



Heit's Point HiLites Sep/Oct 2011

Greetings from Heit's Point!

In the past, it has gotten lonely after summer camp wound down and the youth all went back to school. This year however, we have been blessed with youth retreats and outdoor education retreats. Normally we would be planning things to do during the slow season, but the slow season seems to have been delayed, we are still getting bookings into December. This coming year looks to be even busier. The Lord truly continues to bless this ministry. We invite you to come be a part of His ministry, it may surprise you how He will work in your lives.

Hope you're enjoying our website www.heitspoint.com. Joye one of our board members has been doing a great job.

Mark Nolte
Executive Director

"From The Chairman"

We again had a busy day at Heit's Point. There were a number of activities going on at the same time while the board met. We had the 7th graders from Trinity Lutheran School, Jefferson City for outdoor education. They spent time in worship, outdoor activities, and team bonding experiences. Their leader was Pastor Sam Powell who was our guest speaker at the Spring Festival which was held in the new Rinne Activity Center. In addition, 20 senior citizens from Faith Lutheran Church, Springfield came to become acquainted with Heit's Point and what we have to offer. The Board broke from our meeting to share Heit's Point's vision and focus as well as their personal reason and purpose for serving as board members. After lunch, board member wives took them around for a tour of the entire property.

There are some major issues the board and staff are evaluating. Our food expense during summer camp was not exempt from the increased costs we are all experiencing. The staff developed new menu schedules and proposed effective November 1, 2011 to address our meal cost versus income.

As part of the effort associated with our Optimum Utilization Planning, the staff developed a report showing Facility Usage Rates for each facility for 2011 & 2012. Also part of this data was the Meal Usage measured in days of each week. The significance of these reports is that it brought home the fact our business is 80% on weekends and 20% on weekdays. In addition, they show that 90% of our business is between March and November. Responding to this statistic we have introduced a day of the week winter rate for lodging. A 2011 Revenue Lost Report was provided to show lost business due to non-availability of space within the Spitz, Double Wide, Lodge and RV Sites. All of this data will be used to prioritize the future needs at Heit's Point.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) inspected our sand filtration system. The inspection showed us over limits based upon new lower specifications for chlorine. Mark did some calling, meeting and discussing about our situation. As a result, we will need to make some improvements in the treatment process but will have up to three years to accomplish. One of their requirements was for Mark to attend a DNR school for 12 days to become certified to maintain our system.

In view of the many issues facing us, it was agreed that the board should meet in October to develop our Optimum Utilization Plan and finalize our 2012 budget. Our business base was better this year and next year reservations are 20% better than last year at this same time. We are going to be sending out our annual appeal letter soon. We ask you to prayerfully consider responding in a positive manner. Keep in mind that all of our facilities are aging and are constantly in need of repair.

Blessings,
Bill Buehrle
Chairman of the Board

Thanks for a great Summer!

Greetings from the desk of Leah, your Program Director! Looking back at September, and forward at October, I have realized that these months are offering a different kind of busy. We have enjoyed several school groups with outdoor education program. We just had our Single's Retreat this past weekend with 23 participants. The weekend was spent in fellowship, singing, and studying 1 Peter. In October, our programs slow down, but don't forget to mark your calendars for Harvest Festival, October 29. It will be a day filled with fun activities. Since we love hearing from our campers, guests, volunteers, and all of our other groups, here is what some of them have to say about Heit's Point and its ministry.

Blessings,
"Sunshine" Leah Hutcheson

I really love camp! Camp brought me new friends...and brought me closer to God, for sure!! I love Heit's Point and it's the only church camp I will EVER go too!

-Amber; summer camper

"Camp went really well this year! Camp is a place where memories are made. This summer, I not only made memories with fellow counselors, I made memories with the campers, too. I had special bonds with each person I encountered and especially God. I love all the different varieties of people that make camp special. The laborers for Christ really have an influence on everyone at camp. They help make it a beautiful place to grow with God and they also teach lessons of faith and of caring. Heit's Point has been beneficial to me in more ways than I can count. It has helped me build special relationships and mature in my faith and other ways. I will never forget all the special summers I have spent there as a camper, counselor, and someday as laborer. I love Heit's Point and plan on sending my children there. It has such a dear place in my heart and I don't want anyone to miss out on such a wonderful place to grow in their faith."

-Emma Downey; past summer camper, CIT, and counselor

"I grew more in my faith and have brought what I learned with me to college. I also realized that educating our youth in the love of Jesus Christ is definitely what God is calling me to do with my life. It was one of the best experiences of my life and I will never forget the friends I made and the people who have touched my life."

-Laura Synder; past summer camper and counselor

"Our class just returned from an amazing retreat experience at Heit's Point a few weeks ago and wanted to express our gratitude. Our sincerest thanks to each of you for all that you are doing in service to the Lord. The facilities were great, the food was delicious, and your staff was incredible."

-Immanuel Lutheran School 8th grade class; Washington, MO

It is very encouraging for us to hear people's responses and thoughts to their experiences at Heit's Point. Please, continue to help us in our ministry by praying that people that need to know about Heit's Point may hear what we have to offer. We seek to serve you by Strengthening your Connection to the Vine!



