

## FALL FESTIVAL 2020

The annual Fall Festival and Chicken BBQ are some of the long standing traditions of Inspiration Hills Camp and our biggest fund raiser each year. It is with great sadness we announce that due to restrictions surrounding Covid-19 we are unable to safely hold this event this fall. We do anticipate having a large celebration in the spring when it is safe to do so.

Please consider donating the funds (large or small) that would you normally bring to the festival to help sustain the camp operations over the next several months. All of the extra events including the SYD reunion planned for the 2020 festival will be moved to 2021. Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

## VOLUNTEER WORK DAYS

Inspiration Hills is planning several work days and we invite you and your congregation/youth group to participate! As with your church, our volunteers fill some essential roles that keep the ministry alive and thriving and keep our overall costs to a minimum. This is especially important right now as we face another 6 months with no rental revenue.

Our first planned workday will be **Saturday, October 24th**. Please let us know if you would like to be here that day and bring the whole family for some socially distanced labor! Your congregation will be contacted to schedule a time for you to participate on another day if that date doesn't work. Projects for all skill levels and ages are available, our current "to do" list has 89 items on it!

## WOOD SPLITTING/FREE FIREWOOD

We have free firewood for the taking, it just needs to be cut and split. Take as much as you want, we only ask that you fill some of our empty woodbins too. Call Dale Allen at 330 621-4574 to schedule a time for this activity Monday-Saturday only!

**[www.inspirationhillscamp.org](http://www.inspirationhillscamp.org)**

Inspiration Hills is a ministry of the Northern Ohio Church of the Brethren  
4819 W Easton Rd  
Burbank, OH 44214  
419 846-3010/info@inspirationhillscamp.org

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMP?

September 2020

## A TIME OF SABBATH REST

2020 has certainly not been what we expected at Inspiration Hills Camp. The normal 24/7 echoes of campers and guests throughout the camp were replaced in mid March with an eerie, overwhelming, silence. The dining hall and kitchen sit empty, the lodges and cabins remain locked, and the lake is peacefully still. We, along with many of you, are experiencing a period of unexpected Sabbath.

These past months have been extremely challenging and refreshing all at the same time. As the weeks of stillness turned into months, we fervently prayed for direction, reflected on our overall ministry, implemented a virtual summer camp program, upgraded facilities to meet new health department guidelines, and began tackling the very lengthy "to do" lists that we normally have no time to deal with.

The camp received several grants and the Federal PPP Loan that allowed us to keep the staff employed through the first wave of the pandemic. Last month, the Northern Ohio District Board graciously provided a grant to fund payroll for an additional 6 months. It is our prayer that there is an end to this pandemic soon so that we can return to somewhat normal operations and welcome all of you back; in the meantime we need your help.

## THE GIVING TREE

Employing staff is only one of the many expenses of operating a ministry. The camp has many fixed expenses that include heat, electricity, phones, operation of our water systems, and the many unexpected repairs. With that in mind, we would like you to prayerfully consider being a part of our new 2020 fund raising initiative, The Giving Tree. Details are on the next page.

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## THE GIVING TREE

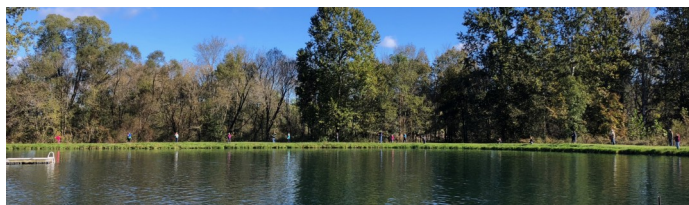
It is important to mark significant times of struggle, change and growth with a visual reminder of God's unending faithfulness. The camp will commemorate this year of unexpected Sabbath with "The Giving Tree" painted on a wall in the dining room.

We plan to celebrate our congregations, donors, volunteers and prayer partners with the name of each etched into a wooden leaf that will be permanently placed on the tree. I invite each of you to commit to dedicating your time, treasures and prayer to support the camp over the next few years as we build for the future.

Your congregation will be contacted in the next few weeks and asked to bring a group of volunteers to camp to assist with some of the work that needs to be done. You will be contacted individually by mail with a request to become a prayer partner, volunteer, and financial donor. Please pray about how you can contribute to the ministry of Inspiration Hills. We will not soon forget the year 2020. Let's work together to ensure that we leave an incredible legacy of faith for the generations to come as we mark this moment in history.

## CAMP REP MEETING

We are planning a gathering in the camp pavilion on October 17th at 10am (socially distanced and wearing masks) so that we can reconnect with you! Please send someone from your church to represent your congregation **even if that person is not the official Camp Rep for your church**; it is important that we establish a point of contact for each congregation. We will be serving a light continental breakfast, distributing some camp materials, providing camp tours, and getting to know you! Please RSVP to [info@inspirationhillscamp.org](mailto:info@inspirationhillscamp.org) so that we know how many will be joining us that day.



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## SUMMER CAMP

We thank all of the campers who participated in our first ever Virtual Camp this summer! We really appreciated Elyssa Kline's leadership as program director as well as the Pastors, summer staff, camp staff, and leaders who were our virtual Chaplains, program assistants and nature leaders. We did receive a grant from the denomination to support this effort and are truly thankful that this funding was made available to us.

**Get ready for Summer Camp 2021! Creation Speaks! Are We Listening?**

***"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge." Psalm 19:1-2***

In the beginning, God created. Today, the wonder of creation is still speaking and teaching us about our creator. The tireless work of an ant, the changing of the seasons, the beauty of the ocean, and the magnificence of a mountain range all speak of the greatness our God and help us to experience Him in new and profound ways. Join us at camp this summer as we get into creation and learn about the incredible wonders of God!

### Tentative 2021 Summer Camp Schedule

Staff Training	June 3-9
Mom & Me Camp	June 10-11
Senior High Camp	June 13-18
Junior High Camp	June 20-25
Beginners Camp	June 27-29
Annual Conference	June 30-July 4
Junior Camp	July 4-9
Royal Family Kids	July 10-16
Junior Camp "Light"	July 18-22
Beginners Camp 2.0	July 18-22
Specialty Camps TBD	July 18-22
Grand Camp	July 23-25
Family Camp	July 23-25

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