



Inspirations

Volume **22**
Issue 1-Spring 2018

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



A LOOK INSIDE:

BREAKING
NEWS!

WHY DAY
CAMP?

BEYOND THE
POINT

GREETINGS FROM INSPIRATION POINT

Many years ago, I received a letter from a former summer staffer who wrote to tell me that an 11-year-old girl she knew kept a box under her bed. It was filled with money she was saving so she could go to camp again. When the girl was asked why she would spend her money on going to camp, her reply was, "God changed my life at camp last summer. Now I have to go back to get stronger."



In a nutshell, that is why we have Inspiration Point – so God can change people’s lives and then strengthen them in their walk. We get to see it over and over again. Campers and guests of all ages arrive at camp, stepping away from the pressures and pace of their daily lives, finding that it is here where they hear the still small voice of the Lord. Whether it is during a Bible study, listening to a weekend speaker, while walking by the serene waters of Spitzer Lake, or during a chat with a friend or a camp counselor, God calls each one to a life of faith. Still many more grow deeper in their relationship with the Lord.

This issue of Inspirations tells the stories of people whose lives have been impacted by serving on summer staff at IPoint, preparing them for a life beyond camp. You’ll also see some articles about some past events like the Young Adults Retreat that took place in November, and some upcoming opportunities as well. Maybe one of them will be your chance to step away for a weekend onto the quiet peninsula we call Inspiration Point, where God will provide you with a time of rest and renewal. We hope to see you soon!



Greg Anderson
President

Get Away.
Get Life.
Get to The Point.



COMING SOON

The IPoint website is getting a makeover! We are working hard to make ipoint.org even better, and to improve user experience on all sizes of screens and devices. Watch for updates later this spring for an official launch date.



WELCOME NATHAN DOERING

Nathan Doering has served on our summer staff for the past three years. In January, he came on board part time as a camp intern. Nathan is studying marketing and graphic design at NDSU. It is such a blessing and joy to have Nathan in the office a few days a week.



The dining room and upper Lakeview hallway underwent a transformation this winter as we installed new flooring. Thank you to Seland’s Flooring in Fergus Falls for helping make this happen!

GIVING HEARTS DAY RECAP

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You! We are so blessed by the generosity of our donors. Over 150 people gave to Inspiration Point on Giving Hearts Day (February 8), providing \$29,540 for camp scholarships. Giving Hearts Day is a one-day online giving event sponsored by Dakota Medical Foundation and the Impact Foundation in Fargo, ND. Approximately 103 kids will get to come to camp this summer to learn about Jesus because of this one day of great generosity. We are so grateful for your support!



YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT REVIEW



Flag football, catching up with friends and meeting new ones, a coffee bar, time in God's Word, and fireside chats with mentors: this list includes just some of the favorites from those who attended the Young Adults Retreat in November. Pastor Doug Rogness (Triumph Lutheran Brethren Church, West Fargo) joined us for the weekend and brought us messages from God's Word as we gathered to learn about how God is always present, sees us, and desires to hear from us.

We really enjoyed meeting young adults who were new to IPoint and were thrilled to see some long-time campers, returning for a weekend of reminiscing, new memories, growth and fellowship! Here are their comments that will give you a better glimpse into the heart of the weekend:

"The most meaningful part of the weekend was having it focused toward what we are dealing with in today's world as young adults."

"This weekend I was exposed to church and the Word of God for the first time."

"Through our time in God's Word, I learned that God is with us in suffering even when we feel He is silent – He's still there, and He has a plan!"

"I was able to have some one-on-one time with God, and that was great. Sometimes we don't slow down enough in our busy lives to do that."

Save the Date!

Our next Young Adults Retreat is scheduled for November 9-11, 2018



Winter Family Camp guests and Sr. High Winter Weekend campers got to experience the thrill of racing down our tubing hill this winter, thanks to a gift from an adult Sunday school class at Bethel Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls. Their gift allowed us to purchase a snowmaking machine and equipment to keep our snow tubing hill perfectly groomed all winter long!





