

Camp Bethel News, March-April 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 PINARD, 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 begins 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. When we live together in intentional Christian community, even for just one week, we gain person-to-person relationship skills to benefit our families, schools, churches, communities, nation, and world. Resident camps, adventures, trips, and day camps were safe and fun in 2021 because of our "Small Group Unit" model and multiple health & safety protocols for 554 campers over 7 weeks, which was 92% of our planned-reduction capacity. (In "normal" summers, we serve about 1,200 campers.) Campers and Staff remained COVID-free before, during, and after camps. We granted 40 Camperships totaling \$12,280, and 87 campers received congregational Good-As-Gold funding. 2022 registration opens January 18, All information is 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/summer-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 Beth Horner. Be here for another dynamic and fun storytelling event. Tickets, schedule and more at www.SoundsoftheMountains.org.



CAMP BETHEL APPLE BUTTER! Our 2021 Apple Butter was hand-crafted on October 2, 2021 on site at Camp Bethel in honor of our Heritage Day Festival by our friends from Cedar Bluff Church of the Brethren in Boones Mill, VA. Limited supplies! \$12/quart & \$6/pint. Order & pay at CampBethelVirginia.org/TradingPost

CAMP SUPPORTER ZOOM WORKSHOP, SATURDAY, MARCH 5: Please ensure that at least ONE person from your congregation attends. 10:00-11:30am, all Camp Representatives, pastors, youth leaders, OMC, friends and supporters of Camp Bethel are encouraged to attend our FREE Camp Supporter Workshop (online via Zoom). Register by March 4 at CampBethelVirginia.org/rep

GIVE A CHILD A CAMPSHIP FOR SUMMER CAMP: We will 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

SPRING VOLUNTEER WORKDAY IS SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022: 7:30am free breakfast; 1:00pm free lunch; Rain or shine, we need help with projects for all ages. RSVP meals by March 28 at CampBethelVirginia.org/workday.



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!

FIVE WAYS TO HELP CAMP BETHEL:

1. Order Apple Butter, Shirts, or Blankets! CampBethelVirginia.org/TradingPost.
2. WINTER/SPRING FAMILY VACATION... AT CAMP! Info at CampBethelVirginia.org/groups.
3. SPONSOR our Disc Golf Course holes, our Story Fest, our 5K, or our Golf Tournament.
4. Purchase an item off our Amazon Wish List: <https://a.co/5qG5JYq>
5. DONATE! Every gift and every item helps! Thank you! CampBethelVirginia.org/donate



CAMP BETHEL WISH LIST: 20"x20"x2" MERV-13 air filters (to renew our in-cabin box fan air filters); Clorox wipes; 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!*

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!**

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 9 holes of our Camp Bethel Disc Golf Course along the fields and forests of our southern acreage. Hole Sponsorship opportunities coming soon! CampBethelVirginia.org/DiscGolf



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.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS HELPED IN 2021! Our 2021 Sounds of the Mountains Storytelling Festival (SoundsoftheMountains.org) was once again online (due to COVID), and featured 6 performers and 44 story videos that garnered 10,943+ views. 18 sponsors and 82 families from 14 different states donated \$32,537! Our 5th annual "Camp Bethel PEP!" 5K had 104 participants ages 1-80, 10 volunteers, and 5 sponsors (including Oak Grove Church of the Brethren as a title sponsor), raising \$24,068! Our annual Benefit Golf Tournament had 111 golfers and 32 sponsors and donors raising \$15,027! Many congregations held individual fund-raisers, meals, or food/craft sales in honor of Camp Bethel's Heritage Day, and Cedar Bluff CoB made their (our) famous Apple Butter. Heritage Day 2021 funds raised over \$35,000!

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 "Camp Bethel Summer Camp and Event Center"

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

- March 5, 2022 (Sat), 10:00-11:30: Camp Supporters Zoom Huddle, RSVP.
- April 2, 2022 (Sat), 7:30am Spring Volunteer, RSVP free meals.
- April 8-9, 2022: Sounds of the Mountains Storytelling Festival at Camp Bethel.
- 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 30-June 10, 2022: Summer Staff Training.
- June 4, 2022 (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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www.CampBethelVirginia.org