



INSPIRATIONS

Volume 26 - Issue 2
Fall 2022



A LOOK INSIDE.

SUMMER 2022 REVIEW | IMPACT CAMPAIGN | SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

A semi-annual newsletter of Lutheran Brethren Bible Camp, Inc.

GREETINGS FROM IPOINT



These are exciting days at camp. We wrapped up a summer season after serving nearly 5,000 people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and the fall has just kept rolling with groups gathering at Twin Oaks nearly every day. This issue of Inspirations is filled with stories of God's faithfulness and how people have been blessed by the ministry. One senior high camper excitedly exclaimed this summer, "I get it now! I finally get the Gospel!" We praise the Lord for the lives that were impacted these past months.

You know, it was just four years ago that Inspiration Point purchased this gorgeous property, and the first facilities master plan has already been completed. While these buildings are serving us well, we know that there are still improvements and additions to be made around the property. Therefore, Inspiration Point enlisted the help of one of the nation's best camp planners and architects to assess needs and design an updated plan. He presented his recommendations at the September board meeting, and that plan was affirmed.* As God leads and provides in the years ahead, IPoint will address its biggest facility needs, enabling us to continue bringing the Gospel to as many as possible.

Camp is blessed with incredibly committed and generous supporters – people who have helped make it possible to nearly pay for the purchase and build of the Twin Oaks property. If you haven't yet joined in the effort, will you please check out the invitation inside to help impact generations to come?

Thank you for reading. I trust you'll enjoy this issue!

GREB

Greg Anderson
President

**Get Away.
Get Life.
Get to The Point.**

* Spring and summer event offerings for winter recreation, an RV area, and pedal kart garage are being held until proper locations, in alignment with the new master plan, can be determined.

IPOINT INTERNS

Inspiration Point is thrilled to welcome eight IPoint Interns for the 2022-2023 school year. The focus of IPoint Interns is to provide teaching and practicum experience to young adults so they gain critical skills and understanding for life. They will spend time learning and working in all areas at camp, such as programming, site and facilities, guest services, marketing, food service, housekeeping, and much more! Would you join us in praying for these eight interns as they come alongside the year-round staff and spend the year serving at Inspiration Point?



2022-2023 IPoint Interns. Front Row (left to right): Mikayla Erlandsen, Natalie Zwiers, Taegan Crabtree, Ellie Mitchell Back Row: Isaac Luchies, Drew Vogt, Isaak Larson, Kason Sytsma

ALL STAFF REUNION

On the weekend of June 24-26, 195 current and former summer staffers and their families gathered for an All-Staff Reunion. It was a complete joy to welcome home these people who have served Inspiration Point over the last 33 years. On Saturday night, the staff got the chance to sit around a campfire. Over and over, staff stood up and shared stories of God's faithfulness throughout their time working on summer staff at Inspiration Point. We are so thankful for all these staff who have shared the love of Christ with countless campers and guests over the years. There is no way to fully show our appreciation for these people.



IMPACT CAMPAIGN

“Such a great joy to pick up our son and his buddies from IPoint today. There is nothing like driving four middle schoolers home and hearing them talk nonstop about everything they did and learned at camp, occasionally breaking out in songs from campfire.” – Fargo mom

“This is where you want your kids to be. I can confidently say that, for one of our kids, sending him to IPoint was the best thing we’ve ever done for him.” – Fergus Falls mom

God makes an impact through camp that extends beyond its borders. Youth campers from 14 different states arrived at Inspiration Point this summer. Word is spreading! One must only look at the world in which we live to understand the increasing need for this ministry where young and old are drawn into a closer relationship with God and leaders are equipped for service in their home churches and communities.



In just a few years, with the help of hundreds of committed and generous donors, Inspiration Point has purchased more than 1,000 acres for ministry that now provide year-round accommodations for 260 people. Showers, restrooms, a swimming pool, an office, two amphitheaters, and 17,000 square feet of dining, recreation, and meeting space have been constructed. Two buildings were moved from the old

property that flooded, and six suites were built below them. We were also able to repurpose a shelter into a 5,000-square-foot, year-round, multi-purpose room and build a large maintenance center.

Because of the Lord’s provision through generous people, we are already 80% of the way toward having all this paid for. If you haven’t yet joined in this great effort, will you please consider how you might partner with IPoint over the next 36 months? Whether a one-time, six-figure gift, monthly donations of \$10, or anything in between, every gift is critical.

“INSPIRATION POINT IS NOT A FUN TIME WITH A LITTLE BIT OF JESUS SPRINKLED ON TOP! IT IS ABOUT GOD ALL WEEK LONG. THIS WEEK, I SAW THAT CAMP REALLY CARES ABOUT ME EVEN THOUGH I’M ONLY ONE CAMPER OUT OF THOUSANDS THAT COME EACH SUMMER.”

