

Campingnews



At camp, I learned God is with me in the darkest and most challenging moments of my life. He has my best interests in mind. I will continue to trust in God and enrich my walk with him. I also gained many friends who I aspire to be like in the future."

CAMPER



Training for mental health care

God continues to write his story in the lives of children, youth and adults at Covenant Harbor and Covenant Point Bible camps, and our staff continue to train to love and care for them well.

Increasingly, that love and care requires our teams to be better able to respond to campers with mental health needs. In preparation for this past summer, many of our year-round staff at both camps completed intensive training in Mental Health First Aid. This international program prepares people who work with children and teens to be ready to assess and respond to mental health situations.

Parents, pastors, teachers, youth ministry workers and others know

all too well that loneliness, anxiety, depression, isolation, bullying, thoughts of suicide and substance abuse are touching increasing numbers of youth.

In this critical area, both camps now have people on site who are certified to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance abuse concerns.

When we hear that campers sense the love of staff, trust staff, open up to staff, feel more themselves and find God's help through a camp experience, we rejoice! We also press on to become more equipped for ministry to all our campers and guests, so God's story can be fully realized in their lives.

Thank you, summer 2019 Prayer Partners!

For the second summer, scores of people prayed personally, by name, for staff members at both Covenant Harbor and Covenant Point. This personal prayer, often including notes of encouragement, sustained 165 summer and year-round staff members. Thank you, friends! To get on the invitation list for summer 2020, email Beth at bfredrickson@harborpointministries.org.



Our family feels so safe at ASD camp. We can't say enough how great the staff are, how great their training is, and how thoughtful, kind and helpful they are."

ASD FAMILY CAMPERS



"After a slow start, Team Edwards held off all challengers to win the 2019 triathlon's wheelchair division going away," said Jim Edwards after his son, John, pushed him over the finish line.

Making camp accessible fills families' hearts

For 20 years, annual triathlon has raised funds to expand program reach

Gained so much

The Grant family of Madison, WI, has found a home at Covenant Point for five days each summer for the past six years. Paul, Becca, Josiah, 13, Silas, 11, and Lydia, 7, are regular participants in the annual Autism Spectrum Disorder Family Camp (ASD Family Camp). The program provides a safe and quality experience for families with a child on the autism spectrum.

This August, the annual triathlon that raises funds to keep the cost of the program low was especially meaningful to the Grants, as both Josiah and Silas participated as a team with their grandmother Kay Grant, while grandfather Brian Grant participated as a solo entrant.

"Our family has gained so much from ASD camp at Covenant Point – joy, bonding and spiritual growth," said Paul. "So, it was one of my happiest moments ever to cheer on two of my own children as participants in this year's fundraiser triathlon. I cannot thank the staff, volunteers and athletes enough. Without their loving touch, we simply could never have come to camp in the first place. What a blessing to be able to give back in a very small way!"

Connections grew deeper

The triathlon began in 1999. That first year, the \$5,000 raised helped complete the camp's Nature Building. In 2002, the funds were shifted to help make facilities accessible to campers with special needs.

When the ASD Family Camp was launched in 2013, the camp directed triathlon funds

to camper fees, keeping the new program affordable. That effort has continued. The triathlon has raised as much as \$17,600. In 2019, it raised almost \$9,500. And in 2019, one triathlon participant, Jim Edwards, revived the purpose and spirit of those early triathlons when he joined the 5K sprint running course in a wheelchair pushed by his son, John.



ASD Family Camp has been a special tradition for the Grants, and this year several family members participated in the triathlon that raises funds to support the program.

"My parents took us to our first family camp in the mid-1970s," recalled John. "Covenant Point and Hagerman Lake became a very special place for us over the years as our connections grew deeper. This year, we were delighted my parents could join us for the triathlon. My dad cheered us on as we took turns supporting his 'race,' in a wheelchair! Nearly 40 years after our first adventure at Covenant Point, we celebrated with hands up as we crossed the finish line together."

To learn more about Covenant Point's Triathlon Fundraiser, visit cpbc.com/triathlon. 

Summer 2019 Snapshot

Theme: Endure, based on Colossians 1:11-12

Youth campers: 691

Family campers: 163, representing 39 households

Scholarship funds distributed: \$37,742, serving 138 campers

Summer staff: 63

Triathletes: 36, who raised \$9,476 in support of ASD Family Camp

Offering for Camp2Camp project in East Asia: \$2,034

Pastors of the week: Kate Klemp, Jeff Root, Ramelia Williams, Libby Piotrowski, Edgar Torres, Eric and Bonnie Sparrman, Colby Mecher, Ethan Tews, Kelly Johnston






My son has been singing camp songs non-stop since he got home!"



