

Prairie Lake News



Camping with Christ...For lives of faith

A Threefold Cord

April 17-18

Come with your fiancé as you discuss your dreams and desires for your future life together as husband and wife.

Ageless Iron

April 18

Look forward to great restored tractors and engines, coffee in the shop, and maybe even a tractor rodeo!

Theology on the Prairie

April 19-21

Join Dr. Gil Waldkoenig from Lutheran Seminary at Gettysburg as he presents around the topic *Christ & Wilderness: Being Church in Challenging Times*.

A Message from the Board

The Board of Directors has been struggling with the financial situation at the Camp. We currently have unpaid bills totaling \$25,000 and an operating loan of \$15,000 at Garrison State Bank.

The Board views this as a significant financial dilemma for the Camp. In response to this situation and after extensive discussion, the Board has decided to eliminate the position of Assistant Director of Youth Ministries effective April 3rd. This will allow us to eliminate approximately \$28,000 from the budget. The Board is working with Janis to make sure that summer program responsibilities are covered.

This was not an easy decision. We are sincerely thankful for Wade Messer's ministry. Wade is an extremely gifted person. Please know that this decision is a financial one and is not related to Wade's job performance.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 701.734.6605 or sunnerev@bektel.com.

In Christ,
Paul Schauer. Board President

4th-6th Grade Bash

April 24-25

Bring your friends for a weekend of games, food, campfire worship, and our awesome God! Contact your church to register.

Work Weekend

May 1-2

There will be projects for all interests and skill levels as we get the camp ready for summer programs. Meals and lodging will be provided at no charge...just let us know you are coming!

Did you GoodSearch or Goodshop last month?

Over the last two months, nearly \$25 has been raised, simply by searching using www.goodsearch.com as an alternative to sites like Google and by going through the GoodShop webpage before making online purchases. Thank you and keep up the good work!!

Our New Board Members!

At our Annual Meeting in February, we elected three new members to our Board of Directors. They are:

- Rev. Erik Johnson- First, Washburn
- Mrs. Pat Wahl- Trinity, Turtle Lake
- Mr. Terry Murschel- Peace, Hazen

Reelected board members:

- Mr. Dennis Vernon- Living Water, Mandan
- Mrs. Lois Ballensky- English, Hazen
- Mr. Nick Faulkner- St. Olaf, Turtle Lake

Special thanks to our outgoing board members:

- Rev. Nadine Lehr- Lord of Life, Bismarck
- Bishop Mark Narum- formerly of Prairie Lutheran Parish
- Ms. Audra Oster- Peace, Hazen

April 2009

Camp of the Cross Ministries

1228A 47th Ave NW
Garrison, ND 58540

701-337-2246

www.campofthecross.com

Rev. Janis Sloka, III
Executive Director
janis@campofthecross.com

Sally Nordquist
Office Manager
info@campofthecross.com

Amy Hansen
Assistant Director
retreat@campofthecross.com

Wade Messer
Assistant Director
wade@campofthecross.com

Ben Hamilton
Site Manager
ben@campofthecross.com

Mark Your Calendar

- ❖ **Early Bird Registration** before March 31, 2009 Register early for camp to receive a discount!
- ❖ **Prairie Lake Festival** June 27, 2009 Auction begins at noon
- ❖ **Prairie Masters Golf Outing** August 4, 2009 Garrison Golf Club

Prairie Lake News



Camping with Christ... for lives of faith.

Page 2

From the Executive Director Rev. Janis Sloka, III

Camp of the Cross Ministries is “Going Green” and the first step in this process is for us to reduce our paper consumption in regards to this newsletter and other mailings. At the recent Annual Meeting, this idea of “Going Green” was announced and discussed with the participants. It was well received and affirmed by those present to pursue this endeavor.

So... how can you help? In one of three ways:

- We have been finding out that some constituent congregations put the Prairie Lake News, in its entirety, in their church newsletter each month. If your church does this, and you receive a second copy from us, would you consider being taken off our mailing list for the newsletter?
- If your congregation does not do this, would you consider asking your pastor, church secretary, and others who contribute to your church newsletter to include the Prairie Lake News in your newsletter?
- As our society becomes increasingly digitalized, would you consider having the newsletter arrive in your e-mail inbox instead of your mailbox?

What does this mean? We believe that over time this will be a significant savings in cost for us. By e-mailing the newsletter to you each month or having congregations support the distribution as another aspect of their benevolence to us, we will save on postage, paper, envelopes and time. It also is a matter of convenience. We have been posting new newsletters on our website as soon as they become available and keep archives of our old newsletters on the site, handy if you wanted to check out what we were up to a few months ago.

