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TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN BINKLEY

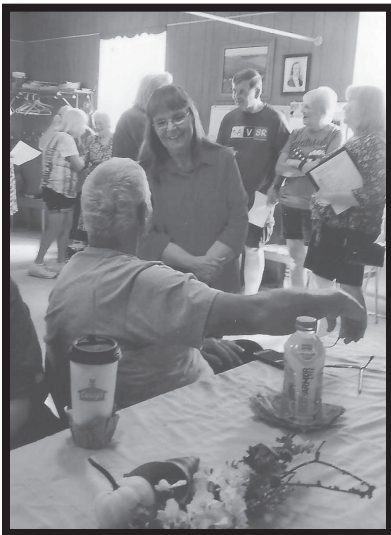
CAMP BERREMAN IS 75 YEARS OLD

by Pam Phelps

On September 10th, 2022, a celebration was held for the camp's 75th anniversary. Judy Miner, from Berreman Church of God, and Diane Calhoun, from Mt. Carroll Church of God, worked together to plan the celebration. The celebration began at 2 pm. Guests arrived and fellowshiped together, catching up, sharing memories, looking at pictures, crafts, and memory quilts, and partaking of delicious refreshments--some furnished by ladies from the Mt. Carroll Church of God and some

by ladies from Berreman Church of God—including Judy Miner. The church was decorated with quilt squares that campers and families had made over the last few years. There were also several posters of pictures of campers from youth camps and family camps from the past. Some historical

articles, old camp books, and camp crafts were also displayed. Faye Signer, from Berreman Church of God, helped with the decorations. Some of the guests toured the campground, noticing the updates and sharing memories of how things used to be. Starting at 3 pm, guests gathered in the sanctuary of Berreman church and sang camp songs, and shared memories together. Judy led this gathering. There were 55 that attended this sharing time. A few more had come for a bit but had to leave.



Judy Miner

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Donna Toepfer Binkley

Donna Toepfer Binkley represented the Binkley family, one of the founding families of the camp, and shared memories from some of Carl and Catherine Binkley's sons. "The Binkley children were small when the camp was being built, but one thing they remembered was taking apart ammunition boxes from the Savanna Army

Depot to build the dorms, and Steve Binkley said he remembered pulling nails out. Jon Binkley said that he remembered that they finally went and got a saw instead of trying to pull the nails out and sawed the crates apart. Steve also remembered going up to Dubuque to rent tents because before the dorms were built, they had two tents—a boys' tent and a girls' tent where the boys and girls slept." We are pleased that Steve and Jon sent word and that Donna was present to share their memories with us.

Pam Phelps shared her amazing memories at Camp Berreman. She first remembers waking up in the car at camp when she was little. Her mom and dad were helping at camp so they just brought her over early while still asleep. She loved the tent, and playing box hockey, especially when too little to be an official camper. Pam shared about the funny camp song that she remembers and going to the 4th of July on the camp bus. One year, the bus could not get turned out on the main street to head back to camp after the fireworks. Finally, Pastor Harry Gates had a big flashlight, jumped off the bus, and "pretended" to be a cop. He stood in the middle of the street and using his flashlight directed traffic and got the cars to stop from the other directions, then motioned the bus to proceed. As it slowly turned the corner, Pastor Gates ran over and jumped back on the bus. Campers sang all the way to Stockton and back—all the choruses they knew. Pam shared about Pastor Pollard leading morning devotions when she was a kid. Pam shared about loving the crafts and loving being at camp. Then she talked about leading the camp. She shared about how five girls made the bathroom look like a hair salon, and wondered why they all needed four or five different hair shampoo-type things.

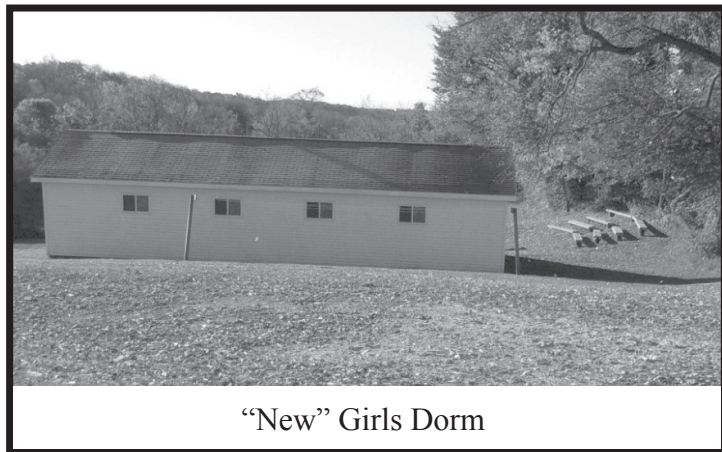
They assured her it was all necessary. She shared about the amazing kids and leading kids to the Lord and the staff that have helped her.



Fern Phelps

Fern Phelps shared about spending equal to over a year of her life in the camp dorms. She talked about how special it was being a counselor in the dorms. Fern shared how close she was to some of the girls whom she would sit up with and listen to as they talked about troubles/difficulties in their lives. Fern shared about a camper from

Buda whose mom came to pick him up and wondered why his suitcase looked just like it had before he left. He told his mom he never opened it. The next year the same camper left ALL of his stuff. His mom called later wondering where it was. Fern washed up everything that was left and kept it until it was claimed the next year. She remembers walking through the dorm holding up underwear trying to get girls to claim their stuff. She talked about cooking cinnamon twist and scrambled eggs for the campers and teaching them. She talked about how special it is to lead someone to Christ. She also loves s'mores and has a camper make her a s'more every year, even if she doesn't eat it right away the next morning. Fern shared how special it was to have her son Rick build the "new" girls' dorm. She shared about going to a yard sale in Lanark several years ago and telling the lady who was running the sale that she was getting ready for church camp. She told



"New" Girls Dorm

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her if she knew anyone with kids between 8 and 18, maybe they would like to come. The lady said a relative of hers was raising his two young girls himself. She told him about the camp, and his daughters came that year. They were 8 and 9 years old. They both accepted Jesus at camp, and when they went home the 9-year-old told her dad that she became a Christian at camp so now she was going to go to church. She wanted him to go with her, but even if he didn't, she wanted to go. He started taking them to church, and eventually went himself. While there he met a young woman who was raising her 3 kids on her own. They began to date, and he proposed, but the lady refused to accept unless he became a Christian. Over time, he learned what it meant to become a Christian and gave his heart to the Lord. Then he proposed again, and they married and have a child together now. The kids have all come to camp. The oldest one every year, and the others most years. The oldest girl came back as a counselor this year so it was a blessing for Fern to see her and this family grow and be saved and grow in the Lord.



