



## *Heit's Point HiLites* May/June 2011

### **Greetings from Heit's Point!**

The blessings have started. Outdoor education, servant projects, and more.

JoAn Walling brought youth from Zion, Rockville, for a small group they made up for it in energy and enthusiasm building a major part of the retaining walls for the Activity Center.

Sharon Ommen from Faith Lutheran, Jefferson City led an amazing group of youth who came to serve. They completed the retaining walls in front of the Activity Center and supplied us with beautiful Christian music.

Dave Buchholz from Christ Lutheran, Kansas City just left after their annual Float trip, 139 youth and adults from all over the state joined in. It was an amazing event.

**American Field Service** The foreign exchange students were back for their second retreat this year. We are happy to be working with this organization and the work that they do. If you are interested in helping they are in need of 12 Host families for the coming year.

Mark Nolte  
Executive Director

### ***From The Chairman***

It was good to see the board members once again eager to get down to the business of Heit's Point. A lot of work has been done by the three committees since we last met. If you remember, Vernon Greffe was tasked to develop recommendations for optimal utilization of our 180 acres which would become our Site Management Plan. Vernon has started this effort with the help from Roger Bushman from Concordia who is providing his objectivity to the task. They will soon be walking the property to assess each area for the purpose of identifying optimal use of each area.

Joyce Martin has been busy organizing her committee to improve our communications. In fact, her committee is assembling the news letter this month. There are some new things to learn in the process because we are now using a new capability of sending out e-mails. She is also looking for news worthy items to share with our readers

Caryl Froeschle did some number crunching to assess our finances. He reported that the economy has had a definite impact on our overall revenue. However it appears our projected income is leveling out for 2011. We have done a lot to compensate for the downturn over the last two years. We have improved our marketing to organized groups and have contacted churches to consider Heit's Point as a supporting facility of their programs; we have also created a development strategy to increase our donation income.

Speaking of donation income, we want to thank all of you for designating your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Heit's Point. We are receiving more Choice Dollars than we had anticipated. We would also like to remind you that you can still donate your IRA Minimum Required Distribution to Heit's Point tax free. It is a wonderful way to support our ministry.

We got to hear from our Program Director, Leah Hutcheson who is preparing for summer camp. She reported her goal of incorporating Jesus in everything that is done during camp. She is also completing a handbook for each child attending. There will be 7 counselors, 4 young men and 3 young ladies this year. Registration is ahead compared to last year at this time.

**Lastly, we want to encourage all of you to come to the Outdoor Festival on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June. Our guest speaker is an outstanding example of what Heit's Point has done to encourage our young people to develop into church leaders. Of course we want to show you our new Rinne Activity Center which is close to being completed. So bring your chairs and come and enjoy what God has made possible for all to enjoy.**

Blessings,  
Bill Buehrle  
Chairman of the Board

# OPERATIONAL STATUS AND FINANCIALS

We've made it through the winter and the spring storms have bypassed us. Our prayers go out to those across this country that have been impacted. It's not summer and yet the heat is here.

On May 10th, we were able to share the Heit's Point story and raise awareness of its mission through a radio interview on KFUE 850am. We want to thank KFUE for this opportunity and pray that more are aware of this ministry.

I want to thank all of you, because you must be sharing the news about what Heit's Point has to offer. There is not a day that goes by that Cindy is not coordinating an event. Every event increases the opportunity for us to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Remember our goal is to cover our expenses with operational income. However, this will not happen overnight so we still need your support. The Dollar-A-Day club is one way for you to help. If you need information on it check out our Website or give us a call.

Keep us in your prayers!  
Mark Nolte  
Executive Director

## PROGRAMS

### The Counselors are here!

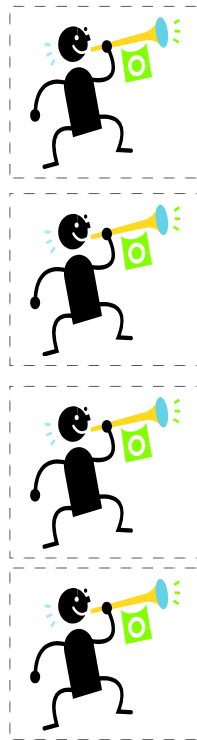
We thank God for the opportunity to be here for His Ministry to happen!



