

CORNERSTONE COURIER



Spring 2023

Help us Build *Mark Willis, Board President*

As we prepare the camp for another season, there are many projects that need to be completed. Additionally, there are many things we would like to see added to the camp: big things like cabins, and little things like scripture verses in the hallways. Add to this recruiting campers and staff, and it can seem a bit overwhelming. Recently, I was reminded of Nehemiah's rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. This was a huge task, and there were many people who didn't want the wall rebuilt. Nehemiah had the people focus on the part of the wall in front of their house. "The next repairs were made by the priests from the surrounding region. After them, Benjamin and Hasshub repaired the section across from their house, and Azariah, son of Maaseiah and grandson of Ananiah, repaired the section across from his house... Above the Horse Gate, the priests repaired the wall. Each one repaired the section immediately across from his own house." (Nehemiah 3:22-23,28)

I ask you to focus on the part of the camp that is metaphorically 'in front of your house.' It could be part of the physical grounds that you use, and how you can make it better. It could also be encouraging the neighbor kids, or financially supporting that boy from church, or that girl you know that needs to feel the love of Jesus, so that they can attend camp. Do you know a child that needs to walk closer to our Lord? Or maybe an adult that needs the support of Christian friends? My plea is that you not only pray for camp, but as the Lord told Moses in Exodus 14:15 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving!" Please pray and get moving! Only you know what you can do, but I urge you to do what you can, what God is calling you to do, to help further God's ministry through Camp Cornerstone.



Camp is just around the corner and it is very important in the lives of many boys and girls! This year gift giving has been at a low point for many camps us included. We need your help! Would you please consider one or two full camper scholarships (\$225) to help us cover the cost of camp this summer or perhaps you would consider giving a gift toward one or more of the costs below to help us meet the financial needs of camp this summer.

Pool Expenses \$1,560; Transportation \$2,800; Counselor Staff \$7,650;
 Speakers \$2,000; Food Costs \$22,720; Camp Operating Costs \$4,645;
 Estimated Utility Costs \$6,000

Total Estimated Costs to Run Camp for 2023 **\$47,375**

Please complete the enclosed insert and return with your gift to help us reach boys and girls with God's Word.

Pray for:

- The children who made salvation decisions during Released Time and at our winter retreats that they will grow in their spiritual walk with the Lord
- The financial needs to be met to finish up Released Time and to begin preparing for the needs of summer camp
- The right counselors that are needed to fill the many positions needed to make camp a reality
- The many campers needed to fill our weeks of camp
- The finances needed to complete the work projects during our May 15-19. Pray that many will volunteer to help prepare the camp!
- Pray for a good response to our Camper Scholarship Fund to help our under privileged children attend camp

Praise God for...

- The good number of children, teens and volunteer staff who attended the two winter retreats
- The 700 children who were reached through RT this year
- Safety and good health of our full-time staff and volunteers
- Faithful volunteers that help with maintaining the camp grounds year round
- New Board Members

In Loving Memory of...

Well done thou good and faithful servants!

Norma Humble - Wife of the late John Humble, who served on our CBM Local Board and was our Capital Funds Chairman in 2010. We appreciated Norma's support of John's involvement in raising funds for the new camp. We enjoyed her friendship over the years with CBM as she helped to support the ministry where she could. Many met up with Norma at our ladies retreats, banquets, pancake breakfasts and at our Fall Festival craft shows, where her lovely quilting projects and craft ideas were displayed and sold.



Norma Humble went to be with the Lord November 5, 2022

Melvin "Mel" Shoup - Mel was such a quiet giant when working with the children during summer camp. He loved teaching them archery and air rifle and was rarely "rattled" and most always had a smile on his face! He served as a Local CBM Board Member for many years. He was quiet in the meetings but when Mel spoke he had something worthy to add and everyone listened! Mel served alongside his faithful wife, Carolyn, who directed Released Time in Washington County from 1977-2017. Carolyn and Mel also directed the RTBP summer camp at Jumonville and then were a blessing to us at Camp Cornerstone.



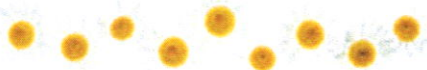
Mel Shoup went to be with the Lord February 14, 2023



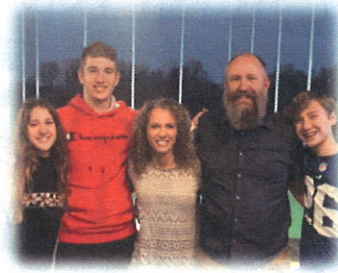
Audrey Sheller went to be with the Lord February 16, 2023

Audrey Ruth Sheller - Audrey, at 94 years old was still forgiving and giving and was a great inspiration to many. She was devoted to the Released Time Bible Program and taught many boys and girls the Word of God alongside her husband and best friend, "Uncle Paul". Both were instrumental in the creation of the Cornerstone Ministry Center (Camp Cornerstone) in Jefferson. She was a great help in the kitchen! Audrey and Paul were great examples of what Christian

love is and they showed that love to others while serving with CBM together for approximately 30 years.



