

# Christian Camp & Retreat Center Butler Springs †

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## Summer Newsletter

August/September Edition 2009

### “Draw Me Near, Oh God.”



### WONDERFUL Summer Camp Volunteers!

Karin Cornwell, (Beginner 2 Dean) would like to share an email she sent to her volunteers before heading to Camp and would like to submit a nod to all the **WONDERFUL** volunteers that give their time at BSCC! She says that there are moments when I am there that I think "really, there is really no way I get paid (from MCC) to do the most fun things in the world with these kids" Then I step back and think about all of those who **with a generous heart give their vacation time, their family time and with the expectations that they get to make a difference in the Kingdom of God with His Kids!!!**

""Last week, I went to Middler Camp. Middler is the next age bracket up after Beginner Camp, so chances are a few of these kids have been to Beginner before going to Middler. Any who, out of 10 different options where the girls could sleep, these 2 precious little girls happen to be in my dorm, Maddy and Felicity. As soon as I saw them, they yelled out with excitement, you are "Mrs. Karin." Afraid to say yes because who know what I had done, their mom jumped in and said they remembered me from Beginner Camp. They remembered Mrs. Kathy was their dorm mom, they remembered the theme and all the "cool" things they got to do. The mother hugged me and thanked me for giving to those 2 little girls last year so they could have a great experience at camp, for had they not loved Beginner Camp, they never would have gone to Middler (for a WHOLE week).

So what I need to say to you in advance is THANK YOU!!! Although I work thousands of hours (ok, maybe not that many), it really means squat without a great crew coming along to enjoy the greatness of our God and loving on these little angels. He meets us there at camp in the most unusual ways and with kids this age we rarely get the chance to see what God does in their lives until years later. In this case, God purposely put Maddy and Felicity in my dorm to remind me and you that we are the building blocks upon which He needs to grow those young lives into warriors for His Kingdom.""

Another cool thing this year at Beginner 2, Allison was baptized. We usually do not get to see such an AWESOME moment at Beg. camp, but what a great way to end the summer. Allison had been to Beginner camp prior, this was

her 3rd year with us. She had been thinking about this decision since last summer and knew this was the time and the place that she wanted to commit herself to Christ.

Again, without the wonderful volunteers who poured into her the last 3 years....would she had made this decision? **Lucky for us, they came, they served and they were the hands of Christ!**

**The campfires have since faded, but this is a summary of how Camp ended in 2009:**

**43** Sessions offered

**1644** Campers

**447** Volunteers

**\$14,760.05** in Offering

**44** Baptisms

**159** Confessions/Rededications

### Talents for God!

“**Matthew 25:14-30**, tells us God has given each of us talents, some big some small...but whether your talent is epic or miniscule, we glorify God when we use both those gifts and talents passionately to further His Kingdom.”

**How will you use your gifts & talents for God?** Consider how you can use them passionately at Butler Springs. Praise God for the passionate, talented people who come to serve at Camp from year to year!

I am passionately using my talents of web & graphic design by working on a limited basis with maintaining the website and creating publications at Camp. What a Great Joy and Privilege this really is!

Many of you have had the opportunity to meet Chris Osborne and his wife Christy over the Summer. Chris has been hired as the Assistant Director and will be taking over Office Manager responsibilities as well. Please welcome the Osborne's and any Camp related questions should be directed to Chris, by calling the Camp Office or emailing him at [cosborne@butlersprings.com](mailto:cosborne@butlersprings.com).

We are all very excited for the great things that God is doing in both our personal lives and in the Camp Ministry at Butler Springs! Everyone is encouraged to passionately use your gifts and talents for God! Get Involved: Pray, Promote & Participate!

In Christ,  
Nicole Cockrell



## Meet the Osborne's...

"Chris graduated from Virginia Tech in May of 2005 with a degree in Civil & Environmental Engineering and after working with a private consulting firm, he felt God calling him to a different direction in life. So instead of ignoring God, Chris dropped everything and enrolled at Kentucky Christian University to major in Ministry Management with an emphasis in Camp Management in the fall of 2006. Chris joined the KCU outreach program, Camp Teams, and visited Butler Springs in the summer of 2007 and thoroughly enjoyed his time here. In fact, he enjoyed it so much, he decided to complete his internship here in the

summer of 2008. After graduation, Chris married his beautiful wife, Christy, and they worked as summer 2009 staff, and the opportunity for full-time employment presented itself and now Chris and Christy are the newest members of the Butler Springs family. Chris enjoys the outdoors, college football, and spending time with his fantastic wife. A couple of Chris' lifelong dreams are to hike the Appalachian Trail in its entirety and to stand atop the highest point of each state (highpointing). Of the 50, Chris has already completed 14 states."

# '09 CampBSCC Adventures

## Water Sports: "In His Wake"

For the first time ever, Butler Springs offered a Watersports Camp week for Jr & Sr. high boys and girls that offered instruction in water sports including basic skiing, wakeboarding, slalom skiing, kneeboarding and even barefoot skiing. 9 campers actually participated in this 4-day event and without exception each of these young men and women were excited about what they both learned and experienced on near-by Rocky Fork Lake. **"In His Wake"** was the theme for the week where we focused on what it means to be a Christ follower and to remain in His wake. **"Pete" Creamer** was the dean and he, along with 4 other qualified and experienced boaters provided the instruction and equipment for the campers. "In His Wake" T-shirts and personal DVD's of video highlights of the week were provided to each camper and instructor.



