



INSPIRATIONS

Volume 22 - Issue 2
Fall 2018

A LOOK INSIDE:

BEYOND THE POINT

INSPIRED TO LEAD

SUMMER 2018 REVIEW

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

GREETINGS FROM IPOINT



As we closed out the largest summer season in camp's history, it was evident that God had done some amazing work on the peninsula. Campers learned about the power of forgiveness. In the words of one camper, "We aren't called to forgive and forget. We are called to forgive and remember

what Jesus has done." Kids and families alike were impacted by the truth that we have all been "fearfully and wonderfully made." And most of all, we were all impacted by the fact that God has made peace with us. Powerful lessons.

This issue of Inspirations displays the breadth and depth of how God is using this ministry to impact lives. I hope you enjoy reading these stories as much as I do as I reflect and thank God for all that we saw and for the blessings that we didn't see.

At the same time, we grieved this summer over the fact that there were more than 300 kids who wanted to attend camp but were unable because camps were full. Record attendance meant that camps operated at 98% capacity, and regrettably, we had to turn away many kids.

The board of directors and I have been working to eliminate this problem, and I'm excited to report that at the end of the summer Inspiration Point acquired a property located only twelve miles from our current site! We are at work with the goal of opening this second location for summer camp in 2020! Watch for more details on social media in the months ahead. It is our desire that soon every child, youth, and family who desires to attend camp will have that opportunity, and that never again will someone receive the news, "I'm sorry. We're full."

Hope to see you soon!

Greg

Greg Anderson
President

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



**I LEARNED THAT YOU
ARE VALUABLE NO
MATTER WHAT OTHER
PEOPLE SAY.
5TH GRADER**



**MY KIDS ALWAYS
COME HOME FROM
CAMP WITH LOTS OF
FUN STORIES AND A
DESIRE TO KNOW GOD
MORE.**

CAMPER PARENT

WELCOME NEW STAFF!



This fall we welcomed Addy Gutsch, Molly Brunkow, and Alexa Fraser to our year-round team. Addy has stepped into the role of Registrar/Office Manager. Molly has taken on the role of Executive Assistant. As Camp Intern, Alexa will be assisting with housekeeping and serving our guests.

SAVE THE DATE - GTMD 18

give
TO THE
MAX
NOV. 15, 2018

Save the date and help us reach our goal of raising \$8,000 to make necessary improvements around Inspiration Point by giving a gift on Give to the Max Day. GiveMN's Give to the Max day is scheduled for November 15. Gifts given to Inspiration Point on November 15 through www.givenmn.org will help us purchase new mattresses and a canopy for our pontoon.

Last year we were able to raise \$5,982 dollars on GTMD to make updates to our gym. A big thank you is necessary to all of the donors who gave to this project and the volunteers who helped complete the updates.





INSPIRED TO LEAD **Todd Lenz** Eau Claire, WI

My son Josh had it on his heart since he returned from camp to start a Bible study in his school. So, we prayed about it and then asked his teacher what she thought. She was very excited and supportive. Josh and his teacher obtained permission from the principal to have the Bible Book Club meet in the morning before school. Josh designed posters and put them up around school and talked to his classmates. He asked the children's director at Bethesda in Eau Claire if he could use the Action Bibles they use in Sunday School for his study. She was so helpful and gave him several Bibles to use. He then sat down with me and developed his lesson plan for the study, which included a question sheet for the students to use. The Bible Book Club began last spring and is going this fall again too!



Standing and leading his peers, Josh Lenz (6th Grader) was inspired to start a Bible study after returning home from camp. Photo provided by Todd Lenz.

God used the staff at camp to light this fire in Josh's heart to share the Gospel with his friends at school. What is so cool about it to me is that Josh does not think that this is a big deal at all. It is just something we should and need to do as people who love Jesus. Why would we not want to share it with others! As a dad, my heart is overwhelmed with gratitude for how God used so many to encourage my son to step out boldly in his faith!

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Ron Erickson Williston, ND

My appreciation for Inspiration Point began around 40 years ago when I attended summer camp as a junior high student. It was a place where God ministered to me through the messages and the counselors who authentically loved me. In my mid-twenties I had the opportunity to work on staff for a summer. That summer taught me that serving, although difficult at times, could be very fulfilling. Since then, I have served the Lord for 26 years in Lutheran Brethren Churches as a youth director and pastor. For the past year I've had the opportunity to serve on the Inspiration Point Board of Directors and hear firsthand the impact that the Lord, through camp ministry, is having in the lives of His people.

