



Discovering
GOD'S GOODNESS
2016 DCC ANNUAL REPORT

RENTAL GROUPS

Salem Evangelical Church
Zion Mennonite Church
Radius
Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship
Albany Nazarene Women
Grace Community Church Men's Group
Zion Mennonite Church
Drift Creek Quilters
McNary High School
West Salem High School
Oregon State University
Oregon Trail Academy
Pacific Northwest Mennonite Conference Board of Directors
Newport Nazarene Women
Taft Elementary Outdoor School
Valley Baptist Church
Church of God Camp
Schrock family
American Missionary Fellowship ~ InFaith Camp
Fairview Mennonite Church
Highlands Community Church
Federenko family
Iglesia Pentecostes
Lewis & Clark Outdoor Education program
Albany & Salem Mennonite Churches
The Mandate School
Job's Daughters
McMinnville Covenant Church
West Salem High School Orchestra
Jane Goodall Environmental Middle School
Salem Apostolic Church
Western Mennonite Church

YAMHILL:

Heiberts, Don Schrag, Ben Nowell, Larison Family,
Curt Stuzman, Yuri Prasolov



2016 Summer Staff

Drift Creek Camp

BETHANY CHUPP: What an incredible summer. I was blown away by the dedication and energy that our staff brought to camp this year. With many new faces, I was delighted to find that each person brought something new and exciting to the team. Highlights included the high school week's Prom, and watching 3/4th graders try new things and meet new people. I was also struck by the compassion that each camper demonstrated—we had an extraordinary group of kids. I'm carrying many gems from this summer—fond memories to look back on. "I love the way you love" as an affirmation shared between counselors; "You've been given a big story," a phrase shared with campers. Drift Creek Camp is truly a sacred place—it's holy ground we stand on. Thank to all for another great camp season!

MATT & JANITA MILLER: We are finishing up year 2. It has been a busy year. We have had a couple new groups this year and it has been fun getting to know them and to hear their desire to come back. As well as learning more about ourselves we are excited for our next step in life. We want to thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the Drift Creek Camp family and we look forward to the possibility of coming and joining in activities in the future. Thank you.

GLEN OESCH: Thanks to all the dedicated kitchen volunteers who helped feed all the hungry campers this past summer. All the love and care that goes into each meal is appreciated by all.

BRENDA & TONY KAUFFMAN: The year was especially busy with our family's trip to Nepal. It was a beautiful gift to connect with Shanti and Saroj's birth family. We are forever changed and deeply grateful. I suppose that we returned with both joy and the fresh pain of separation. We probably entered the summer with more vulnerability than usual, but the summer staff rose to the challenge and truly served as the hands and feet of Jesus...In my post-summer camp reflection, I shared:

DCC's summer camps wrapped up yesterday. The season was filled with many joys and moments of wonder; belly laughs and tender exchanges. There were challenges to wrestle with and thoughts to ponder; quiet times to revel and evenings of enthusiastic worship under the night sky, encircled with love. It was a sweet, sweet summer....and none of it would have been possible were it not for a fabulous summer staff who came to serve. I kept finding myself in tears on my quiet drive home last night as my heart swelled with gratitude for each one of you. We are grateful for the way God's love flowed through you to hundreds of campers. The camp community was so blessed by your generous spirits, humble hearts, keen awareness, and affirmations for one another. Each day we had the privilege of watching the summer staff share grace, knowledge and wisdom with one another in ways that were hopeful, gentle, loving and kind. I am inspired by each one of you.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers: Dave Detweiler, Chair; Kevin Hockman-Chupp, Vice-Chair; Karen Tieszen, Secretary

Members: Ben Handrich, Trish Handrich, Kristin Oakes, Chris Nord, Denise Diller, Christine van Belle

In addition to regular board service, each member also sits on special committees which include but are not exclusive to board participation. The working committees include: Nature Center, Facilities, Finance, Program, Volunteers.