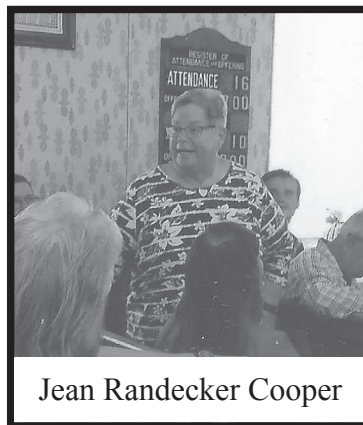
Pastor Phelps

Pastor Phelps shared about what a privilege it has been to serve the camp and watch the kids grow in the Lord and what a blessing to lead them to Christ. Pastor Phelps shared the camp mission statement and presented a Scripture for each of the 5 parts. He started with 1 Timothy 4:11-13.



The camp committee, Pastor Phelps, Fern, and Pam.

The camp committee, with Faye Signer as spokesperson, presented Pastor Phelps, Fern, and Pam gifts of appreciation for all their time and work at Camp Berreman. Pastor Phelps and Fern received a gift certificate from KFC, and Pam received a new purse.



Jean Randecker Cooper

Jean Randecker Cooper shared, "I came to camp when I was eight, and I got homesick the last night only because on the swing set, (They used to have bars—like the trapeze bars), and the last night, I fell and hurt my arm. Of course, I wanted to go home to my mom.

They came and got me. As we got older, we used to play baseball out here facing what used to be the boys' outhouse, and one year they decided to get permission to use the field back here behind the church, but at third base was a cow patty and the pastor said, "Do not slide into third, do not slide into third." Guess who slid into third? Bill Wofford, so he got to go home, too. Later coming to camp, I don't know how old I was, but I wasn't too old yet, Rev. Pollard was here, and I had not been saved at camp. Because of hearing the messages and the altar calls, I was thinking about it. Sunday morning Agnes Kehl was my Sunday School teacher, and she said she was surprised I wasn't saved at camp, and she told me she was available to talk to. I went home and talked to my mom, and gave my heart to the Lord, and the next year at camp, Rev. Pollard was emphasizing missions, and I felt the call to missions, and I also said, "Lord, I don't want to go to Africa." God listened to me and gave me the wilds of South Jersey. I live on a Methodist campground, and I've been able to minister to the children during the summertime. I am also a school teacher and a CPN. So, the Lord gave me a definite ministry, but it wasn't per se on a mission field, but definitely a mission. We all know we are all missionaries in one way. I grew here, and I grew in my church, and the Lord gave me wonderful memories of camp Berreman and cow patties."

Warren Dixon shared that at the first camp, as he told Pastor Bob, he would have been one year old so maybe he was here with his mother, Florence Dixon. He said, "I did bring my Bible that has underlined passages on

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Warren Dixon

the serious side. The thing that I remember the most was going down to Plum River and going swimming.” Faye shared about Warren’s mom and dad—Florence and Alvin Dixon, “After we were going to build on the dining hall some of our people didn’t like it because they thought we were taking away the historic part of

the church, and the council was having a meeting. The vote was tied. Florence and Alvin were on opposite sides. Florence said to the council, ‘Let’s all go home, sleep on it, and come back because I think the vote will be different.’ We came back, and the vote was the same.”

Dawn Slick—”My name’s Dawn Slick Bahr. My first memories of church camp here started with the ride down, with Billy Eddins because he and Pastor Jenkins were driving a good old station wagon, the grocery getter, and us girls know, why would you wear seat belts then? So, we were in the back facing the road so we were going backward, and I’ll never forget the luggage! Billy, you remember the luggage was on top, and maybe one of them (Billy or Pastor Jenkins) didn’t get the rope through the handle and us girls are looking at the world the way it was, and boom, boom, boom all this luggage fell—clothes all over the road coming down the big hill there into Loran and yeah, I remember pulling over and picking up underwear. That was my first experience with Camp Berreman. Then I also remember, and this wouldn’t be good now, but we were going to the showers—the showers were up here, and they were hoses off the wall and you ran through on whatever those things are—you know the wood. There were no toilets yet, and I had to use the outhouse one night, so I took my flashlight. I remember sitting there watching a spider get a fly, and I thought this is interesting, you know. My one memory that I will cherish and I’m thankful for Rev. Phelps and Mrs. Phelps. I’m thankful for you guys and the ministry here because that cherished memory is the night that I accepted Christ as my Savior. That trumps all the other memories. He comes first. I never knew what vespers meant. I still don’t know what vespers means. I was sitting in vespers, and there was the altar call, and you have that pull, and I got up and I went forward and I accepted

Jesus as my Savior, and that has changed my life. It has changed my life, and I am forever grateful for the ministry here. And by the grace of God and Him using a big mouth for His good, I’m now a lay minister in the Methodist world and continue to spread His light and His joy, and if it weren’t for this church and this church camp, I’d almost guarantee that would NOT have happened. Because I was on a quick one-way street for self, and I’m just grateful and blessed and I appreciate you guys.” Dawn remembered singing The Spelling Song. She and Pam led the group in singing that song.

Faye Signer—Faye shared a reading about the people behind the scenes at camp, and she shared thoughts throughout the reading. “Kids are different when they come to camp because of the country air, and they tell stories about camp.

Clothes don’t have to match, and make-up sessions don’t have to happen. The boys don’t have to take showers every day or change clothes as often at camp. We were talking about the animals that kids see at camp—like skunks, but there are also mice and snakes. Fern hates snakes. We have fewer kids now because we don’t let them have cell phones at camp. When they accept Jesus in their lives, it makes a difference in the way they act. Counselors and staff come back to be a volunteer again. The camp is free. I applaud the camp board. You don’t know all the things that happen that keep the finances going for camp. With Buda, Freeport, and Mt. Carroll, at first there were a lot of people behind the scenes. We are privileged and it’s an honor to make it free for kids. Some of the children we see one time, and then never again, but some we see year after year. They keep coming, and we see their kids and their grand kids, and we always try to show God’s love and care. We think we get more back from camp than we ever give. Camp is fun. Talking about the food—for years, I was the head of the food on the camp board and organized the food for the campers. You don’t know how many ladies are involved. One lady from Buda said, ‘I told my husband I was feeding Macaroni and hot dogs to the campers’, (Fern took over that meal). Then she said, ‘My husband raises beef. We do not eat hot dogs.’ In later years she had to have hot dogs for her grand kids, but she said her



Faye Signer

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husband never ate hot dogs until he came to Camp Berreman, and she had to feed the kids here hot dogs. We used to fry chicken and peel potatoes—all those wonderful things, but now we have chips and cookies. Jerry Baity always wanted the kids to have his favorite chips every time, and he wanted to make sure there were enough cookies that he could have a few extra. Our ladies do a wonderful job at the meals, and kids remember meals at camp Berreman and how good the cooks are here in the country, and they have their favorites, whether it be chicken, or mashed potatoes and gravy. Shain and them could put away a lot of mashed potatoes and gravy. Now it's tacos, and the cinnamon twist, and that and the meals and the planning behind it make a lot of difference so as you walk around the camp enjoy the memories. Remember when your kids want to come, that camp Berreman can make an awful lot of difference in their lives.”