*Leah*  
*Program Director*



Who are  
Jett  
Link  
O  
Smiley  
Forensics  
Golly  
Flick?



# PROGRAMS COMING SOON!

## Summer camp, June 5<sup>th</sup> – Aug 6<sup>th</sup>

June 5 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup>	Trailblazers	(Teen Trek)
June 15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup>	Discovery Camp	(First camp experience)
June 17 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup>	Little Adventurers	(Mommy & me)
June 19 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup>	Mini Quest 1	(3 day adventure)
June 19 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup>	Quest 1	(Week long adventure)
June 24 <sup>th</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup>	Camp Encouragement	(Anything's possible)
June 26 <sup>th</sup> – July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Journey 1	(Extreme exploring)
	Expedition 1	(Water week)
July 10 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup>	Scrapbook camp	(Mom's optional)
	Journey/Expedition	(Amazing Race)
July 15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup>	Little Adventurers	(Mommy & me)
	Discovery camp	(First camp experience)
July 17 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup>	Mini Quest 2	(3 day adventure)
July 17 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Quest 2	(Week long adventure)
July 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup>	Family camp	(Back to basics)
July 24 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup>	Journey 2	(Sports Camp)
	Expedition 2	(Sports Camp)
July 31 <sup>st</sup> – Aug 5 <sup>th</sup>	Journey 3	(Water week)
	Expedition 3	(Extreme exploring)
Aug 6 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Fest	(All Youth)

### Age group descriptors

Little Adventurers	Ages 3-6
Discovery	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade
Quest/Mini Quest	3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> grade
Journey	5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> grade
Expedition	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> grade
Trailblazers	High school
Encouragement	Special needs camp

### Refined by Fire

These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith-of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire-may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed .....1 Peter 1: 7-9



**we are  
Refined  
by  
Christ**

# "CAMP CHANGES LIVES"

In the early 80's when his father was asked to be on the Missouri District Outdoor Ministries Committee Kirk Thaemert was introduced to Heit's Point. While his father was involved with committee work, Kirk was able to camp, fish and explore the grounds before it developed into what it is today. Over these growing up years he formed a deep love and appreciation for this place out in the wilderness where he could not only have fun exploring but make lasting friends. Most importantly, he developed into a giving person of not only his time but of his talents.

Kirk has been interested in woodworking and carpentry from a very young age. He spent summers building tree houses and forts in his backyard. In Jr. High, his dad was the shop teacher. He was able to make projects in class and assist his dad when he had projects of his own. About 14 years ago, his wife Karen, gave him a scroll saw for Christmas which began a new hobby. He started making pictures out of wood. There are several of his early projects hanging on the walls at Heit's Point. Most of his projects have been given away as wedding, Christmas or teachers' gifts and some are hanging in his own home.



While visiting a church, he saw a cutout of the Lord's Prayer hanging in a prominent place. As he gazed at such an elaborate work of such a profound prayer, his interest to undertake such a challenge was initiated. At that time, there were plans to build an activity center at Heit's Point and they were looking for funds to start the work. He didn't have the funds to make a big commitment to the building, but he felt if he was able to make something that would raise some funds, he would have done his part in supporting the mission to proclaim the work of Christ. He didn't know how long it would take him to complete the project, but he was determined to offer it when he did. After more than 350 hours of spare time work, he has completed his project. The building is almost done now and the money has been raised to complete it. This has not deterred Kirk's drive to donate his work. "There are plenty of areas where the camp needs additional financial support," he said. So the Board decided to auction off this special gift in order to raise funds for Heit's Point.

The piece is approximately 39" x 44" and 3" deep, and is made from Birch and Oak.

The initial preview of this magnificent work of art will take place at Spring Festival on June 12 at Heit's Point. The bidding process will begin that day with a minimum starting bid of \$4500 and will conclude December 1. Bids will be accepted in person and at the Heit's Point web site. In addition, the wood carving of the Lord's Prayer (or photos of) will be available for viewing at select churches in Missouri.

