

Pitching A Tent At Christmas

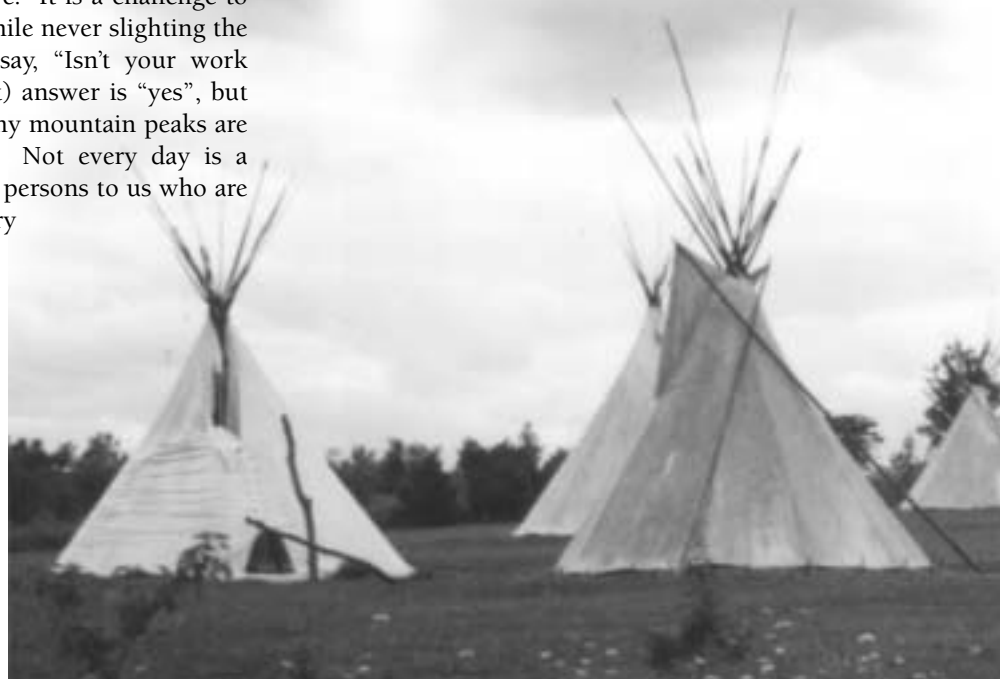
Angel choirs, shepherd pageants, and quaint stables, in this season, sometimes deflect our minds from the crude realities of what happened that night so long ago in Bethlehem. John wrote (1:14), "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt (literally 'pitched a tent') among us, and we saw His glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." God the Son in a sense pitched His tent among us and became, for a brief moment of history a part of our camp. Living out the human experience in all of its harshness, He did not become like us. Experiencing the brutal sting of poverty, racial hatred, religious hypocrisy, betrayal, social injustice and ultimately a wrongful death sentence, He emerged with an aura of glory, demonstrating the perfect balance of grace and truth, a balance unknown to humanity. From an impoverished Jewish family, in a tiny vassal state at a time when Rome ruthlessly subjugated virtually all of humanity to its pagan whims, He lived within the time and space of His native culture, never losing sight of a mission which enveloped all families of the human race. His death for sin was His greatest accomplishment, setting the stage for the ultimate miracle of resurrection. His followers, down to this very December of 2010, have been left with the commission of ambassadorship, proclaiming reconciliation to God to fellow inhabitants of this cold world.

For twenty-two years now, God has given this agency a ministry of reconciliation. Pristine camp experiences do not mask the harsh realities of ambassadorship in a very broken world. God calls us to serve, sometimes literally pitching a tent, while living among those we serve. It is a challenge to live out the loving kindness of Jesus while never slighting the truth of Christ. People Sometimes say, "Isn't your work rewarding?" The obvious (and honest) answer is "yes", but not an unqualified "yes". Between many mountain peaks are some long and treacherous canyons. Not every day is a "happy day". Often God brings young persons to us who are skeptical, secularized, hostile and very broken, although they may not know it. Increasing numbers of the kids we serve have been raised as "leftovers" from relationships that did not work out. Unmet emotional needs, exploited passions, a Godless outlook on life, and narcissistic personal values do not create attractive human portraits!