I have enjoyed hearing story after story of how God, through His grace, is revealing His salvation to young people. Knowing that kids are coming to faith in their great God and Savior is amazing! I also find joy in hearing how God is developing and making disciples of our young adults on staff. Young men and women are being trained to serve as counselors, service corps workers, and other support staff. The love of God is shared with kids at camp and in various churches through the IPoint Day Camp programs. In all these ways we are raising up future leaders, servants, and teachers for the Church.

It is my prayer that God will continue to use the ministry of Inspiration Point not only to save people, but also to help them grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.



IPOINT PROVIDES AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR KIDS TO GROW. YES, SPIRITUALLY, BUT IN MANY OTHER WAYS AS WELL... HOW TO COMPETE AND BOTH WIN AND LOSE WITH GRACE...TO DARE TO DO NEW THINGS...HOW TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS... HOW TO MANAGE TIME AND MONEY...HOW TO MAKE CHOICES.

CAMPER PARENT



WORTHLESS ARE VALUEABLE

"God made us to be ourselves. I should not try to change to be like others because I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

"I learned that people who annoy me were created by God and they are His masterpiece, so now I am going to treat them with the respect they deserve and love them as God loves me."



SUMMER 2018 REVIEW

Campers in 2018 discovered that God's Word delivers the news that brings peace! The local and world news we hear today headlines a mess of troubles which makes our hearts long for some good news. The Good News of the Bible declares that we can have peace with God through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ who reconciled all sinners to Himself. Truly, that is the BEST NEWS EVER! Enjoy reading what campers learned from each of our daily headlines below.

GUILTY DECLARED INNOCENT

"I discovered the greatest news, I'm forgiven. God truly loves me and works inside of me. During the Christ Hike, I realized what Jesus did for me and that he truly forgives my sins. I know that Jesus is my Savior now and I want to help others find Christ."

"Jesus, the one who was innocent, died for the guilty, so we could be made right with God."

WORRIED FIND PEACE

"God has my back no matter where I go or what I do, and peace is my gift from Him."

"We do not need to worry about anything because God is already working on it. We can trust Him because He is in control, and that gives us peace."

"There is no point for me to be anxious because God is writing my story and He will be with me no matter what happens."

ENEMIES BECOME FRIENDS

"Our purpose is to share the ministry of reconciliation. God put it on my heart to start sharing the good news of Christ and be bold so others can be reconciled to God."

"God doesn't call us to forgive and forget, He calls us to forgive and remember how much He forgave us."

"Enemies become friends through forgiveness."



IPOINT
TV

18

Spitzer Lake's Most Trusted News Team!



SUMMER STAFF PERSPECTIVE

Buzz Miller
Summer Staff 2015-2018

the last week of summer camp, I had gotten to a point where camp was becoming routine. I was frustrated with myself for not giving everything that I had at times.

Just like in many ministry and life situations, there can be times at camp where it's easy to question whether or not God is really working. I found myself stuck in this way of thinking and questioning if God was really using me when one Tuesday night, God taught me through

This last summer was my fourth summer working at Inspiration Point and like every summer before, God completely blew my expectations out of the sky and taught me more than I could have even imagined. During

GOD COMPLETELY BLEW MY EXPECTATIONS OUT OF THE SKY AND TAUGHT ME MORE THAN I COULD HAVE EVEN IMAGINED.

BUZZ MILLER, STAFF

the eyes of a 5th grade boy exactly *Who* it is that does the work at camp. We had just finished our last Christ Hike for the summer and I was walking back to the cabin with my eight 5th and 6th grade campers when I noticed that one of them was sobbing. I went up to this boy and asked him what was wrong and why he was crying. When he looked at me, wiping away big tears, he said, "That should have been me. Those were my nails. That was my punishment that I deserve and He just took it for me."

So many times in my life I want God to work how I think He should in the lives of the people around me. God showed me through this 5th grade boy that although He uses me to tell His message, it is not me who makes people understand the gospel. That is His job. My job is to scatter the seed and His job is to make it grow. What a relief!



THANK YOU!

We are so grateful for these 80 individuals who helped make camp happen this summer! If you are interested in joining our team for the summer of 2019, applications will be available on our website in November!

EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT!

2019
SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS

USE PROMO CODE:
SUMMER2019

Save \$35

Registrations must be paid in full by December 1 to receive discount.

WWW.IPOINT.ORG

Summer 2018

CAMPERS CAME FROM 18 STATES AND 4 COUNTRIES.

