



## *Heit's Point HiLites* Jan/Feb 2012

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

January is normally a slow time. Can you believe that 1/12 of 2012 is over. The staff and I have our contract income increased by 2% this year over last year. Donations have increased more than 24% over last year. Thrivent choice has been very successful for us; we received almost double what was projected. Our Dollar-a-Day program has generated some new support and we are looking forward to future growth. Our expenses decreased by 6%, this was accomplished even though food costs went up and the Environmental Protection Agency changing testing requirements for our waste management system.

The staff and I want to thank all of you for your support. This Ministry has grown amazingly fast. Heit's Point is only thirty years old and yet compared to other Lutheran camps across the country; we have a much more diversified ministry. God has a plan for this place and He continues to challenge us with new things.

### **What's coming in 2012!**

Some of our programs the past few years have suffered for attendance. Our new Program Director Leah has brought a new vitality to the programs and 2012 proves to be an exciting year. Check out our website to see the details.

Our diverse Ministry expands on its own. Word of mouth has been our best advertising. We had an event in 2011 that was attended by a gentleman that is involved with the Baptist association out of Sedalia. In 2012 the Harmony Baptist Association has scheduled a week long camp for 150 youth. The opportunities of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ continue to expand.

Our 2012 budget has been approved and again has a projected 6% decrease in expenses. We have planned very conservatively to ensure the economy does not affect our sustainability.

### **One way you can help with our budget is through your Thrivent Choice Dollars:**

Choice Dollars are profits that Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is required to distribute to eligible charities in order to remain a non-profit benevolent company. If you are an eligible Thrivent Financial member and have Choice Dollars available, please either call Thrivent (800-847-4836) or go on line--[www.thrivent.com/thrivent choice](http://www.thrivent.com/thrivent choice) and direct your dollars...hopefully to Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries.

You also have the option to set up your funding to automatically be directed to Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries each time you have accumulated Choice Dollars. You can make that arrangement when you call or go on line to Thrivent Financial. Eligible Thrivent Financial members have until March 31, 2012 to direct Choice Dollars accumulated during 2011. Thank you for your increased participation. Choice dollars are an important source of income supporting our operations. If you have any questions contact Mark Nolte at 660-668-2363.

We thank God for continuing to challenge us in our service to Him.

Mark Nolte  
Executive Director

## "From The Chairman"

Last year the board decided not to have a meeting in January due to the slowdown of activities at Heit's Point during the winter months. In addition, some of the board members, including this chairman, go south for warmer weather during the winter months. However, this does not mean they are not thinking or working for Heit's Point when not meeting.

One of the expectations which was started when I was elected chairman was that each board member use his/her expertise to support our staff. Each of our board members has a vast amount of experience which is directly relatable to many of the functions needed. In the past, all of the responsibilities for overseeing Heit's Point were given to the Executive Director. This proved to be an unreasonable expectation.

Therefore, various board members have been mentioned in my bi-monthly article highlighting the work they have been doing. I must admit that there has not been enough time for me to personally talk to our three new board members about their skills and how they can apply those skills to support our efforts. However, in March, that will be done so they can apply their skill/knowledge in supporting our staff. The three new board members are; Jack Hollingsworth who has extensive experience with AAL, Gary Pumphrey who was elected as our Treasurer is very active in the Kansas City area with his church and Thrivent, and Rachel Sommerer is also active in Lutheran schools within the St. Charles area and also has experience with grant writing.

Assignments of Board members are as follows:

- Bill Haas** His legal background is used to assure that we operate within legal guidelines and also he assists in the development and maintenance of our By-Laws and Policies.
- Vernon Grefe** He has a broad background as a teacher and school administrator and was an active board member for the St. Paul Concordia High School. He is currently developing our Site Utilization Plan. In this effort he will have identified existing infrastructure and areas which can be considered for expansion.
- Roger Hink** He has extensive industrial engineering experience and is a craftsman with wood and metal. He was our Project Manager for the construction of the Rinne Activity Center and coordinated its construction.
- Joyce Martin** She is our Secretary this year and has extensive experience in business and marketing. She functions in the area of editing written products like the Hi-Lites, grants and marketing type letters.
- Joye McElwee** He has a diversified background that is too broad to mention here. However, one of his strong points is the ability to maintain our web page which is very critical in getting our information out in a medium that is very important these days.
- Bob Vieth** He had a career in the aviation arena and has a very strong background in maintenance. He was also co-chair with Roger Hink for the building of the Rinne Activity Center.

Each one of these board members has more than willingly given many hours of their time to help in the operations of Heit's Point. Their effort is greatly appreciated by not only me but also the staff. We (Staff & Board) are all working as a team which is the key for our success. So I want to thank them all and when and if you see them, please thank them also.

Blessings,  
Bill Buehrle  
Chairman of the Board

During Easter we remember what Christ did for us through His resurrection, we also remember those of our friends and family that have already joined Him for everlasting.