We are, however, a redemptive ministry! Our mission is not primarily social change, or youth maintenance,

or despair, but one of transformation. Paul writes that God made Christ, "who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." Through a miracle which only God can produce, He is in the business of creating new creatures in Christ. Those persons are characterized by the passing away of old things and the coming of new (II Corinthians 5:17, 21) Increasingly as the years have progressed we have seen the absolute need for the gospel message and for Biblical teaching which gives foundation and structure to the message of good news. Entering the second decade of this new millennium, we are recommitting ourselves, in this ministry structure called Camp Appanoose, to Christ's redemptive work. In coming months an extended vision for this ministry will be presented. Vision 20/20 will assess immediate ministry needs in light of long term goals, and then chart a course of action for the next decade.

An operating deficit and several urgent material needs have not lessened the passion of those of us who serve at camp. God has shown Himself faithful these past twenty-two years and He will meet our current needs. As we attempt to raise an additional three thousand dollars a month, or thirty-six thousand a year, we ask you to pray to the Lord of the harvest, that He will continue to raise up laborers who will be willing to pitch their tents where the need to know Christ is so great. Pray that He will raise up others who will fund the efforts and pray that He will show you how that you may be involved.



Summer Camps 2K11 - Facing Your Giant

June 3-11 – Leadership Training Camp –

Training young leaders, Biblical worldview, Leadership skills, First aid. (Ages 16 and up)

June 12-18 – La Semana De Aventura Con Dios –

Bible camp designed for Hispanic youth, first generation American. Bi-lingual staff will conduct most programming in English. (Ages 10-16)

June 19-25 – Big Risk For God Week – RU up 4 it –

A special and challenging Bible camp for urban youth. (Ages 10-14)

Basketball Camp –

For guys and girls. Includes many camp activities. (Ages 10-14)

June 26- July 2 – Buckskinner Camp –

A week with many classic camp activities. Outdoor cooking and fishing are offered as options within the program. (Grades 4-6)

Horse Camp I –

A special horse camp including many classic camp activities. (Grades 4-6)

July 5-8 – Cowboy Camp –

A special beginner camp with age appropriate activities and Bible lessons for second and third graders.

July 10-16 – All Sport Camp –

A week of challenge, competition, fun and lots of sports activities. (Ages 10-14)

Appanoose Builders Camp –

Lots of fun while you learn the basics of building a structure. (Ages 10-14)

Horse Camp II –

A great week of riding and game activities on horses with many great camp experiences as well. (Ages 10-14)

July 17-23 – Wind-N-Waves –

A wide variety of classic camp activities for teens. Canoeing, Kayaking, and Sailing are offered as options for those who love the water. (Grades 7-12)

Horse Camp III –

A special horse camp just for teens. (Grades 7-12)

River Runner Camp –

Explore a beautiful river from a canoe or kayak. (Grades 7-12)

Aviation Camp –

Experience first hand the great world of aeronautics. (Grades 7-12)

July 24-30 – Dirt-N-Wheels –

Lots of classic camp activities with a special emphasis on bikes and four wheelers. (Ages 14 and up)

Target Sports –

Archery, Riflery and paintball. Iowa Hunter Safety Course is offered as an option. Paint

