



Camp Newsletter
2010 Christmas Edition



Thank YOU!... by: Chris Osborne, Assistant to Director

Oh, how I am thankful for those involved with Butler Springs. Let me say it again, oh, how I am thankful for those involved with Butler Springs!!! Campers, volunteers, prayer warriors, encouragers, financial supporters, visitors, churches, board members, promoters, etc..., what a difference you make at Butler Springs. It's because of you that we have over 2,200 campers and volunteers during the summer; it's because of you that we can expand/improve the camp facilities, activities, and quality of programming; it's because of you that the Gospel is being preached here; it's because of you that young people are being baptized into Christ; it's because of you that the families at Butler Springs loves doing what we do. Oh, how I am thankful for those involved with Butler Springs!!!

As we wrap up 2010, we can look back and truly be thankful for the prayers and needs that God has answered. We offered 42 opportunities for campers; people have donated new kitchen equipment to replace broken equipment; Butler Springs had the opportunity to give \$15,000 in scholarships to financially struggling families because of individual's generous support; we have made repairs/upgrades to our facilities because of donations; we provide a safe environment here because of your prayers; and the list can go on and on. But the one thing that we have reason to celebrate is that last summer we had 65 baptisms at camp!!!

Sometimes, it is not always easy to see the fruits of your labor (and definitely not immediately) but to know that you have made a difference in a child's eternity is pretty awesome! Whether you gave a weekend to work at camp, gave a week volunteering in the summer, sent \$10, sent \$1,000, prayed for kids, promoted camp at your church, wrote kids an encouraging letter, etc..., you have had a hand in making the 2010 camp year a great Blessing and made a difference in thousands of kids' lives. Oh, how I am thankful for those involved with Butler Springs!!!

The 2011 camp year well underway even though we haven't cracked open the 2011 calendar. Planning, preparation, promoting and praying began in early August so that we may repeat the previous year with even better results for the Kingdom. We will be offering 50 opportunities for campers and parents of all ages next year; we have already had volunteers commit to certain camp weeks; we have begun the summer staff selection for 2011; our board members, along with the full time staff, are casting visions on how to make Butler Springs more effective for the Kingdom in 1, 2, 5, 10, 20+ years; and much, much more. Oh, how I am thankful for those involved with Butler Springs!!!

If you feel like God is calling you to help this ministry excel into the future, then please

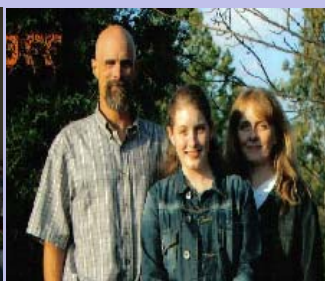


give us a call, write us a letter, or send us an email and we would be more than glad to describe plenty of opportunities where your help will be greatly appreciated. Who can help? Everybody from kids to great grandparents; from locals to families in different cities; from all professions and all walks of life; from the financially burdened to the financially stable; from newborn Christians to seasoned Christians; and everyone in between. How can you help? By praying, volunteering your time and labor, giving financially, promoting at church, sending your child, telling others about camp, or simply sending encouraging words. Oh, how I am thankful for those involved with Butler Springs!!!

Merry Christmas
from Butler Springs!



Chris & Christy
The Osborne's



Terry, Kathie & Katie
The Baker's



Gus, Valerie, Jacob, Joshua & Caleb
The Denzik's



Keith & Laura
The Warner's

A Savior is Born...by Jennifer Slutz Bullard, 1974-1982 Camper (New Holland Church of Christ)

“For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

Recently at work, I had an occasion to visit briefly with a professional associate I rarely see. He and I are bound in Christ, an assurance normally exchanged in glances and in the heart as we are typically in each other’s company while in meetings. In this instance, however, we were standing in our new corporate headquarters admiring the blessing when his travelling companion approached and completed our circle of conversation. My associate said to me, “Jennifer, I’d like to introduce you to Justin. You’re going to spend eternity with him.” Now that’s an introduction!

In Genesis 1:26, God’s word says, “Let us make man in our image...”. The plural “us” gives us the insight that the Trinity was the Trinity since the beginning of time. In fact, the Trinity—God, Jesus our companion, the Holy Spirit—altogether compromises the image after which we are molded and should most importantly be recognized as a favor thing. We are forever. From the point of conception, we are an eternal creation.

