



INSPIRATIONS

Volume 28 - Issue 1
Spring 2024



A LOOK INSIDE:

NEW POOL & SPLASH PAD | SUMMER 2024 PREVIEW | 10,000 REASONS CAMPAIGN

GREETINGS FROM IPOINT



Have you ever had a time when you had a vacation planned – one that you looked forward to – but as it approached you thought, “I really should be staying home?” I think we’ve all had that experience at one time or another. The truth is that life is busy, and there is always something demanding our attention and energy. It seems like it is never a good time to take a quick break from the demands of our daily lives.

We experience that, too, as a camp staff. In February, our team was registered to attend a retreat for people who serve at Christian camps in Minnesota and surrounding states. The event was being held only 30 minutes away, and we look forward to it every year. Yet almost everyone on our team expressed thoughts of, “I can’t go. I’ve got too much on my plate right now,” or “I know it will be good, but I don’t want to be gone for two nights.”

We went anyway. Can you guess what we experienced? Rest. Renewal. Being reenergized. We were blessed by the times of corporate worship, impacted by the messages and seminars, and we reconnected with people we hadn’t spent time with in too long. Oh, how valuable it was!

Friends, we need rest and time away from the daily demands we all face. Jesus called his disciples, saying, “Come away with me, by yourselves, and rest awhile.” Those words are for us, too.

God has given us a place where we can come away and find rest for our soul. This issue tells the stories of events that have taken place during camps and retreats, the lives of people who’ve been impacted, and the plans to address facility deficits so that ministry capacity and impact can increase.

Enjoy the read, and we hope to see you soon!

Greg

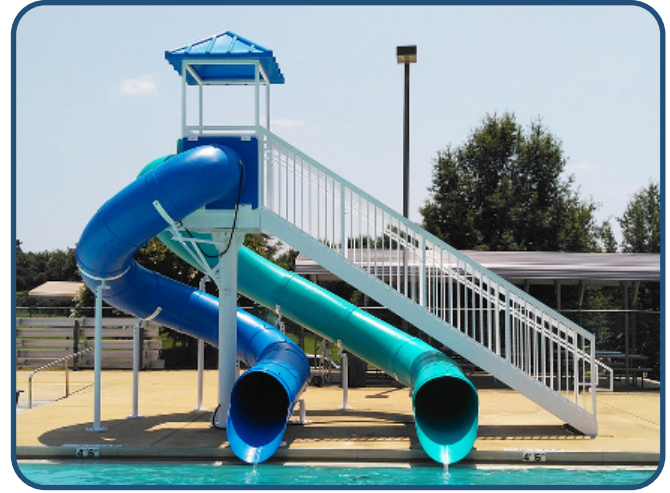
Greg Anderson
President



Upon returning from camp, kids show an increase in:

- Desire to worship in a corporate setting
- Personal devotional practices
- Faith conversations in the home

Jacob Sorenson, PhD
The Effective Camp Project



COMING SUMMER 2024: New Pool & Splash Pad

Inspiration Point is excited to announce that by the beginning of this summer, we will unveil a brand new, larger swimming pool and splash pad to address the recreation needs that accompany growing camp sizes.

Year after year, more students and families come away to IPoint in the summer months to experience summer camp, to grow in their relationship with the Lord, and undoubtedly, TO HAVE FUN! The new swimming pool and splash pad will allow for guests to spend their free time at camp cooling off in the pool, relaxing on the pool deck, or going down the waterslide.

Curious how much bigger the new pool will be compared to our existing pool? Well, it’s going to be the same size as our dining room!



New recreation features like this one are so important here at Inspiration Point because it’s while campers and cabin leaders are having fun together that trust is built. That trust allows for the message of Jesus to be heard and, by God’s grace, received by guests. We pray that the new pool and splash pad would serve as a place for cabin leaders to have conversations that count with students and a place where families create meaningful memories while at camp.

☆☆ THE ☆☆

BIG PICTURE

INSPIRATION POINT



SUMMER 2024 PREVIEW

THE BIG PICTURE!

Every summer at IPoint, we gather questions from students to better understand what they are contemplating on their spiritual journey. Last year, the questions that rose to the top included: What does the Bible say about [fill in the blank with endless things]? Who is God? Who is Jesus? and What is my purpose in life? The Bible has a lot to say about each of these questions! John 20:31 says, "These words are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have LIFE in his name."

