



DOOR POSTS

[from Camp Zion - Door County's Christian Camp](#)

God Is In The Journey

Life's journeys are rarely easy or trouble free, and usually include frustration, pain, and angst. The road to building a new dining hall has involved more than its fair share of challenges, but the ride has never been boring! We believe that God has guided us the whole way.

God always wants what is best for us, and always has a better plan.

After being turned down for a Conditional Use Permit by the Door County Board of Adjustment twice in 5 years, the camp filed suit against the County in federal court in August of 2020.

On September 30, 2021, the Door County Resource Planning Committee approved a settlement agreement, which included the granting of a Conditional Use Permit. In a separate meeting, the Zoning Board of Adjustment reached the same conclusion. The CUP was issued on October 1, 2021.

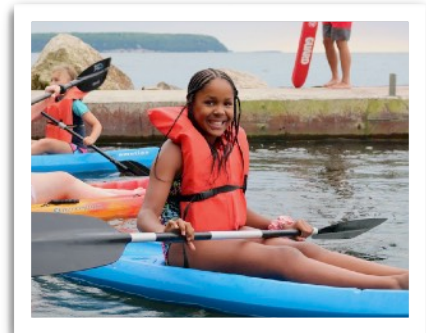
We are moving forward, despite the fact that a small group of neighbors have filed an appeal in circuit court. Please pray with us against that opposition!

The Camp Zion Leadership Team is grateful for the steadfast support and participation of our friends and donors throughout the entire dining hall process over the last 6 years.

2021: Back On Track!

After 10 years of steady growth and a record number of guests in 2019, Covid disrupted everything. We were happy just to be open in 2020, but our attendance was cut in half. Not knowing what lay ahead for 2021, we planned and prepared to operate at 3/4 capacity, and are happy to report that we exceeded that forecast!

Our campers endured a year and a half of lockdowns, closures, quarantines, and virtual school, and were very glad to be back to normal at camp, hanging out with friends, playing camp games, swimming and boating, and enjoying the outdoors. Campers seemed eager to be able to attend Bible study and worship times again, and had meaningful conversations with Christian staff members. A number of them came to know Christ as their personal Savior.



For 75 years, Camp Zion has been offering God-honoring, outdoor oriented, creative and fun programming, getting campers out of their normal routines where they can hear about the Good News of Jesus. Camp is a perfect environment to communicate Christ, because it combines the power of general revelation (creation), and special revelation (spoken and living Word).

You can help make sure that the good work of Camp Zion continues by **including us in your giving**. Gifts can be mailed in the enclosed donor envelope, or given online at campzion.com/donate. Regular, **monthly giving** via your bank account or credit card is a helpful method of giving, and can be done online, or by contacting the camp office.



God bless you, generous partners and friends!

Dale Stewart
Executive Director

Dining Hall & Fellowship Center Groundbreaking Ceremony

(from 11/6/21 printed program)

We are thrilled to be taking this step forward on the long-awaited new dining and meeting facility, and can't wait for the ribbon-cutting ceremony!

Discussions have been underway for more than thirteen years about the need for expanded spaces for dining, meeting, worship, education, and recreation. Our lack of meeting spaces has limited the amount and types of indoor activities we can offer current and potential groups. The present aging dining hall, completed in 1986, does not adequately service our capacity, and the kitchen is out of date and inefficient.

The purpose of the planned improvement is to:

- ✦ Be used as a tool for promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
- ✦ Enhance the guest experience,
- ✦ Meet the increasing demand for nicer, more guest-friendly venues,
- ✦ Replace insufficient and outdated meeting and dining facilities,
- ✦ Better service the allowable capacity,
- ✦ Improve the overall Camp operations,
- ✦ Meet the needs of a broad base of user groups - youth, families, and adults - throughout the year, and,
- ✦ Be sustainable into the future.

The Dining Hall Team

This project has involved many people over the years, and it would be impossible to name and thank all of them, but we are grateful for everyone who played a part.

