



kids need
adventure.
challenges.
direction.
growth.

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2012

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



WHAT DOES SPRINGHILL DO ALL WINTER LONG?

BY MICHAEL PERRY
PRESIDENT OF SPRINGHILL CAMPS

This is a common question I am asked by curious people during the winter months. People know and understand what happens at SpringHill in the summer – we have summer camp – but it's the other nine months of the year that are a mystery to many people.

Now, mind you, I'm not offended by these inquiries because they give me an opportunity to share all that we are doing during the busy months of winter. So, just in case you have also wondered, let me share with you the answer to this question.

Here are a few inside happenings at SpringHill during the winter season...

- + The opportunity to serve over 10,000 guests through our Winter Teen Retreats and guest retreat programs
- + Visit college campuses across the Midwest, where the recruiting team will find, recruit, interview, reference check, background check and contract 1,000 summer staff
- + Create, plan and prepare five major programs and curriculums for campers and summer staff
- + Identify 50+ church and ministry partners in 40+ cities to host our Day Camps as well as identifying dozens of partners for 2013

As you can see, each season at SpringHill brings new opportunities and new experiences. When you think of SpringHill in the months to come before summer, please remember this list. Please pray for our staff that we will do our work well so that God might use our efforts, and the efforts of our supporters and friends, to transform the lives of all the campers and staff we will have the privilege to serve.



LESS THAN 100 DAYS UNTIL SUMMER!

Grab your shorts, bug spray and bathing suit because summer is almost here! Get excited to see what will be waiting for you at camp!

WHAT WILL YOU SEE?

MICHIGAN

- + Storybrook Relaunch
- + Indoor Pool Completely Renovated
- + Indoor Waterslides
- + Largest Inflatable Waterslide
- + Colin Ridge – Special Needs Housing
- + New Frontiers Infirmary Remodeled

INDIANA

- + Electricity in Housing Units
- + Party Barge
- + Dining Hall Upgrades

And we can't forget...

- + Christ-centered Environment
- + New Friends
- + Camp Songs
- + Funny Skits
- + And of course...Camp Food!

 **REGISTER NOW!**


-  **+ SUMMER CAMP**
- + DAY CAMP**
- + RETREATS**

We have lots going on at SpringHill this summer – including some awesome promotions!

Visit www.springhillcamps.com to learn more!

RETREATS

SPARK THE INTEREST

UPCOMING RETREATS THROUGHOUT THE MINISTRY

Come experience SpringHill year 'round! Retreats are a great way to build community, engage in God's word and grow deeper in your faith. Bring your church, coworkers, friends or family and come experience this journey. Connect with people you care about, listen to challenging messages and take part in meaningful worship.



MICHIGAN

SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT:
MAY 4-6

MEMORIAL DAY CAMP:
MAY 25-28

SUMMER FAMILY CAMP:
JULY 13-15

For more information, please contact 231.734.2616 or email register@springhillcamps.com.



INDIANA

SPRING MEN'S RETREAT:
APRIL 19-22

FATHER/SON CAMP:
MAY 18-20

SUMMER FAMILY CAMP:
JUNE 29-JULY 1

For more information, please contact Chrissy Hubers at 812.497.0008 ext.114 or email chubers@springhillcamps.com.



SPRING WOMEN'S RETREAT

THEME: ABUNDANCE

DATE: May 4-6, 2012

AGES: 18 or older

This spring, take the chance and dive into 1 Kings as we learn about the great prophet Elijah. Listen to guest speaker Glenna Salsbury as she teaches about God's ABUNDANCE even when it seems sparse.

With challenging and practical workshops, uplifting music and quiet time for personal reflection, you are bound to walk away with a new perspective that will deepen your relationship with Christ.

For more information and how you can register, visit springhillcamps.com/MI/retreats or contact us at 231.734.2616.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

JOSEPH AND NOMA HERBERT SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

The Herberts serve various areas within our Indiana Overnight Camp. Noma cleans and does office work and Joe assists in maintenance and repair.

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH SPRINGHILL?

In 2010, we were first acquainted with SpringHill through SOWERS (Servants On Wheels Ever Ready). In 2011, after our second project there, God made it clear to each of us that our work was not finished. We discussed this with Keith Rudge, and he was glad to have us continue working as volunteers.

HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN YOU BEGAN VOLUNTEERING?

After we discussed what we felt with Keith and began working on camp, we had a sense of satisfaction and incredible blessings; knowing that we were doing the work God had planned for us, in the place God had prepared for us.

WHY VOLUNTEER AT SPRINGHILL?