Sharon Frederick Law talked about being a counselor at camp. One of the kids from Mt. Carroll asked her if she would help him to be saved. She did, that's one of the biggest blessings of camp to her.

Judy Miner shared about helping with camp in many ways—food, cleaning, decorating, Bible time, crafts, counseling in dorms, helping with vespers, and running the camp one year with her daughter Sophia. That year people brought old cars to the campgrounds and shared them with the campers. Jerry Baity, Fern Phelps's nephew, enjoyed the Dukes of Hazard car and sitting in it. Judy shared about her mom, Ruby Lowe, helping with crafts for many years and how much Ruby enjoyed doing that. She also shared about the family camp that she is in charge of. One of the favorite songs of family camp is the skunk song. Judy, Pam, Shain Phelps, Wyatt Glass, and Tyler Lowe helped sing the skunk song for the group.



Judy, Pam, Shain Phelps, Wyatt Glass, and Tyler Lowe

Tyler: “When I came to camp, I had an amazing experience. My step family and I came together, and we all legitimately had a good time, and not only that I was able to spend time with family that I didn't always get to see, and I really enjoyed it.”

Mary Boelkens—
” I don't remember how old I was when I started coming to camp, but I know all 4 of us kids came at the same time so it was probably back in 1950, and I came to camp all through high



Mary Boelkens and Vern Croffoot

school. After high school, I was a counselor, and after I was married, my husband let me be a counselor the first year, but the second year I couldn't because I had a baby. I have still kept up with helping at meals and whatever I can. Camp has been a beautiful time. Way back I remember when Rev. Zinn was a great teacher of memorizing scripture, and how important it was to memorize your scripture. Now I don't remember all those verses, but when I hear them, I know them, and I can put the words to them. To me, camp is a great experience for any age whether you are young or old. It's been a great experience for me all these years. I thoroughly enjoy working with the camp.”

Ryan Stadel shared about the many years he came to camp as a kid, and now all the years he has been a counselor. He shares that he loves the food, but especially the kids, and developing a relationship with each of them. He is blessed to be a part of Camp Berreman.

Harry and Deb Gates were unable to attend but shared these memories via e-mail. Deb--I attended camp for a number of years and was homesick on a regular basis. I remember the daily hikes we took. I remember swinging with Janet Sipe, trying to go as high as we could, and jumping off the swing. I recall Bud Garrison sharing his talents as a ventriloquist. I thought at the time that it was kind of cool that the “Buda Kids” got to sleep on a bus. When Harry & I lived in the Mount Carroll area we did a puppet ministry and shared a program at camp. Harry can remember working with Gordon Jenkins helping with some camp expansion.

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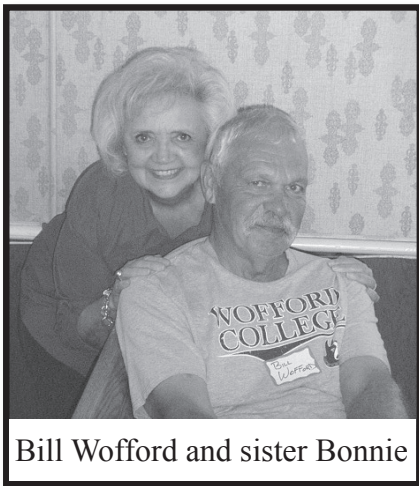
Barb Kehl Kampas, Kathy Kehl Rasmussen, and others shared fun memories of when they were at camp.



Gloria Frederick Asay, Sharon Frederick Law and Jean Randecker Cooper

Gloria Frederick Asay played the piano, and Sharon Frederick Law and Jean Randecker Cooper

led the singing. The group sang several camp songs together. These are some of them: Do Lord, This Little Light of Mine, I've Got the Joy, I Have Decided, Jesus Loves Me, Jesus Loves the Little Children, Pass It On, Give Me Oil in my Lamp, Hallelu, and Deep and Wide.



Bill Wofford and sister Bonnie

Bill Wofford and his sister Bonnie Wofford Armentrout traveled from southern Illinois to be at the celebration. Donna Toepfer Binkley traveled from Indiana, and Jean Randecker Cooper traveled from New Jersey. Warren Dixon, Myrna

Katlenher Handel, and Bob Heuerman were some of the earliest attendees of Camp Berreman who enjoyed the celebration.

Judy Miner compiled a memory paper for those in attendance to complete. The plans are to make a book of camp memories based on these papers. The papers asked about having a dorm or tent at camp. Some of the older ones who shared said there were two tents at first—one for the boys and one for the girls. Some remembered helping build the dorms and all the pieces of ammunition boxes that were obtained from the Savanna Army Depot. These boxes from WW 2 were then made into the walls of the dorms. At first, there was one dorm built for boys and one for girls. Then a second one was added for girls later. One of the girls' dorms

had bunks three high, and a divider in the middle that didn't go all the way to the ceiling. Some remembered throwing socks and pillows back and forth over the dividing wall. The bunks were originally two-by-fours-with canvas nailed across them. They would squeak a lot at night, and several mentioned being on the bunk underneath and using their feet to push up on the person above them, at times doing it hard and quick enough to launch that person in the air a foot or so.

For many years, there was only one week of camp, but eventually, it was divided into a Sr. camp week and a Jr. camp week. Several people shared memories of the big circus-type tent that was set up in front of the church. This tent had tables underneath and was used for meals and crafts. Eventually, the tent ripped in places, and then a dining hall was added to the front of the church with most of the work being done by Pastor Bob Phelps and Pastor Gordon Jenkins. For many years, the tent flaps were used along the open sides of the metal building so campers could focus better, and as protection when there was wind and rain. Several of the campers remembered the outhouses and the shower building not far from the church. Girls showered one day, and boys the next. The walls were high, but there was no top so soap or shampoo could be shared by tossing it over the wall if needed. Before this, there was a wash basin placed outside the tent.

One of the questions asked about hiking, and it was noted that the hikes went down Skunk Hollow Road to the Kahlenher or Hots Residence, until the last night, when the hikes went the other direction and went by the Bucher place. More recently, hikes only go down Skunk Hollow Road and end by the former Leif place, where the group stops and sings songs before hiking back to the campground. In recent years, the campers enjoy singing I've Got the Joy, This Little Light, Awesome God, Father Abraham, and more while on the hike. In times

past, campers mentioned stories about the Loch Ness Monster living in the pond on the old Meyers place as they went hiking. Each night they would look



for the monster and tell stories about him as they hiked past.

The original camp store was nothing like today's store. Campers remembered candy bars being sold from the back of an old station wagon. Everyone waited for Pastor Ellis to drive in so they could buy candy stashed in the trunk of his car. Later, candy was sold in the tent. Others mentioned buying candy and pop from the old country store that was part of the building below the girls' dorm that functioned as a nurse's station for a while. Now, candy and pop are sold from the refrigerator in the dining hall. The price is still 50 cents for two things—it hasn't gone up with inflation. Campers can spend \$1 a day on snacks. Some remembered liking to be the last ones picked up at the end of camp because they could buy whatever was left from the camp store to take home.

