

GREETINGS from CHARLEVOIX the BEAUTIFUL

*Church of God Family Camp
13603 Veenstra Road
Charlevoix, MI 49720
231 547-9508*

CHARLEVOIX FAMILY CAMP PAPER

May 2008

Charlevoix Family Camp - Music, worship, Bible Study, work bees, fireside moments, yummy food, sight-seeing trips around the area, meeting new friends, reminiscing with old friends, and much more - that's us!

Memorial Day Weekend _____

COME AND JOIN US FOR Memorial Day weekend work camp, before the weekend or after. When you come to work during Family Camp off-times, the camping is free.

Bring food, rakes, and tools to fit your abilities and energy. There is much to be done to get the camp ready for renters coming in on June 4. Raking wasn't completed in the fall, so that needs to be finished. If you would be able to help out at the camp for a few, it would be greatly appreciated, and God will bless you.

We have lots and lots of things to do – raking to be done, grass to be planted, mowing of established grass, cleaning of all the buildings and grounds, pews to be arranged in and about the tabernacle, meals to be prepared, served, and cleaned up after, and much much more.

Trips to Tahquanmenon Falls, the Soo Locks, Hartwick Pines, and many other places are interesting options from the Charlevoix area. God's beauty is all around. And the beaches!!! This year we may be able to get close to our own "beach site."

LAWN PLANTING – hopefully we will have enough help to accomplish the job of raking and planting grass seed over a huge portion of the grounds before the Memorial Day weekend so that it will be able to utilize any rain that falls for its growth and establishment.

When attending work camps, please bring food to help defray costs. It can be added to the collection in the kitchen and prepared by the "kitchen helpers," or you may choose to eat in your own camper if you have one. "Kitchen helper" may include you, if that is where you choose to be involved. Be sure to call ahead for reservations when planning to attend work camp weekends or camp itself. We do generally have space, but some

placement is very desirable and helpful. Call Ruby Behnke at 989 631-2297, or the camp number at 231 547-9508, and leave a message.

NOTE: Air conditioner in the dining hall is not effective if dining room windows are open. Please remember to NOT open any windows in this building unless authorized to do so.

HELP !!!! _____

Workers for cleaning restrooms and dining room floor during First and Second Camps.

Contact Ruby if you have done it in the past and wish to do it again, or if you have not done it before but are interested. **Even if you thought you had it all agreed upon last year**, please re-confirm it with Ruby since she is trying to coordinate it this year (at home 989 631-2297 or at the camp 231 547-9508).

Additional Camping _____

The camp is expanding its horizons somewhat, reaching out to overnights, small family groups, retreat and seminar possibilities, and this year a group performing at the Castle Farms will be renting our facility from June 4 through June 16 for their own camping access. God is opening doors and we need to make the effort to go forward with Him. Plan now to visit and/or spend some time at the camp this coming summer.

Work Camps or Volunteers _____

If you are interested in doing a work camp at NMCMA or just being a volunteer on the grounds, contact Chairman Ruby. We need you willing workers to come and share your talent or expertise or just your energy and willingness to accomplish many projects.

Officers for 2007-2008 _____

Board of Trustees: Ruby Behnke, Eugene Hoard, Brian Dancer, Jeff Snyder, Kathy Worthing, and Glen Lerch

Program Committee: Pastor Dave Perry, Pastor Dick Bartlett, Michelle Riske, Mary Krontz, and Angie Armstrong

Board and Business Meeting Dates ____

Board Meeting was held Saturday, May 3, 2008, at Behnke's. Next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Monday, May 26, 2008, in the Charlevoix Camp Fireside Room.

2007 Fall Leaf Raking Weekend _____

It ended with lots of heat – LOTS OF HEAT! POLE BARN FIRE. Some of you may not be aware that there was a fire at the campgrounds at closing time, October 2007, which basically destroyed the pole barn and a good portion of its contents. Fortunately, it was contained to the pole barn, no one was injured, and several items in the barn were salvageable. Unfortunately, the tractor, which was donated to the camp by Eugene and Sandy Hoard last year, was destroyed. Thanks for much time and effort on the part of Dave Worthing and our insurance company, the building has now been reconstructed and rewired, and necessary repairs made. There are still items to be replaced, repaired, and returned to their position in the building. I understand a lot of items are in "totes" as they were returned to us after cleaning and will need to be sorted and placed where they belong. Who's volunteering???

