

## **2023 FALL NEWSLETTER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

When we say the words, "Your will be done," what does that mean to you? Do you fully acknowledge God's right to rule in your life? It is His will, not ours. Asking that God's will be done is a demonstration of our trust that He knows what is best. It is a personal choice to submit to God's ways and His plans.

Last month, we had the opportunity to host 28 Gold Star children (kids that have lost their fathers in the war) from Ukraine that were here as part of the United for Ukrainian Kids program. The U4U Kids program is a life-changing initiative that aims to bring hope, healing, and a brighter future to thousands of children in Ukraine affected by the war.

The circumstances that brought these kids from Ukraine all the way to Fivepointville are not ones that we would wish upon anyone. Our hearts break for the kids that are directly affected by the decisions of man. While at camp, they were able to ride horses, canoe in the pond, drive the go karts, shoot archery, and go on a wagon ride. It may just have been a break for part of a day, but we hope it could be the start of much more. We ask you to pray for these kids as they have since returned to their families and homes.



#### SUMMER RECAP

So much happened this summer that we want to share with our supporters! We set another record high in terms of the number of campers that came through our programs this summer. As a ministry, however, we don't want to focus on the number in attendance, but on how effective we can become while continuing to grow.

This past summer we had 3 weeks of day camp with over 90 campers attending each week, and 3 weeks of overnight camp with another 150 campers. The two overnight weeks of church rental groups brought in another 200 campers. We also had over 65 staff and volunteers serve this summer. From strictly a numbers standpoint, it was a great summer!

We also got to see spiritual growth firsthand: we had young people accept Christ into their hearts; we had campers make decisions to take their walk with Christ more seriously; we had campers make plans to get baptized at the end of the summer. It's not every week that we have counselors leading a camper to Christ for the first time, but they do point them towards Christ every week!

We not only celebrate those who join the family of God for the first time but also those who grew personally and spiritually this summer. Both are important parts of our ministry.

One of the growing aspects of our summers is the ministry we have with the college and high school aged staff that volunteer. For a typical week of camp, we will have between 30-35 staff, many of whom are in their late high school or early college years. Something we have been focusing on these last few years in particular is the importance of growing not only the campers' relationships with our Savior, but the staff's as well. We've been spending time equipping them to give them the confidence to have those serious discussions each week, we saw tremendous growth in the lives of our staff this summer.

## FAMILY DAY

In August we held our 16<sup>th</sup> annual Family Day and Ride at camp, which was started in memory of Floyd Sensenig, who was serving on our Building Committee at the time of his passing in 2007. The funds raised every year go to the mortgage payment of the Sensenig Activity Center which also shares his name. When we first started the Ride, the mortgage was over \$330,000 with the total project costing over \$600,000. Over the years we have made significant progress on paying that off thanks to our many faithful supporters.

This year, we were able to raise over \$60,000 in one of our biggest years to date! We are extremely thankful to all the individual donors, business sponsors, volunteers, and everyone who attended the day of the event. A lot of work goes into this one day, and we wouldn't be able to do it without the help from so many of you!

So, what's next? We have begun to dream about what could be the next big project we take on here at camp. And there are several areas in which would want to explore. But before we do that, we would like to get this mortgage completely paid off! Next year we are making a push to pay off the remaining balance completely. We will need to raise \$70,000 in order to do this! I believe that this is possible with the Lord's blessing and the support from our friends on the ministry.

Want to help with next year's event? Let us know! Next year's Family Day will be held on August 18.

#### **GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Every October, we have around 100 people take part in our annual Golf Tournament. This event is held in memory of the camp's founder, Wooly Ulrich, who was also an avid golfer and member of the Manor Golf Course where the event is held. It is a perfect day for some good fellowship around the course!

This year's golf tournament raised over \$7,000 for the camp's ministry. We are grateful for all the golfers and volunteers who made this possible.

#### FALL PROGRAMS

**Horsemanship Clubs:** This was our second year offering our Horsemanship Clubs for campers in grades 2-8. This year, we had 24 campers participate across three different clubs. It has been great to see the interest in horses grow and the positive impact the leaders can have on the kids as part of this ministry. We are excited to see where these horse programs can go in the future.





**Archery Club:** This year, we added an Archery Club that met every Monday. We weren't sure of the interest when the first week of signups only brought us 1 camper, but the following week 13 more signed up - which was more than we expected (and maybe more than we were prepared for). We made some new targets, fixed some arrows, and had a blast teaching many new campers how to shoot!

