

THE DBC TIDINGS

A WAVE HELLO FROM CAMP

WINTER MINISTRY RECAP



GOOD NEWS

— ROMANS 1:16 —

Could you use some good news? That's exactly what Jesus came to bring! This summer we are diving into the concept of GOOD NEWS! Read more on page 4



**REGISTER HERE FOR
THE BEST WEEK OF
YOUR SUMMER!**

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OUR MISSION

Creating opportunities for youth to:

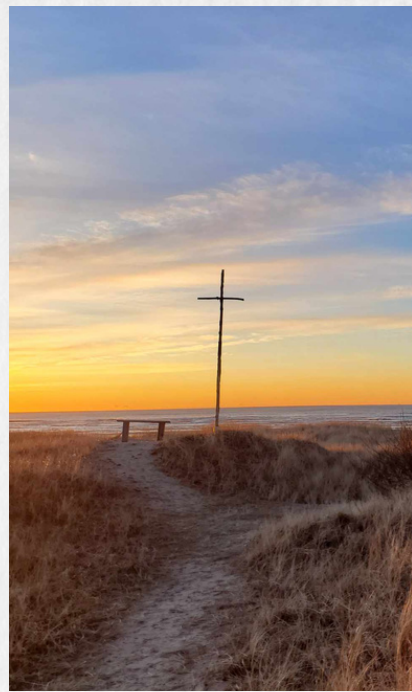
Know Jesus → Love Jesus

Know Others → Love Others

1 John 4:19

Director's Reflection

This "offseason" I've been reflecting a lot on what God has done with the camp over the last couple years. Since coming out of the pandemic, we have grown so fast in so many different ways; our bookings, our programs, our staff team, etc. It has all been such a blessing, but it has been a blur, and I feel like I am finally able to reflect on it a bit. We always want to grow and improve in the ways that are needed, and there is still plenty of that to do, but I feel right now my focus as Director is on strengthening what we have. Much of this is new and instead of just trying to add more, I want to focus on what God has already given us, and to be good stewards by continuing to develop the culture of camp with our year-round staff, empowering our newer staff as their responsibilities grow, making minor adjustments to improve and increase the quality of our current camps; how we train and support our counselors, how we adjust to growing numbers, etc.



I feel incredibly blessed, as each year God has provided and allowed us to grow our team in a sustainable way while our bookings and programs continue to grow as well. We are now able to run the camp in a much healthier way, using our larger team to support one another. I am very thankful for the team we have. They are versatile and willing to step out of their different roles to serve in other areas of the camp ministry, as needed. This is SO needed for a camp like ours to run well, and God has given us a great team for it. It is a privilege to get to work together with them for our common goal of serving His Kingdom. When you work with people who share that perspective, it turns something very hard into something that instead gives joy.

-Brian Bickle, Executive Director

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Women's Retreat - March 15-17

Men's Retreat - April 26-28

Youth Leader Conference - May 9th-11th

WOMEN'S RETREAT

MARCH 15TH-17TH

DUNES BIBLE CAMP
Transform

Cost: \$115
After March 1st: \$135
Commuter Fee: \$80

This year, proceeds from the annual Silent Auction will be split between Camper Scholarships and Road2Hope Maternity Homes.

ROAD2HOPE
MATERNITY HOMES

SPEAKER

Austie Eckley



Austie Lives in Oregon with her husband Justin and her four daughters.

She spent 20 years in the beauty industry, and loves all things creative, from watercoloring to thrifting, to helping others come into their own creative ability.

Her heart comes alive when she talks about real life transformation through Jesus, as she has seen her own life transformed from addiction through the power of Christ.

Her hope and prayer is that you would join us as we dismantle our walls, show up in the hard and broken places often overlooked, and allow God's love to speak louder than our words.

MEN'S RETREAT

REGISTER BY APRIL 15TH FOR EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

SPEAKER:

D. MIKE COLLINS



Back by popular demand, D. Mike Collins will be joining us again. He has been planting churches, preaching, teaching, and leading men's groups for over thirty-five years. Over that time he has identified seven rhythms that all great men of the Bible implement in their walk with God.

Cost: \$115
After April 15th: \$135
Commuter Fee: \$80

**DUDES
BIBLE CAMP**

APRIL 26TH - 28TH, 2024

SEVEN RHYTHMS OF A MAN'S HEART
PSALM 1

WITH D. MIKE COLLINS

SUMMER 2024 - GOOD NEWS!

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.



