

The Pyoca Spirit

Spring 2009

From the director...

Another incredible year has come and gone. Pyoca has been bustling with an amazing amount of activity throughout the year! We continue to grow in our ministry to the people of central and southern Indiana. Many events and gatherings occurred this past year I'd like to share some of the highlights with you.

Camp Noah was a program which we partnered with Brownstown Presbyterian, First Presbyterian and Fairlawn Presbyterian in Columbus to offer two weeks of day camp for youth who were affected by the floods in June. During these two weeks, we were fortunate to experience incredible passion and God's love with 72 youth. In Columbus, several of the participants lost literally everything. When the other youth heard their story, they came back the next day with the toys that they pulled out of their own closet to give. Additionally, the day campers were able to put together 366 school backpacks with supplies to give to the local communities. It was an opportunity for the youth to give something back and help others in their recovery process. The children of Medora had the opportunity to visit Pyoca during the five days of day camp. Even though we imagined these kids who live next to the river would have known how to fish and canoe, many of them had never held a fishing pole or entered a canoe. What a joy it was to see them catch their first fish! Thanks to Ohio Valley Presbytery for granting the funds to cover the cost of these two camps!

We experienced a significant usage increase for retreat and campers! We had 460 more retreat users and 101 more campers and volunteers this past year which represents a **20% increase** in guest visits in 2007. Many of the retreat groups were session, youth and church family retreats. We also hosted two high schools that brought their freshman for an orientation retreat to give the students an opportunity to get to know one another away from their busy lives.

We had three significant natural disasters in our area... in our staff training, we had four thunderstorm warnings and one tornado warning (the tornado came within ¼ mile of camp.) Needless to say, our staff knew our severe weather drills! Then, of course the flood in June which did not directly affect the facilities, however it challenged us to assist those in need. Through the generosity of several churches, we were able to deliver over 240 disaster clean-up buckets to three communities. And finally, we had the remnants of Hurricane Ike visit in October. We lost power for three days and had to cancel out two retreat groups. Fortunately, what trees and limbs were lost did not significantly damage our facilities; however we now have an abundance of firewood!



Getting back from a canoe outing on Pyoca lake!

The construction has begun! You can read more about the improvements we are doing in this newsletter, however I need to mention the fact that we have been continually blessed with the support of many congregations and individuals to see these projects into reality!

As we begin 2009, we are being faced with a challenge as the budget from Whitewater Valley is being reduced for mission support. This support will need to be raised elsewhere as it is crucial to our ministry. Last year, we experienced a slight downtrend in unrestricted giving in 2008, however we did see a significant increase in receipts for the capital campaign!

Your continued support and prayers for our ministry is greatly appreciated. All of the work that is being done is being done on behalf of the wonderful Presbyterians of Whitewater Valley and Ohio Valley! Thank you for being part of this vital ministry.

In Christ,



2009 Summer Camp - "The True Transformer"

Come and get to know Jesus "The True Transformer". In story after story, Jesus pulled down walls of prejudice, offered release from bondage, and provided loving attention to the forgotten and healing to the sick. These encounters resulted in a transformation a chance to move beyond the present situation into a lifechanging experience.

Remember, camp is an experience to share, so invite a friend! Registration is now available so pick up a brochure or visit our web site at www.pyoca.org

We are looking forward to seeing you this summer!



Camp	Date	Grade as of Sept. 09
Work Weekend	May 29-31	All age groups (families too!)
Southport	June 7-12	Grades 7-9
Gemini	June 14-19	Grades 4-11
Discoverer I	June 21-26	Grades 4-6
Jr. High Challenge Camp	June 21-26	Grades 7-9
Senior High Traditional	June 21-26	Grades 10 - '09 graduates
You and Me Camp	June 28-July 1	Grades 1-2
E.L.F. (Earth Loving Friends)	June 28-July 3	Grades 4-6
Night Owl Camp	June 28-July 3	Grades 7-9
Sr. High Leadership	June 28-July 3	Grades 10 - '09 graduates
Junior High Traditional	July 5-10	Grades 7-9
Senior High Adventure Trip	July 5-10	Grades 10 - '09 graduates
Third Grade Explorers	July 5-8	3rd
Second Grade Explorers	July 8-10	2nd
Discoverer II	July 12-17	Grades 4-6
Jr. High Smoky Mountain	July 12-17	Grades 7-9
Orchard Park	July 19-24	Grades 4-9
Wallace Street	July 26-31	Grades 4-9
Campo Amistad	August 3-8	Grades 4-9



Registrations are now being taken! Be sure to register today to be sure to get to camp this summer! Scholarships are available. Please contact us to see how you can receive funds to make sure your child can come to Pyoca this summer.

