



The Rock

2021

Summer Camp 2021

We are thankful to say that we had a wonderful summer camp season 2021! It came with new challenges and blessings at the same time. We were able to hold all of the camp sessions that we had planned to have this summer.

Seven people were baptized in the camp pool this summer! What a great blessing! We know that others went home and made that decision to follow Christ as well. One life

changed, and it is all worth it. This is the reason we are here. Please continue to pray for all the people who came through camp this year, as we saw many people struggling with many different things. They need your prays. Life has never been easy, and it still is that way, and we pray for the youth leaders and friends of these campers that they can make that daily and weekly impact throughout the year in the lives of these students. We pray that we see them back here next summer and that we can again have time to invest in their lives.



New Lawnmowers

Many people gave to the camp to help us purchase these two new lawnmowers this last spring. We are very thankful for them. They have been great mowers and were much needed.

A couple of people gave in memory of family members that used to help mow grass at camp and help take care of the camp.

**Connie Taylor gave in memory of Bob Taylor.
Brad and Linda Miller gave in honor of C. Ted Miller, Malcolm Sloniker, William Decker, and Reeva Decker.**

Thank you to the Christin family for their massive role in helping the camp purchase the second mower. It helps mow hills and difficult areas that the other lawnmowers have a hard time mowing.

Thank you to everyone that gave!



New Pool Chairs



Twenty-seven new pool chairs were purchased this spring in honor of Carolyn Divan for her years of service as the mission's treasurer at Antioch Christian Church. The Antioch Christian Church collected money for the camp to buy these new pool chairs in her honor. The chairs were a great new addition to the pool this summer, and we are very thankful for them.

Thank you, Carolyn, for your years of service!

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of Kirby and Bea Jenkins:

Laverne and Phyllis VanderSchaaf

In Memory of Ty VanderSchaaf:

Laverne and Phyllis VanderSchaaf

In Memory of Richard Saevre:

Elizabeth Saevre
Larry Saevre
Peter and Amy Newton
S Karlen LLC
Linda Grenawalt
Anne Silveus
Paul Saevre
Stacy Isferding
Ken and Monica Clarke

Bill and Pat Brown
Jim and Karlene Jensen
Tim and Tracy Kinnick
David Hinson

Many Friends and
Family of Richard
Saevre



Donating to Rock River Christian Camp in someone's name can be done by sending a check with it marked in memory, or you can give at rockrivercc.net/donate. We know that Rock River has impacted many lives for Christ and that it would have meant a lot to them to see Rock River Christian Camp continue to change lives today.

You can also give a gift in honor of someone's birthday, anniversary, or just because. We would be happy to share those gifts in the following newsletter.

Ways to Help Camp Right Now

General Fund

The General Fund is how all funds given currently are marked. This keeps our general operations of the camp going. As we will explain in the State of the Camp Section of the newsletter, this is currently needed the most. There are several ways you can give to camp during this holiday season. Go to rockrivercc.net/donate, send checks directly to the camp, or you can give them to the camp on Facebook. No matter how you give, we are so very grateful for your generosity and for keeping

the ministry of Rock River Christian Camp going. The QR Code to the right is a fast way to donate to the camp today!



Amazon

If you shop on Amazon, you should support a non-profit organization like Rock River Christian Camp. This is a super simple way to give financially without doing anything except shop like you usually do. Use this link to get started today.

an easy way to help the camp today! With multiple people shopping every day, together, we can make a huge difference!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2715306>

Does this cost you anything? No, it does not. Your purchase is the same amount, whether you are supporting an organization or not. So why not? What



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Thrivent



If you are a Thrivent Member, you can support RRCC with Action Points and Choice Dollars! If you have questions on how to give to RRCC or be a part of Thrivent Financial, you may contact Brian Wynn, our local agent, at 815-970-3680 or brian.wynn@thrivent.com. Please reference Rock River Christian Camp when you talk with Brian.