The verse that begins this devotion references our Messiah as, among other things, Everlasting Father. Because this verse is recorded in Isaiah 800 years before the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, we can again consider timelessness and eternity. The Trinity has divinely created us as an expression of love divinely created a plan of salvation. Earthly limitations have our souls warehoused in flesh and bone that perishes. This portion of our eternal experience is but a “mist that appears for a little while” (James 4:14). God supersedes time while providing us both a Savior and a Companion (Holy Spirit) as we live by sunrises and sunsets, the four seasons, and the clock. Let’s take a moment to ponder an existence elevated above

the confines of time. No more road rage, no more frustration over when dinner is served, no more impatience waiting in line, no more anxiety to meet deadlines, no more bill payments due, no more terminal illnesses, no more beginning, middle and end.

Time doesn’t exist in eternity. Eternity is truth. There is but one fundamental necessity that is limited to time itself and that is whether or not you choose Christ while experiencing it. During your journey in time, have you chosen to receive the gift God so freely give you in order that He may spend eternity with you? Are you doing all that you can to increase the fellowship? Do you choose to pursue Christ? Once upon a time, in the town of David, a savior was born to you, which was Christ Jesus the Lord. He was wrapped in swaddling clothes and bedded down in a manger. He Counseled Wonderfully the teachers at the temple in Jerusalem by the time he was twelve years old and, as Prince of Peace, carried the cross of Calvary while he was a young man—all part of the Trinity’s divine plan for our eternal experience. Our Mighty God rose from the dead because He’s the eternal Victor. Mankind will rise from the grave as well, but only some will do so victoriously. Oh, the victory when we elevate ourselves into a perspective that is heavenly and not earthly!

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.” (Revelation 1:8) To that I say, “Christ’s peace, Justin, until we meet again!”

“Committing scripture to memory, while at Camp, has imprinted God’s Word on my heart uniquely.”

Guys Only!

“Disciplined for Usefulness”

March 11—12, 2011

Christian Manhood from II Timothy 2

Arrive by: 5:00 PM **Departure:** 12:00 PM (Noon)
Cost: \$25/Entire \$15 Each add. Family/Person

Speaker: Dale Holzbauer
 Xenia First Church of Christ

Worship: Jim Bush & Jim Butler
 Hillsboro Church of Christ

Registration forms are available @ ButlerSprings.com or Call the Camp Office: 937.588.2205



Women’s Retreat

May 13-14, 2011

Theme: “I Dreamed a Dream”

Scripture: Jeremiah 29:11

Speaker: Cathy Griffith

Mission —Simply His

Top FIVE List

1. 2 Outdoor Basketball Goals & Standards—\$1,000 ea.
2. New or Used gas Golf Cart for Safari Deliveries
3. 2 Safari Camp Leaders (Priceless)
4. Gas Grill for Safari Camp—\$100
5. New Office Computer—\$800

**Many more needs, please contact us for complete list.*

God has Got You...by Nicole Cockrell, Webmaster

James 1:2 "Consider it pure joy my brothers whenever you face trials of many kinds because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be **MATURE AND COMPLETE, NOT LACKING ANYTHING!**"

God is right there with us through everything. His love for us is bigger than we can imagine. His arms are opened wide. Jesus loves you for you! Bring it all to Him; God has Got You.

It's December!! First snow has fallen—Excitement is in the air, as we get ready for the Christmas Season! And working in the retail industry, puts me in the heart of the commercialism...**"Oh What Fun it is to SAVE!"** is my Store's marketing slogan this year. Shoppers, love to save money! So, why so many Grinch-like faces, this time of the year? Reminds me of this story:

"The Grinch, with his Grinch-feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so? It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags. He puzzled and puzzled 'til his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before. What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a Store? What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more?"

Be a Light! Share the best Gift of All, Jesus Christ a Messiah and King, born in a manger. Only He can offer Eternal SAVINGS; give the Hope of heaven and provide Everlasting Joy. Thank you Lord, for the Cross!

