

CAMP MANATAWNY NEWSLETTER

2024 SUMMER SESSIONS, NEW CABIN UPDATE, MORE ROOFS AND ROAD, BOARD MEMER ELECTIONS, CHAIRMAN'S THOUGHTS, UPCOMING EVENTS, ONLINE CAMPSHIP FUNDRAISER, FINANCIAL AID DEADLINE



Summer Sessions 2024

By Andy Mychajlowycz, Executive Director

Overnight Camp: Saturday afternoon to Saturday morning. Seven days of activities, including Bible classes, worship, swimming, archery, Bible buzzer, zip line, horses, canoes/kayaks, creek walks, and more.

Day Camp: Day Camp option (July 15 to Aug 5, Mon to Fri). Campers get to enjoy many of the same activities and two meals. Discounts & financial aid not available.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						Jun 22
Jun 23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Senior High 2: June 22 - 29						
Jun 30	Jul 1	2	3	4	5	6
Senior High 1: June 29 - July 6						
Jul 7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Junior High 2: July 6 - 13						
Jul 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Junior High 1: July 13 - 20						
Jul 21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Intermediate: July 20 - 27						
Jul 28	29	30	31	Aug 1	2	3
Elementary 2: July 27 - August 3						
Aug 4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Elementary 1: August 3 - 10						

Directors & Grade Eligibility:

Shawn Cutts

Teens who completed grades 11-12

Matt Richard, Joe Lohr

Teens who completed grades 9-10)

Allison Gladfelter, Derek Garrett

Teens who completed grades 7-9

Stephen Tupitza

Teens who completed grades 5-7

Jonathan and Hayley Woodall,

Jodi Fox

Tweens who completed grades 4-6

Matt Ahearn

Children who completed grades 3-4

Chris & Stacey Lewis

Children who completed grades 1-2

Fees and Discounts for 2024:

\$425 + \$4 fee for a week of overnight camp (\$50 deposit required at time of registration)

\$325 + \$4 fee for 5 days of day camp (payment in full required at time of registration).

First Time Camper Discount: First time campers are welcomed with a \$50 discount.

Multi Camper Discount: Families that register more than two campers from immediate family will receive a \$40 discount per additional camper. Applies to three or more children.

Multi Week Discount: Registering for a 2nd week will save you \$100.



Camp Manatawny, 33 Camp Road, Douglassville, PA 19518
 Telephone: (610)-707-2267 [DVCC]
 Camp website: www.manatawny.org

www.facebook.com/Manatawny/
 www.instagram.com/campmanatawny/
 twitter.com/campmanatawny



New Cabin Update

The first new cabin is completed in Boys Town. We hope to build the second one in Girls Town. Each new cabin will roughly sit on the footprint of two Greenies, but will sleep 28 people (14 in each of two bunk areas). Each side will have 6-7 stacked bunk beds with cubbies for storage. Most of the bunks and cubbies are being built by Camp volunteers.

Each of the new cabins will have bathrooms. Campers staying in the new cabins will still be able to use one of the bath houses to go to the bathroom and shower. However, the new cabin bathrooms in each cabin will be especially useful for those late night needs. They will also allow counselors to accompany our youngest campers within the cabin rather than trekking with them to one of the bath houses. The new cabins will have ADA features (showers, wheelchair bathroom counters and door openings, handicap ramps, etc.) to make Camp easier to navigate for campers with physical disabilities. They will have a covered porch for devotionals, bible classes, and personal quiet times, and the latest safety features, including, firewalls, and multiple means of egress.

The new cabins will have heat and air conditioning. Although we will use the AC during the summer on the hottest days, heating will allow Camp to use the new cabins for Camp-sponsored events and other retreats throughout the year. Currently Camp operates all 52 weeks of the year and we have run out of available weekends for Camp events and rentals. The new cabins will extend the wonder and joy of Camp to additional campers and groups.

As we build the new cabins, we will relocate some Greenies (Rustic Cabins). Some will fill in spots where previous Greenies stood. Some will be relocated to other areas of Camp (for rest areas near the corral, archery area, rifle range, and climbing wall; for storing canoes; and for hiking/camping on Rabbit Hill). For those who love the greenies, we hope to have some with us for a long time!

We want to thank everyone who has donated, prayed for, and helped build the first new cabin! The effort to raise funds for the second new cabin will begin soon. We look forward to working together with you to raise the funding for this cabin by end of year 2025.

We welcome the new cabin and thank the Lord and our generous donors for extending the mission of Camp for decades to come!

