



The Messenger

Spring 2024

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Summer is Coming - Camp Counselors and Scholarship Funds Needed!

As we gear up for another summer, your help is needed to fill two big regular obstacles: summer staff and camp scholarship funds! On the staffing front, while we are more optimistic going into this summer compared to last year, we still need more staff. We could use a few more female counselors and 2-3 more male counselors. Scan the QR code on the bottom left corner of this article for the link to our website for summer staff. Lack of summer staff has prevented Camp Iodiseca from growing. Over the past few years combined, we've had about 125 registrations waitlisted going into the summer.

If you know someone who is a college-aged young adult, please have them consider serving on staff, especially as a camp counselor. Camp counselors are directly responsible for caring for our campers throughout their time at Camp. All of our staff serve as Christian role models and witnesses to the Christian faith for our campers. All of our staff model Christian living and care for our campers' physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Weary about working with kids? That is why we train all of our staff in activities, safety, and theology! Staff training begins in late May and our camp season goes through the first week of August.

This year, we're projecting to need about \$5,000 to fully fill our camp scholarship requests. Thanks to much support already received, we can fill about half of that already! Thanks be to God! So that means we still need about \$2500 to fill our camp scholarship requests. Camp scholarships supports campers and families in a few different ways. First, it provides for campers who need funding in order to be able to come to camp. Second, it helps to pay for those campers who come from families who have never before sent campers to Camp Iodiseca.



Camp's mission continues because of the amazing support it has. God continues to provide for Camp through our supporters, who supply us with everything we need to accomplish our mission of teaching Christ to our campers and guests. Please help us get ready by telling someone about serving on summer staff and contributing to our camp scholarship fund! If you're looking for other opportunities to serve, check out our volunteer opportunities on the next page!



Summer is Coming - Getting Ready!



This could look better.

Several improvements have taken place across Camp over the winter season. We're excited for campers and guests to see them. Most notably, we've made several updates to the basement of the Omega Lodge. The two basement rooms have been repainted, have had new carpet tiles installed, and curtains have also been added. Thanks to the work of King of Kings Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids, we have all new lights in the basement of Omega Lodge as well. They also took time to reroof and refloor the amphitheater shed, which was paid for thanks to the IED LWML grant. You can see these updates by taking a look at the pictures at the top of the next page!

Our next set of updates has to do with our Spring Cleanup day on May 4 and beyond. We look forward to having your help as we get ready for summer! Though some will be sad to see it go, we've now removed the wood burning stove in the Activity Hall of Alpha Lodge. While we're



The cabins need a good cleanup!

thankful for its service to Camp, it opens up the room and gives us a lot more space. That also means we need to relocate some of our A/V equipment behind it (pictured below), and we're looking to build new shelving and cabinets to help store the equipment.

As usual, we have several areas that need to get cleaned up for the season. We'll be going through our cabins and giving those a good cleanout for the season. That also includes rebuilding the stands for the air conditioning units for the cabins so they don't pull on the window and frame.

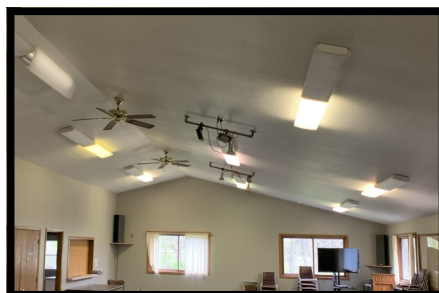
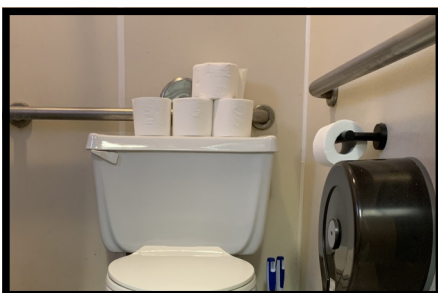
Why yes, that is a picture of a toilet at the bottom left, and the toilet paper is the issue. We'd like to install storage above the toilets so that toilet paper can be better stored and replaced as needed. We're sure guests can appreciate that kind of update! Just as we did in the basement of the Omega Lodge, we want to update all of the interior lights upstairs as well since many of those fixtures are in need of repair.



Goodbye, Stove!



Finally, we have a room in the basement of Omega Lodge that we would like to turn into more of a small hospitality room for summer and seasonal staff, so we also need help in clearing that room out as well! Your support is key as we get ready for our busy season of serving our campers and guests. Please contact Dylan at sitemanager@iodiseca.org or call 319-848-4187 to let us know you're coming for our Spring Cleanup or to schedule a time to volunteer and help out! Lunch is provided at the workday, so come hungry!





From Daniel: Still Around but Saying Goodbye

Dear friends, I'm writing to let you know that 2024 is my last season at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. I have already accepted and started a full-time position with the Iowa District East – LCMS, which owns Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca, as of the beginning of this year. This transition to the IDE-LCMS Office still provides for me to be a consultant with the Camp through this coming summer. This means I am working on building up Dylan and Alec in their expanded roles at Camp. Dylan has been appointed as the Interim Director at Camp, and I look forward to him succeeding in that role! Truth be told, I called him "Boss" the other day and it felt weird! I will still be on Camp weekly through August of 2024, including registration days and pickup days, so I look forward to seeing you on Camp this summer! I'll also still be around at all the IDE Events that happen at Camp, so I plan to still see our campers and guests at those retreats and events!

Leaving the Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca staff is difficult, even though I won't be far away professionally. I've served this blessed place since 2006 and as its Director for the past 10 years. I love this beautiful patch of Iowa and, just as important as the place is, the people I've been able to serve and serve with who have made Camp an incredible experience. It's been a true privilege to provide a safe, Christian environment where God's Word and the Gospel can be learned and absorbed by our campers and guests. While I will miss Camp, I look forward to supporting it going forward! My new role allows me to serve Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca in a different way, and I look forward to advancing this wonderful mission in that capacity. **I pray you will continue your support of this amazing place!**

I have only to be thankful for the last 18 years. To the campers, families, guests, and staff that have been a part of this time, thank you so much for blessing me. It is truly humbling to think of how many people do the work here at Camp that I haven't. In 18 years, several hundred staff and volunteers have made the mission of Camp a reality, both seasonally and year-round. It has been my joy to serve you, and I now join you in being a supporter of this wonderful place! My family and I are thankful for all Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca has given us. May God continue to bless Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca, its mission, and the people who are a part of it going forward! **May the Peace of the Lord be with you, my friends!** - Daniel Sanchez



THANK YOU! - The Sanchez Family

IMPORTANT DATES

April 30: Registration Discount Deadline #2

May 4: Spring Cleanup

June 12: First Day of Summer Camp

July 27: Auction Fundraiser

July 30-August 2: Higher Things Confirmation Camp



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Thrivent Choice

In 2023, Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca received around \$8,000 in Thrivent Choice contributions! Thank you, donors for making this program a success for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. Will you help make 2024 an even better year in Thrivent Choice giving? Go to <https://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/> or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and state "Thrivent Choice" to designate your choice dollars for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca today. Thank you for making Thrivent Choice a valuable stream of revenue for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca!

Each donation must be completed manually as funds can no longer be designated via automatic repeat.