SENIOR HIGH CAMPER



To help you indicate your desire to invest in the ministry of Inspiration Point, please follow the QR code, or simply mail a gift in the envelope provided.



“I LOVE THIS PLACE AND DON’T KNOW WHERE MY LIFE WOULD BE WITHOUT IT. IT IS ALWAYS SO MUCH FUN, BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT HELPS ME GROW IN MY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD!”

SENIOR HIGH CAMPER

Every gift given will go toward paying off the mortgage on the camp property. So much has been done already, and camp leadership is committed to stewarding its resources diligently so IPoint is able to fulfill its mission of “providing time, space, and Biblical teaching so that people encounter and follow Christ.” Please know how grateful we are for your consideration.



SUMMER 2022 REVIEW

FINISH STRONG

Imagine a triathlon with a start and a finish, but no directions, rules, or guidance. Can you imagine taking part in this race? Participants would be anxious about not knowing the course or the rules of the race. Athletes would drift off course, long for guidance, or give up. Students today are trying to navigate a course that seemingly has no rules or direction which has caused a lot of confusion, anxiety, and frustration. This summer, students learned through our theme, FINISH STRONG, that God marked out the course, guides us through His Word, and invites us to follow. Jesus won a sure victory for us, so we don't race through this life to earn a position. Instead, we are given a position in Christ and a lane to run in – the "Child of God" lane. We can run with perseverance fixing our eyes on the author and finisher of our faith, knowing that God is with us every step of the way. Campers learned that the finish line of our race is heaven. Our confidence comes from knowing that everyone who trusts in Jesus will FINISH STRONG!



"Camp was a blast and a nice break from social media and the busyness of life." -11th-grade guy

"I LOVE this place. I know that I will have fun here, but I also learn so many important things and grow closer to God. Camp is a safe place where we can live as brothers and sisters and focus on Him together. This year, I really loved the worship times with everyone singing at the top of their lungs. I'm leaving with a deeper love for the Lord and a greater sense of His peace." -11th-grade girl

"I learned that God is always with me, and He will show me the way." -4th-grade guy

"Camp is an amazing combination of fun, friends, and Jesus!" -8th-grade girl

"I learned a lot about how I could put God's word in a practical use."
-12th-grade guy

"At camp, I am accepted and loved. IPoint is a positive and safe environment where God is the center. I always have fun and grow both personally and spiritually." -10th-grade girl

"I learned that the things that we do on Earth don't mean much unless they are for Christ. Only the things we do for Christ last and that's what we should be focused on, the things above." - 12th-grade guy

"It's really important to get this Christian fellowship at camp and to be able to experience time in a good Christian community and to be able to meet new people with different life experiences than your own but you're united through Christ." -12th-grade girl

"I learned that I am fearfully and wonderfully made." - 11th-grade girl

SUMMER 2023 EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT!

SAVE ON SUMMER 2023
\$40 YOUTH CAMPS



WHEN YOU REGISTER AND PAY IN FULL BY DECEMBER 1ST



2022 SUMMER STAFF

From May 31 to August 20, the 2022 IPoint Summer Staff served approximately 5,000 people in Jesus' Name. They learned that "the best life lived is the one given away" and that "hard does not equal bad." They invested their lives in something bigger than themselves by teaching the Bible, singing camp songs, playing and working hard, facilitating teambuilding activities, caring for the needs of campers and so much more – all while serving joyfully in Jesus' Name. The passion this team had for the mission of sharing the love and hope found only in Jesus was remarkable. They walked alongside campers who experienced love, joy, teamwork, grace, endurance, kindness, forgiveness, wonder, peace, redemption, adventure, patience, friendship, growth, and hope – all while experiencing those very same things themselves! THANK YOU, 2022 SUMMER STAFF for giving to the work of the Lord and proclaiming Christ faithfully to the next generation.



THIS SUMMER I LEARNED WHAT IT MEANS TO SERVE JOYFULLY. IT IS SO SPECIAL TO BE A PART OF THE SUMMER STAFF HERE.

MEGAN ERICKSON, SUMMER STAFFER

2023 SUMMER STAFF APPLICATIONS

"If you're wondering about working at camp, do it. Apply! It is one of the best decisions I have ever made!" - 2022 Summer Staffer

The Lord does amazing things at this Inspiration Point, things we, as staff, get to witness and participate in. Everyone, from cabin leader to cook, plays a vital role in this ministry. If you or someone you know are interested in joining our team for the summer of 2023, applications are available now on our website! Please join us in praying that the Lord will provide the staff to serve the campers and guests for Summer 2023.



BY THE NUMBERS...