NATURE CENTER COMMITTEE

Membership: Jim Anderson, Joe Ebersole, Bruce Flaming, John & Louise Gingerich, Ben Handrich, Brenda & Tony Kauffman, Glen Oesch, Rich Swartzentruber, Karen Tieszen and Jon Yoder. We meet bimonthly focusing on our Mission: "Developing awareness, appreciation and stewardship of Creation through education, exploration and interaction with nature" in programming and operations at Drift Creek Camp. *Honorary Members: Larry and Mary Jane Eby and Anna Williams*

Nature Information Center: Jon Yoder worked with an architect on a re-design plan of the cabinets to enhance the outdoor view, display and visibility of resources, increase storage and welcoming appeal of the area. We continue to explore possibilities for adding interpretive displays prior to final approval of the plan. *Suggestions from members appreciated.*

We were disappointed that both the Family Nature Camp and Mushroom Retreat were cancelled this year.

Summer programming: Jon Yoder and Rich Swartzentruber participated in the Summer Camp orientation. The tradition of enriching summer programming with things like tree and plant identification continued as well as offering specifically nature-focused activities such as Hikes with Ken, Birding and Stream X-ploration. Skye McKinnell, environmental education major, returned this summer as a participant in the Goshen College Camping Inquiry Program. We were pleased that Goshen College student Tessa Yoder was on the Summer Camp staff for the third consecutive year joining Ken Kauffman and others in providing experienced leadership in a variety of nature activities.

There is a balance of \$6,982.68 in the DCNC budget and DCNC continues to recycle 20 printer cartridges per month (\$40 value) providing \$480 per year toward the purchase of DCC supplies at Staples.

2016 Camps:		
GRADE:	CAMPERS:	Prev. years
Parent and Me	35	28, 28, 29 in 2013)
High School	83	71, 50, 51
Grades 7 & 8	69	72, 73, 69
Grades 5 & 6	60	80, 89, 84
Grades 3 & 4	55	49, 61, 75
2016 Total # campers	302	(w/o Surf Camp)
2015 Total # campers	300	(w/o Surf Camp)
2014 Total # campers	301	
2013 Total # campers	324	
2012 Total # campers	294	
<i>Most room for growth in 3/4 grade & 5/6 grade camps!</i>		
Question...		
Are there enough people interested in reviving Surf Camp to try it again? STAFFING is a key factor. In addition to "cabin" counselors, (at least one male and one female), a camp pastor, nurse and at least 2 cooks would be needed.		

2017 PROGRAMS

March 9-12, Drift Creek Quilters

April 21-23, Women's Retreat

May TBD, Work Weekend

June 12-16, Orientation

June 16-18, Parent & Me

June 18-23, High School

June 25-30, Grades 7 & 8

July 2-7, Grades 5 & 6

July 9-14, Grades 3 & 4

July TBD, Surf Camp!

October 19-22 Fall Quilt & Craft

Fall Mushroom Workshop TBD

November 3-5, 2017 Annual Meeting

2016 DCC PROGRAMS

OREGON MENNONITE WOMEN'S RETREAT ~ APRIL 10-12:

The 2016 Oregon Mennonite Women's retreat was held **April 8-10th** with the theme of **Experiencing Sanctuary**. Marlene Bogard, executive director of Mennonite Women USA, was the guest speaker. The retreat was well attended with more than 50 participants. It has been exciting to see the group grow and relationships deepen with each year. Highlights included: coloring sheets by Trudy McKinnell, learning prayer mantras with Marlene, singing together in the chapel, identifying our spots on a spirituality web, and having this year's novel be written by our own book club leader Diana Blackstone! *The 2017 Women's Retreat is scheduled for April 21-23. We are excited to welcome speaker Marlene Kropf.*

WORK WEEKEND ~ April 29-30 and May 20-21 and August/September:

We were again able to incorporate several Work Weekends into the schedule. We also had a couple of work crews come out in the late summer to dismantle the caretaker cabin. It was great to really be able to focus on specific projects. The multiple date approach has worked well since recent projects have required much skilled labor. We are so grateful for all who were willing to pitch in and help....THANK YOU! Each year, there is far more work that needs attention than Drift Creek's small staff could ever accomplish alone.

Our dependence upon volunteers is profound. We could not operate without you.

SUMMER CAMP ~ JUNE 13-JULY 15:

The summer staff worked very well together and came with a willingness to serve. There was definitely a "Yes, and...." attitude among the counselors which made the weeks go smoothly. The counselors were positive and affirming of one another; they were truly a joy to work with! The leadership team was strong with Gabe Barnes and Bethany Chupp in the office, Brandon Chupp leading worship and Skye McKinnell and Tessa Yoder working with Nature Activities. Skye also contributed to various other tasks through Goshen College's Camping Inquiry Program. It was great to have a broad mix of students from Oregon schools, EMU, Goshen and Hesston. Though many counselors were new, the group connected easily and there was a sense of being team-focused from day one.

