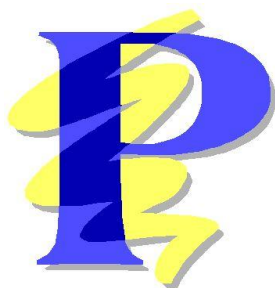


The Briarwood Vine

Providing a Natural Setting Where People Experience God's Love
June 2009



THE THREE "P'S"



Prayer ...

Presence ...

Partnership

As I travel through the synod,
I speak of the three "P's" -

three ways in which individuals and congregations can relate to Briarwood - your Lutheran camp and retreat center.

Prayer. As we continue to work to rebuild and grow this important ministry, your prayers are critical. Please pray for us - our staff, our visitors, our campers and "retreaters" - that they experience God's love in this natural setting. And know that we pray for you - for your ministry - on a regular basis.

Presence. Come and visit us!! Come see the changes that are taking place - large and small. Come meet our staff - those gifted individuals called to this unique ministry. Come see our new cabins and updates. Come to visit, to stay, to retreat, to share a great meal. "Come and see!"

Partnership. In addition to your prayers and presence, we seek your partnership. You can make a difference by:

- Supporting Briarwood with your financial gifts. There are even many different ways you can offer your gifts. Go to our web site – www.briarwoodretreat.org – and click on "Support" to see the ways you can partner with Briarwood.
- Supporting Briarwood with your "in kind" gifts. We are especially in need of upright freezers and vehicles in good working condition (especially a van or SUV for summer day camps). Go to our web site for Briarwood's wish list.

- Supporting Briarwood with a special gift you have. What unique gifts has God blessed you with that you can share to strengthen our ministry?

Come be with us - in prayer, presence, and partnership - as we continue to make Briarwood a "natural setting where people experience God's love."

+ Peace +

Pastor Rob Moore

Executive Director, Briarwood Lutheran Ministries

SOME OPENINGS STILL AVAILABLE FOR SUMMER CAMP



There are still some openings available for our exciting Summer Camp program in June and July. This looks to be our BEST year ever!! Almost all of summer staff from last

year is returning PLUS we have some great additions as we have grown our staff for 2009.

Our theme for Summer Camp this year is Love to Serve with the central Bible passage Mark 10:45, "For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and give his life as a ransom for many." Campers will explore the ways they have been gifted and called to serve. Campers can register individually or with their congregation.

Go to our web site (www.briarwoodretreat.org) for more information, a link to a copy of the summer brochure, and registration information.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP??

A special need right now is someone with experience in designing drainage. Whenever we get a hard rain we often get flooding in several of our buildings. We need someone with professional experience and training to design a run off system that we can begin to construct. Is that you? Do you know of someone in your congregation who can do this? Please partner with us in improving our facilities.



Fireside Room After Last Hard Rain!!

Contact Jon Thompson, our Program/Facilities Director, at 940-241-2099 or by email at jon@briarwoodretreat.org.

NEW CABINS AT BRIARWOOD

Three new cabins are now being finished in the Oak Grove village. Briarwood is able to do this with a generous gift from **Bethany Lutheran Church** in Dallas.



The three older cabins have been torn down to their foundations (and one or two walls) and completely rebuilt. Eight feet have been added to the back of each cabin to make room for two full handicap accessible bathrooms. The new cabins will have sloped roofs and a front porch (to visually tie the new cabins in with the cabin constructed several years ago in Oak Grove).

The new cabins are designed to be very comfortable for children and youth during the summer as well as adults in a retreat type setting. To see additional drawings and pictures of the cabins, go to our web site – www.briarwoodretreat.org – and check under the “What’s New?!?” heading.

ANOTHER WONDERFUL BRUNCH SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 7TH

Another delicious brunch is planned for June (and the first Sunday of every month). The first Sunday of April we had our largest crowd - 98 hungry people!! Will you join us this June 7th and help us reach (and exceed) 100!!



The menu includes: Omelet Station, Waffle Station with all the Fixins, Carving Station for Meat Entree, Sausage/Bacon, Scrambled Eggs, O'Brien Potatoes, Biscuits, Dinner Rolls, Country Gravy, Vegetables, Tossed Salad with House Dressing, Mini Muffins and Danishes, Sliced Fruit, Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade, and Orange Juice.

Each brunch will run from 10:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m. For more information about our Sunday brunches, including a menu and pricing, go to our web site – www.briarwoodretreat.org.

Please Note - so that everyone can spend time with their families, there will **NOT** be a brunch in **JULY** (over July 4th weekend). The brunch schedule will resume in August. Another delicious brunch is planned for May (and the first Sunday of every month). The first Sunday of April we had our largest crowd - 98 hungry people!! Will you join us this May 3rd and help us reach (and exceed) 100??

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