



Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4

On June 23, for the seventy-seventh season, Camp Good News welcomed young people to the peaceful shores of Snake Pond. But months prior to the arrival of what ultimately turned out to be nearly one hundred children from around the world, efforts were being put forth and prayers were offered up from countless people in preparation for the big day.

Our dedicated office staff, Jude, Linda, and Diane, worked together as the first ambassadors, fielding calls and answering e-mails. There are endless projects necessary to maintain and upgrade the physical plant. These were heartily tackled by Carlos, Todd, and volunteers like Tricky-Nicky. Members of Christ Chapel, Forestdale Baptist Church, Osterville Baptist Church, Church of the Good Shepard, and volunteers from as far away as Pennsylvania attended the May workday.

Karen Carlson PhD, a child psychologist, served tirelessly interviewing perspective staff throughout the winter. We were greatly blessed and delighted to have Mark Adams back as the head counselor of the Boys Camp after "a few years away." Mark brought an abundance of camping experience, leadership, and boundless energy to the program.

After all the preparation, the real fun began when the staff arrived. During pre-camp, they set up the waterfront, ropes, tennis and archery courses, mowed lawns, and most importantly, learned how best to care for the campers. Our staff did remarkably well at a hard job: maintaining an attitude of enthusiasm while skillfully serving as counselors or support personnel. One of my favorite memories was watching the nurse learning how to sail. She was tucked between two campers, gracefully leaning back and forth in sync. Nora was keen to learn new things and get to know the campers in the process. Another exceptional counselor spent hours bouncing kids off the "blob" high into the air.

This wonderful, diverse group of people became a team. There was time to learn new things and play, while being surrounded by the beauty and serenity of camp. Young people joyfully embraced the opportunity to lifeguard, bike, sweep floors, wash dishes, and even feed the pigs. In the midst of these activities, emerged friendships and an understanding of God's love.

The campers challenged and inspired us most of all. A little girl from France who struggled with homesickness eventually gained enough confidence to sing in front of the entire camp. Camp encourages young people to move forward, thank God for His unconditional love, and get back in the game. Many children have come to faith in Christ from their experiences at Camp Good News.

Jane & Steve

Posted on a single large sheet of paper, edges burned, and hung on the wall of Boys Lodge II

Code of Honor

We, the Menchachos of Camp Good News, of Lodge II, in order to form more perfect cabin, establish family, brotherhood and muchachos, bring honor to Christ, ourselves and each other, hereby declare to promise to abide by these moral values:

I. Treat others the way you want to be treated.

a. Listen to each other

II. Be clean and pristine at all times.

a. Take off your shoes before stepping inside.

III. Have a positive attitude.

a. Be a good sport.

b. We will support each other no matter what happens, even if you fail.

c. Behave like a gentleman at all times.

IV. Follow God's rules.

a. Follow the authority and respect camp staff and each other.

A gentleman is always at his best, not just when it is convenient.

Muchachos is not just exercise, but a mental, spiritual, Christian, gentle lifestyle.

Menchachos, FIVE MORE!

And signed by all those in the cabin.

June 2013



Teddy feeding the pigs.

Reflections from the Team

Camp Good News offers a truly unique environment dedicated to leading boys and girls to Christ. When I attended camp as a camper, the experience I had was life changing, and unlike any other camp experience I have ever had. The environment at camp is truly uplifting and the dedicated staff is focused on serving God. God's love was expressed through every action they took and every word they said. Every staff member, young and old, exhibited Christlike behavior that really taught me what it is to be a Christian. This summer I had the honor of participating in the camp's Leadership Training program, in hopes that I may one day be like those staff members that had such a positive influence on me. I can't wait to see what God has in store for camp the next few years!