THE BIG PICTURE was designed to help campers get excited to read the Bible and find what we need to know about God the Father, His Son, Jesus Christ, and the role that we have in the BIG PICTURE of life. Take a PEEK BEHIND THE CURTAIN to see what we will be VIEWING this summer at IPoint.

THE SCREENPLAY (MONDAY) WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

Romans 15:4 "For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope."

THE DIRECTOR (TUESDAY) WHO IS GOD?

Deuteronomy 7:9 "Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant to a thousand generations."



Camper growth lasts 2-3 months beyond the experience, and the growth period lengthens the more a camper attends.

Jacob Sorenson, PhD
The Power of Camp Study

THE LEADING ROLE (WEDNESDAY) WHO IS JESUS?

John 14:6 Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

THE CAST (THURSDAY) DO I HAVE A ROLE IN THIS STORY?

2 Corinthians 5:20 "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us."

Students of all ages need time, space and Biblical teaching to consider these BIG questions. Who do you know – a child, grandchild, neighbor kid, player that you coach, niece/nephew– that needs a week away at IPoint?

Will you do what you can to invite, encourage and help the young people in your sphere of influence get to camp so that they can experience THE BIG PICTURE? Your influence has great opportunity for life-changing, eternal impact!

FOR MORE
INFORMATION OR
TO REGISTER FOR
SUMMER 2024,
VISIT IPOINT.ORG OR
SCAN THE QR CODE.





REASONS

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



The 10,000 Reasons Campaign centers on responding to what God has done in the lives of countless people over the years at Inspiration Point. We have so many reasons – at least 10,000 – to be grateful for God’s faithfulness.

THE CURRENT SITUATION

Currently, recreation options are limited, indoor recreation and meeting spaces are severely lacking, and camps fill, which means that not everyone who desires to attend camp is able.



THE PLAN

Highlights of this \$6.9 million capital campaign include the construction of:

- a larger swimming pool, water slide, and a splash pad
- housing for 60 more people at a time
- a large, multi-purpose recreation building with meeting space
- mini golf, walking paths, pitch and putt course, and pedal kart path
- a dining room addition so every person has a place to eat indoors
- an office addition, so each year-round staff member has a place to work

THE OPPORTUNITY

To see this plan become reality, it will take hundreds and hundreds of people being as generous as possible. Here are ways to join in!

- Thank God for how your life has been blessed and then ask God how you might use your resources to support the ministry at and through Inspiration Point.
- Visit the website to make a multi-year pledge or one-time gift.
- Consider volunteering so that ministry dollars are stretched as far as possible.
- Consider how Inspiration Point might fit into planning for your estate distribution someday.



THE RESULTS

More lives will be impacted by the Gospel. Camp will be able to welcome 500 more youth campers and 40 more families every summer as well as hundreds more campers and guests throughout the year for retreats.

More people will be drawn to attend Inspiration Point.
Years of experience tell us that safety and fun set the stage for spiritual growth.

Inspiration Point will be better equipped to minister to mind, soul, and body.

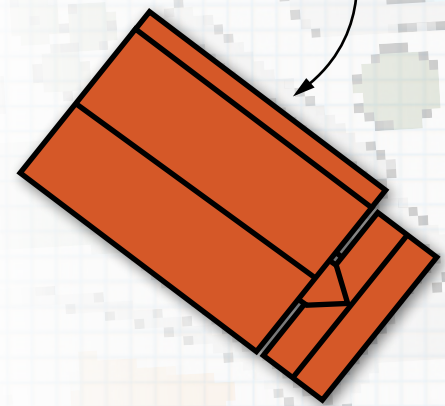
ANTICIPATION GROWS! Multi-Purpose Recreation Building

What a mild winter! The weather in our area was often well above average, we hardly got any snow, and windy days were minimal. Even so, there are just some days when it is difficult for the heartiest Minnesotan to spend time outdoors. The new site at Twin Oaks is an incredible blessing, but we are challenged when the weather is too cold or wet. We need an indoor recreation space that can accommodate the numbers we are serving.