Dunes News Times
SUMMER CAMP 2024

GOOD NEWS

ROMANS 1:16

PHOTO

**JOIN US FOR
THE BEST
WEEK OF
YOUR
SUMMER!**

DUNES CROSSWORD

Down:

2. Good _____
3. Dunes _____ Camp
5. Nuggets _____
6. Volley _____
8. The Goose _____

Across:

1. _____ Hall
4. Praise music
5. Shaving
7. Decorating your _____
8. _____ and slide
9. Swimming _____
10. Our Savior

SUMMER CAMP DATES

Middle School #1 - July 6th-10th

Kids Camp - July 11th-15th

High School #1 - July 16th-21st

Middle School #2 - July 23rd-27th

High School #2 - July 28th - August 2nd



LATEST NEWS



GOOD NEWS!

"Good News" is our 2024 theme and our featured verse is Romans 1:16. I really think this summer theme is going to be my favorite one I have seen so far. The chapel will be turned into a News Station which will be the main hub for camp activities and the base for our own News Channel called 'Dunes News on Channel 24'.

Our staff are going to be practicing their news anchor voices and I am already drawing up plans to decorate. We just finalized our t-shirt designs (they look so cool), one of which your camper can get FOR FREE by registering for camp before June 1st.

This summer we will have some classic games returning, like Safari, Capture, Organized Mass Chaos etc, as well as new games.

I am so excited to see God move this summer. We are praying for our campers, that they would hear and respond to the Good News of Jesus Christ. We can't wait to see our campers in less than 150 days!

- Amy Rose,
Program Director



WHAT OUR CAMPERS HAVE TO SAY...



Q: Why do you keep coming back to Dunes?

Julia: "It's a really nice environment...Dunes has a special place in my heart because all the staff members are really open about everything and [it] just feels like it's all connected - like all the staff work together, all the kids work together and it all points back to God. It's not just like we just come here to play games - we come here to play games and also to learn about God."

Megan: "It's my favorite place in the world and I look forward to it SO much. Like all year we talk about it...it's probably my favorite place to be."

Q: What would you say to someone who is thinking of coming to Dunes as a camper for the first time?

Julia: "Go! It's worth it. If you don't like it...like it. I think if you can go and you can afford it or get a scholarship, I 100% think it's worth it...go to Dunes and you'll have a place where you feel like people care about you and you belong. Also it's just a lot of fun!"

Megan: "It's like the greatest experience in the world and you are hanging out with some of the best people you have ever met, and you feel so welcome and included and everything that everybody says is warm and comforting...and it's just...the greatest place to be."



Julia and Megan

FALL/WINTER MINISTRY RECAP

FIRST EVER OUTDOOR SCHOOL!

In mid October, Dunes hosted its first-ever Outdoor School program! This program was put on in partnership with Southwest Christian School of Beaverton, OR, and joined by several local homeschooling families

Students enjoyed learning about cranberry harvesting, marine biology, edible plants, outdoor survival, and other scientific topics inspired by the local features here on the Peninsula, as well as chapel messages, built-in time for personal study and reflection, and classic camp activities such as arts and crafts, games, swimming, night games, and so much more.

One of the highlights of Outdoor School was a field trip to the local Cranberry fields in Ocean Park. Fun fact: these particular fields are owned by Julie Rhoads, a former long-time Board Member at Dunes!



OCT 9-12



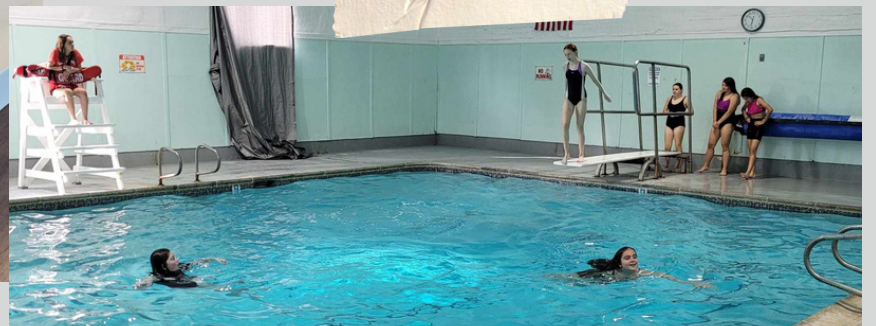
WHAT THE STUDENTS HAD TO SAY...

"It is amazing to see how unbelievable and crazy God's creation really is." "Brian's message strengthened my assurance in there being an Almighty God! Thank you so much!"

