



# Christian Camper

## New Bath House Completed



Friday, August 15, 2008, was a momentous day for MWBC campers and staff who were blessed to witness the opening of the new bath house at LDYC. The Opening Ceremonies began with the parade of cabins, as each cabin (as well as Bible Teachers and the Healthcare and Administrative Staff) proudly raised their propaganda-filled flags and marched through the arch of plungers toward the bath house. The assembly listened intently as the Bible Teachers announced their "Bath House Ten Commandments." Co-Directors Kim Sleege and Paul Prescott, robed in a retired shower curtain from the old bath house, welcomed Sir Bob Miller into knighthood as the Reigning Bath House Knight. Then the TP Torch Relay began with one representative from each cabin taking a turn transferring the toilet paper torch from the old bath house around the backstop to the new luxury bath suite. A "moving" speech was given by Kim Sleege, master architect, detailing the "constipated" construction efforts of the bath house project and subsequent "irregularity" in the progress of the facility. A passage from Exodus 14 was read and Paul Prescott ceremonially inspected the bath house for mildew (as instructed by Moses) while the multitude eagerly anticipated the results of the inspection. His proclamation, "It is clean!" resulted in wild cheers and joyful celebration by the entire MWBC family. Amidst the merriment and jubilation, Kim Sleege performed the ceremonial first flush and the bath house was officially opened for business. Everyone agreed the memory of this festive commemoration will surely live on in the hearts of all participants forever.



In this issue:	
New Bath House Completed	Page 1
Letter from the President — New Cell Phone Camp	Page 2
LDYC Facility Updates	Page 3
Lake Drained — MWBC Going Green — LDYC Supervisor Needed — Thank You, John and Cheryl Kinyon	Page 4
Show Your Love For MWBC	Page 5
2009 Camp Dates	Page 6

## From the President of MWBC

I love being a part of MWBC. From the time I came to Iowa 5 years ago and began preaching in Des Moines, I have found some way to be involved in camp. This year, I have the honor of serving as the President of the Board. Last year, we had great kids and great staff which made for truly great weeks of camp. We are hoping for another great year in 2009. Things are “business as usual” as we prepare for next summer. We are preparing the curriculum, establishing the dates and directors and doing all of the necessary work in making sure everything is organized and in place. Of course we never rest on our laurels despite many decades of doing good. We are continually looking for ways to improve the entire camp experience and assist LDYC with facility upgrades.



What we need (and have always needed) is your interest and involvement. We are grateful and indebted to you for your interest and commitment by being a Cooperate Member. You can be confident in knowing that every ounce of energy, time, monies and prayer put into camp yields a spiritual harvest a hundredfold. With this in mind, may I encourage you help spread the word. Let people you know – church members, family, friends – what a blessing MWBC is and that they can be involved in it. Also let former campers know that just because they are older - in college, beginning work, or starting families – that their involvement with camp doesn't have to be over. They can help to take all those great experiences at camp that blessed their lives and pass them on to another group of kids.

MWBC is a worthwhile ministry. God is continuing to bless it year after year. Take part in the great things God is doing. Let's work together to make MWBC reach its full potential and in turn reach the hearts and souls of young people all across the Midwest .

In Christ ,  
Colby Clapp, President MWBC



.org  
.com



If you have not visited MWBC's web site recently [midwestbiblecamp.com or midwestbiblecamp.org] you are encouraged to go take a look. Much prayer, planning and work went into the new look and feel of our web site by board member Sara Bochmann. A huge THANKS goes to Sarah for her dedication and hard work on this project. ✍

## MWBC to Offer New Cell Phone Camp



Wow, what's that, you say? That's right, MWBC is excited to announce that starting in the summer of 2009, we will offer “Cell Phone Camp” as a sub-session to all of our sessions. No, it's not a series of competitions like Fastest Blind Text Messaging, Best Picture on a Cell Phone, or Fastest Lookup of Info on Web. You come to camp to get away, make

friends, and grow spiritually. Cell Phone Camp is a chance for your cell phone to get away from you and hang out with other cell phones! They'll get to call, text, and take pictures of each other, download Christian movies or Bible text, and sing their favorite song “Ring the Message Out.”