We both have always had a desire to do missions work, and have been on short-term missions projects. We would never have thought that our mission field would be working at a camp in Southern Indiana, but when God led, we followed. The staff and atmosphere at SpringHill are most assuredly Christ-centered, and knowing that we are even a small part of God's work is very rewarding.

“ Joe and I have always loved to travel and camp in our little trailer. At SpringHill we get to camp in the pine forest, fish in a number of lakes, walk in the quiet of God's creation and talk and laugh with some of God's most special people.

— Noma

MICHIGAN



A STEP AHEAD

CREATED TO HONOR HIM AND HONOR GOD

Fifteen years ago on January 25th, Jesse Buist went to his home in Heaven. In honor of Jesse – his fun-loving personality and his love for Jesus – his parents, Jack and Pat, have begun the Jesse Buist Memorial Scholarship at SpringHill. This scholarship fund was established in memory of Jesse, who died in 1997 at the age of 13, following a surgery that he was optimistically recovering from.

“After camp, Jesse became out front and verbal about his faith. His confidence increased in his faith. It was those teachable moments that SpringHill offered that became the fabric of who Jesse was.”

– Pat Buist,
Jesse’s mother



A month before Jesse’s death, he had a writing assignment where he dove into his faith and expressed his desire to see “Moses and Abraham Lincoln face-to-face and Jesus and the scars He got for him.” Jesse also credited “parents, grandparents, teachers and SpringHill Camps” for his growing faith. Jesse’s energy and love for Christian contemporary music was a perfect fit for SpringHill. Because of this, camper scholarships in his memory have seemed to be a perfect fit.

Since 1989, the Buist family has had a SpringHill connection and although their kids have outgrown camper, counselor and family camp activities, they have maintained awareness by annually attending staff worship and serving as volunteers.

Jesse was a high energy, outgoing teen with many friends in his short life. He was always “a step ahead” of everyone. And now, Jesse is also “a step ahead” of us all – seeing our Savior, Jesus Christ, face-to-face.

He wrote that the “Roman Road” was his favorite witnessing tool, but he did not have many opportunities to use it and hoped one day he would. Scholarship recipients will receive a copy of the “Roman Road.” Romans 10:9 is inscribed on Jesse’s grave: “That if you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” Through this scholarship fund, the Buist family has a desire to provide Overnight and Day Camp scholarships for underserved children in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

If you would like to join the Buist family and others in sharing Christ with more campers, visit springhillcamps.com/donate. Under designation, select Jesse Buist Memorial Scholarship.

WHO’S BEHIND THE SCENES?

GET TO KNOW THE STAFF HELPING YOU



SUE BOIKE
REGISTRATION MANAGER
MCBAIN, MICHIGAN

CAMP CENTER:
Michigan Overnight Camp
YEARS AT SPRINGHILL:
Five

WHY DO YOU WORK AT SPRINGHILL?
Watching campers discover Christ’s love.

FAVORITE EVENT:
Family Camp because it’s a time to see families laughing together.

FAVORITE BOOK:
Omnivore’s Dilemma

TIPS FOR PARENTS:
Have fun and enjoy the experience!



VOLUNTEER WEEKEND

- WHO:** Families, friends, coworkers and churches
- WHAT:** Paint, camp cleanup and upgrade facilities
- WHERE:** Michigan Overnight Camp
- WHEN:** April 13-15
- WORK DAY:** April 14, 9am to 5pm

Bring materials and groups! Interested? Volunteer for a day or for the whole weekend as we tackle the many projects scattered throughout camp.

To volunteer at overnight camp, please visit:
<http://springhillcamps.com/mi/volunteer> or
<http://springhillcamps.com/in/volunteer>.
For more information, please contact Barb Feavel at 231.679.4454 or email bfeavel@springhillcamps.com.

AT LAST, ELECTRICITY!

ENJOY RELAXING UNDER THE FANS



This summer we are running power to four housing areas: Grouseland Hilltoppers, Clark's Grant Walled Tents, Tepee Village and a new Walled Tent housing area, near the tepees, for Red Brush girls. Each housing unit will have lights and fans for air movement during peak summer heat waves; however, they will not have outlets for additional electrical needs.

This project is made possible by Tech Serve, a volunteer organization that has served both camp properties in the past. Thank you to all the volunteers and supporters of this project which would not be possible without the help of donated services and the volunteer hours.