More information can be found at our web site at www.pyoca.org, or contact us at 866-251-2267.

Thank you donors!

What a great year! Pyoca received a total of \$449,690 in support! Of that figure, \$76,000 came from Presbytery support, \$312,650 for the capital campaign, \$48,310 for undesignated support and \$7,255 for designated gifts. Twenty-nine campers received full or partial scholarships totaling \$5,475. We are very thankful for our support and want to thank all those who have partnered with Pyoca in it's mission to provide quality outdoor ministry for people in Central and Southern Indiana.

General and Designated Contributors

Guiding Lights (\$25,000 and up)

Presbytery of Whitewater Valley
Presbytery of Ohio Valley

Spirit Club (\$5,000 - \$24,000)

Center Grove Presbyterian Church,
Greenwood
First Meridian Heights, Indianapolis

Director's Circle (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Susan Alvarez
First Presbyterian Church, Anderson
Brownstown Presbyterian Church
Corydon Presbyterian Church
Eastminster Presbyterian Church,
Evansville
First Meridian Heights, Indianapolis
First Presbyterian Church, Franklin
First Presbyterian Church,
Greensburg
Hopewell Presbyterian Church
Franklin
First Presbyterian Church,
Jeffersonville
Orchard Park, Donation
Southport Presbyterian Church,
Southport
Kathleen O Van Nuys
Westminster Presbyterian Church,
Washington

Fire Circle (\$500-\$999)

Sarah and Jim Brown
2008 Campers
First United Presbyterian, College Corner,
First Presbyterian Church, Columbus
Souheil & Alejandra Haddad
Ken and Paulette Kjeldsen
JDLevy and Associates, INC.
Joe and Nancy Ann McDonald
Sarah and Jeremy Nation
John and Nancy Peterson
Amy and David Roth
Service One
Wallace Street Presbyterian Church,
Indianapolis

Counselors (\$250-\$499)

Anonymous
Anonymous
Fairview Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis
Jack Fenoglio
Todd and Margaret Gordon
Grace United Presbyterian Church,
Clarksville
Bruce and Diane Long
Don and Ruth Ann MacPherson

Phil and Jane Newton
Presbyterian Women, Fairview
Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis
Presbyterian Womens Association, First
Presbyterian Church, Evansville
Salem Presbyterian Church
Erik and Julia A. Spencer
Rich and Caroline Swartwood
Donald B. Summerfield
First Presbyterian Church, Tipton

Campers (\$25-\$249)

Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Stan and Ann Armstrong
Robert and Edna Bartlow
Glen and Anne Bell
Brad and Kim Benton
Elizabeth Ann Berry, Abbie Schultz
Nancy A. Bessent
Bethel Presbyterian Church
Dr. Joe and Margaret Blankenkemper
Calvert and Donna Brand
Mrs. Kenneth Brown
Brownstown Area Churches Vacation
Bible School
William C. and Sandra Bussell
John and Sue Buthod
Reathel and Helen Byers
John and Mildred Chironna
First Presbyterian Church, Columbus
Robert and Sharon Craig
Dave and Jackie Crittenden
Dale Presbyterian Church, Dale
Roger and Beverly Dean
Mary Jean DeMarr
Jacque, Doug and Sammi Denny
Daniel and Jessie Detro
Joe and Joanne Dotzlaf
Patricia S. Dreiman
Anthony and Jennifer Dzwonar
Scarlett Fielding
Dean Finley
First Presbyterian Church, Noblesville
First Presbyterian Church Men's
Breakfasts, Franklin
First Presbyterian Church, Kansas City
Keith and Cheryl Geckeler
Todd and Katie Gilbert
Gary and Cindy Graves
Greencastle Presbyterian Church,
Greencastle
Fred and Kristi L. Hackett
Patricia Cowall Hanover
Susan E. Hartman
William and Bessie Hatton
Hemenway Memorial Presbyterian,
Hemenway

