

Camp Bethel News, April-May 2022, Fincastle, VA



CAMP BETHEL IS OPEN FOR GROUPS, FAMILIES, and PROGRAMS

Facilities, food services, and conference rooms are available to reserve. Cyclists, hikers, walkers, and day-visitors are welcome on weekdays in winter; hiking and biking trail maps are on our office porch. Information and prices at CampBethelVirginia.org/groups.



WELCOME KATHLEEN NETTIN, PROGRAM COORDINATOR! Kathleen is a familiar face at Camp Bethel after serving on summer staff in 2014 as a Counselor, in 2015 as our High Ropes Coordinator, and 2016 & 2020 as our Spiritual Life Coordinator and Assistant Program Coordinator. Kathleen is a 2016 graduate of Averett University (Danville), and she returns to Camp Bethel after serving at Total Action for Progress (Roanoke) and St. Mark's United Methodist Church (Daleville). *"Ever since my first summer, I have longed for the opportunity to serve on staff full time. My summers on staff and the experiences there have shaped who I am today. I learned what it means to be the 'I'll Do It! Person' and that 'Fun people can have fun doing anything!' along with countless other lessons I have carried with me. Since then, I have continued to find any excuse to return 'home' and volunteer at camp. Once a camp counselor, always a camp counselor!"* Kathleen began on March 15.

WELCOME DANIEL NAFF, FOOD SERVICES COORDINATOR! Daniel is a 2020 Bridgewater College grad, a member of Cloverdale Church of the Brethren, and he served on our Camp Bethel Summer Staff from 2016-2020. He completed a year of AmeriCorps service at Breaks Interstate Park (VA & KY border). An Eagle Scout and amateur birder/naturalist, Daniel also brings a love for cooking to his new role at Camp Bethel. *"Camp Bethel is, without exaggeration, my favorite place on earth. I look forward to working again at a place that holds such an important spot in my heart."* Daniel began on November 1.



CAMP BETHEL SUMMER CAMPS 2022, Theme: "What's In A Name?" Together: with God, with each other, and with creation. Safe and fun Resident Camps, Day Camps, and Adventure Camps for ages 5-18 with multiple health and safety adaptations, PLUS the return of Parent-Child Overnight & Day Camp! Registration is OPEN and Camperships are available. Register ASAP to guarantee your choice of week and/or program at CampBethelVirginia.org/camps.

SUMMER 2022 COUNSELORS & KITCHEN STAFF: We seek hard-working and resilient young adults for our 2022 Summer Camp Staff. Counselors serve May 30 through July 23, pay is \$320/week, plus a \$325+ end-of-summer bonus, plus recruitment bonuses. 2022 brings the return of our Volunteer C.I.T. program for ages 15+! Kitchen Staff serve May 30 through August 13, pay is \$350-or-\$420/week. Position descriptions, videos, and applications are at CampBethelVirginia.org/staff.



SUMMER STAFF ADOPTION 2022 FOR PRAYER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT: We seek groups, congregations, and individuals to adopt one of 42 Summer Staff with a commitment of prayer, letters, and a \$100+ "end-of-summer" bonus. This program helps us recruit and retain the highest quality Counselors for our Campers, and it helps these excellent young adults accept God's call to summer ministry in what will be another challenging (adapted-for-COVID-19) program. 2021 adoption program was a big success, because families and congregations gave enough to provide a \$325 end-of-summer bonus to our excellent 2021 Summer Staff. Info at CampBethelVirginia.org/adopt.

21ST SOUNDS OF THE MOUNTAINS STORY FESTIVAL APRIL 8-9, 2022: In person and on site at Camp Bethel! Featuring Bil Lepp, Len Cabral, Lynn Ford, Josh Goforth, and Barbara McBride-Smith. Be here for another dynamic and fun storytelling event. THEN after April 23, you can WATCH the story videos online (with donations encouraged). Tickets, schedule and more at www.SoundsoftheMountains.org.



CAMP SUPPORTER VIDEO AND PACKETS AVAILABLE: Please ensure that at least ONE person from your congregation watches. Hey! You can even watch it at 1.5x the speed! Pick up your congregation's Camp Rep Packet at the Camp Bethel Office, or request your packet by mail. The video link and ALL forms and documents are available at CampBethelVirginia.org/rep.