- ✦ Local designer Randy Stephenson contributed many hours of effort on early concept drawings, helping to lay a solid foundation of what our needs were.
- ✦ Tom Muehl, President of Waukesha Foods, believed in camp's vision, and gave a lead gift with a matching challenge for camp donors in 2012, launching the dining hall fund.
- ✦ Present and past members of the Camp Leadership Team have led this project from the beginning. Task forces provided input that went into earlier concept drawings, building needs, space allocation, etc.
- ✦ Christ Community Church of Zion leaders and congregation understand and embrace the camp ministry as an effective tool to reach people for Christ.
- ✦ Over the last 13 years, hundreds of donors have invested sacrificially to make this building a reality. Some gave large gifts, others gave smaller gifts, some gave by including camp in their wills. They are ALL true heroes!
- ✦ Without volunteer program directors, volunteer and paid staff, camp would literally fall apart. We love our staff!
- ✦ Fletemeyer & Lee, Associates, "creating places that nourish the soul". Architect Dave Lee, Chad Fletemeyer, and engineer Sean McCormick have worked with countless camps across the

country, designing dozens of dining halls. Our dining hall is smaller than most of their projects, and it's been a challenge making everything fit. F&L has designed a beautiful and functional building for us.

- ✦ Steve Parent of Baudhuin, Inc. of Sturgeon Bay, has been a key advisor in helping us navigate the difficult zoning issues.
- ✦ We are blessed to work with the best camp kitchen consultant in the business, Bob Fischer of Kitchen Consultants, Inc., and the best interior designer, Judy Phillips of Judy Phillips Design.
- ✦ We are thrilled to be working with Jesse Van Boxtel and his team from Millennium Construction of Appleton to build the building. They are pros, and will do a great job.



- ✦ Campers and parents who value camp. This is who we serve!
- ✦ The local Door County community: great friends and encouragers.
- ✦ Town & County officials, who we have consulted with since 2011.
- ✦ A top-notch team of legal advisors, including the firm of Mauck & Baker, Michael Dean, Lisle Stalter, and Collin Dahl. We are thankful for their expertise and understanding of the law!

God Didn't Lead Us This Far...

Even after God had miraculously delivered the Israelites out of Pharaoh's hand in Egypt, some of them grumbled and said, "Why is the LORD bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword?...Wouldn't it be better for us to go back to Egypt?"

We know that God has led us to build this dining hall. The Groundbreaking Ceremony on November 6 was a joyous time, and we are excited to be moving ahead with the project. And yet, there are still some large issues before us that can cause doubt and fear. "Where will the money come from? Seriously, someone filed another appeal?!"

God didn't lead us this far...just to lead us this far. *Is anything too hard for the LORD? - Gen. 18.14.* He will continue to lead us through any and all remaining challenges and costs, including:

- ✦ The antagonists, and their opposition to what God is doing.
- ✦ The code requirements that go into building a modern commercial dining hall are mind-boggling. When we filed for permits in March of 2020, the estimated cost of the building was \$2.9MM. Unfortunately, that number has risen significantly, due to rising construction costs (27% in 2 years), legal delays, inflation, necessary design changes, the inability to secure three-phase electric, and supply-chain issues.
- ✦ Wastewater treatment system (\$250,000 est.)
- ✦ Kitchen equipment (\$250,000 est.)
- ✦ Dining room tables & chairs, meeting room furniture, AV equipment, lounge furniture. (\$250,000 est.)
- ✦ Landscaping
- ✦ Legal expenses from our lawsuit (already paid out of dining hall funds).

God gives all of us the privilege of being involved in what He is doing through our prayers, service, and giving.

Legacy Gift Informational Gathering

Camp has been blessed to receive legacy gifts from the estates of caring friends, who planned ahead to help ensure that future generations of campers would get to experience all the goodness of camp.

The Camp Leadership Team is working on a plan to help families navigate and understand planned giving options. **If you would like to be part of an inaugural presentation with 5-10 other families, please let us know.** Date to be determined, no cost or obligation.

When you leave a legacy gift, you help ensure that the people and organizations you care about are properly cared for after you are gone. Legacy gifts of any size can make a long-lasting impact on camp, help fund major projects, upgrade existing facilities and equipment, and build up Camp Zion Advance, from which camper scholarships are funded.

If you die without a will, you are almost guaranteeing that an unknown judge will decide how your assets are to be dispersed!

