



# Pine Lake Fellowship Camp

## Quarterly Newsletter

SUMMER 2013 EDITION



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www.pinelakecamp.com



"The Holy Spirit was truly present as evidence of hearts warming towards God and His unfailing love. Our hope and prayer is that we all continue our walks with God and remember our strengthening experiences from camp."

Courtney Craver  
-Youth Week Camper

### WISH LIST

- Kitchen Utility Cart (approx.\$50)
- Gas powered leaf blower
- Small tractor (15 hp)
- Durable furniture for Tall Pines (dorm style couches/love seats, coffee table)
- Matching sets of pine or oak bunk beds

## Summer Camp 2013

On the warm morning of July 13, the last camper left the PLFC campus. After seven weeks of hustle and bustle, there was a silence. Each camper was able to leave having witnessed and heard about the love of Jesus Christ. We provided fun filled environment for 248 total campers (62 campers attended the Good News Fellowship weeks).



The camp pastors were able to make our summer theme, "Secrets of the Kingdom: The Parables of Jesus," come alive and understandable for each age group. You could see the Spirit moving in the lives of campers. 26 campers made first-time commitments to Christ while 64 campers chose to rededicate their lives to Christ! There is no greater feeling as a staff member than to help lead a camper to Christ. One parent told us her daughter asked her pastor to sing a camp song in church the week after camp. Another parent told us, "We love the rich, loving Christian environment that the kids are immersed into for the week there. There are lots of fun things with Christian themes influenced throughout!"



I am thankful for a great summer camp season. We were blessed with a spectacular group of young adults and teenagers who served as summer staff. We were also blessed with many volunteers who helped make camp possible. Nurses, handymen, cooks, and camp pastors are essential to a great summer program. Thanks to everyone!



## What PLFC Means to Me

By Krista Metzler

Pine Lake Fellowship Camp is another world, full of fun, adventure, and endless possibilities. It is a refuge where children can let their guard down and really be themselves. It is a place filled with the presence of Jesus, who makes Himself known through the camp staff and volunteers that were called to serve for the summer. Pine Lake has made a difference in the lives of many people, including my own.

I was a camper for six years. Camp was precious to me because I was able to spend time with other kids from our church conference, including some of my relatives that I didn't get to see very often. It was a time of togetherness and innocent fun, away from the pressures of the world and close to the heart of Jesus. Each year I left reassured in my faith and excited to learn more about my Savior.

High school was a different story. I was an awkward preteen, unsure about myself and seeking acceptance from others. My friends covered their insecurities by making fun of each other, and I was often the brunt of their jokes. My parents saw what was happening and advised me to make other friends, but I felt trapped. I didn't feel welcome in other friend groups and I wasn't confident enough to strike out on my own. I loved my friends; we had gone through a lot together. But the wounds from their jokes went deeper than I realized. It was as if I was Punchinello from Max Lucado's book, "You Are Special." His friends would stick dots on each other to express displeasure, and Punchinello was covered in them.

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## What PLFC Means to Me (continued)

During the summer after my 10th grade year, I became an LIT. For seven weeks I served alongside true believers who lived out their faith. I was amazed that throughout the whole time I was there, I was not made fun of a single time. Instead, I was constantly encouraged, praised, and uplifted. The selfless love that I received from a peer group for the first time rocked my world. Jesus loved me through the summer staff, and I finally realized that I was a treasure in His eyes. One by one, the dots began to fall off.

I went back to school a completely different person. I glowed with the knowledge that I was loved by Christ, and found myself completely secure in Him. My friends noticed the difference. One girl told me that I was like the ugly duckling; I had blossomed into a beautiful swan. I don't think she noticed the irony in her statement, but it didn't matter. The dot didn't stick.

I have served on summer staff for four summers now. Each time, it renews me physically, emotionally, and spiritually. It has been an amazing opportunity to share Christ with countless numbers of campers, and I have loved every minute of it. But my favorite part is when I get to look into a camper's eyes and remind him or her, "You are special."

# Volunteers Needed

The construction of Tall Pines Fellowship Center continues to progress. Our goal is to begin renting out the Lodging side of the building by January 1, 2014. Throughout the rest of the year, we seek volunteers skilled in the following areas:

- Painting
- Carpentry
- Electrical
- Plumbing

Please contact Matt Graybill if you can offer your time and skills.



Thanks to J.D. Landis for priming the walls

## Pine Lake Fellowship Camp Calendar of Events

August 17	PLFC Board Meeting
August 30-Sept 2	Family Camp
September 20-22	Fall Youth Rally
October 5	Camp Sale in Gulfport, MS
November 8-10	PLFC Board Retreat

## Camp Sale — October 5

PLFC's annual Camp Sale will be held at Gulfhaven Mennonite Church in Gulfport, MS on October 5.



[www.gulfhaven.org](http://www.gulfhaven.org)

Come and enjoy a day of fellowship with hundreds of other camp supporters. There will be baked goods, handmade quilts, crafts, pottery, wood crafts, children's activities and much more!

To view the entire 2013 summer camp gallery, go to

[www.pinelakecamp.com](http://www.pinelakecamp.com)



### SCHEDULE

**Breakfast** -- 8:00  
**Lunch** --11:30-12:30  
*Seafood Gumbo & BBQ Pork Sandwich*  
**Auction** -- 1:00

Look for more information in the coming weeks!



*Conference Quilt (King size) to be auctioned*



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