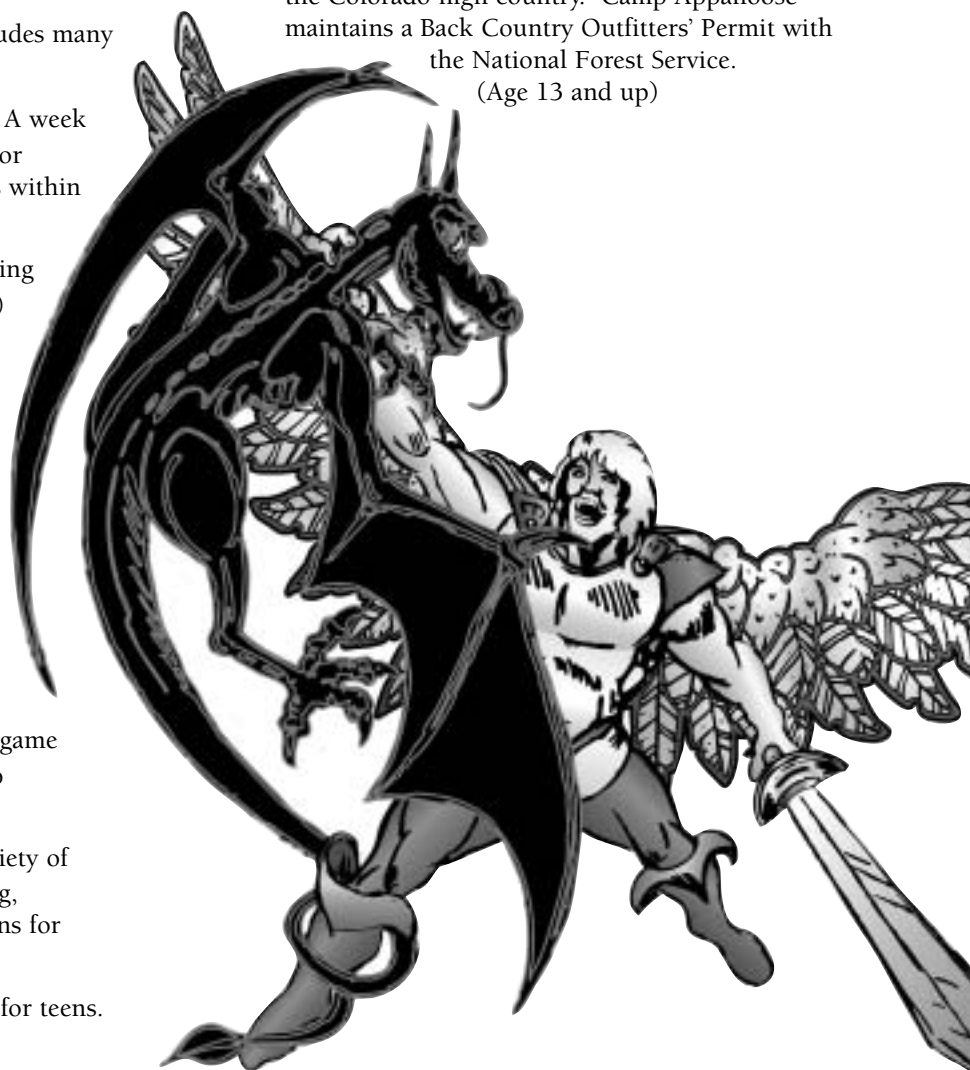
ball equipment must be supplied by the camper and approved by camp staff. (Age 12 and up)

July 31-August 6 – Genesis Camp –

A special family camp with lots of activity options. Bible teaching will build excellent spiritual foundations as the events and issues of Genesis are explored from a literal Biblical stand point. Full hookups in the RV area, family tenting or limited bunkhouse space.

August 1-10 – Rocky High Adventure Camp –

A week of backpacking and exploration for teens in the Colorado high country. Camp Appanoose maintains a Back Country Outfitters' Permit with the National Forest Service. (Age 13 and up)



Logbook 2K11

We are beginning to prepare Bible lessons for 2011. Our theme, Facing Your Giant, will zero in on giants which we all face in life. Taken from the Old Testament stories of David, attention will be directed to such giants as Huge Obstacles, Pride, Revenge, Passion, and Cowardice. A preliminary brochure for next summer will be available fairly soon.

Mission Statement

Introducing Jesus Christ to a new generation and challenging youth for productive service in our world.

Christmas Gifts

- ▲ Why not consider giving a gift of a week of camp to a friend, neighbor or perhaps that special grandchild. Camp can make a world of difference. Call the camp office for more information.
- ▲ The camp store has several gift possibilities.
- ▲ Several older horses are no longer suitable for camp use but could be retired to an acreage for a young horse enthusiast. These are available for \$100.00 each.