Ongoing Camp Needs

- ✦ We are grateful for volunteers who helped us cook and serve during the fall retreats, and clear trees for the dining hall. Finding volunteers is a growing challenge. Ordinary people with an extraordinary vision built camp. Maybe God is nudging you to volunteer your time and talent to carry on the mission?
- ✦ Ice damaged our south pier last winter. We have applied a number of band-aid repairs over the years, but it is time to find a more permanent solution, which will be expensive.
- ✦ Just as we finished up the busy fall retreat season, the dining hall boiler went out, and needs to be replaced.



Camp Zion Giving Options

Camp Zion Advance. Our general giving fund.

Scholarships. Donors contribute \$60,000 per year to keep camper costs down and assist those in need.

New Dining Hall & Fellowship Center.

Staff Support. Goes toward paid staff who are helping to raise the funds that make it possible for them to be employed at camp.

Memorials. Honor a deceased loved one by asking friends to give a memorial gift.

Legacy Gifts. Keep camp strong after you are gone through Planned Giving options.

Gifts of stocks, property, naming camp as a beneficiary of life insurance policies, or other financial instruments.

Gifts In Kind. Useful items in good shape.

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You can set up regular, monthly giving via your bank account or credit card at campzion.com/donate. Ask your employer about matching gift opportunities.

Gifts are **tax-deductible** to the full extent allowed by law. We honor gifts given to our giving categories, unless that need has already been met. Camp Zion has complete control over the use of all donated funds. To receive 2021 tax credits, cash gifts must be received or postmarked by Dec. 31, 2021.

75 Years Of God's Faithfulness

In 1946, campers had enjoyed the thrill of the first summer camp at "Zion Camp", an experience which confirmed the vision that God had planted in the leaders' hearts to start a Christian camp. The next step was to convince the church leadership that a camp would have a positive impact on Christ's Kingdom and the church.



As the story goes, camp leaders sat down with Michael J. Mintern, Gen. Overseer of the Christian Catholic Church (now Christ Community Church), and told him that they had been scouting sites all over Wisconsin where the church might purchase property for a camp.

For what seemed like 30 minutes, Mintern said nothing. He finally agreed that this would be a worthy ministry, and using available funds, signed the papers to purchase the first of four waterfront lots on June 16, 1947.

Please let us know about your early camp memories and stories!



When Jesus is the initiator, He's responsible, and will take care of you. "I belong to a perfect Savior who has sent me into an imperfect world and much of my ministry is dealing with imperfection. But when you're sent, you can look over your shoulder and say, 'Lord Jesus, you got me here. You've got to take responsibility right now. And He says, 'I'd be delighted to do that.'" -Peter Reid

Year-End Progress Edition

Tentative 2022 Dates

- January 3 - Summer registration begins
- January 28-30 - Jr. High Winter
- February 18-21 - Sr. High Winter
- March 5 - Spaghetti Supper (in Zion)
- April 28-May 1 - Quilt & Craft Weekend
- May 6-8 - Lumberjack Work Wknd
- May 9-15 - Spring Quilt Camp
- June 17-19 - Campamento de Familias
- June 26-30 - Primary Camp
- July 2 - Open House 7-10AM**
- July 3-8 - Jr. Girls Camp
- July 10-15 - Jr. High Camp
- July 17-22 - Jr. Boys Camp
- July 24-29 - Sr. High I Camp
- Aug. July 31-Aug. 5 - Sr. High 2.0 Camp
- Aug. 5-8 - Family Camp I
- Aug. 21 - Camp Reflections (in Zion)
- Sep. 2-5 - Family Camp II
- Sep. 16-18 - Women's Fall Retreat
- Sep. 22-25 - Fall Quilt & Craft
- Sep. 26-Oct. 2 - Quilt Camp II
- Oct. 7-10 - Sr. High Fall Retreat
- Oct. 14-16 - Men's Retreat
- Oct. 28-30 - Jr. High Fall Retreat
- ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



Camp Zion is a charter member of the Christian Camp & Conference Association, a ministry of Christ Community Church of Zion, Illinois (member of National Association of Evangelicals), and is licensed by the State of Wisconsin.



Past editions of Door Posts and are available at <https://www.campzion.com/camp-zion-news>

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