DINING HALL UPGRADES

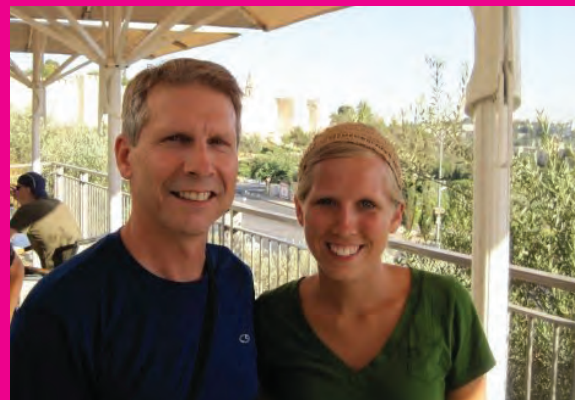
IMPROVING SOUND AND EQUIPMENT



We are beginning updates to this meeting space that will improve the camping experience for our Red Brush and InPursuit campers. With new drapery, video screens and audio equipment, our hope is to make the environment more acoustically friendly for our campers and guests.

Along with these improvements, we are developing a permanent stage that will be used throughout the summer for every camp center. With these upgrades, we look to shift focal points around to have the Dining Hall become the main center of camp.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



HALEY MCCRACKEN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Haley worked for three summers at the Indiana Overnight Camp in 2007, 2008 and 2010. She began as an activity staff in 2007 and moved to become the activities director in 2010. Haley was also involved with SpringHill in the fall as a weekend staff in 2007 and activities director in 2009.

FAVORITE CAMP ACTIVITY:

It may not be an official camp activity, but when I worked at SpringHill in the fall, my coworkers came to love and dread my annual inauguration of "Pranksgiving."

WHAT DID YOU LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF FROM YOUR EXPERIENCE AT SPRINGHILL?

As a college student, I began to understand what leadership really is through the experience of being challenged in different roles at SpringHill. What makes a great leader is how they are using that influence—to the glory of God or the glory of one's self. Position is bestowed by man but place is given by God. It is how we influence others from the place in which we find ourselves which really reflects leadership.

TIPS FOR FUTURE SUMMER STAFF?

For Indiana Overnight Staff – Hold tightly to the rope when catching the "Screamer" at the end of high ropes course. A loose grip will result in being hurled through the air only to land in the many thorn bushes at the edge of the mulched area.

WHAT DO YOU CURRENTLY DO?

I am privileged to work with Church at the Crossing (CATC) in Indianapolis in the areas of Worship Arts and Adult Ministries. CATC has generously provided a place of employment while I am also enrolled in seminary at Anderson University's School of Theology. Just as my years at SpringHill felt like way too much fun to be called work, I find the ministry of the church to be too great a gift to think of as merely a paycheck. It is incredibly hard and unbelievably worth it.

DAY CAMPS



HELLO CHICAGO!

DAY CAMPS EXPANDING THIS SUMMER!

Going into 2012, we are seeing a growth in our Day Camps locations throughout the Midwest. In Chicago, we currently have eight partnerships for summer of 2012, with many other possible partnerships in 2013. We are excited about all these partners because of how closely their mission and vision align with our ministry views. Each church is active in their community and well respected.

Ministry leaders are projecting high camper numbers for this summer which shows a great response to the partnership. We have two church partners that are located in the City of Chicago, which will give us the opportunity to be more creative and innovative than we've ever been before. We are excited about the possibilities and the challenge and know that God has amazing things in store for this summer.

“ I feel privileged to partner with so many incredible churches in the Chicagoland area that are actively caring for their communities. I'm excited to see how God uses these partnerships to grow His Kingdom as well as enhance the ministry of these churches and SpringHill Camps. ”

– Sara VanWinkle,
Chicago Day Camps Director

DAY CAMPS IS COMING TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

Visit springhillcamps.com to find out when SpringHill will be in your neighborhood.

+ INDIANA LOCATIONS

- Avon** – Kingsway Christian Church
- Dyer** – Faith Church
- Carmel** – Northview Church
- Chesterton** – Liberty Bible Church
- Fort Wayne** – Brookside Community Church
- Fort Wayne** – The Chapel (Fort Wayne Campus)
- Goshen** – River Oaks Community Church
- Granger** – Granger Community Church
- Greenwood** – Emmanuel Church of Greenwood
- Indianapolis** – Heritage Christian School
- Kokomo** – Oakbrook Church

+ ILLINOIS LOCATIONS

- Arlington Heights** – Orchard EFC
- Bourbonnais** – College Church of the Nazarene
- Chicago** – New Life Church
- Chicago** – The Moody Church
- Elmhurst** – Elmhurst CRC
- Grayslake** – The Chapel (Grayslake Campus)
- Libertyville** – The Chapel (Libertyville Campus)
- Palatine** – The Chapel (Palatine Campus)

