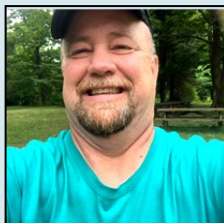




# CHANGED LIVES

Volume 9 No. 1 Koinonia Camp and Conference Center News Spring 2021

## KOINONIA CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER



**John 13:34–35 (NIV) — 34** "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. **35** By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

It seems like forever since I sat down to write about all that is happening at Koinonia Camp. It has been long enough that I could probably write ten pages and still not cover everything that has and is happening at camp. I am going to try and give you the highlights... and of course invite you to come see things for yourself.

Summer is just around the corner. A very close corner... much closer than seems possible. We are still accepting registrations but some individual camps are filling up fast. All of the new (last year) guidelines, regarding our allowed room occupancy is lower than we like and therefore, camp sizes are limited. Hurry and register your camper(s) today.

Along the lines of summer camp, it is always good to put our theme out there for all to read. This year our theme is "REVOLUTION" and comes from the scripture reference listed above. You see when Jesus talked or taught it always turned the way people looked at things upside down and backward. If you look closely the word revolution has U LOVE right in the middle... if you read it from right to left. It is when we love one another that we show that we are disciples of Christ. We will be challenging campers this summer to show love to everyone.

In the fall of 2020, we were able to start a new ministry. Sounds crazy to begin a ministry in the middle of a pandemic, but I was losing my mind without campers. The ministry is named, **YAMs and Potatoes**. It is a time for young adults (18-30 years old) to come together. Thanks to ABC Ohio, and some other financial supporters, we have been able to do some wonderful activities. We have gone trap shooting, played pickle ball, had bonfires, colored Easter eggs and had Nerf wars. Every week we enjoy a meal together that includes some form of potato dish. We use the potatoes that were grown in the camp's garden last summer. We meet at 5:30 PM on Wednesdays. If you have questions on how to get involved, please call the office **440-466-1278**.

Speaking of potatoes and camp garden, we have begun planting this year's crop. Of course the first thing to go in the ground was potatoes. It was a group of high school students from Conneaut High School who helped plant them. As we look to the next few weeks and planting, we hope to have beans, tomatoes, squash and peppers. But our biggest planting will be pumpkins!

(See Koinonia, Page 2)

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Pumpkins are what began the Koinonia Carnival several years ago. And with a year off last year, I am anxious to put together an even bigger and better event in 2021. Mark your calendars for **October 9, 2021**. It will be a blowout event and if we are blessed with The Great Pumpkin harvest we hope for, we will be sending pumpkins home with everyone who attends. If you are sitting and thinking, how can I help make this happen ... GREAT... call the office and let us hook you up. We are going to need volunteers.

Did someone say volunteers? S.W.A.T. Saturdays are still happening the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month. In April, we had thirty-five servants show up to work together to beautify the camp. There is never a time at the camp when there isn't something that needs to be done. We have projects at every skill level and age group. We need your help making the ministry happen. We meet at **9AM** to begin work, then we have lunch at **12:30pm**. In between, we serve together so that camp is ready for Changed Lives.

"Changed Lives" is our purpose at Koinonia Camp. And I have to admit that I am one of those changed lives. It has been over eighteen years since I first walked into the office at the Lodge as the Interim Executive Director. In that time, I have found myself in complete despair, overjoyed, broken (physically and emotionally) and I have experienced the presence of Jesus in all of it. My faith has been stretched and much of what I thought I knew ... I now wonder if I will ever fully figure it out. I have gone from being a father of two girls to a grandfather of 4. I have gone from running with the campers to watching from my rocking chair (not a literal rocking chair). I am not sure how my lovely wife Lori has stayed so young, maybe it's because of the horses. You might say that I have experienced a remodeling of my thinking, my faith and life.

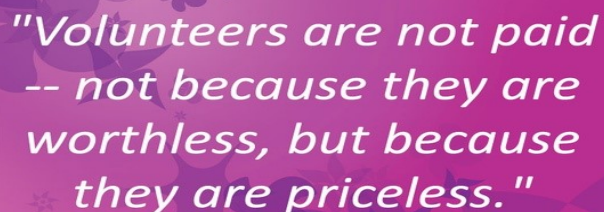
Remodeling has become a catch phase at the camp the last few years. We are seeing buildings getting much needed facelifts and new ministries happening in them. The chapel, Kolthoff, Tabin Bathrooms, and Athletic Field Bathrooms (now called

Trotty Potty because of its impact on the horse ministry) have all experienced new life because of volunteers and donations.

