

Camp Deerpark

SPRING 2023

A MINISTRY OF THE NEW YORK CITY MENNONITE CHURCHES

CAMP DEERPARK OWNER CHURCHES

Believers Mennonite Garifuna Ministries

Pastor Andrew Nuñez

Centro Misionero Cristiano

Pastor Aristidez Shee

Evangelical Garifuna Church

Pastor Lilian Flores

Retired Pastor Celso Jaime

Evangelical Garifuna Church of Brooklyn

Pastor Martin Alvarez

Evangelical Garifuna Church of Manhattan

Pastor Margarito Martinez

Friendship Community Church

Pastor Kenneth L. Thompson

Grace and Peace Mennonite Church

Pastor Anita Castle

Iglesia Evangelical Menonita Eben-Ezer

Pastors Julio and Ana Damaso

Immanuel Community Church

Pastor Mark Perri

Infinity Mennonite Church

Pastor Albert Taylor

King of Glory Tabernacle

Pastor Robert Earl

Manhattan Mennonite Fellowship

Pastor Jason Storbakken

Mennonite Bible Fellowship, CT

Pastor Cedric Smith

Mennonite Evangelistic Tabernacle

Pastor Nestalis DeLeon

Muros de Fuegos

Pastor Maria Teresa Flores

North Bronx Mennonite Church

Pastor Ruth Wenger

United Revival Mennonite Church

Bishop Nicolas Angustia

Valley of Jesus Mennonite Church

Pastors Bernardo & Linda Rodriguez

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

For the past fifteen years Camp Deerpark has hosted two specific fundraising events annually, a banquet in Pennsylvania in April and our Homecoming auction here at camp in September.

In September of 2018, inspired by a challenge match from the Norman & Elizabeth Hahn Family Foundation, the New York members of our Camp Deerpark family helped to raise more than \$22,000 toward our Promise Woods Children's Camp capital campaign. It was, at the time, the single biggest and most successful fund-raising activity ever experienced amid the New York City Mennonite churches.

In 2019 we celebrated our 50th anniversary. This time two New York City Mennonite church members stepped forward to provide a \$25,000 challenge match. The New York family more than doubled our efforts from the previous year with nearly \$58,000 being contributed to the ministry of Camp Deerpark.

It is the long-range goal of our board of directors to see the New York City churches continue to grow in our financial and volunteer support of Camp Deerpark. Currently, 72% of donations come from the state of Pennsylvania, 14% from New York, and 11% from other states. We are always encouraging our New York City community to find meaningful ways to support this ministry.

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KNITTERS WANTED

Thanks to the generosity of Steve and Irene Villanueva, we have 15 skeins of yarn from Bernice the Camp Deerpark llama. We are looking for volunteers to make items that will be sold at the Homecoming auction in September. Thanks to Laura Burkholder for making the stuffed llama and Ashley Marin for making the handbag. There is still plenty of yarn for you to take on a project.

In 2021 our goal was a little different at the Homecoming auction. We were able to add more than 33 new monthly donors to camp's growing Promise Circle of donors, most of whom are from the New York metropolitan area.

At our February board meeting the Camp Deerpark board set a faith fundraising goal for 2023. We will challenge the New York City owner churches at our Homecoming auction to match, or exceed, the giving at the Pennsylvania banquet. This year the net gifts totaled \$38,666. Please see the banquet report for details.

The Challenge

Our faith goal is to raise \$39,000 or more at our Homecoming auction on September 9th. If you consider yourself to be part of the New York Camp Deerpark family please pray about how you will step up and accept the challenge.

Extra Blessing

If we meet our goal the Hahn Family Foundation will make a \$5000 donation toward the new playground at Promise Woods.

PA BANQUET REPORT

The Camp Deerpark board and administration would like to thank the table sponsors listed below. We would not have a banquet without the table sponsors.

Thank you to our speaker Karl McKinney. Thank you to Mackenzie Campbell & Andrea Brubaker for offering such beautiful music. To hear more music from Mackenzie you can go to: <http://www.mackenziepaige.net>. To watch the video that was presented you may go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TevxvQ6PbaM&t=6s>.

Praise God for the 220 people who came out on a very busy weekend to learn about and support the ministry of Camp Deerpark. The announced gifts were \$41,124, however, when all of the expenses were included, the net proceeds totaled \$38,666. Thank you.

Table Sponsors

J A Horst & Sons

Lehman Insurance Agency, Inc.

New Holland Family Restaurant, In memory of Dan Glick

Friends of Forest Hills Mennonite Church

Thomas & Carol Berg

John & Mim Buckwalter

Elsie Curto

Donald & Linda Good

Lowell & Ruth Jantzi

Charlie & Joyce Martin

Carl & Marian Metzler

Lanny & Debbie Millette

Les & Jane Mininger

Wes Newswanger & Janet Breneman

Daniel & Mim Wert

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous



It was great to have a wonderful visit from the children, grandchildren, and great granddaughter of Pastor Celso and Zulma Jaime.