1,569 YOUTH CAMPERS

1,004 FAMILY CAMPERS

868 DAY CAMPERS

597 CHRIST HIKE GUESTS

65 SUMMER STAFFERS

294 DIFFERENT CHURCHES HAD CAMPERS ATTEND CAMP

93% OF PARENTS SURVEYED REPORTED SEEING EVIDENCE OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH IN THEIR CHILDREN BECAUSE OF CAMP

52 BIBLES WERE GIVEN TO CAMPERS EXPRESSING A NEW FAITH IN JESUS



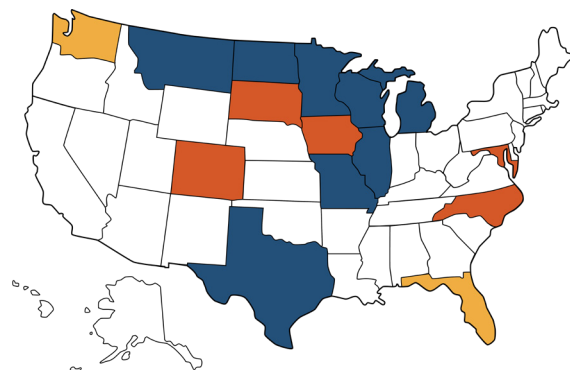
945 POUNDS OF PASTA



43,345 PLATES OF FOOD SERVED

58,000 BABY CARROTS

1.25 TONS OF FLOUR



KEY

- States Campers & Staff Came From
- States Campers Came From
- States Staff Came From

Top 10 Camper Favorites

1. Gaslamp Theatre
2. Christ Hike
3. Rabbit Hunt
4. Adventure Course
5. Zip Line
6. Octaball
7. Gift Shop
8. Staff
9. Game Room
10. T.A.G. (Time Alone with God)



BEYOND THE POINT

BRENT ROGNESS

Am I really qualified to get this job? Why would I be chosen over dozens of other applicants? What makes me stand out?

Navigating the transition from high school or college to “real life” and unlocking a career can be an overwhelming challenge. The trail to vocational independence is often littered with obstacles of anxiety and self-doubt. It’s the kind of stuff that makes you frantically call your emergency contacts before you’ve finished entering them onto your job application. The reality is, most business owners prefer to hire for attitude and train for skill, building a team that has a tangible ability to serve others. Whether the measurement is in blue ribbons, top rankings, or online stars, success in business and life is predicated on servanthood and servant leadership.



When I went through staff training at camp 20 years ago, my fellow staffers and I learned that Christ, the ultimate servant, is at the core of genuine servanthood. We received generationally-relevant instruction that not only prepared us for the summer ahead, but for a lifetime of excellence, regardless of vocation or type of ministry. Inspiration Point staff members enter the workforce with an advantage, having learned how to provide a safe and exceptional experience for guests of all ages. They are excited about what they do, breathe life into others, and exhibit an eagerness to serve. These are workplace qualities that are short in supply and incredibly high in demand.

As one who has worked for multiple large companies in Fargo-Moorhead and now owns a business there (with a team proudly including five former IPoint staffers) I can say with confidence that the quality of one’s training at Inspiration Point is a level they may never again experience in their professional lives. Working at camp is not only a unique ministry opportunity, but foundational to developing irreplaceable value as a leader in your church, a future parent, and a standout in the workplace.

Now, where were we? Oh yeah, the secondary email address for your backup emergency contact...

PARENT PERSPECTIVE

SARA TYSVER

In the world that we’re living in, my husband and I have found that camp has been one of the only experiences we can give our kids that is consistent. That’s hard to come by these days! All of the guesswork and worry is taken out of sending our kids to camp. Whether it’s a week in the summer or a weekend in the fall or winter, we KNOW that our kids will be safe, incredibly well cared for, poured into, and they’ll know more about what it looks like to follow Jesus.

Camp offers concentrated time in creation. There is time and space to ask questions, and for spiritual conversations. It’s a safe place for our kids to learn independence. They’ve gained incredible relationships with camp staff and their peers. Can these things happen outside of camp? Sure, they can. Camp fills those holes differently, though. Do we need to eat foods like broccoli? Yep. Does broccoli fill a different need in our bodies than bananas? Sure does!

The experiences that only camp can offer are such an important part of our kiddos’ overall spiritual health, which is why we continue year after year to make the investment. It will always be worth it!



MINISTRY PERSPECTIVE

MARK JOHANNESEN

In a world filled with constant notifications, distractions, and temptations, one of the most significant things that churches can do is to help create opportunities to get students to camp. At camp, many of the distractions are set aside, and students are given an opportunity to focus on their relationships with each other while being challenged by the gospel. Because of these hoped-for outcomes, one of my goals as a pastor is to get students away for retreats two to three times per year. And as a bonus, when I attend an IPOINT sponsored camp, they do all the heavy lifting and provide a great weekend leaving me with the task of just inviting students to attend and helping them to process how God has been working in them during the weekend. If getting away to rest and refuel was important to Jesus (see Mark 6:31 as one example) then we should be encouraged towards that as well.