We also had a great team of pastors: Curt Weaver (PMC) helped with some initial strengths-identification work during orientation; John Regier (PMC) served for the third year as high school camp pastor. He has been able to build relationships with campers every year. Gary Jewell (AMC) worked with 7/8 grades. This was his first time at DCC. Cynthia Hockman-Chupp (Zion) did a fabulous job with the 5/6 grade campers and affirmed my belief that teachers make wonderful camp pastors! She provided a lot of useful materials for counselors to use during cabin time, which is always appreciated! Christine van Belle (CMF) returned to work with 3 & 4 graders. Christine has built a great relationship with the staff. Her school psychologist background is a gift in terms of providing insight on campers and helping counselors identify where campers are developmentally. We are so grateful to have had these pastors serve. They each brought unique gifts for each week and made the summer program more meaningful! The curriculum was not easy, but they each used their creativity to make the most of it!

Thankfully all of the many volunteer needs were covered throughout summer camp! We were grateful for all the medical professionals who gave generously of their time: Denise Diller, Mary Raudebaugh, Janette Wisseman, Sarah Acosta and Dianna Eshleman. We managed to piece together enough kitchen help. Some weeks were more challenging than others, but we survived and all the donations from Bob's Red Mill of Gluten-Free baking mixes eased that strain.

FALL QUILT & SCRAPBOOK RETREAT ~ October 20-23

Each year women gather to put quilts together, stitch, sew, and set aside time for creativity! It's a delightful weekend that has become one of my favorite times at camp. Each year, as we all get to know one another better, we learn more about each other, and likely ourselves. We admire each other's work. We recognize the time investments put into projects. We listen to each other's stories...and the community grows. It is, indeed, a delight to be a mouse behind the scenes watching people wrap up projects they've been working on for decades or to share another's excitement as she begins something new. The retreat provides a safe place to be vulnerable, take risks, seek the help of others, experiment, share things we've learned, be stretched and bask in the satisfaction of using our hands to create something that is both useful and beautiful. In addition to busy quilters, this year there was a hard-working crew of men of all ages continuing the work of dismantling the caretaker cabin on the Saturday of the Quilt Retreat. It was a great way to maximize the time and easily be able to feed the hungry fellows after a hard day's work! *They were amazing!*

FABULOUS VOLUNTEERS

Camp Pastors:

Orientation: Curt Weaver, Ken Beachy
Parent & Me: **Christine van Belle**
High School: **John Regier**
Grades 7 & 8: **Gary Jewell**
Grades 5 & 6: **Cynthia Hockman-Chupp**
Grades 3 & 4: **Christine van Belle**

Camp Nurses:

P & M: **Denise Diller**
HS: **Mary Raudebaugh**
Grade 7 & 8: **Janette Wisseman/Denise Diller**
Gr. 5 & 6: **Sarah Acosta**
Gr. 3 & 4: **Dianna Eshleman**

Lifeguards:

Lilly Kauffman
Maria Koshkarov
Amanda Olvera

Camp Cooks:

Orientation: **The Cobb Family**
Parent & Me: **Cobb Family, Rich & Karen Kropf, Ericka Gingerich, John & Nancy Hstand**
High School: **Cobb Family, Anna McLaren, Judy Gingerich, Jeremy & Jennifer Gingerich, Kristin Oakes**
Grades 7 & 8: **Anna McLaren, Hendrick Mobley, Tiffany & Corlyn Regier, Urszula Balenkowski, John and Louise Gingerich**
Grades 5 & 6: **Priscilla Smith, Karen Groat, Karen Hanson, Stan and Vonnie Oyer**
Grades 3 & 4: **Karen Hanson, Carol Kauffman, Nancy Hstand, Karen Hanson, Carolyn Newschwanger, Maribeth Kennel, and Dorene Nafziger**

Summer Staff:

Bethany Chupp, Gabe Barnes, Skye McKinnell, Brandon Chupp, Katie Mordhorst, Tessa Yoder, Lilly Kauffman, Maria Koshkarov, Hannah Grant, Hanna Heischman, Erin Brubaker, Trevor Oyer, Toby Gibson, Silas Driver, Carter McKay-Epp, Aaron Garber, Peter Schultz, David Gottesman, Orlando Mendoza and Ken Kauffman (Naturalist and fix-it guru!)