Fireside Kitchenette _____

Some of you may not be aware that a Fireside Kitchenette has been installed in the Fireside Room of the Dining Hall consisting of a sink, cupboards, and a small refrigerator. Jerry Kleinhenn custom-built the cupboards, Dave Worthing installed the sink, and several others were instrumental in completing the rest of the project. A sincere "**thank you**" to all who had any part in the effort.

Centennial Picture _____

We will have some copies of the "group camp picture" at the camp if you choose to purchase one – or more. You can also help us put names to faces if you recognize one that has not already been identified. Thank you, Mashue Printing of Midland, for printing them. If you just want to view the picture, you may find it on the camp web site.

Progress on Lake Project _____

Come and check it out for yourself.

WEB Page Information _____

If you would like to read any of the last four camp newsletters, find a map with directions to the camp, or ask questions regarding the camp, you may go to the web site at www.charlevoixcamp.com and learn several things about us.

Campground Flyers _____

Two new and updated campground flyers are in the making. Glen and Jean Lerch are constructing and putting them together for the camp.

Loved Ones at home with the Lord _____

Russell Hyatt, Sr. on February 13, 2008

Mike Veenstra on April 8, 2008

(If you know of others, please let us know.)

The following was sent by Myrna Boss, daughter of Mike Veenstra, long-time attendee of and contributor to the Charlevoix Camp. Mike will be remembered and missed by many.

MIKE "THE MAN"

How do you begin to say
Words so fitting for this day,
About the life of our dear Mike
Of whom there was no dislike.
And the Lord spared him,
Make no mistake.
He saved him from drowning
In Adams Lake.
A worker from an early age,
His love for Rachel would turn the page.
From bachelorhood to set the stage,
For fatherhood and the three children they made.
His love of family, the work and strain,
Spans three generations of joy still remain.
And the latest joy within his gut,
The love and light of Little Peanut.
One thing stood above the board,
How hard he worked and loved the Lord.
Work at the campgrounds always showed,
And now it's split by Veenstra Road.
He'd help make cider or even cut wood,
To boil out sap for syrup so good.
The true measure of this Godly man,
Was that friendly shake from his huge right hand.
And now the loss, the feel of pain,
Is overpowered by Heaven's gain.
We'll miss you, Mike, each and everyone,
As the Lord shakes that hand
and says, "Well done."

Written by Jerry Shupert, April 10, 2008

Speakers for Camps plus Extra Information

Staff members for both camps are incomplete at this time. Those confirmed are:

First Camp – June 28 through July 4, 2008



Pastor Jeff Eckman, Evangelist

Jeff Eckman is the senior pastor of the Floyd Church of God in Midland, Michigan. He and his wife Tori have been married for eighteen years and graduated from Warner Southern College in Lake Wales, Florida. The Eckmans have five children (Caleb, Kylee, Joshua, Jayla, and Jordan) ranging in age from 2 to 14 years. Before returning to Michigan where they both grew up, the Eckmans served churches in Elwood, Indiana, and Defiance, Ohio. Jeff's primary passion and giftedness in ministry centers around preaching, teaching, and worship. He has served the church at large in various leadership positions in the Northwest District of Ohio, and here in Michigan, and is currently serving a term as Chairman of the Michigan General Assembly. Both Jeff and Tori have been greatly influenced by the camp meetings here in Michigan as youngsters, and have enjoyed watching their children participate as well. That is why they make attending one or more of Michigan's camp meetings a priority each year.

Jeff's theme for the messages will be "Running to Win!" I Corinthians 9:23-24, *"I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings. Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win!"*

Conference titles: "In Depth Training: Disciplines that lead to Victory."

Music Leader: Mary Krontz with Kelly Eargood at the piano
Program Director: Mark Krontz
Children's Leaders: Jeanne Perry and Lynn McQuillan
Youth Leaders: Kevin Perthius
Tot Lot: Caitlyn Krontz

Saturday Night Concert: Bruce and Joy Daniels

Second Camp – July 12-18, 2008



Greg Henneman - Evangelist

Greg Henneman is pastor of the First Church of God, Clarkston, Michigan.