Camping as a Congregation

Is your church looking for a unique opportunity to spend some time together as a church family? Consider having a family camp for your congregation at the camp this summer. If you provide the people, we'll provide age-appropriate Bible studies, campfire worships complete with s'mores, family games, great food, and quality time to build relationships with your church family. There are still weekends available this summer. Don't think you have enough people? Consider asking another church to join you. Contact Amy at the camp for more information!



What should I do now? If you no longer need to get the Prairie Lake News in the mail, due to it already being printed in your church newsletter, you can call Sally at the camp office and let us know. If you would like to receive a reminder that the newsletter has been posted to the website, please contact Sally at the camp, either by phone or through e-mail, and let us know.

NOTE: If you choose to remove yourself from the newsletter mailing list, you will still receive mail from the camp, just not the Prairie Lake News.

Thank you for thoughtfully considering helping the camp in this way! I appreciate all that you do and what our constituent congregations do on behalf of our shared ministry!

Site Notes Ben Hamilton

Greetings to you this Lent season! As I become increasingly more “North Dakotan,” I've had to add a new word to my vocabulary. I had heard this word before but had not found any reason to put it to use, until now. Uffda! I say uffda as the sun is shining and, for once, I smile when I look at the thermometer. I am smart enough to know that there will be more winter to come but, today, uffda feels appropriate.

My two big projects of this winter are complete, minus a few last minor details, so again I say uffda. The storm shelter bathrooms are complete and the apartment now has a kitchen! Over the past month, I have been busy completing many continuing education hours to renew my EMT license. It was a very busy time making up the hours in just a month but I am now ready to serve for another two years, uffda!

Special thank you this month to the Men in Mission in Bismarck for the donation of a great new chainsaw! Last fall, we had discovered that our old saw was unfixable but, with the help of these men, we are now back in business! I look forward to the end of this month to put it to use when the men come and volunteer their time around camp.

I wish you all a very happy Spring!



Mother the Camp

For the second year in a row, Dennis Schott of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Butte is challenging all constituent congregations to donate 75 food items or paper products, up from his challenge of 50 last year! So, while planning your own Mother's Day festivities, please consider helping us with a "Mother the Camp" donation!

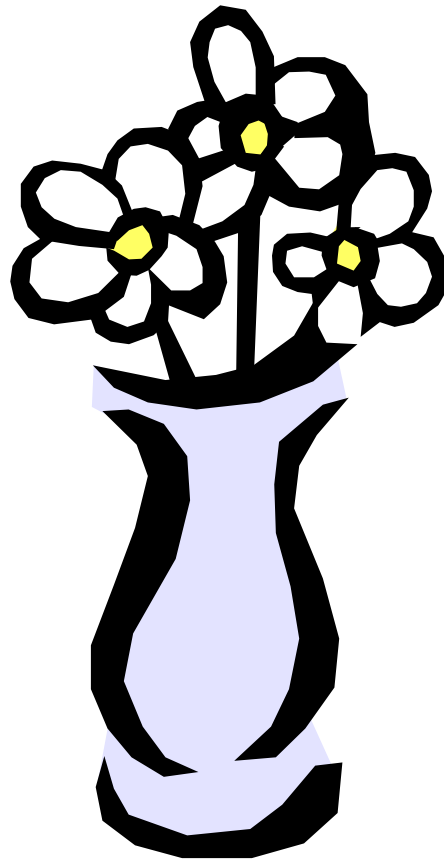
Happy Mother's Day!

Food

Canned vegetables & fruits
Ketchup & mustard
Chocolate chips
Cereals
Oatmeal
Flour
Sugar (all kinds)
Raisins
Cocoa
Coffee
Peanut butter
Jelly
Pasta
Rice
Canned soups
Pickles
Tuna
Syrup
Salsa

Special Project

The lodge bathrooms need some love. Would your group like to take them under your wings?



Crafts

Construction paper
Embroidery floss
Markers
Yarn
Glue

Paper Goods

Facial Tissue
Napkins

Miscellaneous

Gas cards
Laundry soap
Bathroom cleaner
Band-Aids
Sports equipment
Light bulbs (CFL)
Heavy extension cords

Office Supplies

Legal pads
Copy paper
Post-it notes
Postage stamps
Avery 5160 Labels
Tape (masking, scotch)
2 1/4" Calculator paper rolls

April
Prairie Lake News

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Garrison, ND
58540
Permit No. 46

Camp of the Cross Ministries
1228A 47th Ave NW
Garrison, ND 58540
phone & fax (701) 337-2246
info@campofthecross.com
www.campofthecross.com

Help us go green...



sign up for e-news!