

Camps for Good

Lakeshore Christian Camping
www.prescamp.s4ever.org

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And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; Luke 19

It has been a few weeks since New Year’s Day; did you make a resolution to change something about your life? Zacchaeus is a great example for us when it comes to resolutions. Listen to what he says: “Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold.” I know Zacchaeus was rich, but now he is half as rich as he once was and you can bet that he has defrauded a lot of people, can you say “class action suit.” No matter, he will repay fourfold.

Why? Because Jesus came to the tree Zacchaeus had climbed and said “come down” (an imperative, read as “come down now!”). This little man (probably smaller in his moral stature than height, which is why no one let him in to see Jesus) expected Jesus to tell him how wrong he had been and how he needed to change if he wanted to enter the kingdom of God.

Instead Jesus says “I want” to eat with you tonight, I want to ‘let you into’ my life.” And with this invitation, Zacchaeus begins to live a different life. No resolution necessary. Dinner with Jesus changed everything for Zacchaeus. The story ends with Jesus declaring “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.”



At Presbyterian camps, people (especially kids) who have been “looked” down upon find that Jesus comes and looks up to them, and asks to come into their lives - not to condemn but to bring new life.

When we leave camp we don’t leave with a greater resolve to be different; we, like Zacchaeus, leave as a different person. We realize that when we were up on the dune or down at the beach, Jesus looked up to us to say “we need to eat together”.

A Family Reflection



Calvert Family 1970

Our family, the Calvert’s have been going to the Presbyterian Camps for almost 50 years. Most summers, three generations of us gather there for a week of family camp. From my father, who is now 80, to my twins, who are only 7, we all enjoy our time away – to recharge our spirits and reconnect with each other and with God. My sister comes with her family from Georgia, my brother comes with his family from California. I was even baptized right there on the beach, almost 40 years ago. Our family camp week is special, in that most of the families have been going for years – my family started going to this family camp when I was about 8, and I’ve grown up knowing these people. The friends I made 30



Calvert Family Camp 2006

Camp is what I call a 'thin space', meaning a place where the boundary between our world and God's is very thin – you can feel His presence, and the peace and comfort it brings. To us, camp is sacred ground. We can't imagine bulldozing the camp to make way for a 'resort', or expensive condos, or whatever else developers think will make them the most money – the place is special – and can't be replaced. We fully support the Lakeshore Christian Camping's mission to save the camp and preserve it for future generations. Our children and our children's children deserve to have the same wonderful memories and experiences that we did at camp.



years ago still go every year, and we all bring our own children. It's like an extended family reunion. I have attended weddings on the beach, and memorial services for those in our group who have passed on – and we can't imagine a more beautiful, peaceful or spiritual place to gather for these moments in time.



Happy New Year everyone!! Did you make any new year resolutions?

At our last meeting each board member shared a goal they have for 2012 - we are going to help keep each other accountable to that one personal goal while we also strive with our overall goal that we save the camps! A resolution we are determined to keep!

There was a separate mailing that went out the first week in January. Please let us know if you did not receive this latest status update.

One of 2012 goals is to increase our financial support to \$ 4 million. With all that is going on in our economy; we believe this number can help us not only save the camps but, allow for improvements and working capital. We can achieve this is through the passion each of you has to save the camps for future generations.

We have another goal for 2012. Our data base is currently 400 members strong. What if each of you reaches out to 5 or 10 people? How many more supporters could we have? Enough to save the camps!! What a wowing thought!!

We ask that you continue to pray for the camping ministry at the Presbyterian Camps in Saugatuck; to continue pray for 5 more people you know to step up and pledge their support to saving the camp. Together we can do this!! Let's get fired up and make this the year we save the camps for good!

Ways to communicate with us:

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Facebook: Lakeshore Christian Camping group or page

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