His message theme is "Living Like Jesus."

Sermon #1: Genuine Christians live like Jesus

Sermon #2: Genuine Christians are immersed in Prayer

Sermon #3: Genuine Christians walk in the Spirit

Sermon #4: Genuine Christians love the Church

Sermon #5: Genuine Christians embrace Servanthood

Sermon #6: Genuine Christians are authentic

Sermon #7: Genuine Christians are always changing

Music Leader: Melody Prather of St. Joseph, MI

Pianist: Gregg Prather

Program Director: Pastor Bill Greiner of Eagle Ridge Church of God, Midland

Children's Camp: TBA

Youth Leaders: TBA

Tot Lot: Ray and Denise Abbey

Saturday Night Concert: Prathers of St. Joseph, MI

Registration Information _____

To reserve a lot for either camp, or to schedule another activity or camp time, call Ruby Behnke at 989 631-2297, email at meridianroad@hotmail.com.

Camp Meeting Fees: \$85.00 per week for camping site, Dorm Room, or Cabins #1 or #2; \$30.00 per night or \$160.00 for camp week for Cabins #3 or #4 or one of the end rooms of the Caretaker Home.

Exciting Plans -----

The Long Range Planning Committee is investigating some really exciting plans for the near future which could greatly improve use of the camp.

- Hookups for extra electrical and water access
- Cabin repair or replacement
- Full hookup ability
- Lake access
- Storage shed for freezables –
2008 Camp Challenge will be used for this.
- Garage for caretakers
- Children's playground fencing installed

Information on full hookups – still in the “dream” stage. Finances, energy, and other projects have taken priority at this time. Don't give up though, it is still on the list.

Camp Needs -----

Donations to help finance addition of water and electric stands so more units can use the grounds at one time, to accomplish full hookups for more units, to repair existing cabins (siding, roofing, etc.) or rebuild new ones.

Willing workers to stay on the grounds and assist wherever needed, and people who want to be involved in the Lord's work to offer to run for the Board of Trustees or the Program Committee.

If you have interest in running for a position on either of these boards, please talk with Trustees Chair Ruby Behnke as soon as possible. We have five positions total to fill this year.

Sound Booth – if plans work out, we will have a new sound booth for our tabernacle sound system for camp meetings this year.

Tot Area – Another hope is to have a fenced in area for the Tot Lot this year.

Summer Help – The camp is seriously looking for a married couple with camping equipment (trailer, fifth wheel, etc.) interested in staying on the grounds this summer to help with general work, manning the phone, and covering rentals while the caretakers are away. Interested couples are asked to contact any Charlevoix board member ASAP – Ruby Behnke, Eugene Hoard, Glen Lerch, Brian Dancer, Kathy Worthing, or Jeff Snyder.

Auction ????? -----

We regret that this activity will not take place this spring as our auctioneer has been called by God to go to the Dominican Republic during that time. God Bless you richly, Mark Krontz family, for your faithfulness to the Lord's work.

Annual Ladies Retreat -----

Watch for further information on this event during attendance at Charlevoix Camp, or call Val or Kathy Worthing.

Grant Writing -----

At this time, members of the Board of Trustees headed up by Brian Dancer are diligently working to prepare an application for a grant from the Rich DeVos group to the camp for the purpose of improving our youth and children's buildings, equipment, and area.

Reunion on Grounds -----

At this time we have two family reunions scheduled to be held on the grounds this summer, one in July and one in August.

Memorials ? -----

Looking to do a Memorial for someone special? You may wish to donate money towards renovation of cabins or building of a new one on skids? Or buy a new one already on skids. These would be campground property but will be available to campers. Contact a Board of Trustees member if you have interest.

Gideon Bibles -----

Thanks to Glen Lerch, new Gideon Bibles will be placed in each dorm room and cabin this year.



Charlevoix Family Camp Newsletter
c/o Roland and Ruby Behnke
1005 E. Chippewa River Road
Midland, MI 48640



www.charlevoixcamp.com