A few of the attendees remembered using Kerosene lamps, and when electricity was first put in the campground.



When asked about the food, many mentioned how good it was. There was mention of the cinnamon twists and scrambled eggs at breakfast

and in more recent years biscuits and gravy at breakfast. Others talked about fried chicken and mashed potatoes and gravy. Chicken or beef and noodles were a favorite listed many times. There was also mention of hotdogs, tacos, s'mores, cookies, and Kool-Aid. Other favorites were corn and homemade pie, along with roast beef. Most people simply put, "The food was amazing!"

A question was asked about the pastors being teachers, and the following pastors were noted as teachers: Pastor Gordon Jenkins, Rev. Cyrus Pollard, Pastor Hiram Wofford, Rev. Carl Binkley, Rev. C. Everett Giles, Rev. Garnett, Pastor Bob Phelps, and Rev. Dave Ellis.

Attendees noted that there were many camp songs shared, some on sheets of music, some in chorus books,

and some just taught to them. They mentioned singing on hikes, at services, at music times, at vespers, and on the bus on the way to the fireworks when the camp was held over the 4th of July. Some songs mentioned as favorites were Father Abraham, Awesome God, Long Black Train, Kum by Ya, This is My Father's World, Do Lord, When You're Up... You're Up, I am a C, This Little Light of Mine, I Have Decided, Pass It On, Oil in My Lamp, Down in My Heart, God's Not Dead, Rise and Shine, The Camp Song, The Whoopin' Bird, The Little Bitty Worm, The Skeeters and the Bedbugs, and The Skunk Song.

A question was asked about other campers who were remembered. The following names were mentioned: Kathy R., The Woffords, the Toepfers—Stan and Donna, Raab kids, Randeckers, Kehls, Fredericks, Audis, Les Kantlehner, Myrna, Hartman Girls, Katzenbergers, Cockrans—Carolyn and Janet, Binkleys, the Phelps boys, Gloria, Sharon, Barb Kehl, Michelle Brooks, Theresa and Thellesa Eddins, Dawn Slick, Ron Allen, the Stadel boys, Pam Phelps, Sophia Glass, Kenny Lief, Curt Frederick, Michelle Bartch, Wendy Barr, Kristi Downs, Geraldine and Agnes Rogers, Katie, Sterling, Phoenix, Shain, Josh, Chris, and many more.

Attendees were asked to share their funniest memory of camp. One person shared that she and her sister dropped their underwear on the grounds... Dawn Distworth Phelps shared that one time the meal was chicken and noodles and mashed potatoes and gravy served on Styrofoam plates and while going through the food line a camper's plate broke. Fern Phelps shared that one-night Josh Hammond had been out late sneaking around and trying to scare the girls by knocking on their dorm. The next morning, she served cinnamon twists. Josh had to go to work and was leaving early so Fern had a special pan of cinnamon twists, just for him. He was pleased and apologized for keeping her up so late since she had been so nice to him by giving him his own pan of rolls. He gave her a big hug, and then took a big bite of a roll. He choked and coughed and spit it out. Grinning Fern said, "Stay in your dorm at night."



Fern Phelps

She had used salt instead of sugar on his rolls, but after he got the point, she gave him a real pan of his own, with sugar on them.

Pam Phelps shared that a funny memory was measuring the visiting speakers for a coffin. The campers would lay the person on a bench. Their head would be covered with a coat or sweater. Then using a yardstick, the campers would measure their arm length, fingers, body length, etc. until finally, one person placed the yardstick inside their pant leg, holding the fabric up, and a camper poured a cup of cold water down the leg. Of course, the person would come flying off the bench, and the campers would all laugh and say welcome to Camp Berreman. Campers also had counselors or guest speakers be a submarine. Again, the person would lie on one of the benches. A coat would cover their face with the arm of the coat over their face. Then campers would give commands like, "Right Rudder" (someone would move their right leg), etc. The last commands were: "Up Periscope" and "Dive, dive, dive". At these commands, a camper would hold the arm of the coat straight up, and another camper would pour a cup of water down the makeshift periscope. Of course, the person who was the submarine came up sputtering.

Another funny memory shared happened the year Pastor Eddie Watson was the guest speaker and stayed in a camper on the grounds. He thought the name Skunk Hollow Road was very funny. The neighbor had a black cat that came to the camp every day to look for "leftovers" and attention. So, Fern, several of the counselors, and some of the campers took the cat, put Vaseline in a stripe down its back, and then covered the stripe with baby powder. Then when Pastor Watson was teaching, some of the counselors slipped the cat into the camper. It sort of looked like a skunk. It was quite a while before Pastor Watson went back in the camper, but when he did, there was a black cat laying on his covers, licking its fur, and there was Vaseline and powder all over the covers. He got the joke and "gently" threw the cat out, but was not happy about trying to clean up his covers. Everyone laughed, including Pastor Watson.

Michelle Brooks Jacobs shared that the funniest thing was sliding down the tarp and ending up on the road. Warren Dixon shared that baseball and swimming were the funniest things. Another attendee shared that the funniest thing was Jerry Randecker falling through the

upper bunk. Ron Allen shared that he thought it was funny that Pastor Eddie Hammond took his baseball bat when going to the bathroom in the middle of the night. Another one said, "it was all fun and funny." Someone else felt the dorms were the funniest part of camp. Someone else shared that their twin sister got a boyfriend at camp, and he would mistake her for her sister. She would shake her head and point to her sister.

One additional question was, "What was the scariest thing that happened at camp?" Dawn Ditsworth Phelps shared that going to the outhouse in the middle of the night and playing softball in the cow pasture was scary. Fern Phelps shared that sometimes snakes came around when she was teaching a class on the back steps. Also, in her first year at camp, she and Barb Kaufman were cleaning the dorms before camp. They were on the top bunks and disturbed a mouse's nest. Fern said, "It was amazing how fast we both got off of the top bunk." (This maybe should have gone in the funniest memory section.) Pam shared that the scariest parts were when Shain Phelps broke his arm jumping off the swing, and when Lynn Albrecht cut her head, and she had to have stitches as the glass fell out of the dorm door. As Faye Signer shared in memory time, campers' lives are changed when they come to camp. Lynn had accepted Jesus at camp, which made a difference in her life. When sitting in ER waiting to get stitched up, she asked every doctor and nurse that came in if they knew Jesus as their Savior. Then she would tell them all about camp and how to become a Christian, and as the day drug on, she would tell them to hurry up and fix her up because she had to get back to camp. Lynn did not come from a Christian home, but her decision at camp was real.

Larry Isenberger shared that snakes in the dorm were scary. Myrna Kantlehner Handel shared that the scariest things were storms, walking in the dark on hikes, and when Jacob Bumphrey broke his tooth on the water slide. Ryan Stadel shared that his scariest time was getting his foot caught in the



Myrna Kantlehner Handel

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water slide hole. Ron Allen stated that he was scared when the neighbors came and pounded on the windows of the dorm in the middle of the night. Karen Martin Bondele remembers listening to ghost stories and being scared. Another attendee shared that the scariest time for them was when they lost their chain purse down the outhouse hole. One of the pastors fished it out for them. They gave all their money to the offering then but skipped buying candy with the money.