I haven't always been a DCC person. I haven't gone to camp since I was 4 and, being from IN, I don't visit Drift Creek all year round. But in spite of that, I have found a place at Drift Creek Camp and will always feel at home there. My 3 years as a camp counselor have taught me numerous lessons about discipline, tolerance, patience, friendship, and much more. This summer was both challenging and rewarding as I transitioned from a rookie counselor to the oldest female counselor which made this summer unique and allowed me to continue growing in new ways. Though there have been many types of difficulties these past 3 summers I have learned an incredible amount, made lasting relationships with staff and campers, and been a part of a loving community. I wouldn't have wanted to spend the past 3 summers anywhere else! *Tessa Yoder, Goshen, IN*

Being at Drift Creek Camp this summer was an amazing experience for me for so many reasons. The people at camp became like family to me, the beauty of the nature constantly reminded me of how powerful and creative God is, and the atmosphere was a place of love, acceptance, and happiness. This summer at DCC has helped me to grow in a multitude of ways and I am very thankful that I had the chance to spend my summer there. *-Erin Brubaker, Hesston, KS*

"When I was a young camper, my ultimate goal in life was to be just like my counselors. The campers look up to counselors as role models and embracing that role this summer helped me grow as a leader and as a person. Although I always try to live and act in a Christ-like way, being in a place like Drift Creek where you know how much of an influence you have on the development of the campers really helps you focus on the way that you treat all people. I have discovered that I am my best self when I am with kids. I found that even when my path is unclear, I can help kids find their way by showing them love.

Being at Drift Creek allowed me to let my walls down and really be myself. With that I also discovered that I have lots of energy and passion to share with others, especially for nature. The experiences and relationships that I gained this summer are something that I will forever cherish. This was a summer of self-discovery and affirmation. I was able to realize new goals for the future by being in a place that has helped me to grow as a follower of Christ. The experiences and relationships that I gained this summer are something that I will forever cherish. This was a summer of self-discovery and affirmation. I was able to realize goals by being in a place that has helped me to grow as a follower of Christ.

-Skye McKinnell, Salem Mennonite

SUMMER 2016

VOLUNTEERS:

- Adam and Jenn Cobb (and 4 children), Archbold, OH, 2 weeks (SOOP)
- Skye McKinnell, Salem, OR, served 8 weeks (GC CIP program)
- Orlando Mendoza, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, served 10 weeks (IVEP/MCC)
- Bob and Sharon Stoltzfus, Souderton, PA 1 week (SOOP)

SOOP (*Service Opportunities for Older Persons*), a Mennonite program for folks in the U.S. to serve domestically & Canada. Assignments cater to skills/needs of volunteers/organizations.

IVEP (*International Volunteer Exchange Program*) is a collaborative effort with Mennonite Central Committee and Mennonite World Conference. Provides opportunities for young adults from other countries to in the U.S. and Canada. Volunteers work with schools so we often only get to have them at camp for 3 weeks.

NEEDED: DCC needs host volunteers to give caretakers occasional weekend breaks! We are also looking for volunteers to help construct the new caretaker cabin.

This summer was full of new energy and excitement! We had first-time counselors who connected with the campers so well. Like every year at DCC, it was awesome to see the returning and new campers have a blast! As I thought about this past summer, I reflected on the huge impact that Drift Creek leaves on campers. The loving and caring atmosphere gives many campers an incredible outlet from chaotic lives. I think it is so cool that DCC can have this positive impact on kids as well as continuing to greatly change me, a person who has been going to DCC all my life. One of my favorite times from the whole summer season was hearing the 3rd & 4th graders sing at fireside on the last night of camp. I can't begin to tell how many God-inspired moments I have experienced being a counselor at Drift Creek. It was a great year at camp and I am already looking forward to the upcoming summer. *-Trevor Oyer, Zion Mennonite*

Summer Camp Teen Volunteers:

