

Spring / 2021

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS EDITION

Pocono Mountain Bible Conference

Newsletter



What are Parents Saying?

By Debbie Hammond

After speaking with one of our Life Changer Donors, they were so excited to give back to PMBC for the change in their sons' lives after attending PMBC Camps. One wants to read his Bible every day now and the parents see a change in attitude in their other son's life.

Another donating mom said that her son does not like to go to church, but he loves to hear about Jesus at PMBC. She is so excited to send him as often as she can to camp at PMBC!

One other donating mom also shared with us how much her son loves PMBC and how both her and her son have been blessed by the ministry here.

We hope you are as encouraged as we are to see God working here at PMBC and we appreciate all of your prayers and support in so many ways.

2020 REVIEW

Find out the latest on the groups we ministered to during the year and camps we held

LIFE CHANGE DONOR PROGRAM

We've launched a new monthly donor program with discounts!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Work day, Family Fun Run, Family Camp...You don't want to miss these!

CAMP IMPROVEMENTS

Check out the facility updates made over the past year!

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

2020 IN REVIEW

By Mallary Macking

Soli Deo Gloria. (To God Alone Be the Glory)

When Martin Luther posted his famous theses on the door of the Wittenburg Church, he forever imprinted in our minds the five “Alones” that shape our Christian beliefs today: scripture alone, faith alone, grace alone, Christ alone and finally “To God alone be the glory”. As we think about the year that will go down in history as the year we all wished disappeared, all I can think of is *Soli Deo Gloria*. For us, it was a year filled with joy, awe, and refreshment. Only God could have accomplished what he did this past year. Let’s review his faithfulness together.

STAFF: We had an almost completely new staff for 2020 summer camp. These staff members were willing to try a new format and risk the possibility of getting covid. These were people that God brought to us, as he does every summer. Our efforts rarely pan out in obtaining staff but every summer, 2020 being no exception, it’s as if God says, “Um, remember, this is my ministry, not yours? I’ll bring the workers for the harvest.” And He did. Just the right staff.

KIDS CAMP: Let me be frank. There were not many overnight camps that opened up this past summer. But to God alone be the glory! We were able to hold 5 out of our 6 weeks of summer camp. They were well attended and most importantly, **many** kids were refreshed and committed their lives to the LORD. We were also able to hold all 3 of our winter camps for which we had normal turnout numbers, despite covid.

INCOME: Many retreat groups cancelled their retreats for the 2020 season and many as well for the 2021 season. Needless to say, most of our income comes from these retreat groups and we wondered what would become of camp in the year ahead that followed. We surrendered the camp to the LORD, let people know our need, applied for what funding we could and then watched to see what the LORD would do. And He DID! We are still open and even able to continue working now on some of the projects we had paused. He moved in many of YOUR hearts to give generously. Some of you signed up for our Life Changers Program to be monthly givers. For all your prayers and support, we are grateful.

RETREATS: While most retreat groups cancelled, a few came and expressed such joy over being able to meet and be refreshed in the Lord. While this is the lesser-known ministry to many of you who receive our letters, our retreat ministry is not simply for making income. It is also a way to serve our brothers and sisters and allow them to be refreshed in Christ.

TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY!

What projects have we been working on around Camp?

New Roofs finished on the Cottages

Tent platforms: 6 tent platforms were built in the woods off the camp circle for an eagle scout project that can each accommodate 2 person tents.

Tab Renovations: Rough plank ceiling boards were installed, pews removed, chairs purchased, new lights installed, and an outside refresher (paint, paneling, lighting, etc).

Cottage renovations: Insulation and sheet rock are actively being installed in one of the cottages under renovation.

Dining Hall garden bed: Ripped up dead trees, removed the dirt from the garden bed and filled in spots around camp where dirt was needed for ground leveling. Resealing the wall under the dining hall window to help fix bug problem. Fixing the garden bed wall.

Painting the Dining Hall: The dining hall desperately needed a new coat of paint. Work has begun!

WINTER CAMP RECAP

We held 3 weekends of winter camp. Our theme was “On Guard”- guarding our hearts and minds with the truth. Teaching time with Matt was scattered throughout the weekend with hands on devotionals (Jello brains, pudding slip-n-slide, electrifying pickles ...don’t worry- it did all tie together for a challenging message for the kids). The kids went snow tubing at Montage Mountain with burgers and smores around the fire. They had story time in the Loft with a fire, Bible memorization, sled making, life size pinball, Pictionary, and much more fun!

Summer 2021

**NEW
WEEKEND
OF FAMILY
CAMP!**

FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND

August 20th-22nd
Friday-Sunday



JUNIOR WEEK

Ages 8-10

Wk1: June 27-July 3

Wk2: July 25-July 31

INTERMEDIATE WEEK

Ages 11-13

Wk1: July 4-July 10

Wk2: August 1-August 7

YOUTH WEEK

Ages 14-17

Wk1: July 11-17

Wk2: July 18-24

NEW! Stay two straight weeks!