So I'm sure you're thinking, “That sounds great, how do I sign up my cell phone, I-Pod or other communication device for Cell Phone Camp”? IT'S EASY. Simply bring your device with you to the registration table. We'll be happy to take it, give it a name tag, and assign it to a safe cabin where it will have lots of friends to play with and will be watched over by a caring staff member. At the end of your session, you'll be able to pick it up and take it home with you. Just think of the stories it will have to tell you of its fun adventures (just dial voicemail and check text messages to hear all about it). Don't worry, in case of emergency, you'll be able to talk to one of the directors and visit your cell phone mid-session. But if your parents can somehow survive a week without you, we're sure you'll somehow survive a week without your cell phone.

In all seriousness, MWBC has found cell phones to be a distraction to campers over the last few years. We strive to create an environment apart from everyday life, where you can hang out with friends and grow spiritually in a fun environment. So we've decided to more strictly enforce our existing policies regarding cell phones and other electronic devices. We will expect you to turn them in during registration [if you forgot to leave it at home] so you can focus on camp friends and activities. If you don't turn your phone in when you register and are caught with it later, it will be confiscated and will have to go to Cell Phone Jail instead of Cell Phone Camp. Believe me, you don't want to do that to your phone, it's definitely not as much fun. So thanks in advance, we greatly appreciate your support of Cell Phone Camp. Please remember to tell your friends and parents you'll be out of touch for a week—you don't want them thinking you're mad at them or ignoring them. And if you want to take pictures during camp, please remember to bring a separate camera or buy a picture CD — needing a camera is not an acceptable reason to keep your phone.

## ***LDYC Facility Updates — What's Next?***

If you've been to camp in the last couple years, you've probably noticed that a tremendous amount of work has been done on the facilities front. Two summers ago, we enlarged the dining hall and screened in the shelter house. Last summer, two new cabins were added and we also watched the new bath house / storm shelter construction get underway. Special II campers were the 1<sup>st</sup> to use the bath house following a grand opening ceremony on the last day of camp. The kitchen staff was also thrilled with the replacement of two refrigerators that were on their last leg. And behind the scenes, Lake Darling Youth Center (LDYC), working with the DNR, completed the majority of the work on lagoon upgrades that the DNR had required. Amazingly, the cost of these projects totaled close to \$400,000, with MWBC supporters contributing approximately 10%. We feel extremely blessed by God both for your generosity toward these projects and also for our relationship with LDYC and the money they have raised and their oversight of these projects.

So you may wonder if we're now set on the facilities front or if there's more work to do. Well, we've done some dreaming and have come up with a list of additional facility enhancements that we want to be a part. We have faith that God will also provide for these projects.

### ***Replace Food Storage Shed***

First, we *really* need to replace the shed we store food in during the summer. After many years of use, the floor is unsafe and the shed sometimes allows moisture to get in and damage food. So one way or another, we will be building a new food shed before summer 2009. The new building will be bigger, have a concrete floor, have better storage and lighting to find food easier, and will allow us to keep our food separate from other groups that rent LDYC. (estimated cost: \$4,000, raised to date: \$3,000)

### ***Build Chapel Stage***

Second, we would love to enhance the chapel that was built a few years ago by adding a stage to the front for speakers, skits, etc. We hope to have the stage ready for use in 2009 and our current plan is to build it ourselves during our Spring Workday. So if you have some construction skills, please plan to come. (estimated cost: \$2,000, raised to date: \$1,750)

### ***Convert Old Bath House into Nurse's Cabin***

Third, we would like to find a new use for the old bath house. We'd like to take advantage of the plumbing in the building and turn it into a new, larger nurse's cabin with a bathroom. This

will be much more convenient for the nurse and anyone needing medical attention. The remainder of the building could become a director's cabin, storage facility, or sports equipment storage area. Plans are currently in development. (estimated cost: \$8,000-\$10,000, (raised to date: \$0)

### ***Repurpose Current Nurse's Cabin***

Fourth, once we have a new nurse's cabin, we'd like to create a new use for the current nurse's cabin. Depending on the camp's needs at the time, it might be turned into more cabin space for campers/staff or a larger sports equipment shed. (estimated cost: \$2,000, raised to date: \$0)