Some ideas for the carving include:

- tribute for a pastor or teacher's retirement
- special recognition for exceptional service
- church's anniversary
- family memorial
- wedding anniversary
- gratitude offering



**16 July 2011**  
**Save the date**  
*(Invitations have been sent RSVP required)*  
**The Rinne Activity Center Dedication**

**This article is shared by JourneyMen of Timothy Lutheran in Blue Springs. May you be inspired by this article and consider starting a men's ministry group in your church. Watch for future related stories.**

*"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." (Acts 2:42)*

*This weekend was the 8<sup>th</sup> JourneyMen Retreat at Heit's Point, and the 4<sup>th</sup> retreat in a row that I have been part of. I chose not to attend the first 4 retreats for various reasons (fear, outside my comfort zone, busyness of life, etc.) As I write this week's devotion, I am still on a spiritual high and once again wondering why I let my "various reasons" keep me from attending the first 4 retreats?*

In total, 32 men attended the retreat with our theme focusing in on "We Believe." Before I discuss some of the reasons for my spiritual high I want to let you know that there is no substitute for attending the retreat itself and spending time in "the fellowship of believers.. Attending these retreats can truly change your life and deepen your relationship with God and other JourneyMen as it has done for me. I have already marked my calendar for this fall and next spring's retreats. This fall's retreat occurs on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11 (9/9-9/11/2011) and I am sure that we will have some great devotions and discussions during this retreat.

Now back to the reasons for my high. The retreat had 6 devotions in total as we "devoted ourselves to the apostles' teaching.. These devotions focused in on what others believe, what we believe, doubts we have, amazing and almost unbelievable true life events, why we believe, because we believe, and I believe. During these devotions we dived deep into God's Word, our lives, and the lives of those attending the retreat. Deep sharing took place as we grew closer to God and friendships were made. In addition, we had fun during these devotions, sharing incredible almost unbelievable stories about various topics including fishing, faith, and streaking. Yes, there was a true life story about streaking and a new tennis racket but what happens at the retreat, stays at the retreat!

We also experienced the "breaking of bread and prayer". One of the most powerful times of each retreat is the closing ceremony when we form a circle and are given the privilege of participating in communion and prayer with our JourneyMen brothers in Christ. This year provided a miraculous ending as the clouds parted and the sun came out right as communion ended giving us a majestic view over the Lake of the Ozarks! It was definitely not a coincidence, but a God incidence. We then closed the retreat with a circle "Man Prayer".

This was not the only "breaking of bread" that took place, as we ate like kings during the weekend. BBQ pulled pork, ribs, turkey, sausage, cole slaw, potato salad, potatoes (we like potatoes), ooo-ey goo-ey bars, chocolate chip bars, fudge, and more!

Another major benefit of the retreat was the relaxation and the fun. The retreat has a lot of "down time" that enables you to do various activities such as fishing, sitting around a fire talking and relaxing, napping, walking, more eating (remember the food), playing cards, etc. This year we did add a new activity as we enjoyed watching an owl that didn't seem to mind us as he came within feet of our camp numerous times. There is some debate though on if this was an owl, a turkey, or a turkey owl (is there a turkey owl)? I guess we will have to get a bird book for our next retreat (inside joke, as what happens at the retreat, stays at the retreat).



My closing question to you is this, what is keeping you from attending the September 9-11 2011 JourneyMen retreat? Don't be like me and let those "various reasons" keep you from participating. Your decision to attend the next retreat might change your life!

***Dear Lord,***

***As we come humbly to your throne of grace, we thank you for your Word and the power of your Word. We thank you for providing us with nourishment in our life as we participate in the "breaking of bread" and prayer. Thank you for the blessing of fellowship that we share with other believers, including our fellow JourneyMen.***

In your name we pray, Amen

In closing, please pray daily for Timothy Lutheran Church, JourneyMen, and your walk with Christ.

Your brother in Christ, Dave Smith

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*Join us in remembering all our veterans on this Memorial Day!*

# NEWS

It's been a scurry of activity. The Work/camper laborers are back, numerous Servant Groups, and Volunteers have been sprucing up the camp to get ready for **2011 Outdoor Festival**. We are looking forward to an inspiring presentation from Pastor Sam Powell, the "Joyful Sounds" choir from St. Paul's in Concordia, MO will provide some glorious music, and God has provided this beautiful camp for us to enjoy and praise Him.

**Thank God for all those who serve,  
Wherever they serve,  
May it all be to His Glory!**

Watch future issues for the following:

- Gift List
- Donate on line
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Links to featured articles & resources