



Pine Trail Camp, P.O. Box 35, Saugatuck, MI 49453
www.pinetrailcamp.org

WILL YOU HELP WITH OUR NEEDS LIST?

Dining Hall Video/Sound System

Updated Telephone System

Hay Rack to safely offer PTC hayrides

Snow Shoes so winter campers can explore the beautiful grounds

New Life Jackets—children and adult sizes

Please pray with us that God will continue to work in the lives of the people who made a personal commitment to Him at Pine Trail Camp in 2011.

Pray for God to lead kids to camp in 2012. May their hearts be open to hear, and funds be available for all to attend.

Pine Trail Camp is so thankful for the encouraging words of how PTC has blessed lives for the past 50 years!

Merry Christmas!

*And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.
~ Matthew 1:21*

“THEOLOGY OF PLACE”

Curt Bush, Executive Director

Have you ever had a cup of coffee with a farmer? That is something not many of us have an opportunity to do. Because of my previous position in north-west Iowa, I was privileged to “sit-a-spell” with farmers both young and old. Regularly our conversations focused on life on the farm. I noticed a real relationship the farmer had with his property. It was not just a job or a business, but a very definite interaction with his/her land. Through those conversations, I truly came to understand the meaning of stewardship.

Wendell Berry, a contemporary Christian writer and theologian, often alludes to a theology of place. Place or places have a role in our relationship with God. Berry has been known to say that there is more going on with his forty acre farm as it relates to God, than he can begin to understand in his lifetime. It brings to mind Old Testament stories that involve place; Mt. Sinai, the Garden of Gethsemane, Jerusalem, the Mt. of Transfiguration, the Red Sea, the Mt. of Olives, and the Sea of Galilee – the list goes on. God’s self-revelation is often connected to place.

The fourth chapter of Joshua tells the story of Joshua leading the children of Israel across the Jordon and into the Promised Land. At that point of crossing, God tells Joshua to have each tribe pick up a stone from the Jordon riverbed as the water is held back for the Israelites to cross. He commanded those stones be set up as a reminder to His children’s children, so that they would not forget what occurred at that place. That place became holy – set apart – as a reminder of God’s presence and activity.

Today, I look out my window and see the trees swaying in the fall breeze. Winter is around the corner. Shortly after Christmas, weekends will begin to fill up with kids in our cabins and cottages for winter retreating. Snow tubing, fireplace conversations, gentle snow, tasty meals, and conversations about Jesus, will become the memory markers of a young person’s experience at Pine Trail. I think that makes Pine Trail Camp a holy place – set apart and marked as a place of God’s work in the lives of our campers. Pine Trail is a theological place. It is one of God’s holy spots where the Holy Spirit is revealed.

Please keep us in your prayers. Look at our web site; www.pinetrailcamp.org and feel free to share words of encouragement. If you are able and willing, please help us to continue being a place of God’s presence through a financial gift. In Berry’s thought, there is more going on here in this place than a lifetime can record.

Praise God!



Closing Ceremony - South Olive Bible Camp—July 2011.

THINK SUMMER 2012!!



We like the feeling of warmth here at Pine Trail Camp and can experience that through friendships, gathering around the fire pit, and unexpected phone calls. Another way we experience warmth in the winter is by planning for Summer 2012! Yes, we are gearing up for an adventurous summer and want to share our plans with you, so you can feel the warmth and get excited too!

HURRY!!!
Sign up today for an amazing time at Pine Trail Camp!



Invite a friend!

Pine Trail Camp will be offering opportunities for **SUMMER CAMP** for grades 1st (completed) - 9th grade.

- June 10—15 Middle School Camp (6th—9th)
- July 15—21 Junior Camp (3rd—6th)
- July 22—24 Primary Camp (1st—3rd)
- July 25—27 Primary Camp (1st—3rd)

Rate for Middle School and Junior Camp—\$300. Cost for Primary Camp is \$135 per session.

LEADERS IN TRAINING (LIT) is a high school program (ages 15—18), promoting leadership through serving. Join us for a 2-week program where you will experience the joy and benefit of teamwork, gain appreciation for each other's unique gifts, as well as develop self awareness and an understanding of God's activity in your life! Session Dates:

- June 11—June 22
- June 25—July 6
- July 9—July 20
- July 23—August 3

Cost: \$300/session



DAY CAMP at Pine Trail is a perfect opportunity to introduce campers to archery, crafts, canoeing, and exciting Bible stories. Attend for a day, a week or all summer long, beginning June 11 and running thru August 3. Cost per day is \$30.00 and includes lunch. Rate per week—\$140.



