



calendar of events

December 27th-30th
Youth In Action > Kansas City

January 16th
Grand Island Lock-In > GI church

January 11th
NYC Day > Southwest church > Omaha

February 20th-22nd
Council Bluffs Youth Rally > CB church



As a safety precaution, a new tradition was started during the 2008 season. Each week the session directors planned and executed a storm drill.

www.nebraskayouthcamp.com

Nebraska Youth Camp
315 Briggs Avenue
Hastings, NE 68901

nebraska
youth camp

newsletter

dec
2008

Welcome to our newsletter! We would like to start this issue off by thanking all those who volunteered at camp during our 2008 season; for getting sunburned, for teaching campers, for spending your vacation with us, for showing your love towards others. Your servitude is truly appreciated.



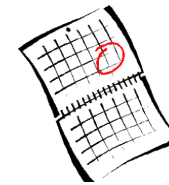
Next thing, we are excited to announce that nearly two dozen campers committed themselves to Christ in baptism during our 2008 season! What a blessing! God's work is truly amazing. Please keep these new Christians in your prayers as they grow in relationship with God.



ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

After much thought and prayer, the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) have brought forth our 2009 camp theme. All You Need Is Love, based on scripture in Galatians 5:13-14 *"¹³You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. ¹⁴The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."*

nye day january 11th



Mark your calendars!
January 11th ~ NYC Day
Come and join us in worship, fellowship, and food on January 11th, at the Southwest Church of Christ in Omaha, NE and help kick off our season with our 2009 theme, All You Need Is Love!

sam thomsen memorial siren project



On June 11, 2008 a tornado destroyed the Boy Scout Camp at Little Sioux, IA. The boys had heard the siren warn them and shelter was taken, but life was still lost. One life was that of Sam Thomsen, a 13 year old boy who attended the Southwest Church of Christ in Omaha, NE. Many of you may remember Sam. You or your child may have been a camper with him. You may know his parents, Larry and Sharon, or his sisters Lindsey and Sarah. The Thomsen family have been long-time supporters of NYC, and Sam loved everything about NYC. It was Sam's love of NYC that moved his parents to designate NYC as the primary beneficiary of Sam's Memorial Fund, specifically going toward a storm warning system. (Continued...)

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... This gift launched a search for a weather warning siren. While researching systems costs and siren types, Greg Clark was led to the Lancaster County Civil Services office. Through discussions with them and the approval of the Buffalo County Civil Services, NYC was able to accept the donation of a Thunderbolt 2000 municipal storm siren from Lancaster County.



Thank you Greg for your work on this project. The donation of the siren has saved the camp roughly \$15,000. Praise God! This gift leaves us with only the installation costs which range from \$7,800 to \$10,000. Funds from Sam's Memorial Fund will be used to cover a large portion of the installation costs but more funds are being sought.



NYC spends great efforts to ensure a safe place for our children every year. It saddens our hearts when we consider the loss of Sam, but we can only hope that this siren will, as Sharon Thomsen said, "prevent anything like Little Sioux from happening at NYC." At present we are waiting for Lancaster County to notify us when the siren is available for pickup, but Lord willing, this summer we will inaugurate a new fixture at NYC; Sam's Siren.

Fundraising We need your prayers!

In this newsletter, let's consider a few areas of fund raising that the NYC board is working on in securing the future of Nebraska Youth Camp. It's easy to focus on the need for fund raising in light of a large project such as the new dining hall, but there are other needs as well. In the next few paragraphs let's look together at the dining hall project, planned giving, and some special needs as well.

Dining Hall: Over \$400,000! Wow, that feels great! We started this project not knowing how God would bless NYC. As we prepare for the new dining hall, God is truly blessing our Camp with funds in gifts and pledges. Gifts have come in all shapes and sizes from people wishing to join in this effort.

It's important to note that the new dining hall right now is framed in the cost of doors, windows, panels and girders. But the true measure will be as a tool to help us better serve Youth, Families, and Churches of the Midwest. We've seen in the last year how much it is needed. We have had campers at retreats and in our youth sessions eat out doors or in the chapel area for lack of seating. We were blessed with 130 at Dads-n-Lads



and were never able to have everyone under one roof at one time. Having everyone together for meal times and other gatherings is how the new dining hall will be a vital tool to the future of NYC. Now would be a great time to you to help secure the future with your gift.

Planned Giving: Wills, Trusts, and Estate Plans are not topics that people discuss every day. It may be something however that you are considering for your family and we would like to invite you to remember NYC when making these plans. A gift in a will today can help provide for campers and camping at NYC for years to come. Planned giving doesn't have to be just estate plans, but year end giving as well. Of course, right now we are at the end of another year so please remember NYC this month. Finally, a planned gift could be an automatic monthly draft that sends a small gift every month. If you have

any questions about how to get started on any of these, send me an email: greg@dadsnlads.org.

Other projects: The previously mentioned "Sam's Siren" project. We evaluated our shelters and realized that the warning system was the next thing lacking. Please pray for this effort as we try to secure the funding needed. A memorial fund for Sam has jump-started this effort, if this

is an area that you would specifically like share in, send your donation with a note to Jerry. Fundraising for the safety of our campers is one more way to secure the future for NYC.



2008 Memorials

Roy Brookhouser
Albert Brown
Moddie Chapman
John Crews
Lorene Haselwood
William Haselwood
Dr. Roger W. Hawley
Eldon Howell
Elmer Leach
Harold Luke
Goldie Nash
Doris Ogle
David Reynolds
James Stoutzenberger
Nick Surratt
James Tandy
Mary Jane Thompson
Sam Thomsen

Inez Veteto
Voneta A. Whaley

Total Memorial
Donations for 2008 -
\$7,813.75

If you would like to give a gift to Nebraska Youth Camp in memory of a loved one, please use the memorial form provided on the Nebraska Youth Camp website.

Presidents Corner

From our Beginner sessions to Dads 'N Lads we had a very good summer at Nebraska Youth Camp in 2008. I love to log on to nebraskayouthcamp.com during the summer to watch our summer sessions in action. I see beginner campers who are coming out to our camp for the very first time to see what camp is all about, faces full of smiles and wonder. I see campers who are growing as Christians and becoming leaders among their peers. I see a list of volunteers that is amazing. Each one brings their own talents and energy together with a servant heart and plenty of smiles to share. I see God at work in the lives of His people. I encourage you to take a look at nebraskayouthcamp.com and browse through the pictures. What you will see in all of those faces is that the mission of Nebraska Youth Camp is alive and well!