GIVE A CHILD A CAMPSHIP FOR SUMMER CAMP: We did not hold an in-person Sow the Seed Banquet, so please give instead. We annually grant Camperships to an average of 108 children for an average total of \$27,165 (2010-2019). Please give \$390, which is the 2022 cost for a child to attend one week of camp. Mail checks with memo "Camperships" or donate at CampBethelVirginia.org/donate

TREE COOKIES NEEDED: Please help supply THOUSANDS of Tree Cookies for our year-round programs. Ideal "cookie" is hard wood, cross-cut showing tree rings, 3"+ diameter and less-than 0.5" thick. 540-992-2940 or CampBethelOffice@gmail.com. **THANK YOU!**

CAMP BETHEL WISH LIST: COVID Test Kits; 20"x20"x2" MERV-13 air filters (to renew our in-cabin box fan air filters); Clorox wipes; face masks; disinfectant spray (like Lysol), mini-van or 15-passenger van (2015 or newer); pickup truck (2010 or newer); clothes dryer; refrigerator (full or mini); digital cameras; gas grill; LED light bulbs; new (in-the-box) first-aid supplies (Band-Aids, etc); working vacuum cleaners or shop-vacs; brooms & dustpans; 3'x8' plyboards for under bunk mattresses (any thickness or quality); "Tree Cookies"; items on our Amazon wish-list at <https://a.co/5qG5JYq> or CampBethelVirginia.org/donate. Tax-deductible!

DONATE EXTRA COVID TEST KITS: Do you have extra, unused kits at home? OR, have you ordered your free 4-pack from COVIDtests.gov? Test kits are our best and easiest tool for keeping our 2022 campers and staff safe during summer camps. Please donate your extras OR purchase some from our Wish List, <https://a.co/5qG5JYq>. Thank you!

COMING SOON: DISC GOLF AT CAMP BETHEL! Thanks to gifts from Stottsberg Engineering (StottsbergEng.com) and from the Roanoke Disc Golf Club, we will soon open our 9-hole Camp Bethel Disc Golf Course along the fields and forests of our southern acreage. Hole Sponsorship opportunities coming soon! CampBethelVirginia.org/DiscGolf





REQUESTING PROPOSALS FOR RV VILLAGE CONSTRUCTION! We have approval from Botetourt County, and we have initial funding provided by your gifts to the “Seed, Scattered and Sown” campaign, so now we build! Updated site layout and images for our long-planned 15-site “RV Village” area are at VirlinaFuture.org. Plans include water, electric, sewer, picnic table, campfire ring, and parking. Contact Barry for info, Barry@CampBethelVirginia.org



COVID-19 CANCELLATIONS CREATE FUNDING VOID. Nearly everything we do at Camp Bethel involves being TOGETHER with others: summer camps, retreats, festivals, meals, and family weekends. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge our operations, and revenue is down from “normal” years. *We are inspired and blessed* by generous gifts that helped us “survive” 2020 and 2021. **We continue to rely on donations in 2022.** Please give at CampBethelVirginia.org/donate. Thank you!

THREE WAYS TO HELP CAMP BETHEL:

1. SPONSOR our Disc Golf Course holes, our Story Fest, our 5K, or our Golf Tournament.
2. Purchase an item off our Amazon Wish List: <https://a.co/5qG5JYq>
3. DONATE! Every gift and every item helps! Thank you! CampBethelVirginia.org/donate



BRIDGES AND BENCHES ARE EXCELLENT EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS! Camp has benefitted in recent years from several Eagle Scout projects. With several new trails opening, we need several new foot-and-bike bridges. Portable benches are another excellent addition to campus. Contact Barry LeNoir for information and locations: CampBethelOffice@gmail.com or 540-992-2940.

MOUNTAIN BIKING TRAILS OPEN AT CAMP: Volunteers headed by Rob Odenwelder (Troutville CoB) have built excellent new trails and bridges winding through our “Adventure Forest.” Call or email in advance, and bring your bike and helmet for fun in our beautiful property. Contact Barry at CampBethelOffice@gmail.com or 540-992-2940. Trail Maps are on the Camp Office porch and our website.

MEMORIAL DAY FAMILY WEEKEND, MAY 27-30: Reserve your meals before May 21 at CampBethelVirginia.org/MemorialDay

FAMILY FUN DAY AND SUMMER CAMP OPEN HOUSE, MAY 28: Camp Bethel invites you to walk the grounds, meet the camp staff, and enjoy refreshments in the Ark Dining Hall on Saturday, May 28, 1:00-4:00. Stay all day and enjoy Memorial Day Weekend free swimming.

