



# Heit's Point HiLites

*"Strengthening the Connection with the Vine"*

Mar/Apr 2010

## Greeting from Heit's Pont

I'll bet everyone is excited that spring is finally here, it has been an interesting winter. We've had some changes that we need to share. Jon, our Program Director has went back to Seward, he plans to return to college for his Masters and is the Praise Worship leader at a large church there. He was very helpful this past year but by the end of the year he realized that camp ministry was not what he was looking for. We pray that Jon is successful in his ministry there. To take Jon's place we are partnering with our local churches and recruiting a DCE Intern for a year.

Jim Kreissler has returned and will be spending the summer with us as Development Director, which will fill a great need. This year looks to be an exciting year with many of us looking forward to the Spitz Center and gymnasium projects. Delbert Rinne is the instigator of this excitement; he never ceases to amaze us with his passion for this ministry. Jim will help us take this excitement and move it forward. Read below for more!

Mark Nolte  
Executive Director

## From the Board

The Board of Directors held a very intense and productive meeting on Friday, March 12 to discuss many important subjects for the betterment of Heit's Point.

Of significance was the presentation from the Building Committee with recommendations for Delbert Rinne's vision to provide space for adult gatherings, to provide a place for youth recreation activities including basketball, and to add recreational areas for seniors and youth.

The board approved the plans for an enclosed 50 x 90 foot pavilion that will house a Junior High size basketball court. This building will also be able to be configured for volleyball and could be used for our festivals. Three bidders have bid for this phase.

The board also approved the plans for a 100 foot two-story extension to the lobby end of the Spitz Center. Six motel size rooms will be located on the lakeside of each floor. Four large conference rooms will be located on the upper floor with a large recreation area located on the lower floor. Three bidders have bid for this phase.

The board approved Ralph Viebrock to assist us in the Project Management of these projects. He is a retired building contractor and is familiar with construction methods, building codes as well as with local sub contractors and will contribute significantly for a smoother building process.

The board approved Jim Kreissler as the Development Director for these projects. He is a retired financial planner who is from the local area and has volunteered in the summers at Heit's Point for a number of years. The board approved the level of funds to be raised by Jim as \$950,000. This amount will build both projects and leave us with a cushion to help us with the additional operational costs until we are enjoying the increased usage.

The board agreed that as soon as the matching funds to Delbert Rinne's \$100,000 gift if raised the pavilion contract will be let. We are hoping it will be ready for our summer camp this year. We want to assure you that we will not break ground for either project until we have the necessary funds in hand. We do not and will not have any debt associated with Heit's Point.

Bill Buehrle  
Chairman of the Board



# “TREE OF LIFE”

This summer we will be focusing on the “Tree of Life” from Revelations 22. Campers will spend their days enjoying great activities, good food, new friends and amazing grace while they experience God’s awesome creation!

## Upcoming Programs!

### **Elders Training Conference – “How to get men to serve as Elders”**

Rev Ray Mirly Missouri District President will be leading our Elders Retreat Apr 30 – May 2. Our congregations, our families, and our communities need the leadership of our men.

### **Men’s Retreat – “Everything is Permissible, But not Beneficial”**

The same weekend as the Elders Retreat is the Men’s Retreat led by Rod Lindemann. The Journeymen have been coming to Heit’s Point for several years and continue to grow. We would encourage you to check it out.

### **Outdoor Festival**

This year we are excited to welcome back Rev Ken Klaus “The Lutheran Hour Speaker” who will be our guest speaker. If you missed his presentation several years ago you won’t want to miss him this year. Don’t forget the Festival has been moved to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday this year.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

I want to shed some light on the different ways volunteers can help. Hal Nierman has volunteered to be our volunteer worker relationship builder. He will join all the work groups this year, taking pictures and developing a relationship for Heit’s Point. with the organizations. Hal loves to take pictures and visit with people of all ages. He will be a great asset in this role.

Other roles volunteers are filling:

Delbert Rinne - Resident Volunteer – Too many jobs to list

Ken and Jen Perry – Camper workers – Returning in April to mow and run the pole barn.

Bob Vieth Maintenance research

Roles where volunteers are needed:

Kitchen Help

Housekeeping

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING!



If you don't know what scrapbooking is, come spend some time with us. This spring we are hosting 6 events with over 200 ladies attending. They'll arrive with pickups, SUV's, and even trailers, full of memories and ready to put them into albums. These ladies get more out of these events than just getting their albums put together. They share their families with each other; I've seen smiles, frowns, even tears but always laughter and satisfaction.

The **Spring Senior Getaway** was a great success. Rev. Walt Shoedel guided the Bible studies on ways to find out more about yourself and learn more about God. If you didn't come, you missed a great program. Everyone enjoyed the sessions, the fellowship, and the peace. Put the fall getaway on your calendar **Sept 13-15**.

## STAFF TIPS STAFF TIPS

*Summer camp is right around the corner, bring a friend!*

*Walk the new prayer trail to refresh and renew!*

*How's your garden? Is your faith planted and growing?*

## OPERATIONAL STATUS AND FINANCIALS

We are working hard to get things organized before business picks up. Our staff is small with just two full-time and the rest part time. The board has really stepped up and is helping in numerous ways. We are going to need volunteer help more this year as we weather the economic times and develop Heit's Pont into a sustainable camp. If you can help, please let us know.

January and February are slow months but we have watched our cash flow closely and are doing well.

Jan – Feb  
Income – \$25839  
Expenses - \$47236

Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries  
28345 Heit's Point Ave  
Lincoln, MO 65338

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*Save the date for the 2010 Outdoor Festival – June 20<sup>th</sup>*

## CHALLENGE GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Dear Friends of Heit's Point,

Last fall, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans announced the cancellation of the GivingPlus program effective December 2009. In the year prior to the cancellation, Thrivent Financial contributed over \$20,000 to Heit's Point through a \$.50 match for every \$1 received from donors.

Considering the volume of revenue received from GivingPlus, the cancellation of the program will cause financial challenges for Heit's Point.

Thrivent Financial recognizes this challenge and is offering a **one-time GivingPlus phase-out challenge grant opportunity.**

**Will you help us meet their challenge?** To qualify for this challenge grant:

- Heit's Point must raise 40% of previous year's matching funds.
- Anyone can make a gift (donors are not limited to Thrivent Financial Members)
- Personal contributions must be received before the end of May, 2010.
- No GivingPlus form or other documentation is needed on behalf of the donor.

**Please help us meet his challenge grant,** a grant that will make a large impact on the financial status and ministry of Heit's Point. We look forward to your partnership as the Holy Spirit continues to use Heit's Point to change lives.

God's Blessings!

*Mark A Nolte*

Mark Nolte, Executive Director