+ MICHIGAN LOCATIONS

- Auburn Hills** – Oakland Christian School
- Battle Creek** – First Wesleyan Church
- Bloomfield Hills** – Bloomfield Hills Baptist
- Brighton** – Cornerstone EPC
- Fraser** – St. John Lutheran School
- Grand Rapids** – Tabernacle Community Church
- Grand Rapids** – Grand Rapids Christian Elementary School
- Hartland** – The River Community Church
- Holland** – Ridge Point Community Church
- Hudsonville** – Daybreak
- Kalamazoo** – Centerpoint Church
- Kentwood** – Kentwood Community Church
- Midland** – Midland EFC
- Novi** – Oak Pointe Church
- Plymouth** – NorthRidge Church
- Rockford** – BlytheField Hills Baptist Church
- Rochester Hills** – St. John Lutheran School
- Rochester Hills** – Faith Church EPC
- Saint Joseph** – The Chapel EFC
- Shelby** – Shepherd's Gate Lutheran Church
- Traverse City** – Bay Pointe Community Church
- Troy** – Kensington Community Church
- Waterford** – Waterford Community Church

+ OHIO LOCATIONS

- Cincinnati** – Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy
- Kettering** – Apex Community Church
- Liberty** – The River Church
- Loveland** – Epiphany UMC
- Reynoldsburg** – Reynoldsburg UMC
- West Chester** – Faith Community UMC

More locations to come.



To view our 2012 Day Camps video, visit
www.youtube.com/springhillvideos.

PLANNED GIVING



LET PHILANTHROCORP, OUR PLANNED GIVING PARTNER, HELP YOU!

ESTABLISH YOUR ESTATE PLAN TODAY, FREE!

Your most valuable assets are most likely your loved ones. Preparing the next generation to follow successfully in your footsteps involves a lifetime of work and preparation. One important dimension of that preparation is creating a will or trust that transfers your estate to your family with minimum heartache and tax exposure. It is also important for your legacy to include the values and work ethic the Lord has instilled in you over your lifetime.

EVERYONE CAN BENEFIT

Minimize Conflict. Sometimes family heirlooms, such as quilts, china and the grandfather clock can create more conflict than large amounts of money. Proper planning can avoid this.

Minimize Confusion. Real estate titles, life insurance and retirement plan beneficiaries must be set up properly to avoid both confusion and taxes.

Minimize Taxes and Fees. Few Americans pay estate taxes, but most Americans pay other taxes and fees at death. These often can be avoided.

Maximize Impact. Your estate plan may be the single most important act of stewardship of your lifetime.

For further questions, or to get started today, visit springhillcamps.com/plannedgiving or contact PhilanthroCorp directly at 800.876.7958.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Seventy percent of Americans do not have a current will.
- Even current estate documents usually overlook tax-advantaged charitable strategies.
- Billions of dollars are being needlessly paid in estate, inheritance and income taxes to the federal government that could be directed to heirs and selected charities.
- You may choose to leave a part of your inheritance in the form of a steady income stream rather than leaving everything in lump sums.

O

Number of minutes per week the average camper at SpringHill spends:

- watching tv
- texting
- talking on a cell phone
- playing video games
- on facebook or computer
- listening to music with headphones



“ Thank you for the scholarship! I had so much fun in NewFro! I made friendships that will last a lifetime. My sisters were awesome and my brother cabin encouraged me to do new things, like rollerblade down ramps. I love SpringHill so much I am saving to go for a second week next summer! My counselors were awesome and their stories were helpful. Don't change ANYTHING! SpringHill is perfect just the way it is! Thanks for the best week!

– Love, Alyssa
Scholarship Camper

”

WHY KIDS NEED CAMP

“I WON'T FORGET THIS EXPERIENCE...THANK YOU!”

We want every kid to experience SpringHill regardless of financial need. If you have financial need, we will work with you to get your child to camp. If you want to give towards scholarships, partner with us to help bring these kids to camp.

We are so excited for young people to grow, laugh, swim, explore, climb and experience the love of Christ in their hearts. As SpringHill expands our reach across the Midwest, scholarship needs continue to grow. Last year, over 2,800 of our 17,000+ campers came on scholarships. This year we expect to provide over 3,000 scholarships.

PARTNER WITH US

We are committed to reaching more and more kids with the message of Christ, you can help to make this happen!




- + **Provide a scholarship** that will give a young person the opportunity to know and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. By sending in the enclosed gift card or donating online at kidsneedcamp.com, your gift will go towards bringing deserving kids to camp.
- + **Register a kid** for our 2012 SpringHill Summer Camp at kidsneedcamp.com.



Summer is getting closer!
(No, really it is.)



Would you like to receive the newsletter via email? If so, please email: mbeeggs@springhillcamps.com.

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