BY THE NUMBERS...

50 BIBLES WERE GIVEN TO CAMPERS EXPRESSING A NEW FAITH IN JESUS.

437 DIFFERENT CHURCHES HAD CAMPERS ATTEND CAMP.

80 SUMMER STAFFERS

595 CHRIST HIKE GUESTS

87.2% OF PARENTS REPORTED SEEING EVIDENCE OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH IN THEIR CHILDREN BECAUSE OF CAMP.

1,760 YOUTH CAMPER

1,395 DAY CAMPER

883 FAMILY CAMPER

791 RENTAL GROUP GUESTS

45,558 PLATES OF FOOD SERVED

55 WATERMELONS

2,480 BROWNIES

2,260 CORNDOGS

520 POUNDS OF MOZZARELLA

750+ GAMES OF OCTOBALL PLAYED



TOP 10 Camper Favorites

1. GASLIGHT THEATER
2. CAPTURE THE KING
3. RABBIT HUNT
4. ADVENTURE COURSE
5. CHRIST HIKE
6. OCTABALL
7. CABIN ACTIVITY
8. SWIMMING
9. FOOD
10. GAME ROOM



BEYOND THE POINT

Kaitlyn Cornell

We've all done it – you sink your teeth into a freshly baked chocolate chip cookie, and immediately turn to your neighbor offering them a bite, proclaiming, "This is the best cookie ever – you have to try it!" Or maybe you've been on the wrong end of that when someone opens a gallon of milk that's gone sour and says, "This is gross! You have to smell it!" It seems as though our human nature begs for a deep sense of being connected to others, which often transpires through shared experiences.



Kaitlyn Cornell served on our summer staff during the summers of 2007-2010. The photo above is of Kaitlyn and a camper from 2009.

Inspiration Point has been a place of shared experience throughout my whole life in a variety of ways. I can remember being small enough to sit on my dad's lap for Gaslight Theater during family camp, knowing I had the best seat in the house. I remember friends I met as a youth camper – one of whom later became my college roommate! I remember quiet, raw conversations with campers during the summers I spent on staff as a counselor, and today, I look around at the people closest to me, and some of our deepest connections come through our shared experience at camp, which has grown far beyond the tiny peninsula we call Inspiration Point.

I count it privilege to have a small role in the lives of several students/youth through my roles on staff at Park Christian School (Moorhead, MN), and being involved with Confirmation/Junior High students at Triumph West church (West Fargo, ND). I've had the joy of bringing groups of students out to camp for several different events or activities, and each time, turning onto the gravel road, I feel this sense of anticipation. I want to turn to the kids riding in my vehicle and say, "This is the best camp ever – you have to try it!" My time spent with students out at camp has been powerful, and not surprising, a place of connection. As I've witnessed students interact at camp, I see a list that grows of lessons they've learned together, laughs we've shared together, times spent in prayer together, and everyone leaves camp just a tiny bit more connected than we were when we came.

Even more than the best chocolate chip cookie, or the worst sour milk, I want kids to know camp, because I want them to know Jesus. It's been my experience that those go hand in hand. What I've 'tasted' through my time at camp is a place of deep connection, shared experiences, joy and exposure to an incredible savior – Jesus Christ. And when we've known and experienced something that good, how can we not turn to those around us and say, "You've got to try this!" I'm so thankful for camp and for the way it has and continues to impact my life. I'm thankful for the opportunity to continue to expose students to the incredible ministry of IPOINT. And above all, I'm thankful for the unparalleled love of Jesus, sweeter than any cookie I've ever tasted... You have to try it!

NEW AT IPOINT



Volunteers helped install this giant spiderweb hammock at our spring Hands 2 Help weekend. It quickly became the favorite Bible study spot for summer 2018!



Thanks to a Thrivent Action Team and a group of dedicated volunteers, our sling shot range received major updates just in time for summer!

THIS YEAR AT CAMP EVERYTHING CLICKED. THE CLICK OPENED MY HEART AND SOUL TO GOD. THE JOY I EXPERIENCED HERE IS INDESCRIBABLE. THE TEACHING IS IMMENSE AND I NOW KNOW THAT THE CROSS HAS THE FINAL WORD."

10TH GRADER



WE ARE LEAVING WITH A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT
OUTLOOK ON LIFE, LOVE, AND MARRIAGE, AND ARE
SO EXCITED TO BASE OUR MARRIAGE AND LIVES
ON OUR FAITH IN JESUS!

MARRIAGE WEEKEND GUESTS

GET INVOLVED!