Henryville Community Pres Church,
Henryville
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Dan Herrenbruck
Matthew Hutchens
Jackson County Bank
Owen V. Johnson
Sean Kelley
Lorna Kuyk
Rev. S. Kim and Mae L. Leech
Susan Bush Lindsey
Mary Linegar
Dorthea Lloyd
Lisa and Andy Longo
Dorothy Maurer, donation
Memorial Presbyterian Church Women's
Association, Rockville
Memorial Presbyterian Church,
Rockville
Mary and Leonard Miller
Doug and Martha Montgomery
Eric A Moore
Mt. Lebanon Presbyterian Church,
Henryville
The Muse Family
Presbyterian Women, First Presbyterian
Church, Jasper
Presbyterian Women's Association,
Greenfield
Greenwood Presbyterian Church,
Presbyterian Women
First Presbyterian Church Bloomfield
Women's Association
Presbyterian Womens Association,
Presbyterian Church, Winchester
Presbyterian Women, First Presbyterian
Church, Tipton
Presbyterian Women of Grant County
The Womans Club, Bloomington
Presbyterian Women, First Presbyterian
Church, Kansas City
Paul and Peggy Reising
Mark and Karen Robinson
Kenneth and Carol Sharp
William L. Sharp
Kenneth and Carol Sharp
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church,
Indianapolis
Gary and Susan Starewicz
Clarice W. Stegall
John and Sharyl Stevens
Mike and Barbara Tormoehlen
Robert G and Catherine Tull
Ronald & Mary Ann Wallace
Kenneth and Laura Webb
Bob and Barbara Weetman
Mary Lee Whelan
Dorothy W. Williams

Memorial Gifts

We have been blessed with gifts in memory of dear friends. The donors have been included in the list above, however their gifts are in memory to the following people.

Leona Kelley
Frank Lovejoy
Rita Hubler
Bruce Thomson

Gifts in honor/tribute of:

We have also received three honor and tribute gifts of friends of Pyoca. The donors have been included in the list above, however their gifts are in honor and tribute of the following people.

Hana Johnson/Owen Johnson
Ginny and Jesse Summerfield

We have attempted to make sure everyone was listed. If your name was inadvertently left off this list, please accept our sincere apologies. Please notify us so we can update our records.

Capital Campaign Status

The capital campaign has been wonderfully received and now has almost \$940,000 pledged! We have received a total of \$430,000 to date which has enabled us to begin two construction projects and have a third being scheduled to be completed by May!



We retired Cabin #2 this past summer and have the replacement cabin under construction. Cabin #2 served us incredibly well! We have found that the youth who have visited the new cabin under construction, are excited about the additional space, more comfortable and restrooms with a bit more privacy. The new year-round, fully accessible cabin will offer a wonderful space for small youth groups to come and use one facility with two or three adults. The cabin layout also gives each bunk bed on the exterior walls their own window, plus each bedroom has a large bathroom with separated areas for showers, lavatories, and sinks.

We began construction on the Lodge Welcome Center, office addition and geothermal system upgrade. The entire project should be close to completion by the time you receive this! The geothermal system was sized so



eventually all of the main cabins and future development will be able to utilize the main system! We are anticipating savings of over \$10,000 on utilities each year once the whole system is operating!

The third project that we are in the stages of implementing will be finishing the parking lot by the Lodge. We are hopeful the improved parking will alleviate the issues we have during large weekend events and registration for camp.

In light of the current pledges, the Advisory Council has re-prioritized our future construction projects. The revised project order, after the three current projects are completed, is: the repair and upgrade of the dam to meet current codes, construction of a new craft cabin/conference room, and construction of the third Yurt Cabin.

All of these projects will begin after the pledges have been received! The earlier we can have these funds, the sooner we can upgrade our facilities.

If you would like additional information or be interested in assisting with these needed improvements to our facility, please contact Rich Swartwood at 866-261-2267.

Capital Campaign Gifts (2008)

Susan Alvarez	Don and Ruth Ann MacPherson
Anonymous	Felipe N. Martinez
Glen and Anne Bell	First Presbyterian Church, Martinsville
Christopher & Sally Bias	David & Carol McDonald
First Presbyterian Church Bloomfield	Douglas and Martha Montgomery
First Presbyterian Church, Bloomington	First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Vernon
Brownstown Women's Mission Group	First Presbyterian Church, Muncie
Brownstown Presbyterian Church	The Muse Family
First Presbyterian Church, Columbus	Nabb Presbyterian Church, Nabb
First Presbyterian Church, Connersville	Rob and Nancy Peterson
Dale Presbyterian Church, Dale	Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis
First Presbyterian Church, Edinburgh	First Presbyterian Church, Shelbyville
Fairview Presbyterian Church, Fairview Presbyterian Women	Southport Presbyterian Church
Robert and Jacque Gillespie	Rich and Caroline Swartwood
Todd & Margaret Gordon	Donald B. Summerfield
Grammer Presbyterian Church	Bruce H. Thomson Estate
Gary and Cindy Graves	Valley City Presbyterian Church
Greencastle Presbyterian Church	Indiana Presbyterian Church, Vincennes
First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg	Westminster Presbyterian Church, Washington
First Presbyterian Church, Greenwood	Presbyterian Women of Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis
Bill & Jane Huber	Second Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis
John & Nancy James	Scipio Presbyterian Church
First Presbyterian Church, Jasper	First Presbyterian Church, Tipton
Owen V. Johnson	Vernon Presbyterian Church
Martha and Bruce Jordan	Westminster Presbyterian Church, Washington
Barb Kuykendall	
Leah Advised Fund	
First Presbyterian Church, Liberty	
Women's Westminster Circle	
Susan Bush Lindsey	
Judith A. Lovejoy	