SUMMER STAFF COMMISSIONING DINNER, JUNE 10: Lend your voice and show your support to our Summer Camp Staff on Friday, June 10 at 5:30 for a free dinner at the Ark Dining Hall. After dinner, with your help, we will commission the newly trained summer staff for their summer of ministry and mission to over 750 children and youth during seven weeks of Experiential Faith Formation and Outdoor Christian Education. RSVP meals by June 6 to 540-992-2940 or CampBethelOffice@gmail.com.

CAMP BETHEL PEP! 5K, SEPTEMBER 3: Our new 5K Course covers some of the many trails, fields, and forests on the 470 acres of Camp Bethel. \$35.00 Entry Fee includes fully stocked water/aid stations, a race t-shirt, pre-and-post-race snacks, 10:15am BRUNCH, fun, fellowship, and Barry’s bad jokes. Sponsor the run for “the PEPPIEST gang around!” Plans, sponsors, and registration at CampBethelVirginia.org/5K

BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT, SEPTEMBER 21: Golfers and sponsors needed on Wednesday, September 21 for our 2022 Golf Tournament at Ashley Golf Course. Tee off is at 12:30pm. \$75 per person includes green fees, cart, and a delicious boxed lunch. Updated plans, plus registration and sponsor information is at CampBethelVirginia.org/golf.

HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL RETURNS TO CAMP, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1: Please participate and help in this vitally important fund raiser for Camp Bethel. Heritage Day forms, fliers and information are available at CampBethelVirginia.org/HeritageDay.

2022 OUTDOOR MINISTRIES COMMITTEE = Stephanie Naff (Mount Hermon) Chair; Sam Foster (Cloverdale) Vice-Chair; Allison Mullins (Cedar Bluff) Secretary; Kimberly Brown (Cloverdale); Randall Eakin (Oak Grove); Laura Harrington (Cloverdale); Charles Huffman (G’town Brick) Property Chair; Terry Johnson (Troutville) Finance Chair; Junior King (Mount Hermon); Amanda Leddy (Williamson Rd) Program Chair; Stephanie Robinson (Oak Grove); Peggy Sink (G’town Brick); Scott Yingling (Oak Grove); Ex-Officio = Barry LeNoir (Director) & Kathie Robinson (District Treasurer).

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR MONTHLY E-NEWS at CampBethelVirginia.org/subscribe.

Facebook, Instagram, YouTube = CampBethelVirginia Tag/Pin #[CampBethelVirginia](https://www.instagram.com/CampBethelVirginia) “Camp Bethel Summer Camp and Event Center”

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CAMP BETHEL, www.CampBethelVirginia.org/events

- Camp Supporters Zoom video is available at CampBethelVirginia.org/rep
- April 8-9, 2022: Sounds of the Mountains Storytelling Festival at Camp Bethel.
- April 30, 2022: Sounds of the Mountains Videos at SoundsoftheMountains.org.
- May 27-30, 2022: Memorial Day Family Weekend, RSVP meals.
- May 28, 2022 (Sat), Family Day/Summer Camp Open House, 1:00-4:00pm.
- May 29, 2022 (Sun) 4:00pm Service of Dedication for new Bandage Box Cottage.
- May 30-June 10, 2022: Summer Staff Training.
- June 3-4, 2022 (Fri-Sat), Parent-Child Day & Overnight Camp.
- June 10, 2022 (Fri) 5:30pm: Summer Staff Commissioning Dinner.
- June 12-July 29, 2022: Summer Camps & Family Adventures.
- September 2-5, 2022: Labor Day Family Weekend, RSVP meals.
- September 3, 2022 (Sat), Camp Bethel PEP! 5K.
- September 21, 2022 (Wed), 28th Benefit Golf Tournament.
- October 1, 2022 (Sat), 38th annual Heritage Day Festival.
- November 5, 2022 (Sat), 7:30am Fall Volunteer Workday, RSVP free meals.
- December 8, 2022 (Thu), Christmas TOGETHER Banquet.
- January 7-8, 2023 (Sat-Sun), Winter Camp Youth & Kids’ Retreat.



Camp Bethel
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