The first several projects outlined in the 10,000 Reasons Campaign have been covered in cash and pledges, and now our efforts turn toward raising funds for a building that will provide for a wide variety of indoor recreation activities and meeting space. Plans are underway to construct a large multi-purpose building that will house a large recreation area, gameroom, meeting space, and winter recreation checkout.

This effort will take many, many people being as generous as possible, but when it is finished, Inspiration Point will be well-equipped and positioned to serve well all those whom God brings to this special place!

Multi-Purpose
Recreation Building



Building will include:
Large Recreation Area
Gameroom
Meeting Space
Winter Recreation Checkout

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT TIMELINE

- Summer 2024** Construct two cabins with restrooms and showers.
Add a larger swimming pool with slides and splash pad.
- January 2025** Complete an addition to the office.
- Summer 2025** Build addition to current dining room that will double its capacity.
Extend walking path on the interior of the camp.
Construct one additional cabin with restrooms and showers.
- January 2026** Construct two additional cabins with restrooms and showers.
Add miniature golf to recreation offerings.
- January 2026** Construct an indoor recreation building with meeting space.
Add winter recreation hub.
Add three-hole Pitch & Putt golf course.



Christian education programs making extensive use of the camp experience showed significantly higher results on measures of faith formation.

Jacob Sorenson, PhD
The Logic of Camp in Educational Ministries

BEYOND THE POINT - Future Church Leaders

For years, Inspiration Point has played a significant role in the equipping, calling, and sending of young leaders. IPoint is a training ground, where staff members learn the joy found in serving Christ, in ministering to His people, and in preaching the Gospel. Over the years, we have seen God use seasons of time on camp staff to call people into pastoral ministry. Carl Juhl and Nathan Doering, who worked a combined 14 summers at Inspiration Point, are two young men who experienced just that. Carl and Nathan both expressed that IPoint played a large role in their calls to pastoral ministry.



Carl Juhl, who is currently serving as the pastor at Lincoln Church and Community Center (Lincoln, ND), put it this way: “Camp was an important stepping-stone that God used to change my heart from being closed to even the idea of becoming a pastor.” He also shared that camp provided him with opportunities to practice different pastoral skills, such as servant leadership, teaching, public speaking, spiritual care, correcting and encouragement.

Nathan Doering, who is currently attending Lutheran Brethren Seminary, shared that the more he was surrounded by ministry at camp, the more God grew his desire to minister to the Church. He explained that the Lord used camp to show him what it means to serve and to do so joyfully, saying, “I learned how to put others first, how to work hard as unto the Lord, how to remove distractions so that people see the cross, and that the best life lived is the one that is given away.”



God has established Inspiration Point as a place where lives are changed by the Gospel and at the same time, as a place where some individuals have experienced a call to serve Christ by leading His Church.

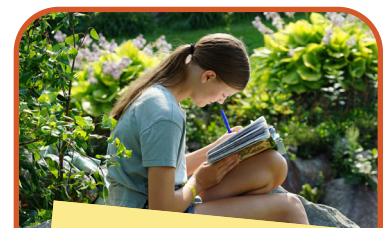
PARENT PERSPECTIVES - Spiritual Growth

Opening the pages of Scripture | Being surrounded by the glory of God's creation | Experiencing a safe place where people are valued because of their identity in Christ | Spending time in biblical community | Worshipping alongside peers and godly role models | Asking big questions about faith and being encouraged with truth from God's Word

These things happen when people come away to camp!

A week spent at camp is a catalyst for spiritual growth in the life of a student, as it is set apart from the regular rhythm of life. How do we know that this is true? Following the summer of 2023, we surveyed the parents whose children attended a youth camp at Inspiration Point. 88% of these parents said that they saw specific evidence of spiritual growth in their child upon their return from camp.

One parent put it this way: “It is hard dropping them off, but what they learn and how they grow in faith is so important and can't be duplicated in our everyday life.” Another parent expressed a change in her daughter's understanding of Jesus by saying, “She [my daughter] said that she feels her eyes are open now. She can see how much God loves her. It isn't that she just knows in her head that Jesus died for her sin, but now she knows that she can be close to Him and have a relationship with Him. She [my daughter] said, ‘that changes everything and my life won't ever be the same.’” As God reveals Himself to individuals at camp, He also spurs His children on to share their faith with those around them. One parent shared that their child “has been witnessing more freely to their cousins after camp” while another said that their child “has reached out to classmates and is starting to lead Bible studies at school.” We praise God for the way that He uses the ministry of camp to draw people closer to Himself!