Scholarship Fund

The camp Scholarship Fund is a great way to help others attend camp who otherwise might not be able to participate. Every year we have campers that need financial assistance to attend camp. In the last

several years, the requests have been between \$2,500 and \$3,000 each year. We do not want anyone to not come to camp because they are unable to afford it. You can help! Give to the Camp Scholarship Fund today!

Help Us Save Resources...

Would you like to receive "The Rock" newsletter by e-mail instead of the mailed paper copy? Please contact the camp office and let us know what changes we can make. However, we do want you to read the newsletter, so please continue to get the mailed copy if this is how you will most likely read it.

Thank you

State of the Camp

Dear Rock River Christian Camp Family,

We are so very thankful to be open and see the camp busy once again. We had a nice summer with campers back. Even though our camper numbers were lower than what a normal summer looks like, it was still a great summer. We saw kids make decisions to follow Christ and grow in their relationship with Christ and other Christians. No matter the numbers, we know that God used this place to change lives once again for His glory.

State of the Camp

We want to inform you of some things that are affecting the camp financially in 2021, 2022, and moving forward so that you can know how to be in prayer for the camp and understand what the camp's needs are currently. Even though we are debt-free, we depleted most of the reserve we had for projects and savings to stay afloat this summer. This was a hard financial summer. Here are some reasons we need to make changes moving forward, just like many industries and companies.

- 1. The number of Campers was down this summer.** In 2019 we had 1351 people come through in our summer season, and in 2021 we had 870 people come through. Overall, we were lower by about 36% compared to 2019. 2020 we did not have camp, so we cannot compare numbers there. We expected the numbers to be lower for a couple of reasons this summer. COVID uncertainty with families was the biggest reason some did not attend this summer, and some camps limited numbers to 50% capacity. Both were reasons that contributed to numbers being lower this summer.
- 2. Cost of Food** – The cost of food at camp has gone up significantly this year. You see this cost increase some in your own grocery bills, but it has certainly increased this year with food service providers. It cost the camp about the same amount of money to feed 870 as it did to feed 1351 in 2019 and a little more. Some of this is due to the fact that we had to use more individual serving items and disposable items this summer as well. We see this as something that will continue in the food service area. We will continue to compare pricing with regular retailers and our Food Service Providers. We will continue to have good food service for all that come to camp; it just costs more.
- 3. Hourly Wages for Summer Staff and all Staff** – Our summer staff work very hard and do earn every penny that they make working at camp in the summer, so we are not complaining that they are making too much money, however, like most ministries, we have paid our staff minimum wages over the years unless they are here for years. With the minimum wage going from \$7.25/hour a couple of years ago before COVID hit to \$11/hour currently, it will increase to \$12/hour in January, and add \$1/hour each year for the next few years until it reached \$15/hour. This means that in the next few years, what we pay our summer staff will double compared to what we were paying them a few years ago. This is a huge increase! We currently hire about 15-20 staff in the summer months. This increase adds up to many thousands of dollars throughout the summer. We feel that we are constantly stretched thin with staff as it is, and we want to provide good quality service to our campers. There is no way around this; we will be paying more for staff each year from now on.

4. Insurance – Even though we have had fewer people at camp over the last couple of years because of COVID, our insurance costs have increased some, and recently we received an email that stated this:

*“As the cost for items such as lumber and plywood increases, so does your overall cost to replace your ministry owned buildings. **As a result, you may notice an increase in some building limits on your policy declaration pages.** This is not a singular reaction by Brotherhood Mutual – most insurance carriers plan to implement this updated information in their pricing models. If you have a large or total loss, it’s important that we have the necessary valuations in place in order to replace your building(s).”*

We know that overall the cost for pool supplies is increasing, the price for services, the cost for propane to heat buildings, electric bills are increasing, the cost for fuel to run lawnmowers, and so much more. Please be praying for the camp as we make decisions about the budget for the next year and adjust prices for camp fees and rental groups. This is a difficult time for everyone, and with your financial help, we can keep the costs as low as possible.