Leah

Program Director

PROGRAMS COMING SOON!

- Oct 29 Come and join us for Heit's Point Annual **Harvest Festival** from 10am to 4pm. Activities include devotions, craft booths, pumpkin carving, a silent auction, and much more! Admission is free. For more information, visit us at www.heitspoint.com or give us a call at (660) 668-2363.
- Oct 28-30 Who likes to exchange recipes and experiment with new food? If this describes you, then you'll love Heit's Point's first Annual **Kitchen Konection**. Join us in whipping up new treats and invite your families to help you enjoy the food and fellowship!
- Dec 4th Heit's Point 2nd annual **Christmas Celebration**: This year we will hear about the 12 days of Christmas and we will again be blessed with the beautiful music provided by the College of the Ozarks Bell choir. Caroling starts at 12:30 followed by a buffet lunch at 1pm, then we will bask in the sounds of the bells and relive the 12 days of Christmas.
- Jan 20-22 **Elders Retreat** - Heit's Point is pleased to have President Mirly facilitate this experience. We are confident that participants will leave here better equipped to work with their assigned members.

2012 Summer Camp

"What's in a Name?"

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6

Early bird registration price break - \$20 discount for registration before May 1st, 2012.

June 3-8	Trailblazers (High School)
June 10-13	Mini Quest 1 (3rd and 4th) -Limited Space Available-
June 10-15	Outpost (5th-8th) (tent camping/outdoor week)
June 15-17	Little Adventurers (3-6 year olds w/ parent)
June 17-22	Quest 1 (3rd and 4th) -Limited Space Available-
June 24-29	Journey 1/Expedition 1 (5th-8th grade)
July 8-13	Journey 2/Expedition 2/Scrapbook (5th-8th grade)
July 15-17	Discovery (1st and 2nd grade)
July 15 -20	Quest 2 (3rd and 4th)
July 20-22	Family Camp (All ages)
July 22-25	Mini Quest 2 (1st and 2nd grade)
July 22-27	Journey 3/Expedition 3-Sports Camp (5th-8th grade)
July 29-August 4 (Saturday)	Journey 4/Expedition 4 (5th-8th grade)

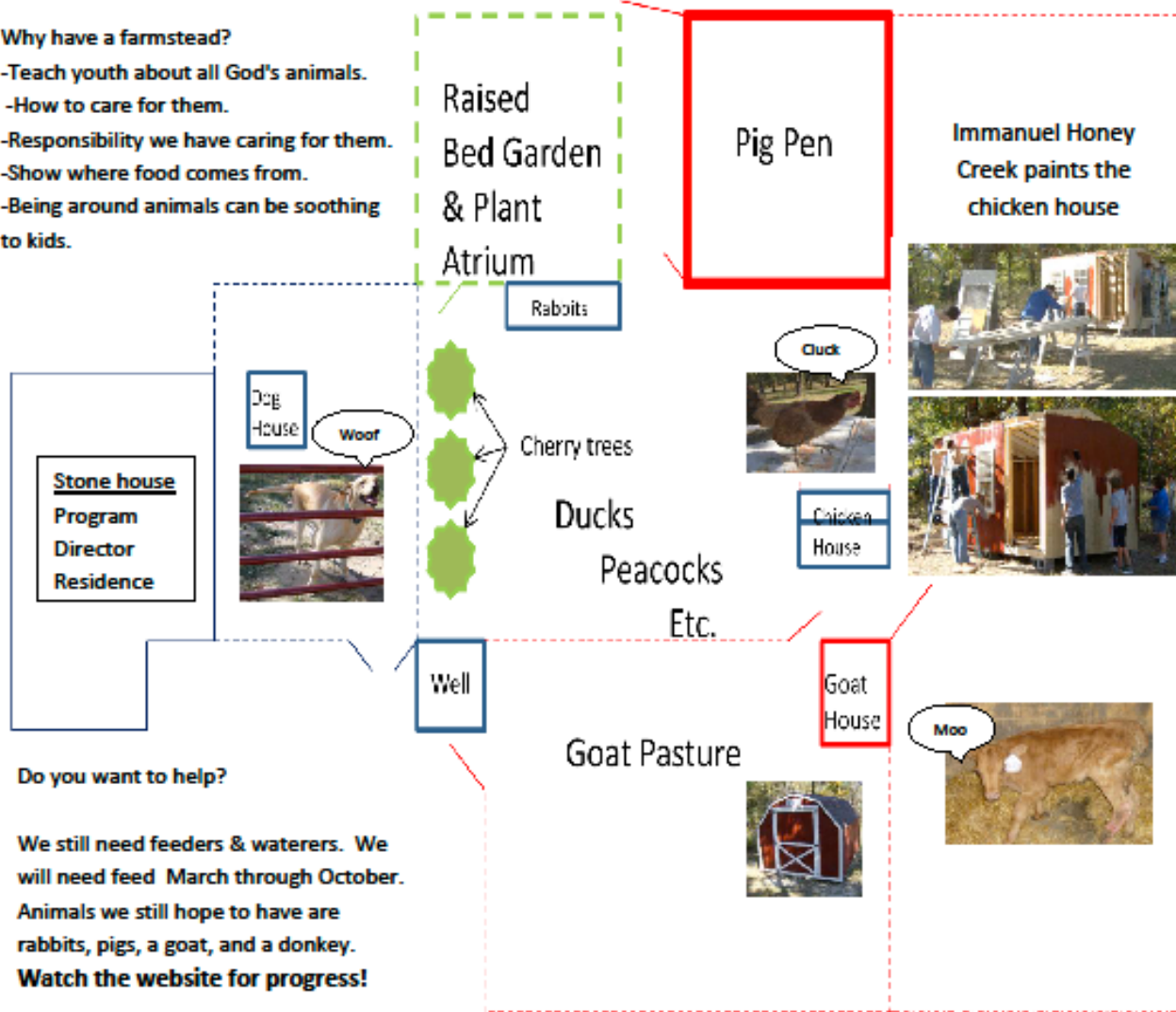
Summer Fest August 4-Campers and families are invited to come back to camp to have one more day of fun before the summer is over. Hang out with your counselors one more time! (Parents, don't you want to meet the faces associated with all of those weird stories?) Activities will include devotions, song time, tours, swimming, and lots more!

