

Camping Report 2016

This past summer was one of true, sincere trusting... for all of us... We had to trust that in the midst of what looked to us like confusion and chaos there was a plan. A plan for us all to reach beyond ourselves and ask for help, from God, from each other, from that place inside each of us that gives us the extra little push to keep going even when the way is unclear.

The Bible study passage for the summer was Matthew 6:5-15, included in that is "The Lord's Prayer", reflecting back it was the perfect passage for what was going on.

Matthew 6:9-13 New International Version (NIV)

⁹ "This, then, is how you should pray:

"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,

¹⁰ your kingdom come,
your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us today our daily bread.

¹² And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation,^[a]
but deliver us from the evil one.^[b]

We, the leadership in the regional office, the members of the Camping and Youth Ministry Team, the staff that had been hired, and the members of the congregations; we all prayed to God that His will be done, that camp would go on this summer and we would be able to continue touching and impacting lives in His name.

We prayed for "bread" but not in a way I think we would have every thought "bread" would be interpreted, but as people... as staff... Program staff (adventure, waterfront) counselors and a nurse, without whom we cannot have camp ... and every time He provided.

We prayed for forgiveness and for healing

We prayed to not fall into the wallowing in what we did not have and instead focus on God and all that He allows us to have.

And He provided!

We had a wonderful summer, we saw 225 children come to camp. The staff bonded and maintains wonderful friendships that will last for years to come.

There are lots of good projects that are underway as well.

New camping opportunities, including a group from Hasbro and Bradley Hospitals

New passion and volunteerism for our ropes course

Renewing of some programs that we have not done in a few years

And only last in this list but not in importance, renewing of volunteers to lead program weeks.

We are in full swing of planning and preparing for another wonderful summer in 2017.

I feel humbled and blessed to be able to be the director of this wonderful ministry. Please continue to pray for the staff and the campers that are even now preparing to be with us this summer

Respectfully,

Deborah Guilmain
Director of Camping Ministries