

# CAMP MANATAWNY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER SESSIONS 2023, RECORD REGISTRATIONS, 2 NEW DIRECTOR TEAMS, SAYING GOODBYE, WORK DAYS, JUNIOR/SENIOR AND LADIES RETREATS, CAMPSHIP FUNDRAISER, SPRING EVENTS

## Summer Sessions 2023

By Andy Mychajlowycz, Executive Director

**Overnight Camp:** Saturday afternoon to Saturday morning. Seven days of activities, including Bible class, crafts, athletics, swimming, worship, archery, low-ropes course, horses, creek walks, canoes/kayaks, and more.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						Jun 24
Jul 25	26 Senior High 2: June 24 - July 1	27	28	29	30	Jul 1
Jul 2	3 Senior High 1: July 1—8	4	5	6	7	8
Jul 9	10 Junior High 2: July 8 - 15	11	12	13	14	15
Jul 16	17 Junior High 1: July 15 - 22	18	19	20	21	22
Jul 23	24 Intermediate: July 22 - 29	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Elementary 2: July 29 - August 5	Aug 1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Elementary 1: August 5 - 12	8	9	10	11	12

**Fees and Discounts for 2023:**

\$395 for full week (\$295 for day camp). A deposit of \$50 is required at time of registration.

**First Time Camper Discount:** First time campers are welcomed with a \$50 discount.

**Multi Camper Discount:** Families that register more than two campers from their immediate family will receive a \$40 discount per additional camper. This applies to third or more child.

**Multi Week Discount:** Registering for a 2nd week will save you \$100.



Camp Manatawny, 33 Camp Road, Douglassville, PA 19518  
 Telephone: (610)-707-2267 [DVCC]  
 Camp website: www.manatawny.org

www.facebook.com/Manatawny/  
 www.instagram.com/campmanatawny/  
 twitter.com/campmanatawny



## UPCOMING EVENTS



### May 26 to 29 - Family Camp

Family Camp is filling up fast. Come spend a fun and spiritually uplifting time with your family. Get a taste of summer camp (food, activities and cabins) with those you love.

[www.manatawny.org/familycamp](http://www.manatawny.org/familycamp)



### May 27 - 10 am to 4 pm

Do you have a first-time camper? Do parents want to see and experience the camp facilities? Come to a free open house and take a tour. No reservations required.

[www.manatawny.org/openhouse](http://www.manatawny.org/openhouse)



### June 3 & 4

Two days & one night of Christian summer camp, offering love, acceptance and fun to children ages 8 to 18 with special needs.

[www.manatawny.org/camp-sonshine](http://www.manatawny.org/camp-sonshine)



**Day Camp:** If you are not quite ready to send your child away to camp for 7 full days, there is a Day Camp option. Campers attend from Monday to Friday, 8 am to 5:30 pm only. Breakfast and Lunch are provided.

**Shawn Cutts**

Teens who completed grades 11 & 12

**Matt Richard, Joe Lohr**

Teens who completed grades 9, & 10

**Allison Gladfelter, Derek Garrett**

Teens who completed grades 7, 8, & 9

**Rebekah & Elizabeth Lazar**

Teens who completed grades 5, 6, & 7

**Jonathan Woodall, Hayley Woodall,**

**Jodi Fox**

Children and tweens who completed grades 4, 5, & 6

**Matt Ahearn**

Children who completed grades 3 & 4

**Chris & Stacey Lewis**

Children who completed grades 1 & 2

## Record Registrations!

As of May 23, we have 515 campers registered to attend our Camp summer sessions this year. This represents the highest number registered by this date since we have been keeping detailed records (since 2012). We typically have between 350 and 400 campers registered by this date.



This is great news and a clear sign that Camp Manatawny is not only doing exceedingly well, but also that our summer program has bounced back from cancellation for the first time in Camp's history two years ago and even exceeded our traditional numbers. God is good, all the time!



Not only do we have record registrations, but we already have over 100 first-time campers and nearly 100 campers signed up from partner schools and organizations in the area. We thank our first timers. We thank those from our partner organizations. And we thank you, our campers, for planning to spend your summer with us as we all go about transforming lives for Christ for a lifetime.

If you haven't yet registered, join us! It's not to late! Go to [www.manatawny.org/summercamp](http://www.manatawny.org/summercamp)

## 2 New Director Teams

In Summer 2023, we will have 2 new director teams.

E1 Week, led devotedly for many years by Manny Vander Vennen and Eric Williamson, will now be led by Chris and Stacey Lewis. Chris and Stacey have been long-time Camp volunteers and have worked with Manny and Eric for years, so they are well-prepared to take over this responsibility.