## Canadian Outback: "Where God is..."

I know I say it every year but this year was the best year ever! We hit several high marks: more moose including a baby moose (everyone say aaaawwwweeee, how cute...), I actually caught a real lake trout (a 6 pound monster at 28+ inches long), we had one baptism, we took our own canoes, we found a loop hole that allows us not to need passports (thanks Pat Hagen!) and so many other cool things. We decided to cover less actual mileage and to spend more time exploring the areas we were in. One group hiked up a small creek to find a meadow where moose were bedded down. They saw a fox and located its den and then went further to small pool and caught a few brook trout. We saw some cool water falls and cliffs.

We also hit some great God moments. Like when we were singing around the campfire and, not because of anything I did or that Patrick made happen, God showed up. The young people just start sharing and asking questions and God's word seems to jump inside us as we searched for verses that lead people in the right direction. Or when we were going out paddling searching for moose or adventure and the conversation seems to go down a painful path. Yet God seems to give us wisdom to shine His light into the darkness and to again show the love of Christ and begin to bring the healing which can only come from Him. It is that stuff that seemed to move me when I searched for where God wanted me to do His kingdom work. It's why I came to Butler Springs. Someone once told me if you want to serve God, find where He is working and join Him there. And so here I am.

I am taken back to our sharing circle the last night of our time together. We were back at Wooster where we spent a day in hard labor and spent our first night together. As we began telling of what we felt and saw and experienced, there were tears and laughter and moments of reflective silence. It was clear to me just how much that we had changed. We had all been touched by the hand of an Almighty God and knew that we would never be the same. We had shared this powerful experience and had left an unmistakable mark on each other as God had planned. It is etched in our minds and I pray that the truth that we shared and lived will be with us all. Praise be to God...

Gus Denzik, Dean and Co-Dean Patrick Klump

## Basketball: "Come Follow Mii"

It's always interesting when camp begins to look at the variety of campers that come. Being a basketball week, we get many students who would play ball all day and into the night. We also have others that think basketball is fun, but only in moderation. You have campers that you see every summer and others who are brand new to the camping experience. You have students that come with a van load of friends and others who come alone. There are at times a few who are in our midst that feel very, very alone.


We had a camper like that this year. He felt very much alone. It was pretty obvious when you looked at him. Our faculty did a good job reaching out to him, trying to pull him into what was going, spending some one-on-one time with him and basically looking out for him. Now, it's expected when a faculty member does that; I mean, that's why they are there. But when a camper does that – totally on his own – it's a demonstration of Jesus.

About the second full day into our week of camp, one of the campers took it upon himself to spend some time and befriend this student who felt alone. These young men ate together, spent time together and it changed the week for this young man. As the week went by, we saw this camper smile (that didn't happen the first day or so), interact with other students and really enjoy his camp experience.

Did I mention our theme?...Come Follow Mii...teaching students to be followers of Jesus. Did this young man demonstrate what it meant to follow Jesus by reaching out to someone who needed a friend? Sure sounds like Jesus to me. Amazing what you can learn about Jesus at a week of camp.




Tony Brackemyre, Basketball 2 Dean

# Camp CONNECT Center



**Ladies Day!**  
Sept. 18th 2009  
Speaker:  
Angel Magee  
Cost: \$22  
Time: 9am - 3pm  
"Leaving a Legacy"

[Click to Learn More](#)



**\*NEW...** addition to our Website! Stay connected to CampBSCC. Join us on our social networks such as Facebook & Twitter. Check out Upcoming Events, view Camp Photos & more!

## Did You Know?...

Butler Springs offers programs for the entire family!

**Women's Retreat and Ladies Day:** For Mother's(Grandmother's) & Daughters.

**Guys Only:** for Father's(Grandfather's) & Sons, ages 10 and up.

**My Parent(Grandparent)/Me:** A weekend for youth ages 9-13 and Adult.

**Parent Teen Extreme:** For Parent(Grandparent)/Teen ages 14-20.

**Young At Heart:** For those 55 and older.

### Proverbs 17:22

A cheerful heart is **good medicine**, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

Two of my favorite camp programs are My Parent(Grandparent)/Me and Parent(Grandparent)/Teen extreme. They are my favorite because they accomplish at least two things that encourage the family.

The first thing that they do is provide moments of laughter. When we open the Friday evening activities of My parent/me there is lots of laughter. The games are designed to do just that. Often, most of our time parenting is spent correcting or disciplining or just trying to survive this hectic life. So the laughter brings joy to my ears! The entire weekend gives us opportunities to laugh and play together as we do the climbing wall, zip line, archery, pool and giant swing.

The second thing it does is give us time to communicate without the pressures of others or the busyness of life. While we cook our meals together we have time to fellowship with our children without time constraints or places to be. We can fellowship with other friends who may have come with their children or others that we have met who face the same struggles of parenting that we face.

Laughter, communication and encouragement are just a few of the positive benefits of Christian camping for the family. Why don't you check out our calendar for this fall or next year and getaway with your family member for a memory making event.

Parent/Teen is a Wednesday thru Sunday event starting at BSCA and then going to WV for rappelling, caving and white water rafting.

**Come experience the JOY!**

**Camping for the Master,**

Keith Warner, Director