"I didn't realize how creative, powerful, and gracious God is."

Outdoor School was a refreshing mix of learning and fun, and succeeded in building community among the students while pointing them towards God and His character! The success of this guinea pig Outdoor School event was a huge prayer request in the months leading up to it and we praise God for his gracious answer and blessing on it.

We also want to thank the staff and parent volunteers at Southwest Christian School for their partnership to make this program happen! We look forward to expanding access to Outdoor School in the future, Lord willing.



COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

DEC 30-JAN 1

2024 College and Young Adults Retreat was a joy to host!

We welcomed over 130 young adults from across the PNW to Dunes for a very fun, refreshing weekend of fellowship, prayer, worship, and celebration.

The college students and young adults who attended enjoyed excellent worship, food, Bible teaching, sports tournaments, and even (new this year) axe throwing!

Some of the favorite unique-to-CYA Retreat features include randomized small groups and an NYE party and subsequent Ceilidh (Scottish Dance).

Reflecting, praising God for the past year, and praying over the new year as we anticipate His nearness in it - there is truly no better way to start out the year. We are praying for all of the young adults who attended as they go back into their communities and daily life to make a difference for the Kingdom!



Speaker: CJ Coffee

We were thrilled to have CJ Coffee, who serves as a pastor at The Well Community Church in Portland Oregon as our speaker. CJ led us through the book of Ruth over this weekend, helping us see it as the epic story it really is and to believe and rest in the truth of God's sovereignty and presence in the details of our lives, as well as helping us to see how the story of Ruth points to Christ.

TESTIMONIES

“

"I was encouraged by hearing others stories of how they saw God's providence + kindness in their lives. It was fun to reflect back and see how God has been faithful + directed me during the last decade"

"I've learned to live in the freedom and grace that God has won"

"I feel more energized + ready for what God has in store"

"I love coming to the Dunes and spending alone time with the Lord going into a new year. Time and time again, I'm reminded of His wonderful plan for me even with an unknown future. God is so good!"

"it was really sweet to start + end the year in worship and it really re-kindled my desire for deeper intimacy with the Lord"

"if this is what praise looks like on earth I can't imagine what heaven will be like"

I had been very apathetic for a long time. God used CJ to wake me up!

”



HIGH SCHOOL WINTER RETREAT

JAN 12-15



What a weekend! One week out from Winter Retreat, a winter storm suddenly appeared in the forecast for our region from Portland to the coast. Over the next week we prayerfully considered the possibility that Winter Retreat might have to be cancelled this year. Amazingly, the snow and ice held off until Saturday, enabling most of our campers and amazingly, ALL of our staff to decide to still drive out, and arrive safely! We had a fantastic (and icy) time while at camp, and it cleared up enough for everyone to return home safely as well.

Despite the weather, we still had 55 campers and an awesome time, digging deep, having real conversations, and just having so much fun.

Winter Retreat felt like a little taste of everything! We played Winter-Retreat-exclusive games such as Assassin and Diamond Smugglers, but we also had volleyball, dodge ball, worship, cabin discussions, free time and Finer Things Club, swimming, night games, and a Dunes Dance Party.

Some of the highlights of the weekend included a synchronized swimming competition, Bunko, hearing Jordan's running stories, hanging during free time, and beautiful beach sunsets.

Winter Retreat is much more slow-paced than summer, which opens the doors for deep conversations, and a unique opportunity to establish stronger relationships, as we are able to reconnect with camp friends and counselors, and keep our eyes focused on Christ in the middle of the school year.



CYA and High School Winter Retreat
photos by Bailey Harris



SPEAKER: JORDAN HONER

Jordan Honer and his wife, Emily, drove out from Table Rock Fellowship Church all the way over in Medford Or, where he serves as the Families Pastor.

Through the weekend, Jordan took us through the book of Ephesians and reminded our HS campers of the important truths that God loves us, He wants to bring us into His story, and He has made forgiveness and freedom available to us in Jesus.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL CHURCH PARTNERSHIP WINTER CAMP

As a bonus ministry opportunity this January, thanks to some awesome relationships with GracePoint Church and Sylvan Way Church in Bremerton, WA, and Go Church in Ridgefield, WA, our staff had the opportunity to host and assist in programming a Middle and High School Winter Camp alongside our friends at these churches, many of whom we partner with in summer ministry and whose students attend Dunes camps. Former Board Member Chris Garrison was the speaker for this retreat, and our staff helped lead games and activities.