Other 2011 Dates to Remember

WINTERSURF – January 22, February 19, and March 19 • Special activities for youth (Grades 7-12) with seminars designed to help youth defend their faith.

FRONTIER FESTIVAL – May 7 • Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day Weekends – Campground is available for family and church camp activities on a fee basis. Meal service and special activity options including livery services must be arranged in advance.

APPANOOSE FRIENDS RETREAT

FALL ROUNDUP – November 5 • Fund raising dinner at camp.

Items Most Wanted List:

- ▲ Carpet for the new chapel and adjacent rooms. (\$3000.00)
- ▲ 2 Commercial/Industrial strength vacuum sweepers
- ▲ \$300.00 for floor hockey equipment for the new gym
- ▲ Ice skates, in line skates or roller skates
- ▲ \$200.00 per camper for paint ball equipment (\$6000 goal - equipment for 30)
- ▲ Baseball backstop for the new athletic field
- ▲ \$9.00 per chair for up to 30 stackable chairs for the outdoor chapel
- ▲ 30x60 storage building for tractors and equipment
- ▲ Full Sized, Roadworthy pickup truck
- ▲ Two new queen size mattresses (60" x 80")
- ▲ 40-50 gallon electric water heater
- ▲ Trailer to haul lawn tractor
- ▲ Oster (or comparable brand) 5 cup food processor

T-Shirt Recall!

Do you have a "historic" t-shirt from Camp Appanoose? The camp has produced over 20 t-shirts through the years, some designed by staff members, some by friends at the DANNCO company in Centerville. A friend of the camp is making a quilt from t-shirts out of the camp past. If you have a shirt to donate, please contact the camp office.

Budget Shortfalls

At this time Camp Appanoose is facing a thirty-two thousand dollar operational budget shortfall, for the current year. While the ministry expanded greatly over the past several years (facilities/programs), operational costs rose at an even faster rate. Every attempt has been made to be frugal by delaying maintenance items, needed purchases, and freezing already modest salaries for the eighth year now. Naturally, we are concerned, but we are also trusting that this will be a time in which God will show His hand in ways that will bring glory to Him, and a testimony of His provision. Pray with us that God will give us wisdom and a strong sense of priorities at this time and of course that this short term debt may be quickly erased.

Return Service Requested

Fall Roundup – November 6

November sixth was the date of our fall Roundup, “friend” raising banquet and silent auction. This special evening of testimony, fellowship and enjoyment reflected on camp blessings and at some challenges ahead. Guests enjoyed testimonies from campers, volunteers, donors and former staff members, a great meal, a silent auction, special music, and a special visit from Dolly. This event is for adults and interested parties who wish to support this ministry. The Fall Roundup is scheduled each fall on the first Saturday evening of November. Guests made financial pledges toward the ongoing operational expenses of this ministry, participated in a silent auction with the proceeds given to camp, and through financial contributions. If you are interested in becoming a monthly or quarterly supporter of this ministry, please contact us at cabar@lisco.com or by calling the camp office.



Looking Back, Looking Forward

Sharing recently with a friend of the camp a few details of the 2010 camp season, one of our best summers ever, I mentioned that, after camp, we were facing some very significant financial challenges. “Isn’t that just like the Lord?” said our friend, “to bless us greatly and then present us with some real challenges to our faith.” My mind went back in time to a number of examples in the Bible such as Elijah’s fear of Jezebel after the great miracle on Mount Carmel. Along with great evidences of God’s power, provision and blessing, often comes severe stretching which God designs to push our faith to a new level. HE is pushing us to a new level, here at camp, and while we attempt to move ahead, it is with the continuing reminder of our dependence upon Him.

One of the ways in which we are moving ahead is the development of Vision 20/20 which will be a ten year strategic plan for this ministry in the next decade. Vision 20/20 will incorporate goals both for the physical development of camp properties and the actual ministry. We are energized as we look ahead to the opportunities which God has placed before us. As you pray and support this ministry you are sharing in the vision which God has given us to make Christ known to the next generation.