Heit's Point Farmstead

for
2012 Outdoor Education

Why have a farmstead?

- Teach youth about all God's animals.
- How to care for them.
- Responsibility we have caring for them.
- Show where food comes from.
- Being around animals can be soothing to kids.



Do you want to help?

We still need feeders & waterers. We will need feed March through October. Animals we still hope to have are rabbits, pigs, a goat, and a donkey. Watch the website for progress!

Welcome to next years' addition to Outdoor Education. We are happy with all the positive feedback we have received for the Heit's Point farmstead. The farmstead is off to a great start with the resident chicken, Gertrude, ruling the roost, and the recent donation of a bottle-calf, Molly Jo. Our goat shed was a free shed from Sedalia and was painted by one of our Work/campers, Audrey Horton, while John Horton built the chicken house. The outdoor education group from Immanuel HoneyCreek (pictured above) painted the chicken house to match the goat shed. Other additions not pictured will be a compost bin, greenhouse, and worm farm.

OPERATIONAL STATUS AND FINANCIALS

Heit's Point has gone through quite a few changes in the past 31 years. Since I've been director I have had the opportunity to see some of the other Lutheran camps around the country. For as young as this camp is, it truly has more to offer than most of the camps I have seen. We are one of a few camps that are not owned by the District and in addition we are debt free. How can this be? It is because of supporters like you. Every year we face challenges and every year the Lord blesses this Ministry and grows it more. Over the past two years the economy has challenged us with reorganization of staffing. I believe the staff we have currently is the best we have had in quite a while. Our facilities are in better condition now than they have been in 10 years and we have more activities available than we ever have had.

Remember our goal is to cover our expenses with operational income. It has been a very busy year and we thank God for all who have supported us through business, volunteering, or donating. We continue to strive to be the best stewards of what God provides.

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. The Year-end appeal is coming to you in the mail. Prayerfully consider how you can support this Ministry.

Keep us in your prayers!
Mark Nolte
Executive Director

NEWS

Bid on Wood Carving of "The Lord's Prayer".

Bidding opened for this beautiful carving on June 12, 2011 at the Outdoor Festival and will conclude on Dec 1, 2011. Kirk Thaemert spent 350 hours of spare time to complete the carving. The carving is approximately 39"x 44" and 3" deep, and is made from birch and oak.

Funds raised from the sale of the carving will go to Heit's Point. Minimum opening bid is \$4500.

How to submit your bid: in person, by mailing a bid to Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries, 28345 Heits Point Ave, Lincoln, MO 65338, by fax 660-668-2422, or email your bid info@heitspoint.com. A return email will be sent to you to confirm that you have submitted your bid. In all correspondence please ensure you provide your name, address, telephone contact numbers, email, and bid amount.



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

Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries
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Join us in thanking God for all the blessings He has given us!

What gifts do you have that God has given you that you haven't used lately.

Your IRA gift

If you are at least age 70 ½ and own an individual Retirement Account (IRA), you can distribute up to \$100,000 in IRA funds directly to Heit's Point Ministry. Your gift may even be used to meet your required minimum distribution (RMD)

In 2010, Congress re-authorized Charitable IRA Rollover legislation through Dec. 31, 2011. What this means is that your IRA gift to Heit's Point Ministry is usually tax-free and can help us to provide the facilities and programs that will allow us to continue to provide an outdoor ministry to all ages.

Year-end donations have a significant impact on our ministry decision for the coming year. Because of this, your IRA gift to Heit's Point Ministry will be especially powerful right now. Gifts must be made by Dec. 31, 2011. Call Mark Nolte for help in making a direct rollover.

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