We love partnering in ministry with churches in our region!



FALL + WINTER FACILITIES PROJECTS

One of the best things about the slow season at camp is the increased time to focus on projects! It should come as no surprise to anyone that our maintenance manager Jeremy has been as busy as a bee. Our director, Brian, also spends much of his off-season time helping with projects and improvements around camp, and we are blessed by an awesome team of local volunteers who help when they have time to give.

Below are details on some of the exciting things we have been up too!

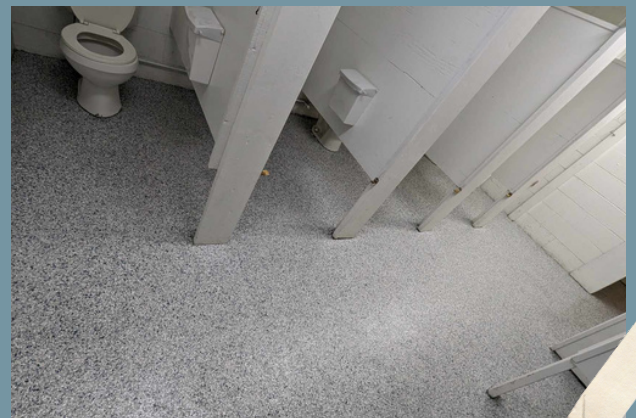
NEW CHAPEL LAWN BATHROOM FLOORING

For years, the painted concrete floor in the girl's-side Chapel Lawn Cabin bathroom has been chipping away and decaying. Of all our floors, this one was probably the worst.

In October, Francisco from Elite Surface Coatings in Salem, OR, came out for several days and installed a beautiful new flecked epoxy flooring! This project was a trial run for potentially using similar flooring in other areas around camp. So far, so good!

MISC. MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

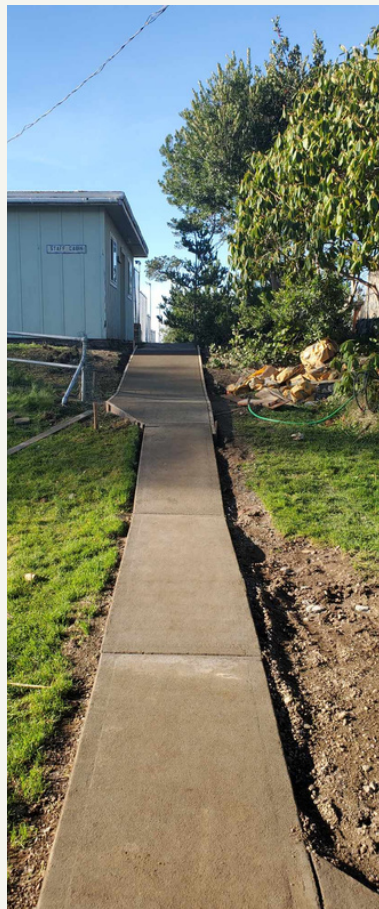
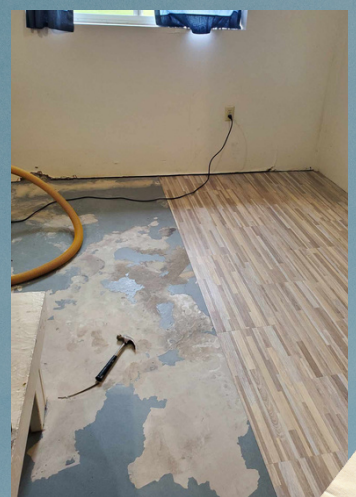
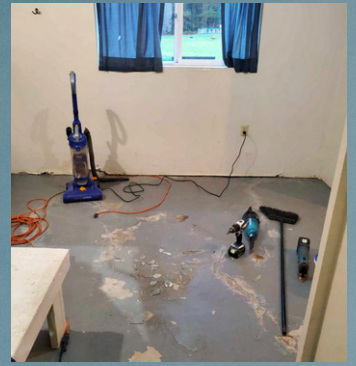
- Updated and repaired lighting around camp
- Repainted in the Pool
- Repaired Pool drinking fountain
- New siding on View Room west wall
- New siding on Chapel South wall



GYM CABIN UPDATES

In December- February, we installed new flooring in Gym cabins 1-3, 17, and 18!

This project included deep cleaning, trim replacements and other minor repairs to freshen up our most used Gym cabins. We look forward to installing this same new flooring in the Chapel Lawn Cabins, other Gym Cabins, and Missionary/Anderson Cabins, as time allows later this spring.