Wish List

Pyoca depends on the generosity of the Presbyteries, churches and individuals. Thank you to all who have already helped our ministry grow! We have listed our "Spring Wish List" items below, and a full listing can be found on our web page. If you would like to help us make our program better by donating these items, please contact us today! Prices for these items can also be found on our web site. We look forward to hearing from you!

Inflatable activity at waterfront
Bibles for campers
High Ropes Course Equipment
Banners for Lodge
Welcome Center artwork
New bunk beds for Yurt Cabin
Used Camp Truck
Funds for camperships
Piano

Sponsor a summer staff
Porch Chairs for Lodge
Staff Training Supplies
Tables for Pavilion/Craft Ctr
Welcome Center Furniture
Porch Furniture for Yurt Cabin
Carpet in Poplar Cabin
Funds for Endowment

Board games for rainy days
Initiative Course upgrade
Camper Crafts
Desktop Computer
Mattresses for Yurt Cabin
New Docks at waterfront
Sand/Salt spreader for truck
Capital Campaign Funds

There is a pledge card located on the Fund Development page of our web site if you would like to make any financial contributions to Pyoca.

www.pyoca.org

Work Groups Needed!

There are plenty of projects that we need help in completing before summer starts! Of course, we have the Yurt Cabin to wrap up, install siding, finish electrical, and build new bunk beds. Other projects around camp are to cleanup the winter storm damage to trails, opening the rustic cabins and cleaning them for the busy summer season, replacing the fishing dock, installing hard-wired smoke detectors in the Retreat Center, general camp clean up and more! We have a project for you and for all skill levels!



Work Groups
needed at
Pyoca!

There is always opportunities for volunteer work groups for construction and general maintenance. If you or your group may be interested in assisting our ministry, please contact us at 812-358-3413.

Retreat Opportunities

Do you need or know of someone looking for a great retreat opportunity? Are you looking for a space for a small group, leadership retreat? Then consider Pyoca for your retreat or day use option!

We have wonderful facilities that accommodate between 5 and 162 people.

Our three accessible winterized cabins offer private bathrooms and great meet rooms.

We are adding a year-round accessible youth building which will be available this fall that will sleep 20 people in a ROUND dorm style facility.

For clergy and church staff, consider our invitation for study leave in Knox Cabin or the apartment! This is a FREE service to clergy and staff for Ohio Valley and Whitewater Valley Congregations. (Makes a great gift for clergy!)

For more information on how to reserve the facilities, please contact Sean Kelley at 866-251-2267 or Sean@pyoca.org.



Pyoca Camp, Conference and Retreat Center

886 East County Rd. 100 S.
Brownstown, IN 47220
www.pyoca.org



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Pyoca News...

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NEW PROGRAMS THIS SUMMER!

You and Me Camp

Is your child not quite ready to make the trip to overnight camp by themselves? Or are you not quite ready to let them go off alone? Then this camp is for you! This great new camp offers the ability for your child to bring a same sex adult friend to camp with them. This half week program is designed for 1st and 2nd graders and is a great chance for adults and kids to experience Pyoca. Parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles are welcome!

E.L.F. Camp (Earth Loving Friends)

This camp will give you a whole new perspective on camp and life outdoors. We will explore nature in a whole new way and dive into how we as Earth loving friends can help make the environment cleaner and better by taking care of God's creation.

Night Owl Camp

Experience camp in a whole new way while doing all the traditional activities in a non-traditional time frame. Sleeping in and staying up late is the life of a night owl! Some unique activities include sunset canoeing, climbing tower at night, night hikes, night games, Bible study under the stars and so much more!

Sr. High Leadership Academy

Leadership is not about ambition, business savvy or public speaking. We believe it is about serving and we think that you have the ideas and energy to be great leaders! This camp will do a lot of the traditional camp activities but with new twists and of course we will be adding plenty of new thing too! Join us as we guide you to developing a servants heart and developing the leader inside of you.

The Pyoca Spirit A Pyoca Publication

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The mission of Pyoca is to provide a place away from the busy world where people can grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, with others in a Christian community, and with themselves.

Registrations are now being accepted and can be found on our web site

www.pyoca.org