We Appreciate You!



Tonia Beaver - Tonia has a long history with CBM of SWPA! Looking through old camp photos you would see her attending Released Time classes as a pre-schooler with her mom who volunteered in Graysville. Tonia shared that she began attending RT in West Greene

in 1984 as a 2nd grader. Uncle Paul would have pockets of candy to share and Reba Miller was the director at that time. She remembers completing the Mailbox Club Correspondence lessons to take advantage of all the programs CBM had to offer. Her camper years were 1985-1995.

Tonia began going on short-term mission trips to Brazil, Cambodia, Hong Kong and China. It was at an Urbana Missions conference for college-age students that Tonia was challenged to a ministry among Muslims. She made a number of trips to Thailand as part of a prayer team for workers serving among unreached people groups, primarily Muslim ones. She married Scott Beaver and they have three children, Brennen, Kiley and Jeremiah, all who have grown up in CBM and served at the camp in several capacities. We appreciate your years of service on the Board, Tonia, and are thankful that you continue to serve with us during Saturday Happenings, retreats and summer camp. We appreciate you!

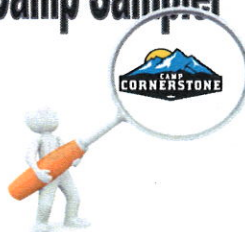


Joey Seig Tom - We have been blessed to have Joey faithfully serving in the office since August 2014. Packing Released Time boxes was her first duty then she became the Mailbox Club Coordinator, helped with grant writing, sent letters to school superintendents to help set up RT classes, and submitted and tracked the clearances for our volunteers. Soon RT and Camp admin

support was added along with helping with the weekly camp registration process. We appreciated the many talents that you shared with us so willingly! Her husband, Jerry, was involved in many maintenance projects and plowed us out many times when the deep snows came. We miss you already but we wish you well in the coming years of retirement! God bless you for giving your time and talents to serve the Lord with us the last 9 years.



Camp Sampler



Bring your adult church group to explore and enjoy the camp facilities!

Have a meal and fellowship time with us. It's a great way to learn more about our ministry and what we have to offer.

Experience the Joy *by David Yeck*

I can't believe another year of Released Time is already coming to an end. This has been a great year with us reaching over 700 students with the Gospel of Christ! Please pray for these students to continue seeking God. I know that I have shared in the past about how many students do not attend any church



on a regular basis. But I wanted to share a story that was shared with me from one of the volunteers from Fayette County. They have a class of over 40 kids, but only about 5 of them attend church. But they were sharing how one of the students came with her father to their church one Sunday, and then the mom came and now the grandma is coming also. Not only is it great to see how Released Time is impacting the family, but the joy that was on the face of the volunteer as she was telling the story speaks volumes on why we do what we do. Please consider being a volunteer with our ministry. Experience the joy of the Lord as you share the Gospel with the children in our local communities.

Spring at Cornerstone *by Christine Peters*

We are grateful how God has provided over the winter season with rental groups and some updates to the facility. One of our faithful volunteers has painted the boys restroom and is working on painting the girls restroom. As facility coordinator, I see opportunities to be blessed as well as being a blessing. There are areas at the camp that could use some TLC and a servant's heart. As always, we are grateful for our many volunteers that assist us with keeping our camp maintained. We would welcome anyone who can donate their time and talents to invest with the opportunities to spread the Gospel to children. If you are interested please give us a call!



Some upcoming events that volunteer help is needed are:

Pancake Breakfast - Saturday, May 6th, 8:00-12 pm

Work Week - May 15-19th

Family Day - May 20th from 10:00-3:00 pm

We would love to have you join the fun! Call 724-966-9157

Let the Little Children Come to Me, and Do Not Hinder Them...

In January we hosted our annual Elementary Retreat. This year we had 37 campers and 21 volunteers involved; our message was on prayer. Most knew to pray for their meals and for family, but we went deeper and expanded on the for Who, for What, Why and Where



of prayers. Sharing with the children the importance of having a conversation with God at any time and in any place, because God doesn't sleep and is always ready to listen. We had them open the Bible and turn to examples of people praying and reasons they were praying: The church prayed for Peter while he was in prison (Acts 12:5), Paul requests prayer from the church in Ephesus (Ephesians 6:18), Jacob prayed for protection from his brother (Genesis 32:9-12), Hannah prayed in her anguish and then in her delight (1 Samuel 1:10-11 and 1 Samuel 2:1), Solomon prayed for discernment in his young age as king (1 Kings 3:7-9), Elijah prayed for answers (1 Kings 18:36-37), Jonah prayed from inside the big fish (Jonah 2:1-2), Daniel praised and thanked God (Daniel 2:19-23), Jesus went out to the mountain to pray before choosing His apostles (Luke 6:12-13), Jesus prayed in the garden to His Father that His will be done (Matt 26:39-44), and Jesus taught His disciples to

pray (Matt 6:9-13).