We read the headlines about man-made and natural disasters. We hear about people in conflict with one another and wonder, "Why is there such a mess in the world?" and "Why can't we all get along?" We long for something different.

This summer at Inspiration Point, the headlines will be different as we explore our theme, BREAKING NEWS!

GUILTY DECLARED INNOCENT

Apart from Christ, we are guilty of sin and deserve the punishment of death. But God sent Jesus to reconcile us to Himself. By grace we have been saved through faith and have peace with God. This is THE BEST NEWS EVER!

WORRIED FIND PEACE

Difficult circumstances can overwhelm us with fear, anxiety and discouragement. But God promises to help us, never leave us and give us peace.

WORTHLESS ARE VALUABLE

The world tells us the fake news that we are defined by our performance or the labels given to us by others, but the real news found in God's Word is that those in Christ are fearfully and wonderfully made and belong to the family of God. Knowing WHOSE we are in Christ brings peace to our hearts.

ENEMIES BECOME FRIENDS

Because our broken relationship with God was restored through Jesus, we are called to live at peace with our enemies. Because Christ loved us, we are called to love one another.



WHY CAMP?

Parents' Perspective

"Camp gave our son the chance to be a leader and grow spiritually."

- Andria M.

99% of camper parents surveyed are likely to recommend Inspiration Point to family and friends.



7.5 hours a day spent on electronics by kids 8-18.

At camp, kids get to spend a week in nature, away from daily distractions.



86% of parents reported seeing evidence of spritual growth in their children because of camp.

Most Common Words Parents Use to Describe Camp



Parents' Top 5 Reasons for Sending Child to Camp

1. Spiritual Growth
2. Positive Role Models
3. Make Memories
4. Fun Activities
5. Experience Adventure



SAVE \$30! Use promo code SUMMER2018 when you register and pay in full online by April 2.

WHY DAY CAMP?

This past summer, over 1,600 youth campers came to Inspiration Point to enjoy time with a cabin group, try new things, laugh together, and hear about the One who loves them more than anyone else ever will. But each week, these same experiences are happening beyond the IPoint peninsula as well. While camp is going at The Point, it is also running in other churches and communities with our Day Camp program; serving another 1,378 kids in 32 churches over the course of the summer. Through Day Camp, we seek to provide churches with the critical elements to run a VBS-type experience. Our hope is that in providing the program and staff, it allows churches another opportunity to bring kids together to hear the Gospel, grow in their faith, or perhaps connect with a church for the first time. We find it thrilling to partner with churches as they seek to see lives changed and transformed right where they live! That is what Day Camp is all about – a partnership in the Gospel, joining together to sow seeds and foster growth in the hearts and lives of kids, to the glory of God the Father. We are grateful for the opportunity to bring Day Camp to so many communities!



IPOINT IMPACT – DAY CAMP

Inspiration Point’s impact reaches far beyond our peninsula. Every summer we send teams of staff to communities across the country to lead day camps and bring the message of the Gospel to kids. This fall we received a letter from a mom who shared with us the impact day camp made on a little girl from California.

“This past summer we brought our neighbor’s daughter to Day Camp. She only comes to our community in the summer; otherwise she lives in California. She and my daughter write to each other quite often, and her last letter moved me deeply. At one point in the letter to my daughter, she writes:

The next thing I want to tell you is that because my grandma came at Christmas I got to go to church. You’re probably thinking, ‘Don’t you go to church every Sunday?’ Sadly no. My mom doesn’t believe in God. Plus, I don’t have a Bible.

On the back of the letter, she closes by writing from memory the whole song, “Your Love Is Deep,” that she learned from Day Camp. God opened her eyes wide to His love for her, and I believe that he granted her faith at Day Camp. Even in California, half a year after Day Camp, God has kept that song in her mind – a testament to His great love for her. I hope she returns this summer so she can go again.”