*Erik
Boys LT*



Heather

I had no idea what to expect when I decided to come to work at Camp Good News this summer. I was unfamiliar with the area, not too well acquainted with camp life, and didn't know anyone who has ever attended or worked at Camp Good News. I came only knowing that this was where I felt God leading

me for the summer. This summer was incredibly fun, I learned new games, sang songs over a campfire, shared God's love with many campers, and learned many new skills. From the moment I stepped foot on campgrounds until I left I felt absolute peace. I have learned so many things about myself and about God, and was challenged to know God even deeper than I already did. One of my favorite memories of this summer was with the Junior Girls in third session. During devotions one night, I presented my girls with a memory verse. I then did the same thing during discussion groups with the other side of the cabin. Before long, the girls were begging me for more verses to memorize. We would do one a day and they still wanted more. We had posters up around the cabin with verses and each camper picked a few verses to make their own cards for. Their excitement and desire to seek God more really challenged me to approach my personal devotion times with the same attitude.

I am so thankful for the lessons I have learned from these campers. I hope that I have taught them half of what they taught me. The excitement that these campers brought brightened my day. I couldn't wait to start the day and see all that was in store for us. I am very thankful for my time at Camp Good News this summer and I can't wait to return. I have no idea what is in store for next year but I know God will be a part of it.

*Heather
Girls Counselor*

In the Service of Christ and for the Love of Children

**Karen P. Carlson, PhD
Child Clinical Psychologist,
Assistant to the Director Camp Good News**

When people ask me why I have been involved in one way or another with Camp Good News for over 30 years, I usually say, "Because I love this place" or "because I believe God set forth a ministry for me here." Truth be told when I was 19 it had something to do with finding a Christian boyfriend! But now having been asked to think about it and write it down, the phrase "in the service of Christ and for the love of children" captures it better for me.

I committed my life to Christ at the age of 16. I had no church home and no Christian parents. My grandmother modeled for me how precious children are by the way she treated my siblings and me. By the time I was 12-years-old, I knew I wanted to work with children. God gave me a special heart for children and a natural ability to relate to and have fun with them (it is said that we camp professionals are really big kids!).



I came to Camp Good News after my first year of college. By then, my dreams of becoming a pediatrician were dashed by my C+ in freshman biology. During pre-camp that year I met Dr. Paul Warren, a developmental pediatrician and psychiatrist who had worked his way up the ranks to head counselor. He also did our staff training. Day after day for 10 days I listened to him with fascination. This man had such an intricate understanding of the inner lives of children and what adults need to do to support them. I had never heard anyone speak so knowingly and caringly about these people I loved so much called "children" or "teens." At a crucial moment I said to myself "I want to know children at the most detailed level possible. That is the key to helping them."

In the fall of my sophomore year I declared as a psychology major with a concentration in child development. Four years later with Dr. Warren's encouragement I entered my doctoral program. I feel I owe my career to his and Rev. Willard's guidance and encouragement.



How we professionals view children changes from decade to decade. Each generation of child and parent has brought different sets of complex issues. We live in an environment today that makes little distinction between children and adults. As a result it is harder for adults to have influence over children. We have to work very hard to get our messages across. Technology is interfering with youth being connected during interactions. We have become increasingly more of an "indoor world." Many campers today cannot deal with bugs, dirt, campfire smoke, heat, and humidity. They feel lost without their electronics, hair dryers, and straightening irons. In spite of these changes, the loudest voices in the child development profession ring very similarly to Dr. Warren's and Rev. Willard's voices, making them prophets in their own time. The key concept is "attunement." In order to understand a youth's experiences, we have to commit to understanding how they think and feel. We have to approach them, not knowing what they struggle with, and yet prepared to help them acclimate to camp life. We have to align ourselves with the very best in them. We hold out the hope that they can grow and change, even if they don't share that hope. We need to ask good questions, do good listening, influence through the relationship, for it is only in relationship that we can encourage growth. When these things are in place, there is less if any need for "behavior management." Our forefathers and current professionals at CGN demonstrate this time and time again. How many "difficult children" have I seen sitting with Jane on the back porch of her cabin, talking about how to make things better? Or seeing Steve Brooks taking overactive campers who struggle with listening and working on some project? Or counselor Heather putting a silly looking head lamp on so she can make a camper killer S'more? Or counselor

10 Reasons Why We Should Use Mr. Worm's Cabin

1. Closer to Shamlian
2. There is a food area
3. Easy to clean (vacuum)
4. It is more relaxing because there is a pool table and an area to sit down
5. There are 3 showers and 3 toilets

Sophie helping her campers speak with a British accent. How do these beautiful moments happen? They happen through the relationship.

