



Heit's Point HiLites

"Strengthening the Connection with the Vine"

Jul/ Aug 2010

Greeting from Heit's Point

Summer camp is almost over; it seems like it just started. We must be doing something right; the boys at camp this week just told me "This is the best camp ever." It is such a joy to see the youth come praise and play together. I want to recognize a few additions to our summer ministry team that have filled in when our counselors have been gone:



Rachel (Splash)



Emma (Smiley)



Shayla (Patches)



Nathaniel (Cowboy)

These young ladies and gentleman came in on short notice and have done a marvelous job with the youth.

Mark Nolte
Executive Director

From the Board

The Board met on July 16th to hear Mark's presentation about how and what has been happening at Heit's Point. Our meetings are becoming very enjoyable because of what is going on with God's Ministry here. While the attendance of our Summer Camp is lower than planned, the new Day Camper program has been a big help to defray our overhead cost.

Our Business Plan update was presented by Caryl Froeschle who with Joyce Martin and Alaina Kleinbeck's help showed a lot of forethought and work. There were a few minor changes required so the plan will be ready for Board approval in September.

In the last HiLites I discussed the significance of building relationships. As a result of this effort Mark was invited to attend the District Family Life and Youth Board meeting. His presence there was well received and as a result they are planning to have some of their activities and conferences here at Heit's Point. An activity we plan to host is a Bridge Building social event in the KC area in September. The purpose is to discuss with our supporters, what we have been doing, where we are going and how you can build a bridge in getting other families interested in the significance of our Ministry. More Bridge Building events will follow in the other geographic areas.

Thrivent Choice Dollars letters are being sent to you in the July-August timeframe. You will be notified as to the amount you can designate. We hope you will keep Heit's Point in mind when that time comes. These dollars have been and will continue to be very important to us in carrying out God's work.

This summer we have been blessed with having Labors for Christ workers. We had a minimum of 5 campers here all summer and the amount of work they have performed is amazing. We are getting things done which have been needed for a long time. The labor cost savings for us is significant. The Board and staff are very happy they are here and we sincerely appreciate what they have done and will welcome them back anytime. Remember, When God shuts a door, He opens a window.

Blessings,
Bill Buehrle
Chairman of the Board

PROGRAMS

Summer camp at Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries has been quite successful this year! We had a Critter's camp where children got to enjoy playing with baby ducks, goats and a pony, learning about God's wonderful creation. Other programs included the Outback camp, where kids had a chance to sleep in tents and learn how to cook their meals over a fire.



At High Adventure, the campers got the chance to see the beauty of God's creation by hiking along a creek and an eagle's nest. They then went cave exploring and enjoyed a 13 mile float trip from Warsaw! Our summer programs are coming to a close with our Senior High camp, Trailblazers. This camp is unique with all the extreme activities such as the low and high ropes course, canoe trip, and visiting the Lutheran Hour Ministry center in St. Louis. Throughout all of these programs the campers have been focusing on the theme for this summer, "The Tree of Life", from Revelations 22:13-14 "I am the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life."

Day camp is a new program we started this year to supply a safe Christian environment for youth in our local area. Kids are picked up in Lincoln and Warsaw in the morning, brought to camp to enjoy many activities, then returned home in the evening. Some of the activities the children have participated in throughout this summer are hiking, canoeing, swimming, and crafts. They have enjoyed the Mud Bar, created cars and raced pine wood derby, as well as traveled to the Warsaw Lost Valley Fish Hatchery to fish. Day camp started off small but has grown in numbers of children. We are thankful to the surrounding community churches who helped support Heit's Point in this new Ministry.



Aug 7th is Summer Fest 2010, where all summer and day campers are invited, with their families, to join us for lunch at noon and then canoe, hike, and enjoy what we have to offer. Our planned activities include a Puppet show by the day campers, and a Pine Wood Derby Race.

Remember Heit's Point doesn't close down when summer camp ends.