DAY CAMP SCHEDULE 2018

June 11-14	
Minot, ND	Our Redeemer’s
Toronto, SD	Blom Prairie
Eagan, MN	Community of Joy
June 18-21	
Williston, ND	LB Fellowship
Hendricks, MN	Faith
June 25-28	
Austin, MN	Westminster Pres
DeWitt, IA	Emmaus Road
Maple Plain, MN	Christ Lutheran
July 2-5	
Joice, IA	Bethel
July 9-12	
Clearbrook, MN	Elim
Alexandria, MN	Berea
Deer Creek, MN	Deer Creek UM
Ramsey, MN	Northgate
Borup, MN	Jevnaker
July 16-19	
Dickinson, ND	Living Word Fellowship
Eden Prairie, MN	Prairie Lutheran
Rochester, MN	True Life
Barkhamsted, CT	Praise Christian Fellowship
Mayville, MN	Ebenezer
July 30-Aug 2	
Battle Lake, MN	Bethel
Breckenridge, MN	Inspiration
Erhard, MN	Grace
Fergus Falls, MN	Good Shepherd
August 6-9	
Fergus Falls, MN	Bethel
LeSueur, MN	Word of Life
August 13-16	
Barnesville, MN	Hope
Blue Earth, MN	Faith
Menomonie, WI	Oak Ridge
Sidney, MT	Sidney LB

BEYOND THE POINT

Camp is not just a destination or an experience; it's a launch pad to something bigger and great. We love hearing stories of how former staffers take what they learned at camp and apply it beyond The Point.

KATIE JO LARSON (SUMMER STAFF 2007-2015)

While most teachers are thrilled to have summers off, I was thrilled to work at camp during my first five years of teaching. I worked at camp prior to teaching, but my summers at camp were even more meaningful to me when I started teaching and while I taught. I have my undergrad in education, but my time at camp prepared me for teaching more than any classroom experience I gained in college. While I learned content in college, I learned about caring about kids and teaching their hearts at camp. I teach in a public school and don't often have the opportunity to share my faith. However, every day I have the opportunity to be Light in my classroom.



One phrase that I learned at camp that I think about often is: "The issue is not the issue." At camp, we learned that kids often acted out, not because of what I saw occurring at the moment. The reason for acting out was often a much deeper issue. I apply this daily in my classroom as I see kids acting or reacting in certain ways. I know that the 55 minutes a day that I see them is just a small piece of their world. While I can't fix the deeper issues, I can pray for my students and love them with Christ's love, just like I was able to do at camp.

BEN BIGAOUETTE (SUMMER STAFF 2006-2009)

Two of the areas that God helped grow in me during my time at Inspiration Point were seeing the value that other people have and the importance of relationships. Through my time interacting with campers and families, God showed me, firsthand, the incredible value He places on people, and He helped grow in me a love and appreciation for others. One of those ways was through relating to others and sharing life with them -- the high points and low points. Being able to value someone else is a great way to share the love of Christ and help bring them into a deeper relationship with Him. Not only is this essential to who God is, but it is also built into the fabric and culture of Inspiration Point.

This gift that was impressed upon me during my time at camp has been invaluable to me in my current role in ministry. I currently serve as an Associate Pastor at Oak Hill Church in Bloomington, MN, where I get to put this into practice every day. It is amazing to see God work through me as I relate to others and share the love, joy, peace, and hope that can only be found through Christ. It is exciting to be a part of God's continuing ministry to His people and to really appreciate His creativity through the lives of people I meet and interact with. I am thankful for the years that I spent being shown that very truth on the shores of Spitzer Lake.



TRACI (MILLER) WEINREIS (SUMMER STAFF 2010-2012)

I will forever be thankful for the three summers I worked on summer staff at Inspiration Point. God taught me so many things those summers, and I had no idea the ways He would continue to use the training I received at camp long after my summers on staff were over. While working at camp, the Lord taught me how to rely on Him for strength, that love is an action that looks like something, and that His plans are better than mine.