The best part of working with teen volunteers is witnessing young people become personally invested in DCC. With each summer that passes you see more youth not only taking pride in their work, but also in the camp itself. They realize how important their role is in terms of keeping the “ball rolling” with summer programming. They are willing to do the behind-the-scenes work that may not be very glamorous, but that can be fun when you’re working hard with a dedicated group of peers. Together, the willing TVs kept the dishes washed, pots & pans cleaned, floors swept, bathrooms tidied, paper products stocked, snacks served, cabins cleaned and so much more! Looking to the future, it means the world that the pool of youth who love camp continues to grow! *Your servant’s hearts are a testimony to everyone around you.*

Year-round Volunteers:

We sincerely apologize if we missed anyone. Each volunteer is important and we are forever grateful for your service!

COOKS: John & Louise Gingerich, Urszula Balenkowski, Dave & Martha Detweiler, Lois Oesch, Randall Toews, Tony Handrich, Nancy Friesen, Cathleen & Dave Hockman-Wert, Anna McLaren, Loretta Van Leerdam, Lisa Regier, Tiffany Regier, Corlyn Regier, Alayna Regier, Shanti Kauffman, Evy Kristensen, Carol Kauffman, Maribeth Kennel, June Handrich, Luke Summers, Josh Hertzler, Krista Kauffman, Trish & Ben Handrich.

MAINTENANCE: Thank you to Kevin Hockman-Chupp for continuing with the LED light overhaul throughout the lodge as well as for installing the beautiful new lights on the outdoor posts in front of the lodge. Thank you, Ken Kauffman, for repairing the bell. *We feel much safer ringing it these days!* There were many who helped at Work Weekend, THANK YOU! Thanks to the cabin teardown crew: Jerry Friesen, Richard Heggen, Byron Gardner, Chris Nord, the Mandate School, Jared Oyer, Saroj Kauffman, Mark Diller, Ryan & Kyle Diller, Caleb Chupp, Kevin Hockman-Chupp, Leon Eshleman, Charles Kauffman, Tony Kauffman.

GRAPHIC DESIGN: Wilbur Kauffman for another beautiful camp registration form; Kristen Leichty for another great summer camp t-shirt, and Merv Kropf for making the shirts happen! Thank you Pioneer Printing for our paper printing needs! Thank you Brandon Chupp and John Gingerich for your support with the DCC website.

Volunteer needs:

Feel motivated to support DCC but not sure what would be helpful? [Look here:](#)

- DCC’s food service is based on volunteer labor! **We need kitchen volunteers year round.** The pool of volunteers is growing thanks to Trish Handrich’s stellar recruiting, but more volunteers are always needed. ***When there are not volunteers camp staff adds this work to already full plates!***
- **Be a substitute host!** Camp staff often works for **MONTHS** at a time with out breaks, *especially from mid-July to mid-November.* It gets to be a long haul of working with every weekend with no breaks. It is vital for staff to be able to connect with friends and have a life outside of camp. Please consider giving all of us a much-needed break and fill in as a camp host or in the kitchen. *(For example, for the past four years the falls have included long stretches with no breaks. While the schedule has been great for DCC, it has been exhausting for the staff.)*
- Split wood/chop kindling. ***This is always a need!***
- Would you be willing to put together a work team for facility projects? With a tight budget, the camp staff remains small. Volunteer crews help tackle projects! *This approach worked perfectly on the base-board installation, the stair replacement, as well as for painting the lodge. What a blessing it was to have full crews address these projects!*
- Enjoy scrapbooking? We need someone to keep camp scrapbooks up to date. It is impossible to do everything and help with this project would provide a treasure of memories for generations to come!
- Marketing? We’ve had several groups indicated that due to shrinking congregations and diminishing school budgets, they simply won’t be able to return to camp. DCC’s customer base needs to grow in order to operate sustainably. Do you have creative ideas that can help maximize revenue or reach prospective guest groups?
- Writing? There are various grants available to fund future projects. *We’d love to see energy conservation projects be funded through grants.* Ideas include a micro-hydro generations system, additional batteries, composting toilets in cabins, etc. We would also love to get a safe rubber floor covering installed in the Activity Center. *(Nike produces such floors with recycled shoes. Wouldn’t it be great to have such a sustainable material installed here at DCC?)*
- Recycle ink cartridges from friends and family. Each cartridge earns credits for office supplies at Staples. Just turn in cartridges to the camp office, we’ll take care of the rest!
- Designate Mennonite Camp Association of Oregon as your non-profit recipient every time you order merchandize from Amazon. Log in to Amazon Smile, choose DCC, make your order and camp receives a percentage of your purchase!
- Help orchestrate craft projects for summer camp! We always need ideas, supplies, preparation, etc.
- Come up with gratitude ideas/tangible gifts that can be given to camp volunteers as thank you gifts.