See new cabin blueprints: www.manatawny.org/newcabinblueprints To donate: www.manatawny.org/new-cabin-donations



More Roofs and New Entrance Road

Last year we had a number of donations that allowed us to replace many of the large cabin and facility roofs around Camp. We replaced the roofs on Garrett Hall, Bailey Dining Hall, the Maintenance Building, the Multipurpose Building, the Summer Session Office/Canteen, and the Rifle Range. During Work and Worship Weekend, a crew was able to replace the roof on Eagles Nest. And in the coming months, we have received donations to replace the roof on the Center Field Gazebo.

Later in 2024, we also hope to repave the entrance road to Camp, which has been a long time coming.

To help us continue with this process, please prayerfully consider donating to Camp's Road and Roof Fund:

www.manatawny.org/donations

The Camp Board

A Summer Director's Perspective

By Jonathan Woodall, Director Intermediate Week & Board Member

As I think of my formative years growing up in western Pennsylvania at the small church of Christ in the Allegheny mountains, I can't help but think about how important camp was for my spiritual development. How encouraging it was to sing devotional songs with 70-80 peers, instead of a handful back at home. How engaging it was to have lessons taught as if they were specifically written with me in mind, because they were. How enriching it was to leave camp with addresses and phone numbers of friends who I could contact throughout the year. I always left camp on a spiritual high, and now that I am a director, you would think that I return home completely drained. Often, experiences as an adult are not the same as an experience you had growing up, and knowing how the sausage is made makes it a lot harder to enjoy the sausage, so they say. Does directing a week of camp heighten the responsibility so much that I cannot enjoy a week of camp like before?



Well, some things have changed since my days of arriving at camp with suitcase, pillow, and sleeping bag to reconnect with friends and have a week designed for me. Now I do the designing. But I'm never doing it alone. My wife, Hayley, and our wonderful friend, Jodi Fox, have been partners in this endeavor. Each of us bringing our own gifts to the table as we think about how to design a week for 10-12-year-olds and, most importantly, who to invite to help lead the campers' experience. We have three simple truths that guide Intermediate week, and these were handed down to us by Andy Hower who directed before us. First, "God is good all the time," and yes, we tend to shout it a lot at camp. Second, "Jesus loves me," and that love is seen in the Bible classes, the structure of the week, and the way we want our staff to treat our campers and each other. Third, "This life is sweet, but eternal life is so much better." As great as a week of camp is, the week comes to an end and we all go "back to the real world," and so we like to imagine a time and place where the friendships, worship, and devotedness does not end...sounds like a vision of heaven to me.

So, about that help, I have the duty and privilege to gather around 70ish volunteers to make camp come to life each summer. We have cooks, special activities leaders, Bible teachers, nurses, maintenance workers, counselors, and more...and each one is tasked with living out the three simple truths in front of and with our campers. When we have the right people in the right places, a week of camp runs like a well-oiled machine and the campers have the time of their lives. As a director, you learn to lean on those who come back year after year to make the week special, you learn to trust your staff to do their job, and you learn to guide new staff who are willing to learn what it takes. I know that things don't last forever, so each year I thank God for giving me the opportunity to pour into a staff who pours into our campers so that our week fulfills the mission of Manatawny - transforming lives for Christ for a lifetime. Intermediate week is just one of seven weeks, so this happens seven times a summer with a different volunteer director team for each week - Senior High 2, Senior High 1, Junior High 2, Junior High 1, Intermediate, Elementary 2, and Elementary 1. Thank you to everyone who helps make camp a special place for the campers. (And I would ask each of you to pray for these weeks individually.)

So, about that return from camp each year. Yeah, I'm tired when I get home, but I like to think of it as a good tired. A good tired is when a servant of God pours themselves out as an offering to others and then rests from their work knowing that it was not in vain, it was totally worth it. I trust that the "good tired" is somewhat infectious, as each staff person returns home knowing that they have done something remarkable, they have led someone closer to Christ and have spent a week of their summer in a very special mission field. Manatawny is a mission field, one that I hope we don't overlook because it isn't on a different continent or a long trip away (although some staff do travel some distance to work like Florida, Tennessee, and New Jersey [kidding about Jersey]). Oh, and the campers aren't the only one changed, but I am, and we are. I leave camp with confidence in the emerging generations of Christians who will work out their faith in the same way we have done and continue to do. I also leave camp with a firm understanding of a faithful God who continues to show His presence among us every year, making His salvation known through baptism, rededication, and renewed enthusiasm for the mission of the church.