Covenant Harbor's Kishwauketoe Village is being transformed! Kish serves the camp's youngest overnight campers, those in Grades 2, 3 and 4. The \$1.8 million project features six new winterized camper cabins that include bathrooms, air conditioning and heating, as well as loft meeting space. Additional site


improvements include a new directors' cabin, playground, campfire circle, expanded green space, landscaping, electric, septic and well.

In addition to the \$1.8 million project goal, the camp is raising \$500,000 for its endowment fund. "Improving ministry to our youngest overnight campers is our primary aim," said Development Director Sarah Snow. "At the same time, we are intentional about sustaining Covenant Harbor's ministry for future campers through significant endowment growth."

Thanks to Covenant Harbor's friends and supporters, \$1.35 million of the total project goal has been raised. Construction is slated to begin this fall, with the transformation completed in time for summer camp 2020. To learn more, please contact Sarah at (262) 248-3600 or ssnow@covenantharbor.org. 



600 attend Hispanic ministry Sunday

Since their first gathering at Covenant Harbor in 1977, the Hispanic Covenant churches of the Central Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church have continued to come together annually at Covenant Harbor one Sunday in August. This year, about 600 people gathered for a day of worship, baptisms, picnicking and fellowship. 

Comings and Goings

Fond farewells

Covenant Harbor recently said goodbye to:

- Kelly Elwell, Children's Ministry Coordinator
- Jessica Richards Goodfellow, Administrative Specialist
- Brad Hutchinson, SRAC Program Coordinator
- Mark LaMaster, Marketing Coordinator
- Mike Nelson, Food Service Coordinator

We thank these former staff members for their faithful service.

New staff members

Covenant Harbor recently welcomed:

- Becky Anderson, Logistics Intern. Becky served as parent liaison this past summer.
- Angela Burisek, Administrative Specialist. Angela comes from Arrowhead Bible Camp in New Auburn, WI.
- Heidi Hines, Food Service Coordinator. Heidi served at House in the Wood in Delavan, WI, and worked in school kitchens.
- Emma Mueller, Marketing Coordinator. Emma served as an intern and in several summer staff positions at Covenant Harbor, including Alpha program director.
- Alex Ralston, Youth Ministry Coordinator. Alex previously worked at Covenant Point in Iron River, MI, as summer staff and as an intern, as well as a K-12 physical education teacher.
- Kathryn Spencer, Children's Ministry Coordinator. Among other staff roles, Kathryn previously served as Day Camp program director. She also has worked as a worship leader and paralegal.
- Tyler Thomas, Guest Services Coordinator. Tyler has a customer service background and worked on staff at two camps.



Angela Burisek



Emma Mueller



Tyler Thomas

A new role

Jeremy Dolence has been promoted from a Snake Road Adventure Center intern to SRAC program coordinator. Congratulations!



At camp, kids can be more fully themselves. They hear about God from people who are choosing to love them and invest in them."

KATHRYN SPENCER,
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR



It's about loving kids and sharing Jesus

New program team focuses on children, youth and ministry that happens only at camp

Alex Ralston and Kathryn Spencer joined Covenant Harbor's program team early in 2019 – just in time to plunge into the details of planning and executing the camp's flagship summer programs for children and youth. Their first summer confirmed their respective calls to ministry and affirmed their roles at Covenant Harbor.



Alex Ralston and Kathryn Spencer

Both come to Covenant Harbor with ministry leadership experience – Alex at Covenant Point Bible Camp and Grace Covenant Church in Iron River, MI, and

Kathryn at Covenant Harbor and Hinsdale Covenant Church. Alex and Kathryn, along with Kathryn's husband, Larry, are active at Anchor Covenant Church in Lake Geneva.

Holistic care

As youth ministry coordinator, Alex pursues his heart's passion of holistically caring for youth campers and retreat participants in the context of the gospel. "Camp ministry allows me to engage in active, meaningful relationships with kids and staff, and to share Christ's love with them," Alex said. "Camp is a unique space where the veil between heaven and earth seems to be so thin you can see God's kingdom come."

Alex also appreciates how camp uniquely embraces both stillness and silliness and how each contributes to the holistic care and growth of campers. "We're not silly just to be silly," he explained. "It's through our silliness that the walls around our hearts are broken down and we become more childlike. We are more authentically prepared to grow

and more humbly inclined to be still and listen for Christ's call."