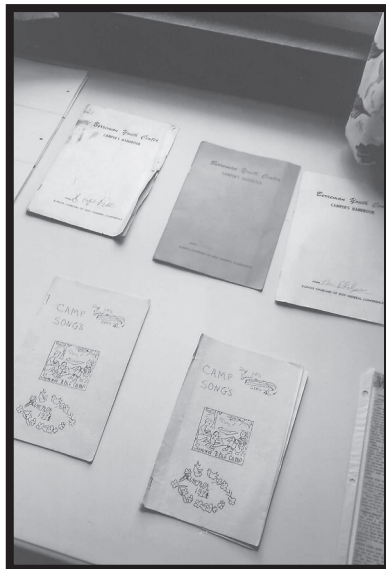
There were other memories listed on the papers. Donna Binkley said there were bees on the bus when it was parked on the campground, and she remembers playing tetherball. Barb Kehl Kampas remembered the piano playing at the evening service by Mrs. LaVonne Constant from Buda, IL. One year there was a bad strain of flu that went through the camp. Pretty much everyone got it, except one or two people. Ron Allen shared how much he loved going roller skating and to the pool. Another person shared that camp brought unity to her family

If you read this and have special memories of Camp Berreman that are not mentioned in this article, please e-mail Judy Miner with them at davenjudy2000@gmail.com. We would love to hear your memories.

For many years there were camper's handbooks made.

In 1983 the camper's handbook listed the following camp staff: Pastor George Reser, Dean, Pastor Bob Phelps—Assistant dean, Instructors: Sharon Frederick—13-year-olds, Pastor Porterfield—14-year-olds, Fern Phelps—15 yr. olds, Pastor Graves—16 yr. olds and older. The following camp counselors were listed:

Barbara Hartman, Jane Reser, Carol Katzenberger, Sue Katzenberger, Pastor Neville West, Pastor Bob Porterfield, and Pastor George Reser. Craft leaders were listed as Wilma Jenkins, Carol Katzenberger, and Jeannie Katzenberger. Pastor Neville West provided the music



and led the evening service. Barb Hartman was listed as the nurse. The daily camp schedule had a bit of the French or Haitian flair due to Pastor Reser's influence.

There was a general information page in the camper's handbook. The 1983 page read like this.

1983 Camp theme: Royalty for Jesus

If we have accepted Jesus Christ as Savior, we have also become a child of the King. Royal blood flows through our veins.

Goals: To be a winner—in the Christian faith. One basic area of Christian living will be the focus of our camp this year. Bridging the gap between Youth and God!

Camp Store: The camp store will be open once each weekday. It will open at 2:45 PM

Vesper call: Following the evening activities and refreshment time, a horn will honk at approximately 9:45 P. M. for vespers. All will gather at the flagpole and silence will be observed. After the flag ceremony, all will walk single file to the vespers area. Following the vesper service, everyone will participate in the afterglow or go to the chapel for counseling.

Team strategy sessions: During this period, songs, cheers, stunts, Biblical pantomime, and all necessary planning shall be initiated and practiced. Adult counselors will be in attendance as resource persons.

Son Study Sessions: Each camper will spend these three-thirty-minute sessions each day with his teacher. There are classes geared to your age group. Happy learning.

Special Features: Craft project every day plus a music opportunity for learning some brand new songs.

Dorm Inspections: These inspections will be made once each day before noon. Dorms are to be kept tidy throughout the day. Dorms will be rated as follows: clean floor—20 pts, contents of dorm—40 pts., bed—20 pts., extra room duty—20 pts.

Booklets contained a page for autographs.

The next page listed camp rules of good conduct: When a group of 50-100 people live and work closely together at camp, as in any society, a few rules need to be established and followed in good spirit. Therefore:

1. One hundred percent participation in the program and strict adherence to schedule.
2. No straying beyond campgrounds. (All campers must confer with the DEAN before leaving campgrounds.)
3. Respect camp and personal property.
4. Refrain from talking or noise after the scheduled time for lights out. No unnecessary moving around before rising time.
5. No extremes in dress, please. Wear suitable clothes for play during the day. Both boys and girls are expected to clean up and dress up for vespers and special evening service.
6. Girls' dorms are off-limits to boys. Boys' dorms are off-limits to girls.
7. Camp refrigerators are off-limits (even to the meeces).
8. Each camper shares in dorm duties, makes their own bed (before breakfast), and keeps belongings picked up. There is a daily dorm inspection.
9. Each camper shares splashing duties. (What is splashing? Stick around, it is one thing Berreman Youth campers learn early in the week.)
10. Rest periods are happily observed in a horizontal fashion. (Get it?)

The handbook had a page for notes and verses.

There was a going home page...

1. We trust you have enjoyed camp. We hope you come back and bring a friend to share the good times spent at Berreman Youth Center.
2. Camp will be officially closed shortly before lunch in a friendship circle around the flag pole. Then as soon as you eat, you may leave for home when your ride leaves.
3. Please make sure you take all your personal belongings. Every year we find some things left behind. Try not to let it happen to you. Counselors will have a lost and found area. Please check it.

Take God Along

We hope that his week has been a highlight in your life, that you have had fun, made new friends, and have a clear idea of God's will and purpose for your life. Also, we hope you will put into practice some of the things you have learned this week.

May the Lord bless you and keep you always in the center of His will!

Your camp staff.

There was a diary page. Then a songbook was included. There were words to 40 choruses listed. Some of them were: I'm Living in Hallelujah Land; Heavenly Sunshine; Jesus How Lovely; He's Alive; Come, Holy Spirit; Know Ye Not; Nothing is Impossible; There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit; O Glory, Glory, Glory; Jesus is the Friend of Sinners; There will Never be a Sweeter Story; His Name is Wonderful; Lord Make Me an Instrument; Jesus is Lord and more.

The 1984 Jr. campers' handbook was much the same. The following were listed as camp staff: Dean—Pastor Floyd Graves, Assistant Dean—Pastor Bob Phelps, Instructors—Jane Reser—9 yr. olds "They Dare to Believe", Fern Phelps—10 yr. olds "What Christians Believe", Esther Jenkins—11 yr. olds "Then Jesus Came", Pastor Randy Jenkins—12 yr. olds "Every Day with Jesus", Counselors: Sherry Bahr, Al Downs, Dolores Downs, Susan Katzenberger, and Tim Katzenberger. Tim was also the craft teacher. Betty Coomer did the music, Evening services were led by Pastor Randy Jenkins, Darlene Graves was the nurse and Sunday School Charlie presenter. Jim Hewitt was the recreational director. AM Devotional leader was Pastor Cyrus Pollard, and Pastor Gordon Jenkins was the business manager.

