



Covenant Pines Reflections

Click on any underlined text to link to expanded stories!

fall 2009 electronic newsletter | www.covenantpines.org



2009 Summer Staff

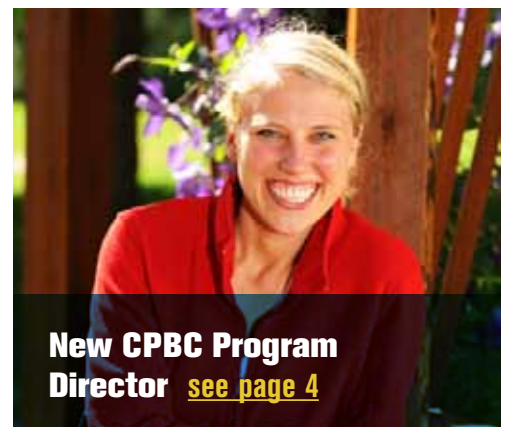
Top Row: Warren Packer, Nate Peterson, Rosey Peterson, Kathy Bergstrom, Katie Norby, Josh Hiben, Katie Matheson, Sam Randall, Anika Engberg, Heather Vogel // **2nd Row from Top:** Betti Mace, Jim Mace, Eric Fullen, Jay Clementson, Kyle Carlson, Phil Giarratana, Bethany Stoffel, Kirsten Mathers, Tate Randall // **3rd Row from Top:** Josh Rude, Ezra Rude, Natalie Rude, Kara Youngquist, Ashley Loomis, Sara Dwight, Jenna Olson, Grace Buezis, Jenna Scott, Livia Goulette, Clarisa Johnson // **4th Row from Top:** Joel Johnson, Kjersten Oredson, Jenna Brand, Holly Larson, Elyse Levinskas, Emily Bergstrom, Walker Currie, Katie Burzynski, Brad Smith, Caleb Durenberger // **Front Row:** Bruce Peterson, Chris Proctor, Brian Lindh, Becca Walker, Jared Lucht, Tim Grothendick, Danny Bjorlin, Calese Berger, Annie Schmidt



A Text Messaging Challenge for MEA Retreat
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Great fun at Family Camps
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New CPBC Program Director [see page 4](#)

click to more stories

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- ★ [Retired Adults Retreat: Sept. 30 - Oct. 1](#)
- ★ [Jr. & Sr. High MEA Retreats](#)
- ★ [Quilters's Retreat: Nov. 13-15](#)
- ★ [Man Camp: Nov. 20-22](#)

Look on our website for year-round calendar with Retreats & Conferences



SHORT TAKES

A Text Messaging Challenge for MEA Retreat

Hey Jr. & Sr. Highers, how about texting your friends to let them know that MEA Retreat is happening Oct. 14-16, for 6-9th graders and Oct. 16-18, for 9th -12th graders? Since the **discount deadline is Oct. 1**, try texting your camp friends before that date to see who can go with you. Bus stops at Faith Covenant, Crosstown Covenant and Blaine Water Tower. MEA Retreat Info: <http://www.covenantpines.org/youth/camps-retreats.php?objectid=6>



Family Camps at CPBC

July Family Camp weekend brought out our guest's adventurous spirits, as well as their patriotic spirit! There's only one day of the year you can see fireworks on camp's dock: July 4th! To see photos from both 2009 Family Camps, visit

<http://www.covenantpines.org/media/adults-family-photos.php>

Think about coming to a weekend Family Camp next summer:

- Memorial Weekend, Work & Worship
- July 1-4, 2010 or August 12-15, 2010

Volunteers needed

Volunteers needed for labor on Silver Beach cabin this fall. Watch camp web site for anticipated construction schedule. Call the Camp Office to set up your group's work weekend: 218-768-2610.



Adventures for women this Fall ...

