



Heit's Point HiLites Mar/Apr 2012

Greetings from Heit's Point!

The staff and I want to thank you for all the support we have received throughout this winter. The weather although a little on the warm side, provided great retreats for the people who utilized our facilities. The dogwoods and redbuds were in full bloom the last two weeks. I heard it described this weekend that God had done an awesome job with His paintbrush.

This month, it will be fishing mania. The crappie are biting, the spoonbill are being snagged, and as Jenny found out the fisherman are getting sun burnt. Men and families from all over the state and Nebraska come here for the spoonbill season. It is a blessing for them and an opportunity for us. More than one of them has been impacted by God, coming to Heit's Point and experiencing the Christian experience.

Sometimes it slows down in May, but this year we are staying pretty busy and the counselors show up the third weekend which kicks off summer camp.

What's up with Delbert?

I get asked all the time, how Delbert is doing. For those of you who don't know he is our 90 year old volunteer that lives on site. He was concerned about his eyesight weakening, but after a trip to the doctor it turns out it was a medication causing him to have blurred vision. Since then, he has been in fine form, leading us in devotion every morning. This morning he introduced us to Holy Week with vitality and is looking forward to most of the week with us sharing the story of our risen Savior. However, on Friday he is going on another trip to Nebraska. This time for a relative's birthday party. Of course, he made sure we could get along without him before he scheduled the trip.

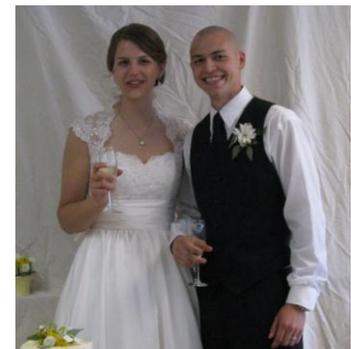
Churches growing the Lord's Ministry at Heit's Point

Two weekends ago, the Journeymen from Timothy Lutheran, Blue Springs were here for their spring retreat. Forty eight men enjoyed BBQ, fellowship, and praising God. The women did not want to be left out and eight of them were here for their own retreat. This men's retreat has been going on 4 to 5 years and has grown with new members coming every year.

Would a Men or Women's retreat help get a spark going at your church?

Marriage Celebration

This past weekend, God provided a picture perfect outdoor wedding for Leah, our Program Director. It was a beautiful ceremony, the weather was perfect, and of course the scenery glorious. We pray for them to have a safe journey during their honeymoon and that God will bless them as they grow in their life together.



We thank God for continuing to challenge us in our service to Him.

Mark Nolte
Executive Director

Leah & Eli Coleman

"From The Chairman"

Wow! What a dedicated board we have. Because it was our first meeting this year, our meeting started Thursday at 1:00PM and ended that evening. We then continued with our normal Friday meeting until 4:00PM. Most would say that is an awful long time to meet so there must be something wrong. To the contrary! A lot is going very well.

Thursday afternoon was spent riding around the property on the trailer to look at specific areas addressed in the Site Optimization Plan which is almost finished. This is the first time the board and staff have taken the time to assess the entire property and document potential improvements or recommended use of each area that would optimally support our mission and goals. The information provided included maps, plans, and statistics compiled over the last five years. Estimated costs were provided for some items which helped in giving an idea as to the magnitude of each task.

More than likely, you are asking yourself, "What is the importance of doing this study?" Previously, improvements were based upon a desire to do what was thought to be necessary. This was good but was it always in the best interest or was it the most effective to support our mission and goals? In view of all things considered, and with the dynamics of today's ever changing needs of our patrons, it was thought that we needed a plan based upon operational needs vs. nice to have and to establish a priority system for these improvements. Initiating one large capital fund raising campaign in this days economic climate is not necessarily the best approach. Therefore, by identifying a project based upon a definable need, we can initiate smaller specific capital fund raising efforts. This will let the individual donors know exactly what their donation was for and also let them see firsthand what they were able to cause happen and why.

