



5389 Route 447, Canadensis, PA 18325 / 800-822-7505 / www.sprucelake.org

*Record attendance! Children accepting Christ! Adults being baptized!  
Families renewing their faith! It's 53 years since our doors opened, and  
God is still working wonders @ Spruce Lake.*

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

• Record attendance in July, 2016, with 5,563 total guests (counting all of the Retreat Center, Campground, Day Camp and Wilderness Camp). For comparison, there were 4,655 guests in 2015 and 4,053 in 2014 in July. Among these were at least four *adults* who made known their decision to become followers of Jesus this summer.

#### **DAY CAMP:**

- 11 weeks, collecting 829 registrations, reaching 153 different campers from 105 families.
- Our fifth year, with an ongoing increase in participation.
- 4 shuttle points, with plans to expand this service in 2017.
- **From Brian Espenshade, Day Camp Director:**  
*"The good news of Jesus Christ was shared many times, relationships formed with campers, and many seeds planted ... we know of one camper who accepted Christ, and another who made a decision to recommit to his faith in Christ."*
- **From Day Camp Parent:** *"We love that the van picks (my son) up because there is no way we could drive him to camp! The Christian values instilled in him have been so much appreciated."*

#### **WILDERNESS CAMP:**

- 8 weeks of summer camp + 3 off-site trips, serving 787 Wilderness campers, 24 Expeditions campers, and 29 Staff in Training, for a total 840 participants.
- One camper's request for baptism during his week of camp prompted two others.
- **From Expeditions Parent:** *"Thank you so much for making the (Delaware River Canoe) trip available. It was the type of experience our family could not give (our son). Now he is talking about coming again next year!"*
- **From Summer Camp Parent:** *"He absolutely loved camp ... talked nonstop about kayaking and gaga. But the counselors are what really made an impact on him."*

#### **RETREAT CENTER & DISABILITY MINISTRY:**

- **From a longtime guest:** *"Thank you for providing the place and space for friendships to develop and grow over the years ... our children grow and have families of their own and now bring their little ones to Family Week."*
- **Christian Overcomers Disability Ministry** has held foot-washing services in our pool, but this summer, camper Barbara Brave from Montvale, NJ, was one of two persons to receive baptism at a pool service.
- **From Sib Charles, of Joni & Friends International Disability Ministry:** *"We served over 130 families affected by disability during our three JAF Family Retreats at Spruce Lake. What an opportunity to literally be the hands and feet of Jesus to the parents, siblings, and the children/adults with disabilities! A dad of multiple children with disability came to know Christ during one of our retreats at Spruce Lake."*

#### **OUTDOOR EDUCATION:**

• We served 39 schools in the spring and 24 this fall, 2016. Our outdoor program is nearing its 30th year! However, many Christian schools are struggling financially, so we are seeking effective ways to continue serving our students.

#### **VISION for the FUTURE:**

• We're excited about how God is guiding our vision for ministry with youth through the development of our new **Youth Ministry Center** at what has been Wilderness Camp. This will enable us to better serve youth and young adults throughout the entire year with a big new activities center and all-weather cabins for both summer and winter use.



PHOTO: Christian Overcomers camper Barbara Brave (center) receives baptism by Pastor Howard Holtje (right), as volunteer Iris Mehl assists.