

Camps for Good

April 2011

Lakeshore Christian Camping www.prescamps4ever.org

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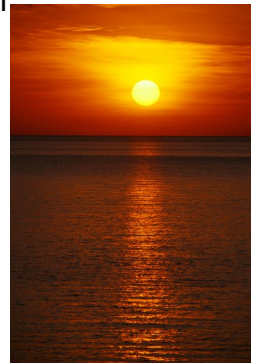
In a recent article in the Presbyterian Outlook, Raymond R. Roberts argues, "Rather than... demographics, or cultural changes, the real reason for PC(USA) decline is far more serious: We are declining because we have lost spiritual vigor." He then notes that most people who have left the PC (USA) did not join other churches, they left because they could not find a compelling reason to stay. Spirituality is key. Roberts goes on to say that the loss of spiritual vitality is "why we aren't doing a better job passing the faith on to our children, why we aren't reaching out to changing neighborhoods and planting churches in new neighborhoods, and why we aren't adapting better to an evolving culture. We have lost the sense that something crucial is at stake — we have not experienced first hand God's majesty."

Lakeshore Christian Camping believes that something crucial *is* at stake. We believe that Presbyterian Camps is an important part of passing the faith on to our children, we believe that the camps give people a compelling reason to stay because at camp children and parents, youth and older adults, married and single experience, first hand, God's majesty. We believe that in selling the camps for any purpose other than camping is

selling a place that has brought people, churches and the Presbytery spiritual vigor since 1899. The LCC believes spirituality is key to the health of our churches; and we believe the camps are a key to our spirituality.

The LCC has developed a plan to purchase the camps, improve the facilities and to run year round programming. We know that as people come to camp the heavens will declare the glory of God. We will provide a clean camp, nature walks and recreation where their voice can be heard. In addition, we will provide programming where the message of the cross and Christ's love can be heard and understood from the words of Scripture. We believe that such a camping experience will renew, restore and revive all who come. We have a vision for the spiritual vitality of our denomination, our Presbytery, our churches and God's people.

We believe that keeping our camps is part of the Lord's vision in helping us to build spiritual vitality. Our hope is that you will join us in our effort.



Info Corner:

- The camp is listed on the open market for \$14.5 million. This amount ignores zoning and the Critical Dune Act therefore, Lakeshore does not believe it is a valid listing price.
- Despite the declining membership within our denomination; the attendance at the Presbyterian Camps in Saugatuck, MI has increased over the last two years.



Fact Corner:

- Lakeshore Christian Camping has been actively meeting with Churches, small groups and individuals inside and outside the Chicago Presbytery.
- Many continue to be unaware that the camp is at risk of being lost forever.
- Lakeshore remains the logical choice to own and operate the camp as a camp.
- Lakeshore's efforts are based upon our assessment that takes zoning and critical dune into consideration.
- Lakeshore will be sending out regular newsletters. If you would like any updates or have questions contact us at: info@prescamps4ever.org

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*The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they display knowledge.
There is no speech or language
where their voice is not heard.
Their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.
Psalm 19*

Reflection of Camp: It was a beautiful day in Saugatuck, MI as the last bit of snow melted from the dunes. In the air there is the anticipation of another camping season ready to begin. We have received hundreds of stories confirm—Camp makes a difference in our lives. It is worth saving for generations to come!



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