FINANCE & FACILITIES

The pace of this past year was more manageable than 2015 which was made frantic by the pressure of the Master Plan and the time crunch of completing \$50,000+ in maintenance projects funded through the Gray Family Foundation grant. **In 2017 we will again be eligible for another Gray grant!** DCC will again need to raise \$17,500 which will be matched by a 2:1 grant of \$35,000, to be dedicated for maintenance. 2017 will be the final round for these grants, then in 2018 the structure will change. (*After that, it's possible that fewer larger grants will be offered.*) In March of 2016, the GFF Executive Director made a site-visit to DCC. We shared our hopes enclosing the Activity Center in order to have a secondary gathering space which would allow for greater maximization of camp usage. We also showed her the bath house and expressed the need to add a heat source and resurface the floor. *She was supportive of both of these ideas!*

The Gray Family is actively involved with the Outdoor School for All campaign. If this ballot passes, the potential is higher for DCC to host more schools for outdoor education. (*Weekdays pose our largest area for growth so this is great news!*) Like many other small Oregon camps, DCC doesn't have adequate staff to offer outdoor education ourselves. But GFF is hoping to work with the state to build a pool of instructors that would be available to support the increased number of education programs.

The huge benefit of this grant money for maintenance is that preventive maintenance is less costly in the long run. Our buildings take a beating here in the Coast Range so keeping camp looking good is our best defense.

General Maintenance:

New lights and posts in front of the lodge
Bell repaired
Low hanging branches removed from trees in front
Worked at tightening Lodge roof screws
New "wireless bridge" b/n Activity Center & Lodge
Lodge lighting upgrades
Repaired water line
New gravel dispersed on driveway/parking area

NEEDS: A Project Manager is needed to steer the rebuild of the Caretaker Cabin.

WISH LIST:

Bath house OVERHAUL!
2nd floor bathroom remodel (for men's & women's group restrooms)
Replace electric to 3 far cabins
Upgrade back-up 35kw generator
Replace remaining old lodge windows (kitchen & back office)
Replace the kitchen flooring
Resurface Activity Center floor
Enclose Activity Center to expand usage options
Expand Yamhill porch/improve access
Improve/replace sagging lodge beds
Kitchen stove/oven replacements

The **Endowment Fund** was announced at the 2010 Annual Meeting. We hope constituents will support the goal of financial stability for Drift Creek Camp. Please consider DCC in your estate planning and commit to leaving the legacy of protecting Drift Creek for your children, grandchildren and generations to come.

*We appreciate your commitment to DCC. **We are partners on this journey & your support helps sustain camp's ministry.** Each year, we are humbled by your generosity. Together, we walk in faith, and we trust, that with God's help, we will continue to muster the strength to gracefully face each challenge.*

*Thank you to the **Camp Board of Directors**. Much is asked and you serve generously. Thank you **Camp Representatives**. You provide an important link to supporting congregations; YOU provide camp's voice. We are grateful hard working volunteers who make year-round operations and summer camp possible! Thank you **Matt & Janita** for another year as camp hosts; it's a giant responsibility! Thank you **Glen** for all your year-round hard work and iron-box memory!*

*Thank you to everyone who is contributing to Sunday's worship and for sharing your hearts. Thank you **Dave Detweiler** for leading the board and facilitating the auction. Thank you **Gale Gingrich & Roger Snook** for help with the apples and press. Thank you to **Glen Oesch** and all the folks helping in the kitchen this weekend! And thanks to the young adults and youth who helped with children's activities. It takes a village!*

In the coming year, we value your prayerful support.

With a deep river of gratitude for your acts of kindness, words of encouragement, and loving hands that so generously sustain DCC,

-Tony and Brenda Hostetler Kauffman