The 1984 Sr. Camper's handbook listed the following staff: Dean—Pastor George Reser, Assistant Dean—Pastor Bob Phelps, Instructors—Sharon Frederick—13 yr. olds "I Want to Know", Pastor Floyd Graves—14 yr. olds "Finding God's Will", Cathy Byers—15 yr. olds "Christians on the Move", Wayne Heffner—16 and older "We Believe". Counselors were listed as Cathy Byers, Carol Katzenberger, Phyllis McKee, Jane Reser, Mary Smith, Wayne Heffner, and Pastor George Reser. Craft leaders were Mary Smith and Carol Katzenberger. The Evening service was led by Wayne Heffner. Pastor George Reser was also the recreational director, and Pastor Cyrus Pollard was the AM Devotional Leader. The business manager was Pastor Gordon Jenkins.

Some of the Sr. campers in 1984 were: Tammy Dunn, Teresa Dunn, Brenda Dunn, Angie Morris, Lucy Ingram, Mark Graves, Tina Feltmeyer, and Debbie Pierce.

Several different songs were part of the music in 1984: Down by the Creek Bank; Germs; People, People, People; Fill in the Blanks; Like a Loving Shepherd; Heaven is For Kids; Let's Sing a Happy Song; Stand up

Boys and Girls; How you Gonna know; God Loves Me Just Like I am; I wonder How it Felt; He Is the Way; and more. Forty-one songs were listed in the campers' handbook. The 1985 camper's handbook was very similar.

The following were listed as camp staff: Dean—Pastor George Reser, Assistant dean—Pastor Bob Phelps, Instructors—Darleen graves—13 yr. olds “I want to Know”, Pastor Floyd Grave—14 yr. olds, “Finding God's Will, Fern Phelps—15 yr. olds “Christians on the Move”, and Pastor Eddie Hammond—16 and older, “We Believe”. Counselors were: Jill Bess, Carol Katzenberger, Kathie Keller, Jane Reser, Pastor Eddie Hammond, and Pastor George Reser. Nurse—Barbara Kniss, Craft Leader—Carol Katzenberger, Evening Service—Pastor Eddie Hammond, Recreational director—Pastor George Reser, Business manager—Pastor Bob Phelps. It was noted that the film “The Hiding Place” would be shown on Tue. June 25th and Wed. June 26th.

There were 25 songs listed in this book. Some of the different ones were: This is the Day; Lift Him Up; Jesus in the Morning; There's Something About That Name; I am Loved; God is so Good; The Bond of Love; When We All Get to Heaven; and more.



The meals that year were listed as Mon. June 24th—supper Freeport—hot dogs, Tuesday, June 25th—Berreman—Lunch, fried chicken, corn, layered dessert, and supper—hamburgers, chips, and brownies, Wednesday, June 26th Pleasant Valley—lunch—Ham, and supper barbeque, Thursday, June 27th Mt. Carroll—lunch—lunch meat salads, and supper—cube steaks and pie, Friday—June 28th—camp leftovers

Some of the verses used that year were 1 Corinthians

1:27, 1 Timothy 4:12, Romans 1:16, Ephesians 4:32, 1 Corinthians 1:18, and more.

In 1986 the camp staff was listed as: Dean—Pastor George Reser, Assistant Dean and business manager: Pastor Bob Phelps, Instructors—Fern Phelps—13 yr. olds—“I want to know”, Pastor Floyd Graves—14 yr. olds, “Finding God's Will”, Ann Harding—15 yr. olds, “Christians on the Move”, and Harry Gates—16 and older “We Believe”. Counselors were: Janell Brunner, Ann Harding, Barbara Kniss, Mary Smith, Josie Willson, Pastor Harry Gates, and Pastor George Reser, Nurse—Barbara Kniss, Craft Leader: Carol Katzenberger, Evening Service: Pastor Harry Gates, Recreational director and AM devotional leader—Pastor Eddie Hammond. The film “Fury to Freedom” was shown.

If anyone has any other campers' handbooks, we would like to have a copy.

In the Summer of 1973, a camp songbook was printed. On the front, it said, “come in and find peace and sing!” It is No Secret was the first song listed. The 2nd page had the words to the “Camp Song” very popular in the 70s and early 80s. Other songs that year were “He's Everything to Me; There's a new song in my heart; He's able; Safe am I; He's Everything to Me; Do You Know Where God Lives; Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow; I Have a Savior; Every Day with Jesus; and more.

For many years, a horn would be honked to change activities at camp. Now, campers ring the bell that was dedicated in memory of Jody Signer.

Several people have been special speakers and/or helpers at Berreman Youth Center. Besides the pastors in the area, there were Pastor Eddie Watson, Pastor Paul Walters, Pastor Neville West, Pastor Keith and Diane Jenkins, Pastor Randy and Esther Jenkins, Pastor Howard Ruley, John Ricketts, Susan and Randy Calloway, Bev Brewner, John & Jennifer Young, Pastor Fornwalt, Pastor Dewey Zinn, Pastor Dave Ellis, Pastor Fred Landholt, Pastor C.Everett Giles, Pastor Tippet, and many more.

Billy Eddins of Berreman Church is the all-around maintenance man and usually can fix whatever the problem is. David Miner, also of Berreman Church, builds the campfire each evening while the campers

are hiking. Alan Downs does the mowing and trimming for the camp. Faye Signer and Judy Miner clean, cook, lead crafts, lead a Bible time, and have helped in many other ways through the years. Shain Phelps, Fern Phelps, and Paula Haas help clean each year. Gabe Glass helped in many ways in the past with cutting up trees that fell from a storm a few days before camp and in other ways. Many people work hard behind the scenes to make Camp Berreman happen each year.

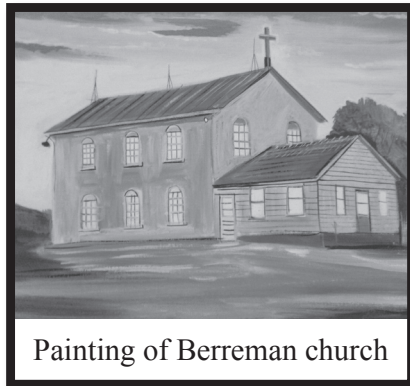


Pastor Neville West

Pastor Neville West played piano by ear, but could not read music. He often had the music score sitting upside down at the piano, but said, just hum or sing a line of the song you want. When someone did, then he played it beautifully. He also painted while he preached, and donated a beautiful painting of Berreman church to the

camp following his last evening service. This painting is still displayed in the dining hall.

Camp has designed and sold two different t-shirts through the years. One was sold in the 1980s and had darker-colored cuffs and collars with a lighter version of the same color for the main part of the shirt. The top left side has a cross, a hill with camp buildings on it, and Berreman Youth Center Mt. Carroll, ILL printed in the middle area of the cross. The other shirts printed in 2019 were solid colors with a big logo in the middle of a hill, the earth behind it, and the church in front. Under the logo, it says Berreman Youth Center, and the top left of the design says Go into all the world and teach the people.



