

## J2C in 2026!

As our country celebrates its 250<sup>th</sup> year, we are thankful to God for His grace which has been poured out on Appanoose Ministries! This summer we plan to guide young people in the qualities of godly leadership as we look at one of Scripture's iconic leaders, King David. A shepherd leader, a warrior leader, a servant leader and a forgiven leader, we will examine him in each of those roles. Campers will learn from this great man, not perfect, but one of the outstanding leaders of all time. Each week will conclude with the true hope, J2C, or Jesus 2 Come, as we look at the great king foreshadowed by David. As we work to gather summer staff and get the word out to campers, please remember to pray that God will greatly bless our efforts and use them for His glory!

**2026 SUMMER STAFF!** - Each summer it is our joy to host a group of mature teens and college age students to serve as counselors and mentors to campers. We are seeking this now. Do consider serving Jesus while mentoring kids this summer. Contact the camp office if you are a returning member or wish to apply to be with us this summer. [cabar@campappanoose.org](mailto:cabar@campappanoose.org) or [marshall.sandlin@campappanoose.org](mailto:marshall.sandlin@campappanoose.org). Qualified volunteer counselors from our supporting churches are much appreciated and may go through our counselor training week, free of charge.



## FRONTIER VILLAGE – \$19,500 to go!

Around a year ago, a \$52,000 goal was set for the restoration of the Frontier Village at camp as part of "Operation Facelift". To date, \$32,500 has been designated by our partners in this ministry. Two Conestoga Covered wagon sleepers are nearly completed, and two more are being rebuilt by a team of volunteers led by our own Marshall. Camp lodging began as a village of tipis. After twelve years and two full sets of tipis, the wagons were introduced – a big step up! When campers said that they were uncomfortably hot, our board chairman at the time, Dwight, decided to solve that problem by adding a small air conditioner to each one. We found that a ceramic heater in each wagon would also make them useable for a little longer season in the spring and fall -- if our electrical service would handle it!

Time took its toll on the wagons. Along with the opportunity to rebuild them, is also the opportunity to improve and upgrade them as well as to make some significant improvements in the Frontier Village. Only another \$19,500 is needed to complete this project.



*Only another \$19,500 is needed to complete this project. Will you consider a special gift to cover all or a portion of this need at this time?*

**GO TEAM** meets at 9:00 a.m. on the first Thursday of every month, to share volunteer needs and pray for the ministry of Camp Appanoose. Upcoming dates are February 5, March 5, April 2 and May 7. *Though not expected, some volunteers choose to stay for the day to complete a project. Do let Marshall know in advance if this is your desire and we will be ready with needed supplies.*

**SATURDAY NIGHT SURF CLUB for teens!** February 15, March 14, April 18, May 9; 6-8:30. Follow us on Facebook for scheduled activities.

**SPRING VOLUNTEER RETREAT** – April 24-25, 2026. A very productive weekend every spring and fall for families, singles, past campers or anyone willing to help out. Meals are provided on Friday and Saturday, and lodging may be available in the Appanoose RV Village (bring your own tent or RV) or in a Conestoga Wagon. Come for the weekend, or a few hours. Projects include cleaning, painting, repair projects, trail work, tree trimming and more. RSVP at 641.649.2491 or [cabar@campappanoose.org](mailto:cabar@campappanoose.org).

**SPRING ROUNDUP** - May 9

'Lots of activities on the campground followed by dinner in the Pavilion. This is a great opportunity to see camp in action for persons who may not know a lot about Camp Appanoose!

**FAMILY FISHING CONTEST** – May 15-16. More information to come.

#### **A VERY SPECIAL COUPLE**

At ages 95 and 92, Ray and LaDonna Amsden will be celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on February 23. If you would like to send them a card or a note, you may mail it to the camp address: PO Box 37, Plano, IA 52581.

*After retirement from Amsden Construction in Des Moines, they built a house adjacent to Camp Appanoose in order to be near the ministry and provide volunteer support. They are a great blessing to this ministry as well as their family!*



**GRADUATED TO HEAVEN IN 2025** - Although a number of the camp family graduated to Heaven and we greatly miss them, we are blessed by their memory of loving service on behalf of this ministry:

*Tom Wilson, husband and father and friend of the camp could always fix anything!; Lois Walker served as our first Kitchen Coordinator when camp meals were produced out of the old chapel building off site; and Ken Bailey, our dear friend, was a great prayer warrior, mentor, board member and artist.*

All gifts to Camp Appanoose are tax deductible. Financial gifts may be mailed to PO Box 37, Plano, IA 52581.

Thank you for remembering Camp Appanoose in your Will!

Appanoose Ministries, Inc. dba Camp Appanoose

*Unique Camps, Educational Travel, Youth Specialists*

[www.CampAppanoose.org](http://www.CampAppanoose.org)