JH2 Week, led ably by Matthew and Meghan White (coming to us all the way from Virginia), will now be led by Allison Gladfelter and Derek Garrett. Allison and Derek have volunteered at JH2 week for a long time and are more than ready to take over as directors. Allison is a member of the Camp Board and long-time Director of our Ladies' Retreat. Both Allison and Derek are members of one of Camp's founding families, the Garrett family (third generation).

We extend all four new directors our prayers and our heartfelt blessings as they continue to serve our campers and the Lord, making a difference in the lives of the kids with which we are entrusted.



Stacey and Chris Lewis



Allison Gladfelter



Derek Garrett



## Saying Goodbye - Elementary 1 Week Reflections of Directors Manny Vander Vennen and Eric Williamson

By Mark Niehls (Manatawny Mark)



For 14 years Manny and Eric have worked together to lead and direct Elementary 1 Week sessions of Camp Manatawny! Manny served as counselor several years under Lynn Evans prior to accepting the E1 Director role. Eric also served many roles at Camp in addition to E1. He has led Jr./Sr. High Retreats and served on the Board.

Elementary campers are enthusiastic and exuberant! Usually about half of the campers at Camp E1 are first time campers. For many, their week of Camp may be the first time they have ever been away from home AND family for eight days. Homesickness often presents a big challenge for many of our campers. But oh how they enjoy all of Camp's activities!!! One might assume that because the campers are the youngest of the summer that the E1 staff would also be the youngest of the summer. But actually, Manny and Eric have worked very hard to recruit a staff of predominantly parents and grandparents. Our number one goal of E1 has been to give our campers a positive experience such that they will want to come back year after year and experience powerful influences to guide their spiritual formation, to come and receive the seeds of God's Word, fall in love with Jesus, and be blessed by powerful Christian examples.

Manny stated his experiences at Camp have been great! He feels Camp is such a wonderful ministry! While he didn't really understand that when he first became involved as a counselor many years ago, he has realized more and more over his years of service how influential Camp is in providing positive direction for young lives, especially those that go all the way through the progressive summer sessions experiencing 12 years of Christian camping! While often tested with wondering where staff would come from, and how he was going to "do it", Manny feels he is a living testimony of how partnering with God and with other Christians has gotten him through. Manny says "God meets you and helps you get through many a challenge".

Eric's favorite experiences include planning and the intensity of doing "Minute To Win It" with Manny. He cherishes the times he and Manny spent planning for E1 and for the times they were able to run together. He said; "The kids, that's why we did it!" He says seeing their faces while singing in Chapel and around the campfire are special memories. His enthusiasm is contagious but hard to equal!

Both Manny and Eric were blessed to serve at Camp with their wives and children. Thus, their service was always a family affair. And so, it has been a highlight of their summers for 14 years! Sure, there were negative experiences but they are now vaguely remembered. They both look forward to the years ahead and seeing how Camp will be blessed with more campers, improved facilities, and service of many.

E1 will now be led by Stacy and Chris Lewis, experienced Camp Manatawny volunteers! They'll have some help from their boys. We, the staff of E1, look forward to their years of servant leadership!



Manny and Eric, with part of the E1 team



God is so big...



# Work Days

We had two work weekends recently where volunteers came together to get Camp ready for our Spring events and Summer sessions.

On March 31 to April 1, we had Kitchen Work Days, where a group of 18 volunteers worked on getting kitchen and Bailey Dining Hall cleaned and repaired.

On April 21 to 23, we had Work and Worship Weekend, where a large group of 46 volunteers worked on the rest of Camp, including making a major renovation to our firing range, picking up sticks and taking down trees, cleaning Garrett Hall, cleaning the Greenies, and various other tasks.



### KITCHEN WORK DAYS



### WORK AND WORSHIP WEEKEND





## *Transforming Lives for Christ for a Lifetime!*

### Annual Meeting and Board Elections

On April 23, Camp held its Annual Corporation Meeting. Camp information was shared by our Board Members and Camp's Executive Director, including an update on the 2022 Camp season, Camp's financial status, our upcoming Camps events, and news about Camp's staff and facilities. We also announced the results of the Board member elections. The 4 Board members pictured below (Kathy Ashton, Jonathan Gerst, Brooks Brown, and Dave Smith) were up for re-election and were all re-elected to new 3 year terms.



Kathy Ashton



Jonathan Gerst



Brooks Brown



Dave Smith

### 2023 Camp Golf Outing



## Camp Golf Outing

Fundraiser - October 14, Afternoon





### Junior/Senior and Ladies Day Retreats

On April 28 and 29, we held our Spring Jr/Sr High Retreat. 27 teens joined us for fun, great topical sessions, and a spiritually uplifting time. Joey Peacher (the preacher at Pitman Road Church of Christ) and his wife, Callie, were the first-time directors of the retreat.