My husband and I are now one of a few youth leaders at our church. Our church is small and doesn't have an actual youth pastor. Because of this, we are more a part of the planning process for our Wednesday night youth group than we typically would be in a bigger church. Now, a youth group leader is not a role I'd ever imagined having -- I'm more of a behind-the-scenes person -- but as I learned at camp, God's plans are better than mine! I've been able to draw from camp training as I build relationships with the high school girls in my small group. God is so good, and it's amazing to look back at all the things He perfectly put in place that continue to impact my life now!



WOMEN'S RETREAT APRIL 20-22, 2018

IPoint's annual Women's Retreat will be held April 20-22, and we are inviting you to join us! Speaker, writer, wife and mother, Rebecca Meidinger will be our keynote speaker, and she will lead us in a study on the book of Philipians. We are also excited to welcome back some of our favorite seminar presenters from previous years: Casey Baardson, Tara Carlson, Amanda Davison, and Connie Dummer. No matter where you are at in life, it's good to gather to study God's Word and worship together, to build relationships and learn from one another, and to laugh and share life together. So gather a group of women of all ages to come join the fun and be renewed and refreshed as we gather around God's Word. For more information or to register, please visit www.ipoint.org.



Women's
Retreat
PressON

"A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS"
SPEAKER:
Rebecca Meidinger
April 20-22, 2018

REGISTER ONLINE @ 
www.ipoint.org

Get Away. 
Get Life.
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HANDS 2 HELP MAY 2-5, 2018

Our spring Hands 2 Help event is our largest volunteer gathering and is crucial in making sure our site is ready for the summer season! Come out any week day or for the main push on Saturday and join us as we paint, stain, split wood, rake, landscape, and so much more! Hands 2 Help is FREE, but pre-registration is required.



SUMMER STAY & PLAY JUNE 8-10, 2018

Gather your family and friends and join us for a weekend at Spitzer Lake! Kick your summer off with some rest and relaxation while taking advantage of all of the fun Inspiration Point has to offer. This weekend is designed to give you a break from the hectic pace of life as you enjoy your family and friends on "Lake Time." You can't top the fantastic food, great accommodations, wide variety of activities, excellent service, and unbeatable price of Summer Stay & Play at Inspiration Point. If your family just needs a weekend away at the lake, this is the perfect event for you! For more information or to register, please visit www.ipoint.org.

GRAND DAY OUT JUNE 20 & JUNE 21

Make memories that will last a lifetime! Each summer we set aside two days for grandparents to bring their elementary-aged grandchildren to camp for a special day trip to Inspiration Point. Grand Day Out is an opportunity for you to invest in hearts of the little ones you hold dear to you all while having a blast. These days include a chapel time, crafts, swimming, boating, the climbing tower, wiffleball games, lunch and supper, and so much more. Grandchildren should be entering Kindergarten-sixth grade. For more information or to register, please visit www.ipoint.org





Lutheran Brethren Bible Camp, Inc.
Inspiration Point

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IPOINT IMPACT - MICHELLE DORSEY

When I was 12 years old, my best friend invited me to go with her to summer camp. Some of my fondest memories during childhood were made over the next few years at that camp. Last April, I went to Inspiration Point for a women's retreat, and all of those memories came back to me and I knew that I wanted my family to be a part of this ministry. Our family has collectively gone to Inspiration Point nine times over the last 12 months! We truly can't get enough of this magical place!

Inspiration Point is a place where amazing things happen! We leave technology behind, and our family is able to connect and bond in a way that has eternal benefits. It is a place where we grow in our faith and love for Jesus through devotions, songs, skits and activities that have been planned. Each staff member has a servant heart, and they go out of their way to build relationships, be a positive role model, serve others and share the Gospel. We have made connections with many families both near and far and can't wait to see them next year at camp!

I am confident that Inspiration Point will have the same lifelong impact on my children's lives as that camp from my childhood had on mine. I can see it evolving every time we go. Some families spend their summers at their cabin on a beautiful lake. Our family has found our second home at Inspiration Point on beautiful Spitzer Lake!