This will be my 9th year directing a week at Manatawny, and I am so grateful to be a part of this wonderful community. Each year, I get to experience a taste of what our heavenly kingdom will be like, just like I did when I was a teenager attending my week at camp. I look forward to coming back as a "director emeritus" to simply enjoy at some point, encouraging those who are in the trenches that their work is important. More importantly, I want to experience some of the campers I have hosted being the new directors. Leadership of camp continues to get handled down, from generation to generation, and I must admit that I love to see it! It is a testimony to the ongoing mission of Camp Manatawny, and did I mention yet how grateful I am to be a part of it?



Work and Worship Weekend

On April 19-21, we had Work and Worship Weekend with 52 people present and helping. The many volunteers focused on getting Camp ready for our Spring events and Summer sessions and allowed us to get a jump on many maintenance and facilities projects around Camp. We dug trenches, started the assembly of bunks for the new cabin, prepped Bailey Dining Hall, cleaned mattresses and swept out the Greenies, replaced the roof on Eagle's Nest, and various other tasks. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who were able to help!

Our Camp Annual Meeting was held right after Work and Worship Weekend.

THANK YOU
for the lives you touch
We appreciate you
SO MUCH



Board Member Elections

On April 21, Camp held its Annual Corporation Meeting. Our Board Members and Camp's Executive Director provided an update on the goings on at Camp, including an update on the 2023 Camp season, Camp's financial status, our upcoming Camps events, and news about Camp's staff and facilities. We also announced the results of the Board member elections. The individuals pictured below received sufficient votes to be appointed or re-elected to our Camp Board to new 3 year terms.



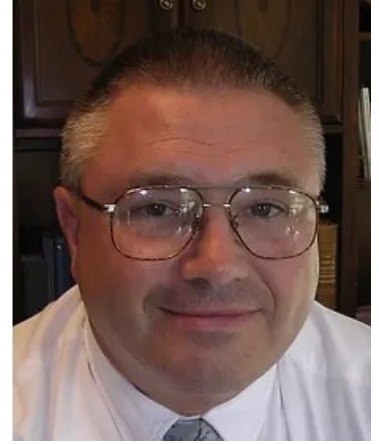
Nawanna Ceraso



Dan Cooper



Stacy Drum



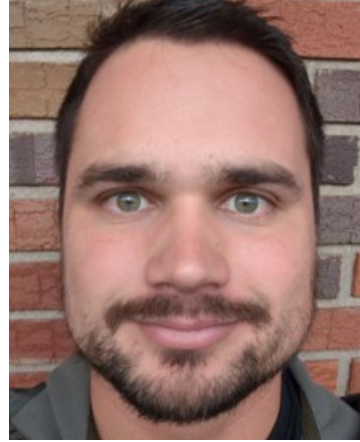
Bill Garrett



Adam Markle



Tom Shuff



Zach Sizemore



Jonathan Woodall

On April 30, the following Board members were elected to serve as officers on our Camp Board during the 2024 season.



Dave Smith
(Chairman)



Kathy Ashton & Tom Shuff
(Co-Vice Chairs)



Jonathan Gerst
(Treasurer)



Danielle Gold
(Secretary)

Transforming Lives for Christ for a Lifetime!

Calendar of Events

2024 Rest-of-Spring Calendar



Apr 26-27 **Jr/Sr High Retreat (Spring)**
(for grades 7 to 12)



Apr 30 **Summer Overnight Camp**
Early Registration Deadline
(\$26 off when paid in full)



May 3-4 **Ladies' Retreat**
May 18-24 **NEW Campship Online**
Fundraiser



May 24-26 **Family Camp (Spring)**

May 25 **Open House**

Jun 1-2 **Camp Sunshine**
(for special needs kids)

Jun 15 **Deadline for Aid (Campships)**

2024 Fall Calendar



Aug 30-Sep 1 **NEW Family Camp (Fall)**

Aug 31 **Staff Appreciation Day**

Sep 6-7 **NEW Singles' Retreat**



Sep 20-21 **Men's Retreat**

Oct 11-13 **Jr/Sr High Retreat (Fall)**
(for grades 7 to 12)



Nov 2023-
Feb 2024 **Winter Rental Promotion**

Nov 3 **Game Night & Potluck**

Dec 29-
Jan 1 **LiftU – Winter Retreat**
(for College-Age Young Adults
& High School Seniors)



Online Campship Fundraiser

Each year, Camp awards financial assistance to any family who applies and is qualified. We awarded over \$20,000 in aid in 2023. We call these awards Campships. But we need your help to raise these funds! The Online Campship Fundraiser will take place May 18-24. Anyone who donates over \$100 to the Campship Fund during this week will get a \$20 credit to a canteen account.