Painting of Berreman church

For several different years, we have talked about making a camp quilt. Quilt squares have been designed by the campers and staff over several years of youth

and family camp. During the celebration, these quilt squares were displayed throughout the basement of the church. For some years, pictures of each camper were placed in the center of the square and then campers were designed around it. Sometimes, the campers wrote their names and designed the square with a verse or picture. Adults did the same, and some added memories. One square is dedicated to camp memories. The following things were written around this square: hay rides, volleyball, rain, cold showers, snipe hunts, memory verses, Plum River Baptism, swimming in the creek, and watermelon.

Camp crafts have been many and varied through the years. Some have been based on the themes, and some have been painting, beadwork or anything found to go along with the lessons. Some recent crafts have been beaded stars (family camp), box houses, painted ceramics, McDonald's cup fish, old record clocks, nature crafts, God's eyes yarn crafts, tool painting, star painting, bubble painting, duct tape projects, cloth bag designs, and many more. Most campers seem to enjoy the craft time.

The Beginning

In 1947, Pastor Carl Binkley, of Mt. Carroll Church of God, felt the need for a youth camp in the north for Church of God youth. Working with Pastor Cyrus Pollard of Pleasant Valley and Berreman Churches of God, they planned the first Camp Berreman for the summer of 1947. They had two large tents for the youth who stayed over-



Pastor Carl Binkley

night. There was so much rain that summer that hay had to be brought in from Harold Bucher's every day to cover the mud in the tents. In 1948, Rev. N. C. Andresen began pastoring at Pleasant Valley and Berreman and continued work with the camp. The stone pulpit at Vesper hill is in memory of Rev. N. C. Andresen.

Youth camp has been held at Berreman every summer since. In 1948, the process began for seeking building materials to build dorms at the camp. In 1949, am-



Pastor Cyrus Pollard

munition crates were obtained from the Savannah Army Depot, and the process of making the crates into usable boards for dorm walls began. The first dorm was completed in 1950. Later a boys' dorm was added, and then a 2nd girls' dorm. Eventually, the boys' dorm was replaced, with Laurel Street Church of God in

Freeport funding part of the project. Then both girls' dorms were torn down and replaced with a single larger dorm built by Rick Phelps and other helpers and volunteers from Berreman Church.

In 1978, Pastor Gordon Jenkins, Pastor Bob Phelps, George Loburg, and other volunteers built a dining hall onto the church building to replace the tent that had ripped and was not in good repair. Pam Phelps was just a girl then but thought she could help her daddy and Pastor Jenkins so she helped carry plywood for the walls from the truck into the frame of the building. All went well, until a strong gust of wind, blew her end of the plywood sheet out of her hands and almost away from her dad who was holding the other end. She decided to read a book for a bit. When the crew started with the insulation, Pam decided this would not blow away so she tried to help again. This went well until she realized the insulation was way too itchy for her. She decided to just watch and bring the men the tools in between reading books.

Around 2006, Dolores Downs and Jodi Sedivy, her daughter, started a family camp weekend at Berreman. After Dolores, Judy Miner has organized and ran family camp. Family camp was started to give families a weekend at camp to relax and share together in a Christian environment. It begins on a Friday evening with Supper and ends after the morning worship service on Sunday. Some families come and stay in the dorms, some come and go, and some come for the evening activities. During family camp, there is some craft time, game time, sharing time, Bible time, service time, and campfire time. One of the special times is playing a game we call Ghosts in the Graveyard, but it is similar to sardines. How many places are there to hide on the

campground, and not inside a building? Lots...campers go in pairs and hide, and then the rest try and find them and hide with them until everyone finds them. Some great places to hide are partway down the hill, under the bush, on the side of the hill by the boys' dorm, behind a car, on the back steps, or behind the fuel tank, and many more. After dark, this is a great game. Early family camps had intense volleyball rivalry games, and then some just for fun volleyball, too. Campers also play Bocce ball, horseshoes, ping pong, Farkle, Uno, phase 10, and many more. Saturday evening the campers sit on vesper hill and sing songs—like the skunk song—all kinds of songs—some funny, some serious. One year, as several of the adults, were sitting in lawn chairs on the hillside watching a volleyball game (a tradition for many years of family camp), a family of skunks waddled across Skunk Hollow Road. Sometimes there are movies to watch, and often there is a special singer or speaker on Friday night. Sometimes many have come to have a sing-along by the campfire with musicians who bring their guitars. The campers sing one of their songs (usually not the skunk song) during the service on Sunday morning. One year, we released small illuminated balloons. They looked so cool in the night sky. A couple of years, Pastor Phelps had to try many different routes to get to family camp for breakfast. There had been a storm the night before and the flood closed many of the roads to the camp, but he found a way each time to join us for breakfast. Many times Betty Hook comes out to play for the evening service for family camp. Family camp has been a great addition to the camp schedule, and we are grateful that Dolores started it, and that Judy continues to plan and run it.

Camp games have changed through the years. The swings are still there and have been a staple for free time for many years. Jr. campers love Ryan's underdogs. Sr. campers enjoy swinging high enough to pull leaves off the hickory nut tree. Campers sometimes still climb the poles on the swing set, as they have done for many years. There is also a bar, they sometimes hang off of. There used to be a big slide, with wobbly steps. It was steep and on the hillside and those sliding often landed by the boys' dorm due to the velocity and angle of the slide. One minister went down the slide, landed on his feet, but could not stop because of the slope of the hill, and ended up stopping partway down the road. Lloyd Katzenberger made a box hockey game for camp, and that was an enjoyment for many youth,

even though the competition was intense at times. Tetherball and volleyball were also played. Baseball, basketball, and now kickball are important games. Of course, Ryan's kickball is a little different but still enjoyed by all. Campers used to play shuffleboard and hopscotch on the floor of the open building. Now, bags is popular. The chair game is a classic in recent years, and People-to-People and Human scavenger hunts are also popular. Drip, Drip, Splash is a fun water game, along with the squirt bottles and water balloons. Steal the Flag and Ghosts In the Graveyard are popular at family camp. Of course, the water slide is the all-time favorite and a Camp Berreman classic. The initial hay bales at the bottom have been replaced with mats and the soapy waterhole that develops always adds some ending splash. Grass can cause scratches, and chairs that are placed strategically to hold the plastic down, do get crashed into, but the slide is wonderful fun and has provided some great pictures and videos throughout the years.