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Expanding our Ministry to Our Community and to Your Family
By Matthew Macking

I love the impact our summer camp and winter camp programs have on the children and families that we serve each year. Offering the marriage retreat these past years has allowed us an opportunity to serve families on a deeper level by reaching parents and serving their spiritual growth directly. We would like to do more, specifically things that can reach and grow the knowledge of Christ in our local community and in your family.

With the struggles of the virus lockdowns, fear, and drastic life change in our minds, we began thinking about a few ways we can make a bigger impact for God's Kingdom in the families that live in our immediate area. We started to think about how we could be an avenue of support, growth, rest, escape, and hope in the midst of a continually changing and increasingly disappointing world. We want to be able to convey the abundant life Jesus offers, no matter the circumstances of the world, and bring families into a life of hope and faith in Jesus.

If you look at our calendar coming up, we have been planning some new things for families to get involved in, together. Whether it be the fun run, family camp, explorers club, adult bible study, or some other offerings we have yet to announce, the purpose is the same. PMBC desires to invest in and improve the spiritual life, and through that the whole life, of the children and families we interact with on a daily basis.

The world is not getting easier, safer, kinder, more loving, more patient, more understanding, or more knowledgeable about God. Those in the faith are facing ever increasing difficulties as their beliefs are less and less tolerated. We want to be a source of strength, encouragement, and boldness helping families stand on God's Word in the face of these current challenges.

WHAT IS FAMILY CAMP?

Family camp is an opportunity for families to stay in our summer camp cabins, family rooms, suites, or tent camp. Any way you want to experience the weekend as a family, you can do that! We will provide all the food, water, activities, speakers, devotionals, and bible studies (so that your family can grow in their walk with the Lord or start one!). When not participating in the scheduled programmed activities, families will have freedom to choose activities from what we have available, like: archery, hatchet throwing, kayaking, hiking, fishing, basketball, the pool, gaga-ball, tetherball, mini-golf, making t-shirts, volleyball, campfires, slip-n-slide, soccer, board games, etc.

Dates: August 20th to 22nd

Check our website and Facebook updates! Registration will be opened soon!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sign up for Camp today online!
www.camppmbc.com/summer

To register for events,
email debbie@camppmbc.com
or call 570-842-9746

Family Fun Run **NEW!**

June 19th (Saturday) 11am

Spring Work Day

May 8th (Saturday) 8-4

Summer Camp

June 27- August 7

Family Camp **NEW!**

August 20-22

Explorers **NEW!**

Weekly Club for kids
during the school year
Date TBD

Adult Bible Study **NEW!**

Mid-Week Bible Study for adults
Date TBD

STILL HIRING ALL SUMMER POSITIONS!

Email Debbie@camppmbc.com or go online to
fill out our application at
www.camppmbc.com/summer-staff

Positions include Lifeguard, Counselors,
Support / Background Staff, Cook, Kitchen
Workers, etc.

I WANT TO BE INVOLVED!

GIVE

Join our Life
Changer Program
and become a
monthly giver!

This spring we
have added 18
new monthly
givers but are not
halfway to our goal
yet! Join us!

Goal: To have 100
monthly givers

Call 570-842-9746
or sign up online!

PARTICIPATE

WORK DAY
Serve the Lord with
your hands and
skills

FAMILY FUN RUN

A kids' run, family
walk, and an
afternoon enjoying
Camp with your
family! Light lunch
provided.

VOLUNTEER
Volunteer for a week
at camp in the
kitchen, as a nurse,
with childcare or as a
teacher!

PRAY & SHARE

Share what God is
doing at camp
with those you
know.

PRAYER REQUEST

*Hearts of
Campers*

Workers

"The Harvest is
plentiful but the
workers are few.
Therefore, pray the
Lord of the harvest,
to send workers into
his harvest"
Matthew 9:37-38

FALL 2021

CAMP PMBC EXPLORERS

Exploring the WORD and the WORLD
Ages 6-13 - Weekly Program

An adventure based, weekly kids club designed to help kids learn about God and His creation through practical and hands-on learning from a Biblical lens.

SKILL BASED- We will explore and enjoy the world around us by studying creation, learning basic life skills, and trying out lesser known or lost arts and skills.

BIBLE INFUSED- We will have Scripture memory and a lesson each week from a Biblical lens that relates to the skill being taught or practiced. Lessons taught will be based on biblical truth. Our goal is that kids will see the Word (both written Word and the person of Jesus Christ) as the source of truth on which to build their life.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Planned in conjunction with the Explorers program on the same night and at the same time. Drop your kids off for Explorers and stay for Bible Study.

*THESE ARE A WORK IN PROGRESS SO STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION
AS WE APPROACH THE FALL!*