

Did you know that this summer...

- we served 458 youth campers, 177 family campers and 305 band campers?
- we hosted 43 family or church guest groups alongside of our other programs?
- we hired 26 summer staff?
- we had 12 permanent staff?
- we had 6 additional part-time staff?

What is Camp doing to be more "green"?

Compact fluorescent bulbs

Recycling of paper, plastic, aluminum, batteries, etc.

Teaching papermaking in Arts & Crafts

"Lights out" signs at switches

New lanyards from recycled soda bottles

Keeping a compost pile

More electronic mail and less paper mail

For the Beauty of the Earth

The summer theme "For the Beauty of the Earth" was based on Genesis 1:26-31. Within this theme we dealt with our responsibility as God's children to God's creation that has been entrusted to us. Each day we focused on how we can care for the beauty of the Earth through listening, lighting, praising, relating and co-creating. These themes helped us to create a more holistic way of looking at God through creation.

This summer we hosted 635 campers during 10 program camps. Each camp was led by a talented summer staff

that served God through the relationships they built with campers. Our staff included people from Indiana, Ohio, Texas, Kansas, Michigan, Hawaii, Honduras, Indonesia, and Egypt. This diverse community gave us much to learn about ourselves, about new foods, and about how to have a crazy and fun time together. The summer program at Camp Friedenswald revolves around the dedication and passion that these young adults bring to this ministry. The people that served on summer staff were a blessing to the camp and to our church.



2008 Summer Staff: Hannah Shelly, Bess Moser, Jordan Schmell, Kate Walker, Blake Zickafoose, Eric Martin, Elly Esqueda, Trivina Gaied, Jake Miller, Meg Suter, Ale Perdomo, Emily Miller, Jen Sylak, Joel Gundy, Shae Miller, Rachel Yoder, Sara Moser, Case Nafziger, Yonathan Setiawan, Ben McGhee, Peter Garry, Daniel Penner, Bracton Eicher, Katelyn Nussbaum, Eric Short, Rebekah Paulson, Simeon Paulson, Deb Smith, Justin Weaver, Penny Yarman, Ellie Solano, Jason Harrison, Dale Way, Portia Amstutz, Vicky Solano, Brad Cogdell

From the Director

Our 2008 summer season has come to an end. It seems that our summers here at Camp go by so fast. We look to the summer for our main focus of the year which is to connect with many youth and families and share the love of God. Before we know it the weeks of camp are a memory of the summer that has now passed.

In my last article I talked about the soil being prepared for all of you that will come to Friedenswald this summer. I hope that as you came and experienced the summer programming you truly felt cared for. I hope that you felt the "soil" in caring

summer staff and a well-planned theme that connected us with the creation story in some new ways.

Some of you may be wondering how our current economy is affecting organizations like our Mennonite camps. I can't speak for the other camps, but I can say that from our perspective the summer camp participation was higher this year than several of the past years. It seems as though we are presented with both the issue of the economy being soft and the opportunity that families may be looking for something closer to home. Our family camps were near capacity with this all-

inclusive option for a family vacation. As with almost every obstacle, there seems to be an opportunity. I ask that you think of us often as the staff, the board, and I continue to discern how we can continue to connect with individuals, families, school groups, guest groups, and our lake neighbors.

Perhaps you can think of a new way that Camp Friedenswald can help in something you are working on. Maybe it's a congregational event, maybe it's a business meeting, or maybe it's just a quiet day away from the hectic pace of life. Come and join us in the *Peaceful Woods!*

By Justin Weaver



Justin Weaver

Lodge Openings

Oct. 3-5	Sycamore
Nov. 21-23	Tamarack
Dec. 5-7	Tamarack Sycamore
Dec. 12-14	Sycamore
Dec. 19-21	Lakeview Sycamore

Book a lodge two months (or less) before the date and save 25% on your lodging!

Book a lodge one month (or less) before the date and save 50% on your lodging!

Men's Retreat - November 14-16

"Groaning, Grappling, Silencing and Speaking Our Way into Prayer" is the theme for this year's Men's Retreat. Joel Miller, pastor of Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship, will speak on the many forms of prayer as he shares stories from his own experiences.

The weekend will include music leadership by Brian Wiebe, Executive Director of the Center for the Arts at Goshen College, a special concert, and the usual favor-

ites at Men's Retreat: fellowship, great food, men's chorus led by Jim Heiks, hiking, pontoon rides, and many more surprises!



Joel Miller



New HOPS Program

By Simeon Paulson

Have you ever wondered how insects survive the cold, or maple sap get to the top of a 40 foot tree, or what wood frogs do in the winter? I'm sure, like me, you think about these things all the time.

There I was on a sunny Alaska afternoon, kicking around in the melting snow of early spring, when I found a rather solid frog just under the snow. I scoffed at this poor stupid animal nowhere near water and frozen to death, so I set my prize on the back porch to show my parents. I was astounded when I came back later and it was gone. I figured something probably ate it and thought nothing more of the event until college.

My professor strode into the room, frozen frog in hand, and set it upon the table at the front of the room. During the next 45 minutes as he lectured, we watched in awe as the frog defrosted and "came to life" in front of our eyes.

These are the powerful moments that the new HOPS (Hands On Programs in Schools) is trying to provide. HOPS is striving to give students an opportunity to have tremendous experiences with creation from the comfort of their own classroom. With school budget cuts and declining parental involvement, we see taking Friedenswald to the schools that can no longer come, as the next best thing to being at camp. We hope that with

live animals, hands-on experiences and overall fun that we can keep schools connected to Friedenswald and the joy of learning.

As you ponder the mysteries of the universe and think back over your school days, feel free to drop me an e-mail and let me know what experiences were unforgettable and awe-inspiring for you as you were growing up and discovering this great world we live in.



Simeon Paulson

Thank you to members of First Mennonite of Bluffton and 8th Street Mennonite Church of Goshen with your generous donation of tents.



Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. ~Henry Ford

Winter Retreats

Junior High I

January 9-11



Senior High I

January 16-18



Senior High II

January 23-25



Junior High II

January 30-February 1

From the Archives



Fall Scrapbook Retreat

October 10-12, 2009

Lakeview Lodge

There are still openings!

Want to see nature photographs and read about the current nature happenings at Camp?

Check out the Camp Naturalist blog at www.friedenswald.org!





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We're on the Web!

www.friedenswald.org

Help us save paper and a stamp! If you would like to receive an electronic version of this newsletter, please let us know!

Camp Friedenswald seeks to provide people of all ages the opportunity to gain a better understanding and love for God and Christ, Self, Others, and Nature.

Permanent Staff Members

Justin Weaver.....Executive Director
 Jason Harrison..... Program Director
 Portia Amstutz.....Operations Manager
 Brad Cogdell.....Outdoor Learning Director
 Simeon Paulson.....Outdoor Learning Assistant
 Deb Smith.....Registrar/Bookkeeper
 Rebekah Paulson.....Marketing Advisor
 Penny Yarman.....Maintenance Director
 Dale Way.....Maintenance Assistant
 Ellie Solano.....Food Service Director
 Vicky Solano...Housekeeper/Kitchen Assistant
 Colin Rusel.....Guest Group Host

Board Members

Kent Yoder (Chair)	Stephanie Company
Alison King	Scott Preheim
Jim Eicher	Daryl Martin
Steve Stenger	Steve Yoder
Greg Nofsinger	

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