NEW STAFF CABIN PATH

In November and December, Brian and Jeremy, with the help of volunteer Steve Olsen and our Intern Amalia, poured a new concrete path to the Staff Cabins, replacing the chipped gravel walkway! We are so excited to have a smooth, clean and fresh path which is much safer (and beautiful!) and will, Lord willing, last a long time.

NORTH PROPERTY CABIN UPDATE

In June of 2022, we acquired the North Property, a long strip of wooded land on the North end of camp from the beach to the highway. Since purchasing this land, our staff and volunteers, particularly Jeremy, have been hard at work rehabilitating the dilapidated beach cabin on the property into suitable housing for speakers, guests, or staff.

Since fall, the hard work in the cabin is starting to pay off! Recently Jeremy, with the help of faithful volunteer Steve Olsen, has finished the plumbing and electrical systems in the cabin, hung drywall, and is now beginning the process of mudding, texturing, and painting the walls, with flooring to come soon!

We can't wait to see the cabin all finished! Our goal is to use the cabin as staff housing this summer.



NEW ESPRESSO MACHINE

In November, as a huge answer to our staff's prayers we were able to acquire a new (to us) espresso machine to replace our old machine, which had served our campers and guest rental groups well for many years but was failing.

We have received abundant feedback already on the coffee quality and we are so excited for this upgrade to our camp amenities! Be sure to grab some espresso next time you are at Dunes and let us know what you think!



GET INVOLVED!

There are so many different ways to get involved in the ministry of Dunes Bible Camp!

WORK ON STAFF!

We are now hiring for all positions! We are looking for counselors, SEALS, CADETS, and varied support staff help. We are also looking for camp nurses!

Apply online today - even if you only have a week free.

ADOPT A SUMMER STAFFER!

Our full summer staff team gives their all to serve at camp and it takes a lot of energy and a lot of prayer! Support one of these awesome staffers by committing to pray for them for the whole summer. You will receive a bio and updates from your adopted staff member throughout the summer! If you would like to participate, reach out to sophie@dunesbiblecamp.com

SPREAD THE WORD!

Do you know a High School - College age person (and beyond!) who would benefit from an opportunity to serve and share the gospel in a healthy community? Tell them about Dunes!

Sharing our social media posts is also a big way you can help support our ministry!



PRAY FOR US!

The most important way you can support the ministry of Dunes is to PRAY for us! Please pray:

- That God would use this camp to reach souls for Christ.
- That God would supply the right staff for this summer, and especially lifeguards for the pool.
- That we would keep Jesus and His Gospel central to everything we do.
- For God's blessing on our needed facilities projects, and that they would be completed before summer

SEND KIDS TO CAMP!


In 2023, over 60 campers were able to attend Dunes because of full or partial scholarships. We rely on donations to bolster our scholarship fund each year. Consider contributing to the [Camper Scholarship Fund](#) which enables kids to come to camp!


SPONSOR A STAFF MEETING

Want to bless + encourage our summer staff by providing coffee or treats for a morning staff meeting or event? Reach out to sophie@dunesbiblecamp.com for more info.

INFO

Connect

 360.665.5380

 info@dunesbiblecamp.com

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Park, WA, 98840

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FIND US ON:



DUNES BIBLE CAMP STAFF

Brian Bickle – *Executive Director*

Joel Uram – *Assistant Director* | Jeremy Scamman – *Facilities Manager*

Amie Connor – *Kitchen Manager* | Amy-Rose Collins – *Program Director*

Josiah Mallory – *Aquatics Director*

Sophie Lembke – *Administrative Assistant*

Charity Scamman – *Dining Hall Coordinator*

Amalia Budrow – *Intern* | Joy Bickle – *Lifeguard*

Cherie Dunwoody – *Swim Instructor*

Rob Buchanan – *Pool Services*

MEMBER CHURCHES

Brush Prairie Baptist Church - Vancouver, WA

Cornerstone Community Church - Tenino, WA

Emmanuel Bible Fellowship - Olympia, WA

First Baptist Church - Shelton, WA

First Baptist Church - South Bend, WA

First Baptist Church - Warrenton, OR

First Baptist Church - Woodland, WA

Gateway Community Church - Washougal, WA

Green Mountain Baptist Church - Woodland, WA

Mt. View Baptist Church - Centralia, WA

Peninsula Baptist Church - Ocean Park, WA



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