Please help us help others! www.manatawny.org/donations

If you have any questions, please call the Camp main office number: (610) 707-3822.



New for 2024



FAMILY CAMP



Spring
May
24-26

Fall
Aug 30-
Sep 1

Every year, Family Camp fills up quickly, and many families return annually for this Memorial Day weekend event.

In fact, Family Camp has become the most popular Camp event. And, because of this, we have decided to increase the opportunity for family fun! This year, we will have a second Family Camp during Labor Day weekend.

Both will be a great time to enjoy our summer camp activities and re-energize your family's walk with God. There will be something for everyone to enjoy! Activities may include canoeing, kayaking, archery, riflery, swimming, crafts, and family friendly meals! And don't forget the bikes... the kids can enjoy riding their bikes around Camp, something normally not allowed during the summer sessions.

The lessons during Family Camp often follow a family-friendly movie theme. And your speaker will provide thought-provoking and engaging messages throughout the weekend.

The goal of this weekend is to provide you and your family with fun activities to enjoy together. Or you can just relax and spend time with the ones you love. Come away from this weekend feeling spiritually refreshed and closer to God and your family.

Those who wish to stay until Monday (no activities or meals), can do so by calling the Camp main office at (610) 707-3822 and letting us know.



2024 Singles Retreat Sep 6-7



Many of you fondly remember coming to Camp to attend the Single’s Retreat several years ago. And many of you have been asking for us to bring back this opportunity.

After much discussion, we have decided to have the Single’s Retreat again in 2024!

Come to the Single’s Retreat with your dear friends. Enjoy fun activities, tasty meals, uplifting singing, godly worship, lively camp fires, deep discussions, and a time to pray and be refreshed.

Registration will open at the conclusion of the summer. Come and experience a little slice of heaven.



Financial Aid Deadline



This year, the deadline to apply for financial assistance (campships) toward registration for overnight summer camp is **June 15**.

How to apply: When completing the online registration process, you will be asked if you would like to apply for financial aid. Just complete the one-page questionnaire. You will be asked about your income level, the size of your family, the type of job you and your spouse have, whether you have applied for assistance from other sources, etc. After you complete the registration process, you will need to at least make a \$50 deposit payment. You may receive a call to ask you further questions. We have a limited budget for financial assistance each year and want to help as many families as possible. Please prayerfully and thoughtfully complete the necessary process.

Call the Camp main office if you have any questions at (610) 707-3822 .

Chairman's Thoughts

By Dave Smith, Chairman of the Board



Dear Camp Manatawny Family,

As we eagerly await the arrival of summer, we want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to all the volunteers who have poured their time and effort into preparing our beloved camp for the upcoming summer sessions. Your dedication and hard work have not gone unnoticed, and we are incredibly thankful for everything you do to make Camp Manatawny the special place that it is.

This summer, as you return to Camp Manatawny, you'll notice some exciting changes awaiting you. We're thrilled to unveil our brand new Boys cabin, providing our campers and staff with updated and comfortable accommodations. Additionally, Garrett Hall boasts a fresh new roof, ensuring that our gatherings and activities remain sheltered from the elements. The completion of these construction projects mark another milestone in our ongoing efforts to enhance the camp experience for everyone involved.

As we gear up for the summer season, there are a few important dates to keep in mind. Family Camp (Spring) is just around the corner, taking place over Memorial Day Weekend from May 24th to May 26th. If you love the spirit of summer camp, we invite you to join us for a weekend filled with fun activities, delicious food, and meaningful worship.

And speaking of summer camp, our Summer Sessions are right around the corner, running from June 22nd to August 10th. With dozens of activities, uplifting worship, and plenty of time to spend with friends old and new, this summer promises to be one for the books. Don't forget to register now to secure your spot!

At Camp Manatawny, we believe in the transformative power of camp. Here, children have the opportunity to grow spiritually, develop important life skills, and form lasting friendships in a safe and nurturing environment. Our camp is not only a blessing to those from Christian homes but also serves as an effective evangelistic experience for young people to encounter the life-saving message of Christ. So don't forget to bring your friends along!

This summer, we need your help to make Camp Manatawny the best it can be. Volunteering at camp is a rewarding opportunity to bring joy, laughter, and smiles to our community. Whether you're an individual looking to lend a hand or a group searching for a meaningful service project, we have plenty of volunteer opportunities available. Join us in being a positive influence for God in our camp community and help us transform lives for a lifetime.

Thank you once again to all our volunteers, campers, and supporters for your unwavering dedication to Camp Manatawny. Together, we are creating memories and making a difference that will last a lifetime.

Warm regards,
Dave Smith, Chairman