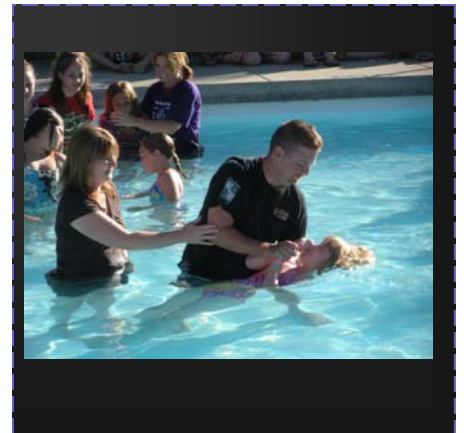
"...grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever! Amen" 2 Peter 3:18



Thanks to Liberty's commitment to the communities it serves and to charities, they have created a unique program called "BANK FOR A CAUSE". When you open a free Bank for a Cause checking account and meet the criteria of the account, Liberty will donate 1% of your signature-based debit transactions to Butler Springs!

It has become more and more challenging for us to raise necessary funds to sustain important Camp programs. So, we are asking for your help. Please visit: BankForACause.com and prayerfully, consider opening an online account to help support Butler Springs, without affecting your budget.

Together we can make a difference in young lives and the Kingdom!



How HE Loves Us...by Leah Claibourne, Cincinnati Christian University - Camp Team



I had no idea what God had planned for the summer, but all I could do was lift my hands to him and offer my life for his service and his divine plan. By the end of the summer, I realized that I was not the only one teaching. These teenagers were teaching me more than I expected. The things I learned helped me grow in my walk with God in ways I never imagined.



At a camp in Indiana, a girl in my group came to me in the middle of the week and told me that she wanted to talk to me. It broke my heart to see the hurt and pain in her eyes as she confessed every single thing she'd ever done wrong. She told me about her past and the way she's grown up as well as sharing with me about the bad decisions she's made that had left her feeling broken, dirty, rejected, and all alone. I couldn't hold the tears any longer as she looked at the ground and

muttered the words, "Leah, I'm not beautiful. Jesus can't love me for all the things I've done." I grabbed her hands and made her look me in the eyes and I told her that she is a beautiful woman. God created her for a special purpose and he can make her broken life into a beautiful masterpiece. When we were finished talking, she wrapped me in the biggest hug and picked me up as she said, "Leah, you're the sister I always wish I had. I wish I had someone like you that loved me and cared about me back home."

It was amazing to see the other ways that God worked through me and I quickly realized that people are always watching me...even young children.

In the middle of the song "How he loves us", I was in awe of God's love and had my hands raised and eyes closed. I took a moment to

open my eyes and I glance over to see Lydia (7 yrs. old) and Olivia watching me, and I see them with their eyes closed and hands lifted up to the sky like I had been doing. Yes, they were seven, but they taught me that a lot of kids were attentively watching me and looked up to me. We all should live our lives as imitators of Christ.

Many of these kids hardly know what love is. It was an honor to be able to show them Christ's love this summer. From the girl who sat and confessed that she had been cutting, to the girl who felt dirty, unloved and worthless, to another girl who sobbed into my shoulder and I wiped away her tears and told her she is a beautiful princess of the King...they were able to see Jesus this summer.

eXPerience

Christian Camp & Retreat Center
3701 State Route 41
Hillsboro, Ohio 45133

Phone: 937.588.2205
Fax: 937.588.2205
Email: info@ButlerSprings.com
Website: ButlerSprings.com

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Butler Springs

“Walk in the warmth of God’s love.
Play in the heart of His creation.”



Eager to Serve: Mackenzie Penrod & Cayden Ewry, give Miss Debbie a helping hand.



Christ can Use You too!

1 Peter 4:10 “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.”

Over the years, BSCA has been very blessed by the abundance of passionate Volunteers.

The beauty of God’s creation surrounds all, as guests stay at our Camp! One very passionate volunteer in particular, uses her gift of gardening/landscaping to help us maintain God’s marvelous scenery, that only He can provide to us, year-round. Debbie Robinett has faithfully served in this

way for many years. A lot of time, material, & effort go into each project. Several additions each summer, add to her already established workload.

One in particular, from 2010 is the gorgeous butterfly garden! Debbie planned and organized for her church’s youth (Bainbridge Church of Christ) to come lend a helping hand. She showed the kids one of many ways that they can serve our Lord passionately, by simply doing something that they love for Him. God bless your Heart, Miss

Debbie!

What an incredible transformation, the passion of ONE VOLUNTEER can make in the Kingdom of God.

*What is your passion?
Christ can use you too!!*

Pray, Promote, Participate

VOLUNTEER!

Keith Warner, Director

Butler Springs Christian Camp

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 follow us on twitter

God loves PASSIONATE Servants.