We ended the retreat with reading their Cabin prayers that the campers put together with their counselors and having them write a prayer of their own. The result was a beautiful time of prayer for each other, for those that were sick, homeless, lonely, hungry, for families and friends and thanksgiving for home and food. One prayer card left behind read:

"Dear God,
We thank you for family, and life, and animals, and everybody, and food and all of us church kids say amen.

Prayer is such an important part of our walk with God as Christians. Today I ask that you join us in praying for our ministries, our staff, our volunteers, and the children we are connecting with "for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Luke 18:16



Jeff Dittmer, Executive Director

A Memorial Gift has been given to Children's Bible Ministries of Southwestern PA

Many people have chosen to donate to Children's Bible Ministries in lieu of sending flowers,
giving birthday or anniversary gifts.

Your gifts to CBM will keep on going as the kingdom of God is built through
Released Time classes, Correspondence Lessons and Summer Camp.

A card will be sent to the family of your loved ones acknowledging your gift to CBM.

In Honor of...

Liam Arnold
Caitlin Arnold
Clara Arnold
Harland Headlee
Christine Peters
Bob & Judy Virgili
Ken & Betty Wenger

Phil & Myleen McCollum's 50th Anniversary

Given by: Scott & Teresa Roberts

Butch & Barbara Richmond's 58th Anniversary

Given by: Barbara Richmond

Given by

Janet G. Mastrobuono
Janet G. Mastrobuono
Janet G. Mastrobuono
Robert & Teresa Headlee
Earl Custer
Earl Custer
Earl Custer

In Memory of...

Linda Custer
Nicki DiBiase
Craig Daggart
Norma Kelly
Matt King
Staff SGT Ryan Knauss
Alice Lee Poirer
Audrey Sheller
Audrey Sheller
Mel Shoup
Mel Shoup
Melvin Shoup

Martha Whipkey
Keith Wise

Given by

Fred & Nancy Klages
Betty Demchak
Cathy Garber
Kelly Bates
Sandra D. King
Wayne & Evalena Knauss
Fay M. Loar
Scott & Tonia Beaver
Cathy Garber
Scott & Tonia Beaver
Cathy Garber
Christian Bible Fellowship
Caleb Meel
Becky Shipe
Russell & Rose Whipkey
Fay M. Loar



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Win a Child... Win a Life!

Camp Cornerstone Work Week/Work Days May 15-19th, 2023



From: 8:00—4:00 PM

Meals and lodging if needed will be provided.

Please let us know by **May 6th** if you are willing to attend. Help us prepare the grounds for our up and coming summer camp.

Projects we would like to accomplish:

1. Cement the floor of the Outside Pavilion
2. Finish the deck and stairs to gym climbing wall
3. General repairs and maintenance
4. Weeding flower beds, cleaning and other light projects



**Call the Camp Office at 724-966-9157
and talk with Christine Peters**

John Humble Memorial Pancake Breakfast



WHEN: Saturday, May 6th

WHERE: Camp Cornerstone

TIME: 8:00—11:00 AM



WHY: We would like to get to know you! Please feel free to invite your friends and neighbors to visit the camp with you and show them what God is doing at Camp Cornerstone.

Menu: All you can eat pancakes, sausage, OJ and coffee!



DONATIONS APPRECIATED

Benefits the Released Time Bible programs and Camper Scholarships

You may register online for these events at www.campcornerstone.org



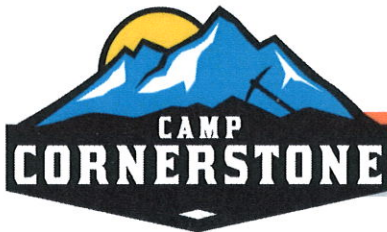
Looking for College aged Sr. Counselors and High School Jr. Counselors



Volunteer Kitchen staff and worker campers are needed



Volunteers are needed to help with camp activities and building one-on-one relationships with campers



CAMPER SCHOLARSHIP AND GENERAL FUND GIVING

CBM of Southwestern PA ♦ 381 Willis Road ♦ Jefferson, PA 15344

♦ office@cbmswpa.org ♦ www.campcornerstone.org

Camper Scholarship

- I would like to help with a full scholarship of \$225.00 I would like to help with a 1/2 scholarship of \$112.50
 I would like to help with a \$_____ donation toward camper scholarships

General Fund Giving to help pay for summer camp

- I would like to donate \$_____ to help with the **FOOD** expenses this summer
 I would like to donate \$_____ to help with the camp **SUMMER STAFF & SPEAKER** expenses
 I would like to donate \$_____ to help with the cost of **UTILITIES** for summer camp
 I would like to donate \$_____ to help with the cost of _____ for summer camp

First Name

Last Name

Address

City

State

Zip