It is now time for us to look at Hillside. This building has been an office building, infirmary, snack shack and cabin area for campers – now it is time for it to receive new life and purpose. We desperately need to hire a fulltime maintenance person this year. The bottom of Hillside is going to become a place for our Maintenance Person to land while we look to build a new residence home on the grounds. After we build the new residence, Hillside will become a pastor getaway, director cabin and Air BNB. I am telling you this because we need more volunteers and donations to make this happen. If you would like to help in any way, please call the office (I bet you didn't see that coming – LOL). Seriously, I told you I have been at camp 18 years, I love what I do and cannot imagine doing anything else, but I am no spring chicken. Please, help make this happen so we can bring in younger help to keep the ministry happening.

Folks, I covet your prayers. As we enter the summer season, I simply ask for you to pray for the campers who are going to attend. Pray that they will experience Jesus. Pray for the Counselors, Directors and Staff who will be serving those campers. Pray that they would have the wisdom and energy to show Jesus to each camper. And thank each of you for helping make the ministry happen.

*Eye on the Prize,  
Randy L. Brookes,  
Koinonia Camp Executive Director*



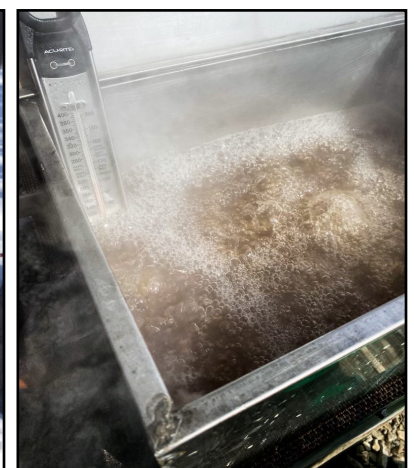
*"Volunteers are not paid  
-- not because they are  
worthless, but because  
they are priceless."*



# 2021 Koinonia Camp A Photo Tour of Activities And Ministries







**COME JOIN THE KOINONIA CAMP FAMILY AND HELP CHANGE LIVES!**



# CARE AND SHARE - ITEMS TO DONATE

Do you want to be a part of the ministry at Koinonia but are too far away for a single day trip, or just don't have the time to commit to being there to volunteer? That's OK!

Below are a few different ways to donate your treasures to Koinonia Camp!

## Cleaning Supplies

- 2 Gallon Buckets
- Paper Towels
- Shower Curtains/Liners
- Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- Toilet Bowl Brushes
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Cleaning Rags
- Garden Hoses
- Magic Erasers
- Hand Sanitizer
- Simple Green (Cleaner)

## Office Supplies

- Rubber Bands
- Mechanical Pencils
- Standard Copy Paper
- Windowless Business Envelopes
- Legal Pad Notebooks
- Sticky Notes
- Scotch Tape
- White Out
- G2 Pens
- Gift Cards

## Kitchen Supplies

- Ziplock Bags (All Sizes)
- Heavy-duty Pot Holders
- Cleaning Rags (Bar Towels)
- Styrofoam Plates
- Simple Green (Cleaner)
- Stick Matches
- Laundry Detergent
- Unscented Bleach
- Dish Soap
- Paper Towels
- Steel Wool Pads
- Scotch Scrubbing Pads
- Magic Erasers
- BUNN Glass Coffee Pots

## Maintenance Supplies

- 2 Cycle Chainsaw Oil
- Reciprocating Saw Blades
- Chainsaw Bar Oil
- Paintbrushes (Any Size)
- 9" Roller Pads
- Paint Roller Handles
- Drop Cloths
- Tarps
- Paint Roller Trays
- 4 ft. LED Light Bulbs
- Safety Glasses
- Work Gloves
- Rubber Gloves

- Shop Paper Towels
- Marking Paint
- Extension Cords
- Ear Plugs
- Gift Cards (Home Depot/Lowes)

## Programming Supplies

- Rubber Playground Balls
- Basketballs
- Soccer Balls
- Basket Ball Nets
- Volleyballs
- Washable Paints
- Clothes Line or Rope
- Duct Tape
- Panty Hose
- Spray Paint
- Gift Cards

## First Aid Supplies

- Band Aids - Large and Small
- Triple Antibiotic Ointment (Neosporin)
- Eye Wash
- Tampons
- Feminine Hygiene Pads
- Aloe Vera Gel
- Sunscreen
- Children's Benadryl





## *Memories*



**"ALONE WE CAN  
DO SO LITTLE;  
TOGETHER WE  
CAN DO SO MUCH."**

**- Helen Keller**

Koinonia Camp and Conference Center  
6810 Cork Cold Springs Road  
Geneva, OH 44041

## *Spring 2021*



**Visit the Koinonia website**  
([christiancampohio.org](http://christiancampohio.org))

### **SWAT SATURDAYS**

**Third Saturday of every month  
at Koinonia Camp**



**Servants Working All Together!  
Contact the camp for more info!**



### **Contact Info**



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**Please consider helping future generations of  
campers at Koinonia by including the camp  
in your estate planning. Thank you!**