Coming in September we have the **Family Outdoor Skills Weekend** on the 3rd-5th. Parents have the opportunity to come to camp with their children and learn about the outdoors.

Our **Fall Senior Getaway** is the 13th-15th of September. The theme this year is God's Blueprint for a Retreat, focusing on the text from Genesis 1:1-2:3 and led by Rev. Wolf the first caretaker of Heit's Point.

Coming in October, the first weekend starts off with the **Singles retreat**. This retreat has a Facebook theme, and takes a look at some of the lesser known people within the Bible. The scripture focus for this event is taken from Hebrews 11:1-12:2, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

The weekend of October 30th is our **Marriage Enrichment** and **Harvest Festival** then November is full of **Confirmation retreats**. The 5th-7th is the Baptismal retreat, 12th-14th is the Lord's Supper retreat, and the 19th-21st is focused on the Lord's Prayer.

High school youth mark your calendars! December 28th-29th we will be having a lock-in. The theme of this retreat is "Starworks." You won't want to miss this retreat as we study the theme verse from Philippians 2:14-16, "Do everything without complaining or arguing so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the Word of Life."



Melisa

Program Director

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Who would have thought the Camper/Worker program would have been so successful. The Laborer's for Christ bring a new meaning to this program. Someone said this to me and I think it sums it up: "Not only are they a very diverse and able work force but they are a Christian example for all who come to Heit's Point."

More good news on this topic. Three of the couples plan to return next year for the summer. Heit's Point is also inviting all Laborer's for Christ to consider us a hub (a stop over place) between their jobs as they travel the country.

May God continue to bless the Laborer's for Christ organization as they continue to serve.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING!

"The Del Rinne Activity Center"

We celebrated Del's 89th Birthday with many family and friends. All proceeds went toward the activity center, over \$1200 and lots of sports equipment. Watching Del celebrate his birthday is as rewarding as watching the youth at summer camp; he is truly a blessing to us all.

To date \$160,827 has been raised/pledged toward the matching goal of \$200,000

And

\$31,870 toward the \$750,000 for the Spitz Center addition

We hope you will prayerfully consider being a part of this undertaking.

OPERATIONAL STATUS AND FINANCIALS

Melissa, our Program Director has hit the ground running; you can tell how busy she is by her program report in this issue. We are looking for a front office person, since Bridgette will be leaving us the second week of August to go back to school. Gary, one of the Laborer's for Christ, is performing as our "Maintenance Lead" which has expedited getting many things done. Vicki is performing as lead in housekeeping, and Gwen is doing well in the kitchen.

May-June

Income – \$21,108 less income than budgeted

Expenses - \$5,467 less expenses than budgeted

As you can see the economy has affected our income, however, by watching our expenses we have a net loss of only \$795 for the first 6 months. Contracts for the second 6 months look good.

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Save the date for the Family Outdoor Skills weekend – Sept 3rd - 5th.

FUNDING THE FUTURE

Dear Friends of Heit's Point,

In this addition of the Hi Lites I'd like to share how some families have supported and opportunities to share that you may not be aware of.

The Sommerer Family reunion has been coming for over 10 years. This year they took an offering at their Sunday service and gave it as a donation to Heit's Point. It will be used to put ceiling fans in the Ascension Haus. Two individuals are using their wood working skills and donating benches and Desk Pen sets. All of these gestures add to the appeal and service capabilities of Heit's Point.

Everyone has skills or possibly unused items that could be of value to serve others at Heit's Point. Here are a few items from our wish list that might be possible.

BBQ grills – More and more people are cooking for themselves due to the economy.

Do you have one sitting around not being used?

Sheet sets - As we have gotten all of our facilities usable now we have the need for full size sets.

Who likes going to garage sales and picking up bargains?

Coolers/ice chests – Ours get a lot of use during the summer months and some are getting old.

As the kids go off to college do we still need that huge ice chest?

By sharing the blessings God has given us, we are able to serve Him by serving others.

God's Blessings!

Mark A Nolte

Mark Nolte, Executive Director