



Bethany Birches Camp

Fun

Community

God

Nature

Smooth Sailing. Could it be? Yes...



Summer 2022 Photos

Winter and Summer camps during 2022 felt somewhat normal. Sure, participants received Covid screening/testing and some had to stay home as a result and some had a general concern/anxiety as the residual trauma from 2020. BUT! Attendance was back on track, staffing normalized, there were no crises and many campers and parents expressed much gratitude. One parent wrote to say “my daughter was blown away with the fabulous experience of camp. This will be her second summer and she’s already looking forward to next year!! On the ride home she said that she cried three times around the campfire. This was all because she was feeling so grounded and tuned into who she really is. Apparently they were discussing the mustard seed parable and she relayed that the first time she cried was sharing her own story about how she’s not always grounded in fertile soil and how she’s pledging to make a change for the positive in her life.”

That’s Good Cause There’s More To Do!



Coming out of an unusual period, we have heard from many campers, parents, and increasingly school teachers, that children and teens need to be outside, together, having fun and building relationships. As a result, we have been hosting more programming events as well as more school groups. Local schools (particularly the teachers) are asking us to provide a little bit of camp during the school year. What fun! It’s wonderful to see youngsters back on property, connecting with each other and nature and developing a relationship with God.

Like Gardening, and Raising The Next Generation.



Gardening might be a misnomer, but, for years we have been talking about “growing our own” staff. Seeds were planted years ago, and we are harvesting. This year 10 of the 14 lead counselors were past BBC campers. As campers turn into staffers, they have lots to learn, but they do not need to learn mission and passion. They remember who their counselors were to them and how special those relationships were and continue to be. They strive to create the same experience for the next generation of campers. Join me in thankfulness for a year of ministry, relationship-building, and outside-being. Join me in prayer for the year ahead. May it be filled with joy, love, peace, safety, and may each participant find Jesus in their journey through life.

Sincerely, Brandon Bergey, Executive Director

www.bethanybirches.org

802-672-5220

camp@bethanybirches.org