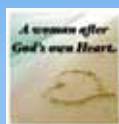
Boundary Water's Canoe & Hiking Trip | Women's Retreats | Quilter's Retreat

Women's Canoe Trip at AC, Grand Marais: Sept. 16-18

<http://www.adventurouschristians.org/camp-events-opportunities/camps-retreats.php?objectid=6>

A Woman After God's Own Heart Women's Retreat I: Sept. 18-20

<http://www.covenantpines.org/adults-family/retreats.php?objectid=11>



Women's Retreat II: Sept. 25-27

<http://www.covenantpines.org/adults-family/retreats.php?objectid=12>

Quilter's Retreat: Nov. 13 - 15

<http://www.covenantpines.org/adults-family/retreats.php?objectid=17>

★★ COUPON ★★

Women attending both the Women's Canoe Trip at Adventurous Christians in Grand Marais, Sept. 16-18, 2009

– AND –

Women's Retreat Sept. 18-20 or Sept. 25-27 at Covenant Pines can **receive a discount of 15% off of their total registration fees.**

- Enclose this coupon with your canoe registration form - available on www.adventurouschristians.org
- Send coupon with your canoe trip registration to: Adventurous Christians, 81 Bow Lake Road, Grand Marais, MN 55604



*Yes - This coupon may be copied/duplicated to share with others!
Questions: Nicole Nelson, Business manager 218-388-2286. Offer Expires: Must Register for both events by Sept. 15, 2009*

Transformations

Executive Director's Column

Bruce Peterson

At the end of the summer we can catch our breath and look back on what God has done. We see transformations everywhere. Our purpose is to tell people about the love of Jesus and let Him transform their lives. We have seen this numerous times at every week of camp.

Several times I have heard a camper say, "I get it." They have heard of the love of Jesus but never really had that transforming experience. One girl, at the conclusion of our last night campfire, shared that she "got it" when the staff all gathered together to sing "Jesus Loves Me." God's Holy Spirit showed her His love through the love of the staff. Her life will be forever changed as she gave her life to Jesus Christ. Sometimes it is the simplest thing that God chooses to use if we are only

willing to be bold in our faith.

There are transformations in the site of camp as well. We have completed the remodeling of our old "3 stall garage" into "the Lofts" housing for our staff. Please read the article on the remodeling to get more details. Thanks to a generous donor, this project is a reality and our property has been transformed.

We are also in the process of adding a new cabin at our Silver Beach Family Area. Volunteers are working most weekends to make this a great place for families and friends to spend a few days or a week. It should be ready sometime in 2010. We have many more plans for transforming the camp property, but they all depend on donors and volunteers. If you are interested in helping, give the camp office a call.

Another transformation we saw was the "birth" of a butterfly. A young camper

had his camera there to capture the butterfly emerging from its cocoon. His eyes were big as the butterfly spread his wings and let them dry in the sun before taking flight. That transformation illustrates how people's lives are changed at camp. For some, being away from home and overcoming homesickness is a huge transformation. For others it is meeting Jesus for the first time. Others find an adult that will listen to their hurts and pains and love on them when they feel unlovable. They spread their wings when Jesus fills them with His love.

Come to camp and be transformed. It doesn't just happen during the summer. It happens every week at every retreat. Perhaps someone you bring or send to camp will have that transforming experience.



God is good

Camp Director's Column

Josh Rude

It is only right to begin this column with writing about our summer staff. It has been a privilege to participate in ministry alongside them over the past 11 weeks. As nearly 1,500 summer campers have come since June 12, and over 350 Family Camp guests will be here this summer, I am very thankful for the giving of their time, talents and hours of possible sleep.

As the staff will continue to be leaving over the next week I find myself feeling like a piece (or many pieces!) of camp will

be missing. What is exciting is to know that they too have grown in faith and passion for the Gospel. And as this transition finds them back at school, work, seminary, or studying abroad, I am confident that they will continue to be involved in ministry for the sake of Christ. As you see the summer staff returning to your church, please thank them for all that they have given.