This was a great year for maple syrup at Camp Deerpark. Thanks to generous donations from several people we were boiling out of a new evaporator. The crew led by Kim McConaghay tapped 199 trees, collected 2198 gallons of sap, boiled for 91 hours, and produced 53.3 gallons of syrup, which has been enjoyed by hundreds. Be sure to pick up a pint while supplies last.

A PLACE OF FINAL REST FOR THE NEW YORK CITY MENNONITE FAMILY

When Camp Deerpark was purchased in 1969 a portion of the land across from the chapel was designated as the Skinner family cemetery. At the time of purchase there was a verbal agreement that the Mennonites would care for the cemetery. In the early years Camp Deerpark installed a new fence and kept the area mowed. By the mid 1980's the cemetery was overgrown and the fence in bad repair.

Around 2007, Dale Stoltzfus, with the help of his family, took on the project of restoring the historic cemetery. By 2008 a new fence was installed, the stones were restored, trees and brush was removed, and grass replanted.

In 2015 when Hadassah Bontrager died, the Bontrager family buried her ashes in the Skinner/ Camp Deerpark cemetery and marked the spot with a boulder that was taken from the property nearby.

In February 2021 the Camp Deerpark board acted to make the Camp Deerpark cemetery available to the members of Camp Deerpark owner churches, and others who have partnered in the ministry of Camp Deerpark, including former and current full-time staff, former and current donors, and former and current volunteers.

As an expression of our Anabaptist Christian faith, the Camp Deerpark Cemetery aims to reflect values of simplicity and stewardship. A management team of New York City Mennonite Church leaders and board members provide oversight.

A private web page has been created for more information. You may go to www.campdeerpark.org/cemetery and enter the password: cemetery. You may also email deerparkcemetery@gmail.com.



Hadassah's stone.

Thank you for being gracious.

In the winter issue we omitted the following donors

Wes Newswanger and Janet Breneman

Edgar Stoesz

United Revival Mennonite Church

2023 SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

SESSIONS	DATES	COSTS
Children's Camp Session 1	July 2-7	\$200-300*
Children's Camp Session 2 & Teen Discipleship A	July 9-14	\$200-300*
Children's Camp Session 3 & Teen Discipleship B	July 16-21	\$200-300*
Children's Camp Session 4 & Teen Discipleship C	July 23-28	\$200-300*
Children's Camp Session 5	July 30-Aug 4	\$200-300*
Teen Camp	August 6-11	\$200-300*

Summer Camp Discounts

*Based on when registration and payment are received in the office:

- \$200/week if received in March or April
- \$250/week if received in May
- \$300/week if received in June.

Register online at www.campdeerpark.org or call the office for a paper registration.

2023 FAMILY CAMP DATES

SESSIONS	DATES
Friday-Sunday	August 4-6 (SESSION FULL)
Monday-Thursday	August 14-17

Cost:

\$200 adult

\$100 child

\$0 infants ages 0-4

One room - max cost \$600

Two rooms - max cost \$1000

Three rooms - max cost \$1400

Large cabin - max cost \$1400

Family package price

- Price includes activities such as hayride, bikes, swimming, and wood or art craft for \$5 per person, evening campfire, and one organized activity per day.
- 50% deposit required to reserve space
- All meals are served family style

Scholarship Available

Thanks to the generous folks at Psalm68five we have scholarship funds available for children whose fathers are not in their lives. If you know of a family who could benefit from this scholarship please contact Kevin at: deerparkprogram@gmail.com



THANK YOU!

Left: We are grateful for all of the churches that sent work teams this spring to clean their Promise Woods cabin. Bronx Garifuna cabin #5 Blessings, King of Glory cabin #6 Comfort, Immanuel Community (pictured) cabin #7 Glory, United Revival cabin #8 Provider, Manhattan Garifuna cabin #1 Guidance, and Valley of Jesus cabin #4 Rest.

Right: Construction work continues on cabin #2 Wisdom. Kenton and Sean are grateful for help from Andrew Preston this spring. Andrew was a summer camper and summer camp staff in 2004 and 2005. He returned this spring for an extended time of volunteer work with construction and wherever needed.

Editor: Ken Bontrager

The newsletter is published four times a year and is distributed without charge to members and friends.



Camp Deerpark is owned by the Mennonite Churches of New York City.

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www.campdeerpark.org



WISH LIST

- ☐ Minivan
- ☐ New office chair with arms for Ashley

STAY CONNECTED!



Follow us on Facebook!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**CAMP DEERPARK
HOMECOMING FESTIVAL**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

FUND RAISING GOAL: \$39,000

SAVE A TREE!

Would you like to receive your newsletter by email? Printing and mailing newsletters can become costly. It is cheaper, greener and easier to receive newsletters via email. If you're interested, send your email address to guests@campdeerpark.org or call 845-754-8669.

WWW.CAMPDEERPARK.ORG