### ***Swimming Pool***

Finally, we'd like to present a dream of building a swimming pool one day. This would be a great addition to the camp and help campers cool off on hot summer days. While the lake is beautiful and great for canoeing, many campers do not enjoy swimming in it and on occasion, the lake is drained and unavailable for swimming (as will be the case in 2009-2010). No work has been done yet to estimate the size of pool needed or its cost, but it will obviously involve significant expense. (estimated cost: unknown, raised to date: \$5,000)

### ***Help Pay Off New Bath House & Lagoon***

In addition to the projects listed above, we'd also like to help LDYC pay off the remaining balance they owe on the new bath house and lagoon upgrade projects. They have \$15,000 left to pay on these projects. As MWBC strongly encouraged them to build the bath house we could possibly face rental fee increases (leading to camper fee increases) if the balance isn't paid off in the near future. We think it's important to help LDYC retire this debt. Additionally, as long as this outstanding balance remains, it is unlikely that they will be able to pursue these types of projects on their own. So for now a portion of unrestricted funds that are donated to MWBC for building projects and not designated for a specific project will be donated to LDYC to help pay off this debt. To date, MWBC has passed through donations of almost \$9,000 toward the bath house project. The total cost was over \$300,000, which included extensive donations of labor and materials. (outstanding balance: \$15,000)

We obviously can't accomplish all these projects without your prayer and financial assistance. We know that many people are struggling financially these days, but if God has blessed you so that you are able to help with these projects, we would greatly appreciate your support. Please think of Midwest Bible Camp at tax time, bonus time, or anytime you're feeling generous. While we have created a tentative priority list for these projects, you are welcome to contribute to a specific project if you wish. Your funds will be reserved for the project you designate unless it has already been fully funded. Funds donated for building projects, but not designated for a specific one, will be applied to the projects in the priority order above. Donations can be made at anytime. Checks may be mailed to: MWBC, 1500 1st Ave NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405. Please use your check memo line to designate how your donation is to be used. *Thank You!*

# LAKE DARLING DRAINED FOR REPAIRS



This past fall Lake Darling was drained so that repairs can be made to the spillway. This project is scheduled to take 2 years. Of course, this will impact camp sessions for '09 and '10 that have water activities as part of their sessions. Alternative plans are being considered by Camp Session Directors and the Camp Board. Details will be announced at a later date.

## *MWBC Going Green*



In an effort to do our part in helping the environment and to save some of our financial resources, MWBC will cease mailing paper copies of this publication to a majority of our mailing list after this issue.

Copies of future issues will be e-mailed to those who sign up to receive it via email. It will also be posted on our web site

at [www.midwestbiblecamp.com](http://www.midwestbiblecamp.com).

**For our readers who do not have internet access** you can still receive a paper copy. Here's how: Send your name and address to:

Hal James  
MWBC Newsletter Editor  
1102 East Tyler  
Washington, Iowa 52353

If you wish to receive MWBC newsletters and other occasional announcements via e-mail, please send an email to [newsletter@midwestbiblecamp.com](mailto:newsletter@midwestbiblecamp.com) and type "subscribe" in the subject line.

## *Lake Darling Summer Supervisor Needed*

Lake Darling is accepting applications for their Summer Resident Supervisor position. If you are interested or know of someone who would be a good candidate for this important work, please contact:

**Jerry King**  
34 Oak Lane  
Washington, IA 52353  
319-653-5292  
[jerryking@iowatelecom.net](mailto:jerryking@iowatelecom.net)



## John and Cheryl Kinyon

For the past several years John and Cheryl Kinyon have faithfully served the Lake Darling Youth Center Camp and its clients as summer supervisors. They did an outstanding job of taking care of the camp facilities and responding to the many needs of those using the camp. Because of Cheryl's declining health they find it necessary to give up this ministry. We will miss them greatly and take this opportunity to express our deep and sincere gratitude for a job well done.

Cheryl's sister, Nancy Becker, sent this recent update:

*"John and Cheryl are living with us here in York and are planning to stay here. John has made arrangements with the school in Arkansas where he works to be away indefinitely; they assure him that his job will be waiting for him when he gets back. Cheryl has good days and bad. She doesn't get out and about much, but keeps busy in our front room where she is all set up to read, write, watch the squirrels and birds outside the window, watch television, or visit with people who come by. Martha lives with us also, and Alex and Maureen come by almost daily to visit. David, Kristin, and Ian come up to visit when they can. Various people from Hospice come by every week to see how she is doing and give her and the family care. Cheryl is not in a great deal of pain, but the cancer is taking its toll on her and she tires easily. They appreciate all of the cards, support, prayers, letters, and visits that have been sent their way. The church family is so important to all of us!"*

