

Living Waters Camp and Conference Center

As we come out of two years of covid required closing and restrictions we are excited to return to a more normal camping season. This year we are offering two weeks of camping. The first beginning June 26 for elementary children and the second beginning July 10 for Junior and senior high youth. As camper registrations increase, we hope to add more weeks next year.

In addition to our sponsored camps, we also host Camp Cadet, The Trinity Youth Conference, and New Testament Church boy's camp. Of course, many weekends are filled with church retreats, family reunions, and church picnics. Our trailer camping area is open all summer when group camping is not on site. Last October we hosted the first "Founder's Day" celebration when we dedicated the lodge as "Westcoat Lodge" in honor of Rev. Westcoat's many years of devotion and support of Living Waters. Donations received that day are being used to improve the lodge which gets used year round.

With sadness we saw Hartman Center, the camp of the Penn Central Conference close in 2020. We have extended an invitation to them to come to Living Waters. Many camps are struggling to stay viable in our changing times. Youth today have many opportunities for travel and sports and those who are interested in summer camps often seek camps with exciting amenities and technology. It is hard for us to compete with camps that are heavily funded and endowed. Several camps who went into debt to offer new facilities are now closed.

As our cabins and hogans age we find they are in need of many repairs or replacement. We had hoped to build a new retreat building to replace two cabins. That has been put on hold until we can acquire the funding needed. However, we have received a generous gift from one church designated to replace the tables and chairs in the dining hall. With a facility as large as Living Waters there is always something that needs to be repaired or upgraded.

We give thanks for the many churches of our denomination who financially support Living Waters. We maintain a Christian Outdoor Ministry that is centered on the love of Christ. We may not have all the bells and whistles of other camps, but we have the beauty of God's creation and a dedicated board and staff. We are happy to say we are debt free and rely on many volunteers who share their time and talent in many ways.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer you can contact the camp office at 814 733-4212 or email us at camplivingwaters65@gmail.com. We can always use volunteers in the kitchen and on the grounds crew. Youth 16 and older can also apply to become part of the paid summer staff.

Please take time to visit Living Waters. You can help by encouraging children and youth to attend a camp. Our fees are reasonable and there is scholarship money available through the Deaner, Westcoat, Thomas, and Wagner scholarship accounts. We have a bright future ahead and appreciate the support of everyone in the Penn West Conference.

Living Waters Board of Directors

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