On May 5 to 6, we had our Ladies' Retreat, with 31 sisters hearing about "A PLACE OF GRACE: God's glory and vision". The speaker was Gwendolyn Doak from the Maple Hill Church of Christ in Lebanon, TN. Allison Gladfelter was the returning director of the retreat. A great time was enjoyed by all.





## Campship Fundraiser

On May 13 the Campship Fundraiser took place in person. A free lunch was served and an update on Camp was given. We also simultaneously launched a fundraising effort online.

In 2022, Camp awarded over \$15,000 in financial assistance, and it is now time to replenish our Campship fund. We don't want finances to be the reason why a child cannot attend Camp. So we appeal to you to donate to our Campship fund. If Camp played a powerful spiritual role in your life, give online at [manatawny.org/donate](https://manatawny.org/donate) by clicking on the "Sponsor a Camper" button and completing the donation process. Or send us a donation by check (just put "Sponsor a Camper" on the comment line.

If you have any questions, please call the Camp main office number: (610) 707-3822.

# Camp Manatawny Campship Fundraiser





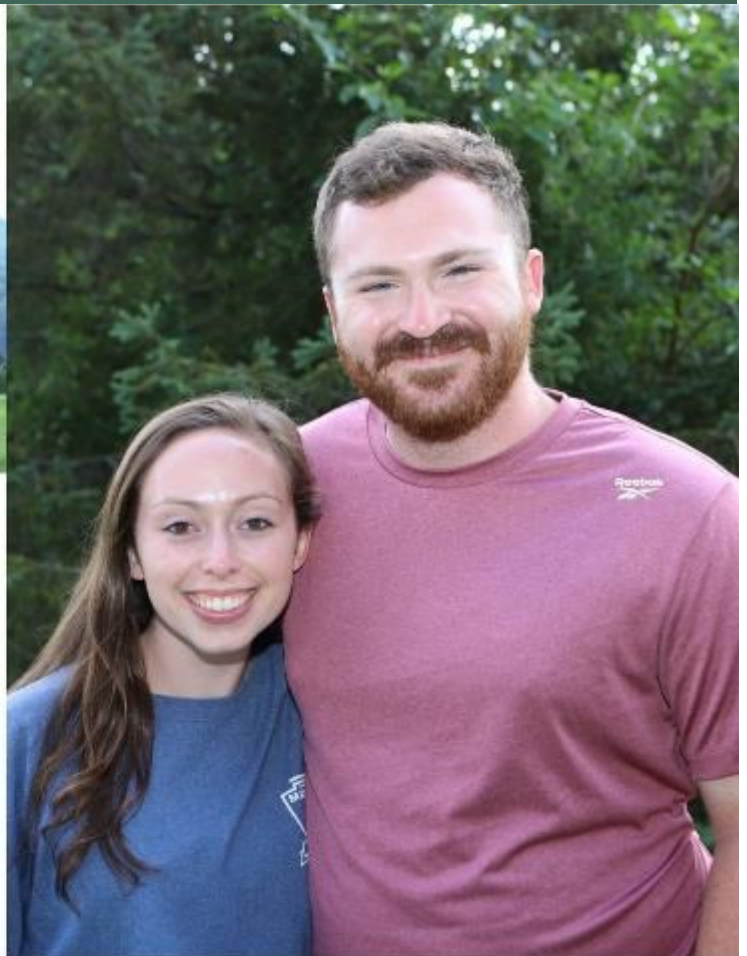
# FAMILY CAMP



**Friday May 26<sup>th</sup> to Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup>**



**Summer Camp**  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
**Saturday, May 27**  
**10 am to 4 pm**







# Camp Sunshine

June 3-4, 2023 - for kids with special needs



Bringing rays of the Son through days of fun to children with special needs

## Camp Manatawny Golden Age Retreat



Serving the Lord in the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester of your life!



*Even when I am old and my hair is turning white, O God, do not leave me alone. Let me tell about Your strength to all the people living now, and about Your power to all who are to come. - Psalm 71:18*

**September 8-9**

(for anyone 55 and Older)



## Memorial Wall

The Memorial Wall has been completed at Garrett Hall next to the side road thanks to several donations. It has stone meditation benches, a rock garden, a retaining wall and a stuccoed wall for Memorial Plaques. The first plaques will be affixed shortly. If you want to make a donation and dedicate a plaque (it will have green backing), go to the Camp website at [manatawny.org/donate](http://manatawny.org/donate) and hit the DONATE button, login to your Camp account, select MEMORIAL PLAQUE, and enter a comment in the following format:

LINE 2 PERSON'S NAME / LINE 3 TEXT / LINE 4 TEXT

with slashes separating the last three lines. The first line automatically says, "In loving memory of" on it. A memorial plaque requires a donation of at least \$250. Only one plaque per deceased person will be allowed. If you have a question, please call the Camp main number: (610) 707-3822.

