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Camp Judson
newsletter '09

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...where faith and fun meet!

January 2009

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2009: "A Year of Reflection and Renewed Vision"

As many of you may already know, 2009 is going to be a big year for Camp Judson. This year means big changes and big celebrations for camp. Last September, Ken Thompson officially announced that he will be retiring in September of this year. This year also marks the 60th anniversary of Camp Judson. This will be a year that all of us "Judsonites" will get to praise the Lord for all he has done for us and pray that he will continue to guide us through the years to come.

Ken Thompson has served the Lord through his ministry here at Camp Judson for the past 31 years. When I decided to become a volunteer "staffer" in the late 1990s, I never would have imagined how much this one man would affect my life. When I talk to other staff members about his pending retirement, one thing comes up. Everyone talks about how much Ken taught them about what it means to be a servant of God. Through every situation Ken remained true to God's calling. Ken always referred to Camp Judson as "Holy Ground." The more I work at camp the more I believe that this is indeed "Holy Ground." Throughout Ken's 31 years at Camp Judson he has had a positive and lasting impact on not just those involved with Camp Judson but also those in the North Springfield, PA community. In the past 31 years we have all seen Ken from different perspectives. Perhaps you were the Jr. CSP picking up the garbage at camp. Maybe you were the camper who wondered how the Quaker Oat man got a job working at camp. Or maybe you were the person in the pew on Sunday listening to Ken as he threw summer brochures at you. No matter what your memory of Ken Thompson—the simple truth is that he has been a model of a Christian servant to us all!



Sixty years is a big deal. This camp has been glorifying God while ministering to people for six decades! Thousands of lives have been changed because of experiences that happened on this "Holy Ground." Many of us cherish the memories that we have of camp and our time spent here. When we first came to camp it was to have fun. Little did we know that someday, the things that we learned and saw here, would shape our relationship with Christ. Judson is a place where you can come and meet with God on a different level. On August 8th, 2009 we will have the opportunity to celebrate all that God has done through Camp Judson during the 60th Anniversary celebration. What an exciting year 2009 will be for Camp Judson!

Throughout this year I would ask that you continue to keep Camp Judson in your prayers. A lot of work has been accomplished thus far but there is still much to do. Praise the Lord for all he has done in the last 60 years in and through Camp Judson. Pray for the search committee that has the task of finding the next managing director. Pray for the planning of the celebration and that through it all God would be glorified. Finally, pray for this camp. It has been a vital part of many individuals' walk with the Lord. Pray that this place will continue to be not only a place where "faith and fun meet", but where our hearts meet Christ's heart.

- Shane Locke

WANTED: YOUNG ADULT CAMPERS

Are you a past camper who grew "too old" to go to a week of summer camp? Well, Camp Judson has an exciting opportunity for those of you who have graduated from High school and still want to have a week of summer camp geared toward your needs. Judson is offering an exciting 3 day camp (July 2-5) for people (post high-school) who are interested in growing in their faith. This week will prove to challenge you spiritually and reunite you with past Judson friends.

Pastor Rick Hill, will be leading this exciting camp. He has been a missionary to Moscow, led an extreme team for International Ministries, and is now starting to work with Karen refugees in his area. He will have a fantastic message that will challenge young adults to consider what they can do to serve God's Kingdom here and even abroad. On top of a great spiritual focus, this camp will be full of the fun activities that you remember when you were a camper.

Watch for more information about this camp and if you are interested in registering, please contact the Camp office ASAP. Come join us this summer where "faith and fun meet" and re-live the Judson experience!

New Ministry Support Options!

We still need your help to keep our finances clean and out of the red ink. There are plenty of opportunities to help so what are you waiting for?! What is the true meaning of **S.O.A.P.** 4 JC? Your choice! **SUPPORTER OF A PROJECT, PERSON, or PAYMENT FOR JUDSON CAMP.** To maintain a balanced budget we must find new ways to help support the financial burdens at Judson Camp. So why not be a **S.O.A.P.** 4 JC?

We do appreciate your giving to our various programs and projects such as JDO, CAP Project ECHO to mention a few. And we do not want you to stop giving to the subsidy which helps take care of the day to day operational expenses. We are most grateful for your support. But when it comes to having our bills go up and our income go down, we are no different than most of you.

As most all of you know, the Lord's work at Judson Camp has always been through faith. For over 50 years we have been in business doing the Lord's work and depending solely on your generosity to see us through each and every year. We are now asking you to continue your financial support. And we are giving you yet another way to be a part of the work at Judson Camp. You decide where you want your **additional** giving to go to. The monies received will go specifically into the areas you mark on your envelope. If you have any questions about this exciting new way to support this ministry please don't hesitate to ask your Camp Judson Commissioners or the Camp Judson office.

This newsletter was written and edited by volunteers and friends of Camp Judson to keep you informed. If you have any questions or comments about the contents or any submissions for this newsletter or would like to learn more about Camp Judson, please contact the Camp Judson Office through our web site (www.campjudson.com) by e-mail (judson@velocity.net), phone 814-922-3834, fax 814-622-1251 or write to:

Newsletter Correspondence and Submissions,
C/O Camp Judson, 398 Holliday Rd., North Springfield, PA 16430-1208