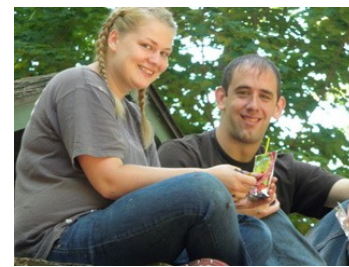
SUMMER SUPPORT STAFF FOR 2012



Pine Trail Camp is a great place to work! Why? Because Pine Trail staff genuinely love and care for each other, while doing purposeful and fun work for God's Kingdom. Guests feel welcomed when they experience a staff member willing to come alongside them and make their stay a lifelong memory. If you have a passion for serving Christ, along with a gift of hospitality and service, then Pine Trail Camp invites you to be part of the team.

Please complete an application found on our website at www.pinetrailcamp.org, or email: info@pinetrailcamp.org for additional information.

If you have completed one year of college and/or have a passion for serving others, please prayerfully consider applying for a summer staff position at Pine Trail Camp.



PTC GUESTS: AUGUST—DECEMBER 2011

1. Faith Christian Center, Holland, MI
2. Connection Church, Canton, MI
3. Great Lakes Urban, West Michigan
4. Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI
5. Jenison High School Chamber Singers, Jenison, MI
6. Grace Countryside, Milford, MI
7. Third Reformed, Holland, MI
8. Hillcrest CRC, Hudsonville, MI
9. State Youth Fellowship—College/20 Something, IL
10. Bethel Community Church, Chicago, IL
11. Providence CRC, Holland, MI
12. Trinity Reformed, Holland, MI
13. Centerpoint Church, Kalamazoo, MI
14. Central Wesleyan—Life Connections, Holland, MI
15. Youth Leaders from Crown Point, IN
16. Western Theological Seminary, Holland, MI
17. Village Bible Church, Sugar Grove, IL
18. Lakeshore Vineyard, Holland, MI
19. Allendale High School, Allendale, MI
20. L.A.U.P., Holland, MI
21. Village Church, North Riverside, IL



STATE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

SEASON OF THANKSGIVING

Pine Trail Camp strives to be the best we can be in all areas. One item we have been working on, is updating our website—www.pinetrailcamp.org. Please take a moment and enjoy the experience of being at Pine Trail, via our website and Facebook page. It is a marvelous way to see the blessings that occur each week.

This newsletter, Pine Trail Pages, is also available on the website. Would you please let us know if you prefer to read Pine Trail Pages online, or if you would like to continue to receive the newsletter by mail. We are thankful for the many ways of communication and strive to use our resources in the best way to reach all.

Please consider this request. PTC’s mission, “to come alongside the church, training leadership, operating as servants, loving people closer to God, all the while being a safe and holy place” is all for one reason – seeking to faithfully serve Jesus’ call. We believe this depends on our partnership with friends like you who believe in the work of building God’s kingdom. We are truly thankful for the ministry at Pine Trail Camp. Please consider this invitation to help support Pine Trail Camp and her mission.

Yes, please continue to send me Pine Trail Pages via the U. S. Postal Service.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zipcode: _____

I will read Pine Trail Pages on the website. Please alert me via email.

My email address is: _____

I will partner with Pine Trail through prayer and a financial gift:

\$10.00 _____ \$50.00 _____ \$100.00 _____ \$500.00 _____ \$_____ (perhaps in the amount of the year you attended PTC—year 1978—\$19.78)

Your gift will be used wisely as PTC is a safe and holy place—**“Where Christ Becomes Real!”**

Please return to Pine Trail Camp, PO Box 35, Saugatuck, MI 49453 or email: info@pinetrailcamp.org. Or call us at 269-857-2564.

**Pine Trail Camp, P.O. Box
35, Saugatuck, MI 49453**

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**PINE TRAIL CAMP
BOARD MEMBERS:**

Charles McWherter
Tim Howard
Ruth Klint
Mike Mora
Pastor Don Zimmerman
Dave Zimmer
Pastor Asa App
Trevor Good
Elizabeth Castillo
Fred Versluys
Julie Braun
David Schlueter
Paul Brush

Thank you for your vision,
commitment, and prayers on behalf
of Pine Trail Camp!

BETHEL BIBLE



RIVER OF GOD

VILLAGE BIBLE-HAYRIDE



LOOKING BACK...2011



**LECHNER/BUSSCHER
WEDDING RECEPTION**



WOMEN'S RETREAT



Cottage Development

GA-GA BALL!



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