

Big Sandy camp

Updates – November 2023

A SUMMER BY FAITH!



Thank you for your prayers over this past summer and our staff! God showed up! There were many moments where we had a need and God provided. He is faithful and He provided down to the last nurse for Sr. High camp week.

In May we only had 5 summer staff hired. We prayed and trusted that God would give us what we needed, and He did! We had a fantastic staff this summer that worked wonderfully together and accomplished more than we could have imagined.

We had many campers on waitlists going into the summer as we need more staff to be cabin leaders to be able to open more cabins. We asked and prayed for cabin leaders and again God provided. We were able to get every single camper off the waitlist!

We needed nurses and we were still looking for them as the summer season began and week by week God brought us great camp nurses. What a blessing! We had one dad that joined us for Junior week, and he overheard that we did not have a nurse for Sr. High camp the following week and asked if he could do it again! Well, yes! Yes, you can!

We had numerous conversations about going deeper with Jesus, 25 first time “Yes” decisions to follow Jesus, over 100 rededications to go deeper in their faith journey and several students that said they were not interested in Jesus at all until they came to camp. Now they are thinking about what it would look like to say “Yes” to Jesus, because “until I came to camp, I did not like Jesus or religion, but here and with you all, there is something different and maybe Jesus isn’t what I thought. You all got me thinking!” Pray for these kids that haven’t said “Yes” to Jesus, but seeds were sown this summer.

We praise God for what He did at Big Sandy Camp! Your prayers matter! Thank you for your investment in camp and letting God use you for great kingdom impact.

Big Sandy Camp Updates – November 2023

CHANGE IN FULL-TIME STAFF POSITION



Goodbye Katie Bazant – We are grateful for the 2+ years that Katie has led our office and guest services. We are excited for her as she leaves for a new adventure opportunity to live and share Jesus in Austria. Pray for her as she transitions out of camp and into full culture immersion in a foreign country.

Hello Jim Peterson – We welcome Jim Peterson, a long-time friend of the ministry, in the role of office manager beginning November 1, 2023. Jim loves Jesus and wants people to encounter Jesus by coordinating their time at camp. Jim brings a great team mindset, organizational skills, creativity, and passion for growth. Pray for Jim and Sue as they transition to living on-site.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – SEVERAL PROJECTS

Housing repairs, painting, cleaning, trail maintenance – there is always lots to do at camp keeping up 38 buildings and over 125 acres ready for campers and retreaters.



If you have a day, a weekend or even a week and you want to come help, let us know! We'd love your help, and we'd love to host you, your family, your small group, church group or your youth group!

Contact josh@bigsandycamp.org or call Josh at (218) 460-7965

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



FREEDOM – Winter 2024 Dates

Here are our dates for winter retreats –

- Combo – Junior High/Senior High – January 5-7
- Junior – January 19-21
- Junior High – January 26-28
- Senior High – February 9-11

Big Sandy Camp Updates – November 2023

Registration is available via our website at <https://www.bigsandycamp.org/summer/avalanche-retreats/>

FINISH LINE – Summer 2024 Dates

We are busy with our planning and preparations for a full summer in 2024. Our theme this year is “*Finish Line*”.

Here are our dates for summer camps –

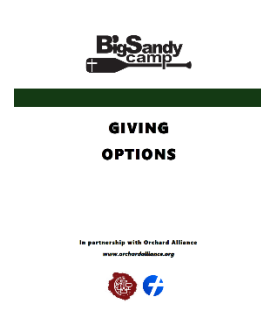
- Combo – Junior/Junior High – June 10-15
- Junior – June 24-29
- Kid’s Camp – June 30-July 3
- Family Camp 1 – July 5-7
- Junior High – July 8-13
- Senior High – July 15-20
- Family Camp 2 – August 30-September 2



Registration is available via our website at <https://www.bigsandycamp.org/summer/youth-camps/>

Gift Giving Guide

In partnership with Orchard Alliance, we have a “Giving Options” guide available on our website www.bigsandycamp.org/support that give some ideas of how you can make a gift to Big Sandy Camp. For example, we have received several gifts during 2022 from donors that gave from their individual retirement account (IRA). We are happy to connect with you if you have questions related to this guide. Call Doug at (218) 460-7959 or email him – doug@bigsandycamp.org.



A Personal Note

I continue to Praise the Lord for His healing work in my body as I continue my journey with cancer. I am still going in for monthly blood checks and quarterly visits to my oncologist. On a positive note, I have only 4 blood tests that are still not in the “good range” versus starting out with 15 that were “out of whack”. I give the Lord praise, honor, and glory for His healing power in my life!

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THANK YOU! Thank you for your prayers and financial support of the ministry of Big Sandy Camp! We appreciate the faithful support of North Central District churches, workers, and individuals!

Doug Parkinson

Executive Director



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