AT CAMP, MANY OF THE DISTRACTIONS ARE SET ASIDE AND STUDENTS ARE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO FOCUS ON THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH EACH OTHER WHILE BEING CHALLENGED BY THE GOSPEL.

MARK JOHANNESEN

SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Over the past several months, Inspiration Point has had the opportunity to partner with schools from around the state of Minnesota. Students are shaped tremendously by time spent with their school community, and because of that, we count it a great honor to invest in them. Since April, we have welcomed the following groups to our site:



Henning Preschool, Henning Elementary, Hillcrest Sonshine Kids, New Testament Christian School, Bertha-Hewitt Elementary, Wadena-Deer Creek Middle School, and Avail Academy (Junior & Senior High). Each group has been met with individualized plans, tailored to the needs of its students. Some groups have participated in Outdoor Education classes, including studies on ecosystems, orienteering, geology, botany, animals, and weather. Others have engaged in Adventure Course, allowing them to grow in communication, leadership, teamwork, speaking words of encouragement, problem-solving, understanding differences, trusting one another, and practicing patience. These school groups arrive at our site with a distinct and unique culture, and we are grateful for the chance to speak truth and life into each one of them. Biblical principles are taught through time in creation and through the strengthening of community, and by God's grace, we have witnessed an immense amount of fruit!

KATIE KOCINSKI

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AT AVAIL ACADEMY

One challenge that can show itself in most high school cultures is that of disunity, whether that comes in the shape of cliques, popular/unpopular students, or even in differences of opinion. One of our hopes for our time at Inspiration Point was, as a school, to intentionally focus on fostering a community of unity among our high school students. The staff at Inspiration Point not only provided safe and protected space for our students and staff to explore what unity looks like as Christians, they also guided students through thoughtful scripture reflection, group discussion, and trust-building activities. Each of these experiences was fully relevant to helping our students dig deep into what it means to live in unity and challenged them to grow deeper in their faith and deeper in their relationships with one another. Our entire high school left Inspiration Point feeling encouraged and better equipped to be inclusive and unified, not just as a school, but as the Body of Christ being lived out at school.



UPCOMING EVENTS



MEN'S RETREAT

JANUARY 13-15, 2023

"A time away that leaves you craving more." "A needed break to relax and heal in a God-centric environment." "A great chance to just press the reset button on my life with God." These are just some of the ways men described their time at Men's Retreat last year. We invite you to come away this winter to Men's Retreat. This year, we will get the chance to study God's Word with Dr./Pastor Tony Rogness. This, combined with good food, great fellowship, and winter activities, will make this weekend one you will not want to miss!



WINTER FAMILY CAMP

JANUARY 20-22, 2023

Need a weekend to get away with your family this winter? Look no further! We invite you to come away to Twin Oaks this January to Winter Family Camp! Enjoy warm fellowship, time in God's Word as a family, good food, and winter activities like cross-country skiing, tubing, broomball, and more! Register your family today!

WINTER YOUTH RETREAT SCHEDULE

WINTER BLAST

FEBRUARY 10-12, 2023 | GRADES 7-12

SENIOR HIGH WINTER WEEKEND

FEBRUARY 17-19, 2023 | GRADES 9-12

SNOW FEST

FEBRUARY 24-26, 2023 | GRADES 3-6

CONFIRMATION RETREAT 1

MARCH 3-5, 2023 | GRADES 6-9

CONFIRMATION RETREAT 2

MARCH 10-12, 2023 | GRADES 6-9





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Inspiration Point

CHRISTIAN CAMP + RETREAT CENTER

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GET TO KNOW TWIN OAKS THE RACETRACK

Since the purchase of the Twin Oaks property, Inspiration Point has dreamed about different ways that the racetrack could be used for ministry. The racetrack has become one of the favorite places to play at Twin Oaks. Last year the infield of the track was converted into a football field to go along with the theme IPoint GAMEDAY. This green space has been a wonderful spot to play flag football, as well as many other large group games. This year, pedal karts were the newest addition to the recreation options at IPoint. They quickly became a highlight of the summer and were enjoyed by guests and campers of all ages. A huge thank you to Rogness Development, Midwest Agri-Insurance, Bell Bank, Ricks Red Racers, Gappa Oil, Ellingson's Plumbing and Heating, Larson Insurance, Central Lakes Cycle, and Game Changer Sports for sponsoring the pedal karts so that they could be enjoyed by hundreds of guests this summer!



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