If you wish to express your thanks and best wishes to John and Cheryl, they can be reached at:

916 Iowa Ave.  
York, NE 68467

### **Additional Thanks . . . . .**

go to **Jeff and Kim Abrams** of Cedar Rapids who partnered with John and Cheryl to ensure the needs of the LDYC facility and its users were met, especially when Cheryl's health began to decline and needed to be away for medical treatments. Jeff and Kim, your work at LDYC did not go unnoticed. We express our gratitude and appreciation to you for assisting the Kinyon's during their time of need!

## ***Show Your Love for Camp— Get MWBC Sweatshirts for the Whole Family!***



Does your whole family love Midwest Bible Camp? Well, how about getting them all MWBC sweatshirts so they can show off their camp spirit? We will be ordering more sweatshirts for this summer and want to give you the chance to order as many as you want and in whatever sizes you want them. These high quality

and very comfortable sweatshirts feature the new MWBC logo and are only \$20 a piece (\$22.50 for sizes 4X and above). And for a small shipping fee (\$4 for 1 sweatshirt, \$2.50 each additional), we'll be happy to send them to you. Sweatshirts are available in Youth sizes (S-XL) and Adult sizes (S-6X). We'll be placing our order on March 1, 2009 so be sure to have your order to us by February 28, 2009. Orders received after March 1<sup>st</sup> will be processed on a 1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> served basis out of extra inventory ordered for this summer.

All you have to do is send an email to [info@midwestbiblecamp.org](mailto:info@midwestbiblecamp.org) (or call us at 319-364-5430) and let us know:

- 1) how many you want of each size
- 2) if we want us to ship them to you or not
- 3) how you want to pay (send us a check or via PayPal)
- 4) your name, address, and phone number

We'll reply back to confirm your total and instructions for payment.

If you'd like to avoid shipping costs, you can pick up your sweatshirt at a camp activity (e.g. MWBC Friends Brunch in the Amanas, Camp Cleanup Day, or at camp this summer). OR, if a board member attends your congregation, we'll be happy to hand deliver it to you.

## ***Another way to show your love for Midwest Bible Camp is to become a Corporation Member***

Midwest Bible Camp is a non-profit, charitable organization that is governed by the Corporation, a group of individuals who voluntarily serve as leaders in the ministry of Christian Camping. A board of directors is elected from the Corporation membership and provides leadership to both the Corporation and the staff within the framework of our bylaws and policies.



Corporation members love MWBC and are committed to its mission of ***“Serving Today’s Youth In Christian Development.”*** They appreciate the sacrifice and hard work of those who have gone before them in establishing and maintaining this ministry. They are interested in seeing the ministry remain healthy and effective and work towards these ends by:

- praying for the ministry
- financially supporting the ministry
- volunteering time, energy and skills
- promoting the ministry
- attending Corporation meetings

### **Membership Categories:**

- Individual— \$20.00 per year
- Couples — \$30.00 per year
- Life — One time \$200.00 contribution

### **Mail your check to:**

Midwest Bible Camp  
1500 1st Avenue NW  
Cedar Rapids IA 52405





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# 2009 Camp Dates

Dates	Camp Session	Directors
June 7 – June 13	Junior Week (4th - 6th Grade)	Chris Merches & Jeremy Widner
June 7 – June 13	SALT* Year 1	TBA
June 13 – June 20	Senior Week (10th - Grad)	Jason Hawkins & Hal James
June 20 – June 27	Intermediate Week (7th - 9th Grade)	Dale Burleson & TBA
June 20 – June 27	SALT* Year 2	TBA
June 27 – July 7	Special Week 0 (4th - Grad)	Tim Miller & Justin Milliken
July 17 – July 19	Weekend Getaway	Rob Swartz
July 20th - July 26	Girl's Retreat (4th - Grad) *off-site	Dar Battles & Deleana Roseland
Aug 1 – Aug 8	Special Week I (4th - Grad)	Nate Rowedder & Cason Pyle
Aug 8 – Aug 15	Special Week II (4th - Grad)	Paul Prescott & Josh Kearns

*\*Servant Action Leader Training [formerly Counselor-In-Training]*