To keep Rock River Christian Camp going each year is very expensive. We work hard to keep the cost to a minimum, but we also want to provide good camp service, so we ask for your help. Would you please give to Rock River Christian Camp? If you have been blessed and can help offset some of the cost, we would greatly appreciate it. Consider giving a year-end gift to the camp. We appreciate your willingness to share and your heart to help this ministry and Christ.

Matthew 6:25-34

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?^[a] ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴ “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Love in Christ,
RRCC Staff
Dan and Leslie Augenstine

Repainted the Farm Buildings



The barns on the farm side of the road at camp have needed to be repainted for some time. We are very thankful to Wayne Endthoff and Rod Sullivan for coming to camp to complete this project for us. This

will help the barns to last longer. These barns are used to store lumber and other equipment for the camp. We are thankful for the completion of this project.

Summer Staff

We are looking for people with big hearts to work at camp for summer 2022. You must be at least 16 to apply, with several positions needing to be 18 years and older. These are great jobs for college students. Our staff live here at camp for the summer, meals are provided, earn some money, make life-long friendships, and the reward will last a lifetime.



We need maintenance and kitchen staff. Our staff will be trained, depending on position, to be lifeguards, high ropes course facilitators, archery facilitators, paintball referees, food handlers, and more. All staff will help with keeping the camp facilities

clean each day. We are a team that works hard but has a lot of fun together while working.

Please consider the opportunity to work at camp for the summer. If you would like this opportunity, please go to www.rockrivercc.net to apply today or email the camp office at rccoffice@gmail.com to get an application sent to you.



Summer 2022 will be a great, and we need you!

Summer Camp Faculty

Have you ever thought about being a camp counselor for a week of camp? Each summer, we have about 100 people volunteer to be camp leaders (Faculty) for a week of camp. If this is something that you would like to do next summer, please let us know at the camp office. We have a few camp sessions that could use your help, and it is so rewarding in many ways. One of our faculty said, "It is my favorite week of the whole year!" You have just as much fun as the campers. The campers need you! The campers really learn a lot from the faculty, and they look up to you. Consider this for next summer. You are needed! Such a great way to give time and help others come to know the love of Christ!

Note: We check references and run background checks on anyone that would like to volunteer and serve.

Camp 2022

Family Camp—TBD

Teddy Bear Camp (1st-2nd)—June 17-18

Edge Camp (9th-Just Grad.)—June 19-25

Equestrian Camp (5th-8th)—TBD

ELEVATE Camp (6th-8th)—June 26– July 1

Adventure Camp (7th-10th)—TBD

EMBARC Camp (4th-6th)—July 3-8

Boys Paintball Camp (7th-Just Grad.)—TBD

First Chance Camp (3rd-4th)—July 31—August 3

More details will be coming soon!



We want to thank all of you that have prayed for the camp, have given financially, or volunteered your time at camp this year. We also thank our camp board members, all-year-round and summer staff, deans, and all the summer faculty. We also thank everyone that came as a camper this year. We greatly appreciate you!

This camp would not be here without any of you. God had used each and every one of you to work in the lives of all who come here. Please know you are loved, appreciated, and prayed for.

We pray you all have a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Numbers 6:24-26

24 The Lord bless you and keep you;

25 the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; 26 the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.





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and Retreat Center
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YouTube



Wishlist

- Water Fountains \$1000 each (need 2)
- Qty 24 - Lifetime chairs (4 pack—\$119.98/each)
- 4 Lifetime tables (\$89.98/each)
- Dump truck
- Cabin Mattresses—(\$100/each—Need 100)
- Basketballs (\$34.95/each)
- Luggage Carts (\$140/each—Need 4)
- Washing Machine (\$400-\$800/each—Need 2)
- Dryers (\$400-\$700/each—Need 2)
- Pool Chairs (Need 13—\$22/each)
- Amazon Gift Cards
- Walmart or Sam's Club Gift Cards
- Staples Gift Cards