Kids who attend camp vs. their peers who do not are three times more likely to remain in the church five years beyond high school.

National Study on Youth & Religion

New Volunteer Opportunities

Exciting news!

Inspiration Point is thrilled to unveil two new volunteer opportunities, offering a fresh way to team up with camp. The first, aptly named the "3rd Thursday Team," opens up a monthly invitation for up to 20 individuals to share their time and skills to help with ongoing camp projects on the third Thursday of each month. Whether you're available for just one Thursday or are ready to make it a regular part of your schedule, the "3rd Thursday Team" eagerly welcomes volunteers of all skill levels, creating a consistent opportunity to be part of the ministry at IPoint.



Our second opportunity, "Hands 2 Help - April," promises an experience akin to the mid-week portion of our traditional Hands 2 Help events but with a slightly relaxed pace. This adjustment allows us to focus on providing more time and intentionality to our volunteers, ensuring they are poured into while serving. Picture late afternoons and evenings spent together, enjoying the gift of fellowship with fellow believers. Our goal is for every volunteer to depart not only having made a positive impact but feeling enriched themselves.

We so appreciate your consideration of these options. As a ministry, we feel incredibly blessed to have so many wonderful individuals walking alongside us for the sake of the Gospel. To register for these events and join the Lord's work happening at camp, simply visit ipoint.org for more information or to register. We hope to see you there!



HANDS 2 HELP - APRIL

APRIL 22-24, 2024 | MON-WED

Join us for a Monday through Wednesday spent working in the morning and afternoon with activities and fellowship in the evening.



HANDS 2 HELP - MAY

MAY 8-11, 2024 | WED-SAT

Join us this spring for Hands 2 Help! Volunteers are key to the ministry of Inspiration Point. Hands 2 Help is a special opportunity for people of all ages and skills to get involved in the ministry of Inspiration Point.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUMMER FAMILY WEEKENDS

There is something for everyone at Inspiration Point's popular family weekends. You can expect delicious meals, a setting where you can really relax and know your kids are safe, worship and growth opportunities for all ages, and a staff that serve and invest in your family. Join us – you'll want to come back again!

FW1: June 20-23

FW2: June 27-30

FW3: July 4-7

FW4: July 12-14

FW5: July 18-21

FW6: July 25-28

FW7: August 1-4

FW8: August 9-11



GRAND DAY OUT

JUNE 26, 2024

Join us for this intergenerational day trip to Inspiration Point. Your day will include chapel, Bible study, games, crafts and activities like swimming, campfire, climbing tower and so much more! Grandchildren involved must be entering kindergarten through sixth grade.

CHRIST HIKE

Step back 2,000 years into the days when Jesus walked the earth. Experience what it may have been like to follow Him... literally. Please join us and experience the powerful retelling of this life-changing, true story.

2024 CHRIST HIKE PERFORMANCES

June 12, 18, 21, 25, 28 (Seating 7:30)
July 2, 5, 10, 16, 19, 26, 30 (Seating 7:15)
August 2, 7, 13 (Seating 7:00)



PATHFINDERS

AUGUST 18-21, 2024

Our well-trained and supportive staff bring the Christian camp experience in a resort-like setting to adult guests with physical, developmental, and learning disabilities in our Pathfinders camp program at Inspiration Point.



LUTHERAN BROTHERS BIBLE CAMP, INC.

Inspiration Point

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GET TO KNOW TWIN OAKS

The Birchwood Cabins

It is important that Inspiration Point has enough beds to accommodate all the kids who will register for summer camp. In response to the growing number of summer registrations, we are building more cabins! We will have two more cabins ready for this coming summer, and we're calling them The Birchwood Cabins! The two new cabins, located behind The Elephant House, are 26'x28' and will each include interior bathrooms with showers. Each cabin will have capacity to sleep 12, providing space for up to 200 more kids to come to camp this summer.



Get Away. Get Life. Get to The Point.