If you are remembering someone and would like to honor that memory, we would like you to consider sponsoring a Memorial bench in their name. The cost for the bench is \$200 and it will be used here at Heit's Point in various locations; around campfires, at meditation spots, etc. A plaque will be placed at the top back of the bench with your wishes. Some put the name of the person they are remembering, another idea is to put a Bible verse that would guide others during their meditation.



# STUDENTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



AFS (American Field Service) is a non-profit international exchange organization that was founded by volunteer ambulance drivers following WWII. AFS is also an educational organization dedicated to providing enriched learning experiences that promote intercultural awareness, tolerance and communication.

Connecting lives and sharing cultures is what took place at Heit's Point on the weekend of January 13-15<sup>th</sup>, 2012. A remarkable group of forty high school- age international exchange students took part in an orientation. The exchange students were all part of the AFS intercultural program and literally came from around the world. They represented Chile, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine and Yemen. During the eleven month stay these students attend high school throughout Missouri and Illinois. The host families they live with share their family lifestyle, school and culture. Participants are carefully matched and volunteers are always on hand to make sure the host families and students have the support and tools needed for a positive experience. At the same time, AFS host families benefit from the experience of hosting because they have the chance to get a new perspective of their own culture by seeing through the eyes of an outsider.

AFS provides intercultural learning opportunities to help people develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to create a more just and peaceful world. Each and every volunteer spoke of world peace one family at a time; and how they are able to give back to all the students, because of what the students have given to them. To hear the stories behind why they volunteer is just amazing, it became a very emotional time for everyone, including myself. Some host families do not have kids of their own, so this gives them not just one child, but forty from all around the world. A lot of volunteers started out as AFS students and have now opened up their homes and lives to these students. I was told of one student that came to America against her family's wishes; she was told that Americans are bad people. There was another student forty years ago that became a doctor and said that when they retired the first thing they wanted to do was visit their host family. If you would like the opportunity to host a student and welcome them into your home and your family for a whole year, please contact Phil Duyff at [phil@duyff.com](mailto:phil@duyff.com) or call 314-308-2949.

Written by: Cindy

# Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries 2012 Work/Camper Program

Full hookup camping for 20 hours work per person. Meals when available. Program runs from May 1<sup>st</sup> through Oct 31<sup>st</sup>. Come for as little as 2 weeks up to 5 full months

Five couples with following duties needed:

Husband	Routine Maintenance (John)
Wife	Routine Maintenance (Audrey)
Husband	Maintenance Lead (Don)
Wife	Kitchen Breakfast (Mary Ann)
Husband	General Maintenance
Wife	Kitchen Lunch
Husband	General Maintenance
Wife	Dinner
Husband	General Maintenance
Wife	Housekeeping

General Maintenance: Construction  
Painting  
Building Maintenance  
Vehicle Maintenance  
Tree trimming

## 2012 Heit's Point Volunteer Work Weekend Opportunities

Mar 16-18	Spring Cleanup	
Apr 27-29	Work weekend	(Warrensburg LSC)
Jun 8-10	Work weekend	(Festival prep)
Jul 8-13	National Servant event	
Aug 17-19	Work weekend	
Sep 7-9	Work weekend	(Springfield LSC)
Oct 19-21	Work weekend	(Festival prep)
Nov 16-18	Work weekend	(Winterization)

Volunteer opportunities and service project are available throughout the year.  
Contact us at 660-668-2363 to come and share your talents.

## Elders Retreat

I was going to write an article about the Elders retreat in January, but I received this email from one of the Elders that attended and I think it shares what I would want to say: "I see God working things like that daily. Our pastor rejected a call Friday because of the powerful experience resulting from the Elder's Training Conference. Elders are energized! Wow! With that experience and how pumped up the elders were when they left HP, Pastor felt he needed to stay and finish the work remaining on his call to Faith."

*What a testimony on how God uses everyone and everything to do His work.*

- Feb 24-26      **Marriage Retreat** - Sign up soon to come meet new friends with fellowship, Bible study, & fun.
- Mar 9-10        **Circuit Youth** - Lock in.
- Mar 15th        **Starts the first Home School Outdoor Education day for the year.**
- Mar 16-18      **Spring clean up weekend**

## 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) - <b>Limited Space Available</b> -
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) - <b>Limited Space Available</b> -
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!

We're getting set to do the summer camp visits, if you'd like us to come and visit your Church or School please contact us. We would also ask that you keep Mark and me in your prayers as we travel to North Carolina for the NLOMA conference where we select the counselors for this year.



*Leah*

*Program Director*

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*Join us in thanking God for all the blessings He has given us!*

***It's not too late to be a part of this Ministry!***

**The Spring Appeal will come your way this month.**

Donations

Volunteering

Prayers

Looking for a daily devotion  
try  
[www.journeymen4christ.org](http://www.journeymen4christ.org)

Don't forget your  
Thrivent Choice  
Opportunities