Parents have so much to face today. Their children are plugged in, exposed to too much too fast, too knowledgeable about adult topics and ask for way too much freedom. It's tempting to try to get through by saying yes too often, tweeting and face booking them, wanting to know every breath they take. To parents I say, "God bless you." I'm a parent too and we all try our best. Take a deep breath and stay the adult. Get in tune with your children by being curious about them. Let them laugh at you because you don't know or have the latest technology. Let them laugh at your 80s style jeans or your love of oldies. Stand your ground and some day, who knows, your children will respond to your wisdom, show you respect, and follow your rules. Be patient.

I now have the privilege of doing the training at pre-camp. We talk about the things I already mentioned. We talk about the "dangers of childhood" (Internet, sex, drugs) and how we can help our campers be resistant to those things. We train staff how to have good boundaries and to teach good boundaries. They are instructed how to proceed if a camper discloses something concerning, or if they see an interaction on camp that worries them. We guide them toward being good Christian role models. We teach state-of-the-art behavior management techniques.

I'll leave you with these core beliefs that underlie all the work we do at CGN:

1. Children come first at Camp Good News, we are not here for ourselves.
2. All children are doing the best they can; if they aren't we must help them.
3. When children misbehave, it's because they don't know what else to do. We need to teach them what to do, not punish or criticize.
4. Influence is through the relationship; you have no basis of working with a child you have not established a trusting relationship with.
5. *All we do, whether it's helping a child do something new, go on a trip, lead a Bible study, or clean a toilet, everything is in the service of Jesus Christ and for the love of children.*

6. More room for cleaning supplies
7. Safer in case of fire, there are 4 exits in one floor
8. We could watch a movie on Saturday or Sunday
9. Nice view to contemplate God's creation
10. The cabin will be clean

*Samson
Senior Camper*

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

Fanny Crosby

All the way my Savior leads me, What have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy, Who through life has been my guide?
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort, Here by faith in him to dwell!
For I know what'e're befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.

All the way my Savior leads me, Cheers each winding path I tread;
Gives me grace for every trial, Feeds me with the living bread.
Though my weary steps may falter, And my soul athirst may be,
Gushing from the Rock before me, Lo! A spring of joy I see.

All the way my Savior leads me, Oh, the fullness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised, In my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed immortal, Wings its flight to realms of day,
This my song thru endless ages: Jesus led me all the way.

Fanny wrote this hymn in 1875 after praying for and receiving five dollars. She lost her sight as an infant, and yet learned to trust God for guidance and grace.

Instructional Tennis



Route 130 Guesthouse



Thelma & Tony's House

Hope's Place

In thy presence is fullness of joy. Psalm 16

Hope Brooks and Barbara Nix had hoped to work at the Route 130 Guesthouse this past summer, but the good Lord had other plans. Mom fondly remembered when this guesthouse was opened for staff to get some rest or visit with friends. She began to restore the building after retiring from medicine, and the project was finally completed this past August. Please pray about a mature Christian to run Hope's Place next summer.

As 2013 draws to a close, we thank the Lord for His guidance and provisions. There is much to do on the horizon. Rick Braschler, Director of Risk Management at Kanakuk Kamps, will return in March for another Child Protection Plan Seminar. Thelma Bettencourt lived on Camp Good News Road for the past forty years. At the age of 93, she moved in with her nephew David. The home she and her late husband Tony built needs attention.

Thank you for your well wishes and support this past year. Please pray that He will continue to bless and grow this ministry in His grace *that the eyes of our hearts may be enlightened in order that we know the hope to which He has called us, the riches of His glorious inheritance and His incomparably great power for us who believe. Ephesians 1:18-19.*

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