So, what are some of the ideas identified by this study? The following projects, not in order of priority, were identified:

- Spitz addition
- Back-up well
- Senior outdoor activity area
- Spitz Dining Hall Deck
- Waterfront
- Campground
- Ascension Haus
- Family Housing area
- Youth Ministry Facility

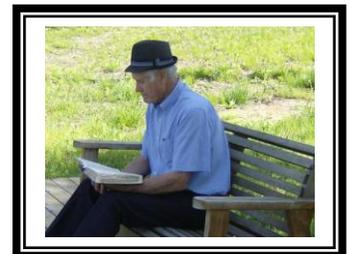
With the exception of the Spitz addition, most of these projects will be sized to where a church group, individual or a combination of both can fund and participate in a project. Operational needs were not a part of the study. At our next board meeting, we will assess each of the above items based upon usage data and establish a priority list.

At our normal board meeting, we were pleased to hear that our business base has improved over the winter months. Based upon contracts in hand, we will have a nice increase in revenue this summer. Please continue to pray for Heit's Point, especially for the staff, and don't forget to continue to designate the Choice Dollars to us.

Blessings,
Bill Buehrle
Chairman of the Board

During Easter we remember what Christ did for us through His resurrection. We also remember those of our friends and family that have already joined Him for everlasting.

If you are remembering someone and would like to honor that memory, we would like you to consider sponsoring a Memorial bench in their name. The cost for the bench is \$200 and it will be used here at Heit's Point in various locations; around campfires, at meditation spots, etc. A plaque will be placed at the top back of the bench with your wishes. Some put the name of the person they are remembering. Another idea is to put a Bible verse that would guide others during their meditation.



Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries 2012 Work/Camper Program

Full hookup camping for 20 hours work per person. Meals when available. Program runs from May 1st through Oct 31st. Come for as little as 2 weeks up to 5 full months

Five couples with following duties needed:

Husband	Routine Maintenance (John)
Wife	Routine Maintenance (Audrey)
Husband	Maintenance Lead (Don)
Wife	Kitchen Breakfast (Mary Ann)
Husband	General Maintenance
Wife	Kitchen Lunch
Husband	General Maintenance
Wife	Dinner
Husband	General Maintenance
Wife	Housekeeping

General Maintenance: Construction
 Painting
 Building Maintenance
 Vehicle Maintenance
 Tree trimming

2012 Heit's Point Volunteer Work Weekend Opportunities

Apr 27-29	Work weekend	(Warrensburg LSC)
Jun 8-10	Work weekend	(Festival prep)
Jul 8-13	National Servant event	
Aug 17-19	Work weekend	
Sep 7-9	Work weekend	(Springfield LSC)
Oct 19-21	Work weekend	(Festival prep)
Nov 16-18	Work weekend	(Winterization)

Volunteer opportunities and service project are available throughout the year. Contact us at 660-668-2363 to come and share your talents.

Summer Camps Make Kids Resilient

Sending children to a residential, or day camp, builds resilience

Published on February 5, 2012 by [Michael Ungar, Ph.D.](#) in [Nurturing Resilience](#)

I recently spoke to 300 camp directors about how to make children more resilient to life stress. Summer camps, we discovered, are perfect places to help children optimize their psychosocial development.

After all, summer camps are places where children get the experiences they need to bolster their range of coping strategies. There are the simple challenges of learning how to build a fire, going on a hike, or conquering a high ropes course. There are the much more complex challenges of getting along with a new group of peers, learning how to ask for help from others, or taking manageable amount of risks without a parent following after you.

The best camping experiences offer these opportunities for manageable amounts of risk and responsibility, what I term "the risk takers advantage" (see my book [Too Safe for Their Own Good](#) for more examples). The worst camps pander to children as if they are entitled little creatures whose parents are paying big sums of money. Children at camp can't be treated like customers if they are going to get anything out of the experience. They need to be treated like students whose caregivers, the counselors, know what the kids need to grow.