#### WINTER RETREAT

Our **Sr. High Winter Retreat (for Grades 9-12)** will return this year from **February 16-18**. This retreat is specifically designed to provide a space for teens to connect with friends, have spiritual discussions, and grow their relationship with God. We will have times of worship, facilitate small group discussions, and play some quality group games. And don't forget the great camp food! The cost for the weekend is \$75 per person. Registration is open online. Please register early as space is limited. There is an option to sign up and pay later.

We are excited to offer a second retreat this winter which is designed for our campers in grades 6-8. The **Jr. High Retreat** will be January 12-13. This will only be Friday and Saturday and the layout will be similar to how we run the Sr High retreat with a few changes.

# 2024 SUMMER SCHEDULE

Day Camp	K-6
Day Camp	K-6
Overnight Week	1-6
Day Camp	K-6
Overnight Week	4-6
Overnight Week	7-8
	Day Camp Overnight Week Day Camp Overnight Week

#### SUMMER PREVIEW

As we look forward to next summer, we are excited about how the Lord is going to use Greenview in the lives of hundreds of campers. I know some of you have already been asking about the dates for next summer so you can plan your summers.

Registration is open online. If this year is anything like the last, the weeks will fill up early in the spring!

#### **RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS**



**Crafts Pavilion:** I mentioned in the last newsletter that construction began on a new pavilion to be used for crafts in the summer and as a home to some of our larger equipment year-round. Through camp workdays and days of volunteer labor, we were able to complete the new 30'x40' pavilion before the start of summer. This was a great improvement for our craft area, and the tractors and wagons have enjoyed being nice and dry all fall. We even used this as the gathering area for the Kid's Zone during our Family Day in August.

**Painting the Tabernacle Floor:** At the end of this summer, we had volunteers spruce up the Fivepointville Bible Conference's Tabernacle by repainting the floor and re-securing some of the loose benches. Many long days were put into this project, and it turned out great! We are very thankful to Rob Ulrich and John Bawell for their hours of labor, and to JB Zimmerman's for their help with supplies.

**New Roof on Glory Hall:** This summer, we discovered that the roof had a pretty bad leak when the girls noticed water coming down the walls and dripping through the ceiling. We were able to temporarily cover the worst spot with a tarp to get us through the end of the summer but decided that the entire roof needed to be replaced. This October, a group of volunteers from Christian Fellowship Church completely replaced the roof with new shingles. Thank you to the Iddings for donating the materials and to all the guys who came out to complete the project!



### **CEDAR LODGE RENOVATIONS**

If you have stayed in the basement of the lodge recently, you may have noticed that we have slowly renovated the bedrooms. Last winter, we were able to finish another room (pictured below). We now have 3 of the 6 rooms finished.



You might have also noticed that the bathrooms could use some updating as well! Our plan is to gut and renovate the hall bathroom and the first bedroom bathroom this winter. We have plans to eventually add an additional bathroom in the coming years. We have several weeks blocked out this winter in which we hope to accomplish this. We are planning to begin the week of January 15. If you have experience in construction, plumbing, electrical, etc. and would like to be part of this project, let us know!

#### **RIDING RING IMPROVEMENTS:**

As our horse program continues to grow, we see the need to put some time and resources into making the space work better. Our current setup was installed over 20 years ago. The fencing was already used when it was given to us, and while it has served us well over the years, most of the poles and rails need to be replaced.

Our plan is to replace and reposition the riding ring with a leveled oval ring (possibly similar to what's pictured), add an outer track around the ring for more advanced riding, and replace the remaining pasture fencing.

We are looking for friends to help us out as this will be a rather large and expensive project. We will need help with the excavation, the procurement and installation of the new fencing, and some finish landscaping once the project is completed. If you (or your business) would like to help with any of the steps along the way, please let us know!



#### PRAYER MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

If you remember from our spring newsletter, we asked for prayers for additional volunteers. Going into the summer we had more campers signed up than ever, but fewer summer long staff. As summer camp approached, we were still looking for more help for most weeks. A few of the weeks we did not get the staff needed until the day before camp started, but the workers were always provided. We praise God for that!

## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

We may only have a few year-round employees, but the volunteer base which keeps this place running is vast! We have individuals who volunteer their time and expertise helping us complete building projects and fixing things around the camp. We have individuals who help us clean and get ready for groups that come in. We also normally have over 50 summer staff that serve alongside us each summer. Would you be interested in getting more involved here at camp? Reach out to us directly at 717-445-4828 or you can email us at info@greenviewbiblecamp.org