We want to say thank you to the group of more than 125 volunteers who have given of their time serving alongside the ministry here at Inspiration Point this year! Through their hard work we have been able to keep camp looking great by painting buildings, building picnic tables, repairing firepits, planting and caring for flowers, renovating facilities, and everything in between.

So why do they do it? One volunteer said it was one of his first opportunities for him to use his gifts for God's glory instead of his own. A group of volunteers from one church brings kids out for them to learn about being generous and at the same time earn money towards a summer camp scholarship through the church! Many families come out and volunteer to introduce their children or friends' children to camp for the first time! Some of our volunteers simply love being at IPoint and are fired up about providing a space for people to encounter Christ.



And here's the coolest part: we have seen God use the work of our volunteers time and time again to bless thousands of people and further His Kingdom. If you haven't experienced this side of IPoint, now is a great time to consider joining our volunteer efforts. With the addition of another property, we have more needs than ever (in both locations) that can be met by volunteers, and we can't wait to plug people in!



We organize monthly opportunities as well as a larger event called Hands 2 Help in the spring and fall, so watch our Facebook page or mailings for more information. You can also give us a call or email john@ipoint.org and we can connect you with a project that works for your schedule! Whether you have a specific skill set you'd like to provide or just want to be plugged in wherever is needed, give us a call and join us out here at Inspiration Point as we continue in the exciting calling the Lord has for us!

UPCOMING EVENTS

WINTER FAMILY CAMP

January 25-27, 2019

Need a place to enjoy some winter fun with your family? Look no further! We invite you to come away to The Point this winter to enjoy a variety of outdoor activities...cross country skiing, the tubing hill, and broomball to name a few!

WFC PRICES

Soma Cottages - \$195

Lakeview Lodge - \$175

Maple Ridge - \$175

Oak Point - \$150

*lodging price is per room per family

Save \$25 on lodging when you register and pay in full by January 4. Use promo code: WFC25

Meal Price/Person:

Adult (11 & up) - \$55

Youth (4-10) - \$45

Child (3 & under) - \$35



MARRIAGE WEEKENDS

MW1 - February 22-24, 2019 | MW2 - March 1-3, 2019

Inspiration Point once again presents the powerfully engaging Art of Marriage by FamilyLife! Whether you have been married for five decades, five years, or five days, Marriage Weekend is an awesome opportunity for you to invest in your marriage.

MWPRICES

Soma Cottages - \$350

Lakeview Lodge - \$290

Maple Ridge - \$280

Oak Point - \$255

*price per couple

Save \$25 when you register and pay in full by February 1. Use promo code: MW25

** Separate housing is available for engaged couples.



the art of  marriage®

WOMEN'S RETREAT April 26-28, 2019

Women's Retreat offers time and space to reflect on God's Word and listen to His voice above the noise of everyday life. Join women of all ages and walks of life as we worship, fellowship, learn and grow in God's Word together.



WR SPEAKER:  Kirsten King

Kirsten and her husband Kenny live in St. Paul. She is the Director of Youth Discipleship and Training at First Evangelical Free Church in Maplewood, MN. She is the author/host of the *Good Story* podcast and a highly sought-after women's speaker.

"God is so good, and His light shines in this place and in the staff."

- Women's Retreat Guest

WR PRICES

Soma Cottages - \$150

Lakeview Lodge - \$130

Maple Ridge - \$130

Oak Point - \$120

Save \$25 when you register and pay in full by March 29. Use promo code: WR25





LUTHERAN BRETHREN BIBLE CAMP, INC.

Inspiration Point

CHRISTIAN CAMP + RETREAT CENTER

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IPOINT IMPACT

Emily Johnson

As a counselor, I got to see God work in big ways this summer. One week, I had a girl in my cabin who had never opened a Bible before coming to camp. She was closed off and shared on the first night that she didn't want to be here. Over the course of the week, I worked hard to build a relationship with her. Listening to her stories and delighting in the things she enjoyed, I got to show her love, even when it was hard to do. She had plenty of challenges in her life.

Our summer theme "Breaking News" was all about peace – the kind of peace that only comes from knowing Jesus. For a girl who had so much chaos in her life, I knew this theme was for her! During Bible study on the last day of camp, this girl who seemed to be uninterested all week, shared with the whole cabin that she learned to trust others and forgive for the first time. She kept saying, "I didn't even know this was possible, not only can I forgive people, but I want to!"

Praise God for the ways He works at camp!



Get Away. Get Life. Get to The Point.