

TOUCHSTONE

Providing Christian hospitality, camping, and retreat programs to serve, nurture, and equip the people of God for God's work in the world.

November 2006

Presentation at Convocation

We are thankful for the opportunity to give a live report about the ministry of Camp Stoney to the 2006 Convocation. Fr. Brian Winter, Daniel Cave, and ten of our summer counselors were present to share songs, summer statistics, and spiritual insights from our summer. Interim director, Esther-Marie Nagiel, presented a brief vision for the future.

The Fall is filling up

Since the end of our summer camping season, we have hosted several outside groups and have more bookings on the calendar. St. Michael's Catholic High School held their faculty retreat at Camp Stoney. Gerard House, a grief-counseling center in Santa Fe, held a retreat for grieving children. The Northern Cursillo held a weekend October 4-8.

In October and November, we have five public school groups coming to Camp Stoney for peer support training, and at least two more retreats are in the pipeline. Our goal is to have a booking at Camp Stoney at least once a week. Although summer camp is the central focus of our ministry, the camp needs to be used year round in order to be financially viable. Please keep us in your prayers, and recommend our facilities whenever you can.

Vision for the future

Below is a list of ideas and goals we have set for the future at Camp Stoney. Many of these useful ideas have been gleaned from conversations with visitors to the camp in the last few months.

- A traveling Narnia Day Camp Team to take Camp Stoney on the road
- Special bed & breakfast coupon sent to every youth group in the diocese
- A primitive camping area for use by adventure campers that includes teepees—we have already gotten a donation of \$1200 for one teepee from St. Thomas a Becket, Roswell. Each teepee will be named for its donor
- Gradually develop more comfortable accommodations for adults and families including more comfortable single beds, bedside tables, lamps, and comfy chairs.
- Beginning in 2007, offer monthly quiet days for the diocese.
- Recruit ambassadors from every congregation.

- Attract visitors to the new retreat house including vestry retreats and family reunions.
- Add a warming kitchen to the lodge for use by diocesan groups—Good Shepherd, Silver City is donating an electric stove. We still need a larger fridge and a small ice maker.
- Acquire two golf carts for use at camp to allow us to deliver water and supplies to different areas of the camp during the summer
- Purchase another multi-person vehicle to get our traveling team on the road, to pick up campers from around the diocese, and transport adventure campers to off-site activities.
- Offer an alumni news page on our web site to help former campers stay in touch

November 18th workday planned

A workday is planned for November 18th. We have both inside and outside projects. If you are interested in spending the day at Camp Stoney working hard and enjoying fellowship with other Camp Stoney supporters, call the office or email me at emnagiel@campstoney.org. Supplies, materials, and a tasty lunch will be provided.

NEWS AT A GLANCE

- **Snow Slam** is being scheduled for January 12-15, 2007 and more information will be available soon.
- **Summer Schedule** nearly set and will include several new camps—**Outdoor Adventure Camp** for 3rd-6th graders; **Lord of the Rings Camp** featuring leadership training for 9th-12th graders, **Alumni Family Camp**, and **Puppet Ministry Camp** for 5th-12th graders.
- We are inviting groups in the diocese to invest in **teepees** for use at Camp Stoney in the summer. The cost is about \$1200 each, and we would like six or eight to house our outdoor and adventure campers. These primitive dwellings will allow us to increase the number of children and youth who can come to camp. And we will paint the name of the parish or other donating group on the tent when we paint them!

The Bishop Stoney Camp & Conference Center

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