants in the field. We need to continue to convict the hearts of kids to have a passion to serve Christ. The field continues to be white unto harvest. Maybe even more so now than in previous years. Christians voices are being told to be quiet. The world does not want to hear God's Word. But the Word became flesh. We have seen It and testify to It; and we proclaim to the World the Eternal Life, which was with the Father and appeared to us. We need to continue to make an impact on these kids so that they will want to be a voice the same way we came to have the desire to be the voice of Christ. Many of us were inspired by being around preachers and youth ministers for a week like this. I can't wait to see many kids this summer.

Love, Billy