Camp Judson 2009 Summer Schedule

RALLY DAY	JUNE 13	ENTIRE FAMILY
JR. 1	JUNE 14-20	GRADES 4-6
JR. HIGH 1	JUNE 14-20	GRADES 7-8
JR. TRAILBLAZERS	JUNE 14-20	GRADES 4-6
JR. 2	JUNE 21-27	GRADES 4-6
JR. HIGH 2	JUNE 21-27	GRADES 7-8
JR/SR HIGH SUMMER BLAST	JUNE 28- JULY 1	GRADES 7-12
MINI 1	JUNE 28- JULY 1	GRADES 2-3
POST HIGH CAMP	JULY 2-5	POST HIGH SCHOOL
FAMILY CAMP	JULY 2-5	ENTIRE FAMILY
JR. 3	JULY 5-11	GRADES 4-6
MINI 2	JULY 5-8	GRADES 2-3
MINI 3	JULY 8- 11	GRADES 2-3
WRANGLER CAMP	JULY 12-18	GRADES 7-12
ARTS ALIVE IN 2009	JULY 12- 18	GRADES 7-12
SENIOR HIGH SUPER WEEK	JULY 19-25	GRADES 9-12
DAY CAMP 1	JULY 20-24	GRADES K-6
JR. 4	JULY 26- AUG. 1	GRADES 4-6
TRAILBLAZERS	JULY 26- AUG. 1	GRADES 7-12
DAY CAMP 2	JULY 27- 31	GRADES K-6

60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION- AUGUST 8th, 2009

**** GRADE ENTERING IN SEPTEMBER OF 2008 ****

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ABCOPAD
Camp, Conference &
Retreat Ministries

You can support our Camp, Conference & Retreat Ministries in a very special way through **charitable estate planning**. You may not be able to give a large gift to this ministry right now, but through your will and/or other estate plans, you may leave a gift that will provide significant future support to these special ministries which effectively further the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

For information on how *you* can support our C.C.R. Ministries through your estate plans, contact our **American Baptist Foundation representative**.

Fred M. Daugherty

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Valley Forge, PA 19482

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ATTENTION WOODWORKERS, CARPENTERS, HANDYMEN:

Camp Needs Bat Houses

Camp is a great place to come and enjoy the outdoors, especially in the summertime. However, camp is not only home to campers and staff! Bats also frequent Camp Judson during the summer months. These animals are an important part of the ecosystem because they keep mosquito numbers down, providing insect free areas to enjoy all that the outdoors can offer at night. To discourage bats from taking residence in camp buildings, Judson would like to erect "Bat Houses" throughout the property. This would encourage the bats to use these houses for shelter rather than some of the camp buildings. WE NEED YOU! Building a "Bat House" can be a simple yet fun way to help out Camp Judson. If you are interested in this project you can acquire the plans for these houses in two ways:



1. Call the camp office to have a plan sheet mailed to you; OR
2. Go to Google.com and search "Bat House Plans" to acquire your own set of plans at your leisure.

The bat houses need to be in place before the bats arrive at camp. It would be ideal to have the completed bat houses by the 15th of March. If you have any questions or concerns please call the camp office.

CAMP JUDSON MEETS THE DIGITAL AGE

In the past couple of years camp has been working to find ways to use technology to better serve all of you in our supporting churches. Camp has also been finding ways to use technology to do more with the monetary gifts that you so graciously provide for camp. We are excited to offer you a unique opportunity receive a digital copy of the Judson Newsletter.

We all know that postage and printing costs have been on the rise lately. We also know how mailings and other papers tend to pile up to only be tossed in the garbage never to be seen again. For those of you who have a computer and an email address, this offer may be just what you have been waiting for.



Judson would like to send anyone who is interested, a digital copy of the newsletter. It would arrive in your email inbox whenever the newsletter becomes available. This would help camp lower postage and printing costs. It would also give you an opportunity to archive past newsletters. On top of all that it's the eco-friendly thing to do. Anyone who sign up for the digital newsletter will be taken off of the snail mail list and placed on the eNewsletter mailing list. Your email address will not be used for any other purpose than to distribute the newsletter.



If you are interested in the opportunity please send a **BLANK** email to **Judson-news@gmail.com**. Be sure to put your **FIRST** and **LAST** name in the subject line of your email. This will ensure that our mailing lists are up to date. We hope you consider this unique opportunity. We on the Camp Judson Marketing Committee look forward to finding new and innovative ways to serve you in our supporting churches.

The Summer that Was!

Summers on the shores of Lake Erie are always eventful; full of faith and fun! So many campers made decisions to commit this summer that office staff had to purchase extra books to send them! Though it is difficult to measure the spiritual growth that campers experience, we do our best to itemize their decisions. Campers of all ages, from 2nd and 3rd grade to seniors in high school, made salvation decisions. We had a total of 14 salvation decisions this summer. Many of our campers come from Christian homes and have already established their commitment to lead a life of service and worship to God. These campers could make commitments to daily devotions, prayer, increased church involvement or recommit to Christ. Commitments to daily devotions totaled in 177 over the whole summer and those focusing solely on prayer amounted to 39. Each of these campers received follow-up mail after their camp week along with a book chosen specifically for that age group to help aid them in this process. Those campers who recommitted their lives to Christ amounted in 14, each also receiving mail and a book. Judson also had 54 campers commit to increased church involvement. Pastors of each camper received mail detailing the campers from their church who made decisions and which decisions were made. Our senior counseling staff was encouraged, and many have followed through, to continue contact with each of their campers in order to maintain a strong relationship of mentoring and guiding each camper on their Christian walk.

It never ceases to amaze me the number of lives touched by Camp Judson each summer. Every camper (518 this summer!) that steps on that holy ground is somehow affected. Staff members, including myself, continue to come back after years of being a camper because their lives have been changed and molded. God does amazing things through Judson. To be a part of this ministry is a blessing to us all.

- Claire Chadwick