Berreman Youth Center's 75th Year

Berreman Youth Centers' 75th year was fulfilling, rewarding, and busy. Youth camp was held the last two weeks of June with Sr. Camp being held first June 20th-23rd, 2022, and Jr. Camp the week of June 27th-30th, 2022. Sr. Camp youth are from ages 13 to graduation of high school that year. There were 7 campers this year. This year's theme was "Building on a Solid Foundation". Pam Phelps was the Dean and counselor for the girls' dorm. Ryan Stadel and Ron Allen were counselors in the boys' dorm and ran the recreation and music times. Ryan runs the country store, and they both help out with all the activities. Fern Phelps taught one of the classes, with Pam teaching the other one. Pastor Phelps was the business manager, bought the groceries and supplies, and led the morning devotions. David Miner made the campfire each evening. Judy Miner led a Bible time/evening together time, and also led crafts most of the days. The campers constructed a lighthouse from a toilet paper tube and pill bottle, built on a rock. They cut, glued, and added rocks and shells with sticky glue dots. Judy and David included a button-type light that can be turned on and off for the top part of the lighthouse. Judy's mom, Ruby Lowe, had helped Bible School kids make a similar craft many years ago. Faye Signer furnished Thursday evenings' meal of tacos. The other meals were provided by Berreman, Pleasant Valley, and Mt. Carroll Churches

of God and the camp. Fern Phelps cooked two of the breakfasts with Lene Thompson assisting. Many other ladies helped with the meals, and many came before camp to help with clean up and maintenance.

Campers took a hike each evening singing songs while hiking. At vespers and throughout the day, there were competitions to build the best foundations or tallest tower with materials such as toilet paper tubes, spaghetti and marshmallows, rocks, pill bottles, and more. Wednesday night vespers and campfire provided the opportunity for s'mores and fun songs. The slide, water bottles, water dice game, and water battleship provided the campers with opportunities to "cool off"

Jr. Camp is for 8-12-year-olds. This year there were 9 campers. Most of the staff and helpers were the same, with the addition of Jo Raper and Hunter Onley helping as counselors in the girls' dorm. The jr. campers did many of the same things but followed a slightly different schedule with more activities and games planned.

This year, Pam, Ron, Ryan, Jo, and Hunter helped with a day camp. Day camp was held on July 30th from 9-11 AM. There are several young siblings of current campers, and every year, when they come with their parents to the final evening service on the Thursday night of youth camp, these young kids want to come to camp. So, Pam finally got brave and convinced her helpers to be brave also, and held a day camp (2 hours) for 4-7-year-olds. This was the first year of Day Camp, but as excited as the young kids were, it will probably join the camp Berreman schedule. There were 7 very excited campers and 2 Jr. camp-age kids who came along with siblings. The Jr. age campers were a good help and enjoyed the activities also. The young kids are definitely different, and 2 hours is long enough, but it was a lot of fun. Day camp used the same theme and tried to give the kids a bit of each type of experience at camp Berreman. They played games with Ryan, sang songs with Ron, made a lighthouse with Judy, and had class with Pam. During the short class, Pam shared the story of the Wise Man and Foolish Man and their houses. One of the boys knew what wise meant, and he said, "Wise means you have a beard." That comment promoted some interesting discussion between Ron (who has a beard) and Ryan (who does not have a beard). Ron and Ryan stood on the back church steps and created a storm (poured water) on two lego houses sitting on the ground. One was on a sand hill, and the

other was on a rock foundation. The house on the rock didn't fall, but the house on the sand fell and broke apart. The day campers were all amazed, and one of them turned to his friend, and said, "Wow! It worked! I think we can believe this stuff." Then he commented, "I better grow a beard so I can be wise." The day campers received tools as snacks: nuts and bolts—cereal and peanuts, wrecking balls—cheese balls, and of course dirt and worms to dig in. They were all proud of their lighthouses, and couldn't wait to come back the next time.

Family camp was held on September 16-18th this year. The theme this year was "Yes, Jesus Knows". Judy Miner planned the camp. Due to illness some of the regular attendees were unable to attend, including Judy so Sophia Anderson, Judy's daughter led the camp. Marsha Larson and Glen Anderson helped with the cooking and others attending helped out with various activities. It began on Friday evening with supper and a program of singing led by Craig and Kathy Sipe. They played guitar, other instruments, and sang, and led the kids in a tambourine band. The kids enjoyed accompanying with the tambourines. A few attendees stayed overnight and others came and went. On Saturday, they enjoyed fellowship together. Some of Saturday's activities included playing with bubbles, identifying different types of nuts, and making fuse bead crafts supplied by Emily Larson, one of the regular camp attendees. They played some games, had a campfire, and ate s'mores on Saturday night. Sunday morning the campers held their own service, led by Larry Reddick. They sang A cappella. The service was uplifting. Then camp was dismissed. Between 20-25 people attended at times throughout the camp. Campers ranged in age from 1 year old to ... let's just say, much older. Meals were good, so the campers said. Friday night supper was spaghetti, On Saturday, the meals were sloppy joes and then roast with vegetables. Sunday there was a big breakfast of eggs and bacon. Gloria Gleason, who attended with her granddaughter Ella Ruter, said, "It was fun, low key, and beautiful weather. We enjoyed it." Sophia Anderson said, "It was laid back, good food, and good times. Marsha Larson said, "There was great food, and I had a great time. There was lots of fun, especially the joking in the kitchen." Those who were unable to attend due to illness very much missed the fellowship and time of togetherness.

Camp Berreman is a special place that has touched the

lives of more people than we can count or know of. God has used this special place in many ways throughout the years and will continue to use it for many years to come, we pray. God bless all of those who have helped in any way with Camp Berreman/Berreman Youth Center, and may God remain the focus of your lives. Please continue to plant seeds for the Lord, and if you gave your life to the Lord at camp, please continue to serve Him as your Savior through these times. If your life has gotten off track, please think about the lessons you were taught at Camp Berreman and how God spoke to you there, in that sacred and holy place. Pray and ask the Lord to help you get back on track for Him. If you seek guidance and/or would like someone to pray with you or for you, please call Pastor, Fern, or Pam Phelps at 815-493-2136 or 815-238-1226. We would love to hear from you, hear your story, and most importantly, we would love to share Jesus with you and pray with you. May God Bless You and Keep You.

Jonathan A. Binkley
December 18, 1940 - November 22, 2022

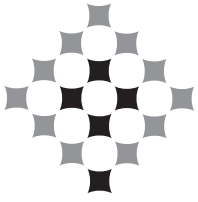
By Tregg Binkley

As editor of the CGGC Historical Society News Magazine, Jonathan Binkley made it his goal to bring interesting and historically accurate articles to the biannual magazine. He spent countless hours hand typing paragraphs and trimming photos for the entire 16 page layout.



Many e-mails and letters were sent in order to gather the information needed. He would often go so far as to start corresponding from his winter home in Florida and finishing when he returned to Toledo in an effort to stay on schedule. It was always a high priority and a main focus of his until it was completed.

He had deep roots in the Churches of God General Conference. His involvement went clear back to childhood with his family and continued on through adulthood. He participated in many areas including the Historical Society and News Magazine. He was always looking to serve God and stay involved in his local CGGC church and the headquarters in Findlay. The life long commitment was his calling and passion. His efforts, interest and enthusiasm will be missed.



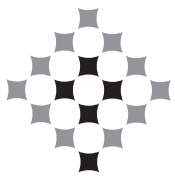
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