As great new things come to the lives of our summer staff, we too are anticipating the next phase in ministry here at Covenant Pines. It is our pleasure that Lindsay Johnson has come to lead in the Program Director's position. Lindsay, and

her husband Jerod, come from Excelsior Covenant Church and have a long history with Covenant Pines. We are glad to have them both here year round.

As I reflect on this summer I am thankful for God's faithfulness. The investment from a great staff, the looking forward to new staff members, and the many campers that have come over the course of the summer are examples of God's goodness. Please continue to pray for the ministry of Covenant Pines Bible Camp.



Looking forward to fall and winter at camp

A message from Chef Jim Mace

Well the summer has all but gone, and the kitchen crew has successfully survived our first season together here at Covenant Pines! Part of my "survival" was moving into our new home here at camp, right near the dining hall! Thanks to all who help put that together—my wife and I look forward to enjoying your handiwork.

Our kitchen staff this summer consisted of our fearless leaders: Ashley Loomis,

Calese Berger, Annie Schmidt and Chris Proctor. The team provided a great atmosphere to work in, and they help me adjust and have fun too. Hopefully each of them learned skills that they can use to bless more people.

I am excited about our upcoming retreat season, looking to some different meal combinations and dessert presentations. Don't be surprised when you come and find that the menu is totally different from

last year, because our goal is to keep changing, and thus enticing our guests to keep coming back. For the first time we are holding cooking demonstrations at our fall Women's Retreats. I hope the women attending it are as excited as I am to lead it! I look forward to seeing many of you during the fall and winter season. May the Lord keep you safe, now and forever.



New CPBC Program Director Lindsay Johnson

We welcome Lindsay (Hartkopf) Johnson as our new program director. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire where she majored in Business Administration and Marketing.

Following graduation, Lindsay worked full-time for Target and part-time at Excelsior Covenant Church as their Youth Ministry Intern. After a year in the corporate world, Lindsay left to follow God's calling into full-time ministry. She continued working with youth at Excelsior Covenant

and began pursuing her Master of Divinity at Bethel Seminary.

Lindsay loved being on the summer staff at Covenant Pines Bible Camp in 2006.

Lindsay is the daughter of Mike and Roxane Hartkopf, and sister of Brittany and Jenna Hartkopf. Lindsay recently married Jerod Johnson at their home church, Excelsior Covenant. Both Lindsay and Jerod are extremely excited to be living at camp year round as part of the CPBC family and are looking forward to serving God and others!



CAMP STORE

See our current stock of Covenant Pines sweat-shirts, hoodies and sweat pants. These are great gifts for back-to-school season!

<http://www.covenantpines.org/camp-store/>

2009 Mission Outreach Project

Each year, Covenant Pines joins with other Covenant camps across the U.S. and Canada to help spread the Gospel of Christ through a Christian camp in a 3rd world area. This year, a very exciting opportunity is underway for Covenant camps from various parts of the world to connect with a church in Columbia and provide them with funds to purchase camp property and make necessary modifications to

the facilities in LaVega, Cundinamarca, located one hour from the capital city of Bogota.

Mission outreach offerings were collected during summer Chapel services. Covenant Pines campers and family campers gave a total of \$9,882!

Read more about this project at: <http://www.covenantpines.org/youth/summer-missions-project.php>



Former 3-Stall Garage.



Some final touches before occupancy on August 1.



New Lofts: instead of garage doors, it now has patio doors!

3-Stall Garage transformed into Lofts Housing

The new "Lofts Housing" has recently been completed and is now occupied by year round staff! Thanks to dozens of volunteer laborers giving their skills and time between January and August 2009. The former 2-story, 3-stall garage was relocated from the maintenance area to a wooded area just south of Oak Ridge Dining Hall. It was then re-built from the frame up and now houses two staff families. Each of the two units has loft bedrooms, a kitchen, a living area, and a walk-out patio.



Top row: Derek Jones, Dan Erickson, Josh Rude, Wes Erickson, Bruce Peterson, Mark Dischinger, Bob Westmark and Lloyd Olson. Many other skilled volunteers pitched in over the past 8 months to accomplish this transformation.