Camps that pull this off and make kids, especially teens, put away the makeup, stash the iPods, get a little dirty and even a little frustrated while having fun and making new friends, are the kinds of camps that offer children the best of what they need. Looking at those experiences from the vantage point of my research on resilience, I know that camps help our children develop great coping strategies when they provide seven things all children need:

- 1) New relationships, not just with peers, but with trusted adults other than their parents. Just think about how useful a skill like that is: being able to negotiate on your own with an adult for what you need.
- 2) A powerful identity that makes the child feel confident in front of others. Your child may not be the best on the ropes course, the fastest swimmer, or the next teen idol when he sings, but chances are that a good camp counselor is going to help your child find something to be proud of that he can do well.
- 3) Camps help children feel in control of their lives, and those experiences of self-efficacy can travel home as easily as a special art project or the pine cone they carry in their backpack. Children who experience themselves as competent will be better problem-solvers in new situations long after their laundry is cleaned and the smell of the campfire forgotten.
- 4) Camps make sure that all children are treated fairly. The wonderful thing about camps is that every child starts without the baggage they carry from school. They may be a geek or the child with dyslexia. At camp they will both find opportunities to just be kids who are valued for who they are. No camps tolerate bullying (and if they do, you should withdraw your child immediately).
- 5) At camp kids get what they need to develop physically. Ideally, fresh air, exercise, a balance between routine and unstructured time, and all the good food their bodies need. Not that smores (marshmallows, chocolate and graham cracker treats) don't have a place at the campfire, but a good camp is also about helping children find healthy lifestyles.
- 6) Perhaps best of all, camps offer kids a chance to feel like they belong. All those goofy chants and team songs, the sense of common purpose and attachment to the identity that camps promote go a long way to offering children a sense of being rooted.
- 7) And finally, camps can offer children a better sense of their culture. It might be skit night, or a special camp program that reflects the values of the community that sponsors the camp, or maybe it's just a chance for children to understand themselves a bit more as they learn about others. Camps give kids both cultural roots and the chance to understand others who have cultures very different than their own.

That's an impressive list of factors that good camping experiences provide our children. Whether it is a subsidized day camp in a city or a luxurious residential facility up in the mountains, camps can give our kids a spicy combination of experiences that prepare them well for life. Add to that experience the chance for a child's parents to reinforce at home what the child nurtures at camp, and maybe, just maybe, we'll find in our communities and schools amazing kids who show the resilience to make good decisions throughout their lives.

Marriage Retreat

Pastor Michael and Sue Wanner from Branson, MO led with the theme "Together Forever" from the passage 1 John 4:7-11; " Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.....". It was a special weekend and another blessing was the music supplied by the praise band from River of Life Lutheran Church in Springfield.

God continues to bless those who come together in His name and praise Him.

Apr 27-28th **Circuit Youth - Lock in**

Apr 19th **Starts the first Home School Outdoor Education day for the year**

Apr 28-29th **Work weekend**

2012 Summer Camp "What's in a Name?"

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Early bird registration price break - \$20 discount for registration before May 1st, 2012.

June 3-8	Trailblazers (High School)
June 10-13	Mini Quest 1 (3rd and 4th) -Limited Space Available-
June 10-15	Outpost (5th-8th) (tent camping/outdoor week)
June 15-17	Little Adventurers (3-6 year olds w/ parent)
June 17-22	Quest 1 (3rd and 4th) -Limited Space Available-
June 24-29	Journey 1/Expedition 1 (5th-8th grade)
July 8-13	Journey 2/Expedition 2/Scrapbook (5th-8th grade)
July 15-17	Discovery (1st and 2nd grade)
July 15 -20	Quest 2 (3rd and 4th)
July 20-22	Family Camp (All ages)
July 22-25	Mini Quest 2 (1st and 2nd grade)
July 22-27	Journey 3/Expedition 3-Sports Camp (5th-8th grade)
July 29-August 4 (Saturday)	Journey 4/Expedition 4 (5th-8th grade)

Summer Fest August 4-Campers and families are invited to come back to camp to have one more day of fun before the summer is over. Hang out with your counselors one more time! (Parents, don't you want to meet the faces associated with all of those weird stories?) Activities will include devotions, song time, tours, swimming, and lots more!

We're getting set to do the summer camp visits, if you'd like us to come and visit your Church or School please contact us.

Summer camp registrations are starting to come in. Don't wait until the last minute, send yours in and encourage your friends as well.



Leah

Program Director

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Join us in thanking God for all the blessings He has given us!

It's not too late to be a part of this Ministry!

The Spring Appeal will come your way this month.

Donations

Volunteering

Prayers

Check out the Website www.heitspoint.com
Upcoming programs - Wish list - Summer camp information

Looking for a daily devotion
try
www.journeymen4christ.org

Don't forget your
Thrivent Choice
Opportunities