God connections

Kathryn is focused on Covenant Harbor's programs that serve children and their parents in her role as children's ministry coordinator. She loves the challenge of camp, and even more, she loves watching kids make connections with God.

"My experiences at Covenant Harbor have shown me how much I love connecting with God and people, specifically in the context of camp. God works so uniquely at camp – I love seeing that," she said. "At camp, kids have space to be goofy and to spend time with staff who value them for who they are. I love seeing how much they love their counselors. It's really special to watch our campers make connections with God."

To learn more about Covenant Harbor's upcoming Winter Camps for children and youth and Moms & Daughters spring retreat, visit covenantharbor.org.

Summer 2019 Snapshot

Theme: Flipped, based on Romans 12:2

Senior high Alpha campers: 121

Total youth and Alpha campers: 2,850

Scholarship funds distributed: \$94,486.70, serving 234 campers

Summer staff: 83

Offering for Camp2Camp project in East Asia: \$5,050

Camp speakers: Marcus Payne, Laura Gowan, Debbie Baumgartner, Joel Brand, Jonathan Reynolds, Meghan DeJong



Honor and Memorial Gifts

Harbor Point Ministries honors and celebrates the lives of our friends and supporters, and thanks the following donors for their contributions. Gifts recognized here have been received by Covenant Harbor Bible Camp, Covenant Point Bible Camp and Harbor Point Ministries between Aug. 16, 2018 and Aug. 15, 2019. Gifts can be mailed or submitted online. To give online for Covenant Harbor visit covenantharbor.org/give; to give online for Covenant Point visit cpbc.com/donate; to give online for Harbor Point Ministries visit centralconf.org/camps/.

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Stuart Brown

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On her birthday

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50th Wedding Anniversary
Helen Johnson

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Merry Christmas
Dale and Jeannine Holte

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Anderson

Dale and Jeannine Holte Family

Merry Christmas
Marjorie Ramgren

Elizabeth "Liz" Jackson

On her birthday
Vern and Elaine Gustafson

Betty Olson

On her 70th Birthday
Chuck and Janet Gundlach

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Scott and Laurie Rosengren

Marjorie Ramgren

Merry Christmas
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On her Confirmation
Sandy Trinter

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Jane, Joel, Nathan and
Lindsey Frasier

Virginia "Ginny" Woodrow

Michael Woodrow

ESTATE GIFTS

We celebrate the memory of the following friends, whose estates and/or trusts included gifts to advance the ministry of Covenant Harbor.

Harold E. and Elsie D.

Anderson

F. Wilbur and E. Kathryn

Gustafson

Britta Johnson

Kenneth C. and Ethel C.

Pearson

†We acknowledge these friends who are now at home with the Lord.

Memorial and Honor Gifts

Memorial and honor gifts are recognized in the *Harbor Point Camping News*. Thank you for your support.

Please accept my contribution of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$ _____ as a check payable to:

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Going on at Camp



Covenant Harbor

2019

Nov. 11-13 60+ Retreat
Dec. 30-31 Winter Day Camp,
Grades K-6

2020

Jan. 10-12 Winter Camp, Jr. High Only
Jan. 17-19 Winter Camp, Jr. & Sr. High
Combo
Feb. 7-9 Winter Camp, Jr. & Sr. High
Combo
Feb. 14-16 Winter Camp, Jr. High Only
Feb. 21-23 Winter Camp, Grades 3-6
Mar. 22 Maple Fest
May 1-3 Moms & Daughters Retreat

Summer 2020!

Online registration opens at 9 a.m.
Nov. 15! Check covenantharbor.org
for details.



Covenant Point

2019

Oct. 11-14 Jr. High Fall Retreat
Oct. 19-20 Trailblazer Overnight,
Grades 4-6
Dec. 27-Jan. 1 Christmas Camp,
Families, Friends, Individuals

2020

Jan. 2-5 One Life, Sr. High
Feb. 14-17 One Life, Sr. High
Feb. 28-Mar. 1 Men's Retreat

Summer 2020!

Online registration opens at 9 a.m.
Nov. 15! Check cpbc.com for details.



My son was skeptical about going to camp. He had never been away from home. The first thing he said after camp was, 'Mom, I want to come back again next year!' He talked nonstop about his adventures and counselors. We had been home only an hour when he made a playlist of all the worship songs he learned!"



HARBORPOINT
MINISTRIES

The Harbor Point Camping News is published annually by Harbor Point Ministries, the organization that connects Covenant Harbor and Covenant Point to each other and their owner churches. To learn more or to change your mailing information, email Beth Fredrickson at bfredrickson@harborpointministries.org.

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