



From the desk of Patrick Myers, Executive Director

DEDICATED TO HIS SERVICE

The Joshua House

On September 18, 2022, the new Joshua House was dedicated to the Lord’s service. The sounds of praise from the band “Into the Mountain”, the smells of Chef Eberhart’s perfectly seasoned roasted pig and beer can chickens, the smiles and laughs of the Ligonier faithful fellowshiping together, all covered by a beautiful sunny day set the stage for the perfect celebration of God’s faithfulness to Ligonier Camp and Conference Center (LCCC).

In 2004 the Lord pulled together a unique group of people to develop a strategic plan for LCCC that would set the direction for the next 18 years for this ministry. Through that process a new dining hall was built, a lake was purchased and restructured, the Lamont Lodge was renovated, and now the final piece, the Joshua House, is standing ready for service.

It is a breathtaking building that rises above the hills as you turn the corner on route 711 on your way to camp. From the moment you step into the building, you feel a desire to fellowship and gather as your eyes are drawn towards the welcome center and hospitality lounge sponsored by the Ligonier Valley Endowment. To the left is the Joshua



Joshua House dedication ceremony Sept. 18.

House Foundation Lounge furnished with handcrafted, wooden tables and chairs. The “Dry Ground” fellowship hall, a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rhodes, contains half-court basketball, a professional stage fully equipped with all your lighting and AV needs, and a grand fireplace sponsored by the Hall family. The gorgeous view from the wrap-around, Selma Nassif Hernandez and Michael C. Hernandez Community Porch draws your eyes to the beautiful Laurel Highlands and the handiwork of our great God. On the hillside below the porch, people can sit around the Doug and Ellie Dunderdale Memorial Fire Ring

to sing camp songs, roast marshmallows, and tell stories. The building also sleeps 140 people in classy dorm rooms, one of which is dedicated in memory of Carl and Darlene McVicker. Of course, I also need to acknowledge the Richard King Mellon foundation that provided the lead gift for the building and inspired conservation principles that were integrated into the design.

FINISHING TOUCHES



The total budget for the Foundation for the Future Capital Campaign was \$4 million. To date we have raised just over \$3.65 million. We are in the home-stretch with hopes to finish raising the final \$350,000 by year’s end. If you are interested in participating, please go to our website and click on “Partner With Us” then “Donate” and make a donation. If you would like to dedicate your gift specifically to one of the following needs please identify that in the memo section of the donation.



REMAINING NEEDS

Adirondack Chair	\$300
Rocking Chair	\$300
Bunk Bed	\$500
Outdoor Porch Table & Chairs	\$1,000
Handcrafted Wood Table & Chairs	\$1,500
Front Gardens	\$5,000
Dorm Room	\$15,000
The Conference Room	\$50,000
The Entryway Porches	\$75,000

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WWW.LIGONIERCAMP.ORG/DONATE







## REMEMBERING KEN “PAPPY” SHEAN

Pat Myers

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.” 1 John 3:18. With these words, the apostle John encourages his readers to let their actions speak louder than their words. Anyone who knew Ken “Pappy” Shean would testify that he lived this truth out loud. Pappy was a man of few words but many loving actions.

I first met Pappy over 28 years ago when I joined the summer staff of LCCC. His wife Sarah and he spent their summers serving hundreds of campers some pretty amazing meals. Together they blessed the bellies of thousands, Sarah in the kitchen planning and cooking and Pappy making sure she had everything she needed. While she made her famous sticky buns he unloaded food with his dolly, organized the freezer and smoothed the way for his wife to shine, always with a smile on his face. Pappy was committed to kids hearing the Good News while here at camp. Bright and early every morning you could find him sitting with Sarah at one of the dining hall tables praying for the running of the camp and the wellbeing of the staff. His attention to detail and calming presence allowed the dining hall to be a place filled with



fun and fabulous food. Pappy’s son Larry still serves at LCCC as our facilities director. He describes his dad as, “A great father who loved kids and was dedicated to the Lord, his family, and the camp.”

A quiet man whose smile and willingness to always help demonstrated very loudly his love for others and his devotion to his Lord. Pappy was called home on January 6, 2022, and now serves with a smile in the very presence of the Lord.



## SUMMER 2022 RECAP: BECOMMING AGENTS OF CHANGE

Patrick “PJ” Jackson

When I arrived at camp to start my job as the Summer Camp Director it was October of 2020, not even a full year into the global pandemic. Camp had just completed a scaled down version of summer camp and the following summer, my first summer, was still heavily influenced by the ongoing challenges of the pandemic. Having never attended Ligonier Camp as a camper, I had yet to see a “normal” summer of camp. While there were still some unique challenges, 2022 moved significantly back in the direction of “normal.” From the return of action options, to full dining hall, to Ligonier Live returning to the pavillion, much of camp’s program was back in fullness, with the help of an incredible summer leadership team and summer staff.

This summer, our theme verse was 2 Corinthians 5:17,  
*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”*

Our challenge verse continued on in Paul’s letter to the Corinthian church in verses 18-21...

*“All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

On the backdrop of silly skits involving a maniacal, albeit misunderstood villan, Mr. Peanut, acting as an agent of Chaos at camp, we talked about what it means to be a “new creation” and “ambassadors of reconcilliation” in a world full of chaos and darkness. Sadly, we don’t need to convince anyone of just how dark our world can be. The past two years of amplified fear, uncertainty, and isolation have wrecked havoc on all of us, but it’s been especially hard on kids. Though there were plenty of



difficult moments at camp this summer, God was at work in powerful ways in the lives of campers and our staff community. Every week, kids were making new commitments to Christ and were captivated by God’s Word, growing hungry to read, study and discuss it. Campers would sit in their bunks after lights out with their flashlights just to read a little bit longer after devotions.

That’s what makes camp special... It’s a chance to step out of the familiar, interrupt our routine and our attachment to screens, and be present in God’s awesome creation while surrounded by a community focused on knowing and loving Him. It was great to see a return to normalcy to camp’s program in 2022, but what was even more incredible was seeing the ways that God was at work in a moment in time that’s new for all of us. While things may never return to “normal” as we knew it, God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow, and He’ll always be in the business of changing lives and making all things new.

## Staff Needed

Camp wouldn’t be open without the 100+ young men and women who join our summer staff team each year. From high school CIT’s to college-age counselors, they are the core of our program and on the front lines of introducing kids to Christ. While we take plenty of road trips and go on recruiting visits, the best tool for finding great staff is word of mouth. Do you know someone who is 18 or older, loves the Lord and is free this summer? Let them know that we’re hiring and they can apply by visiting [www.ligoniercamp.org/apply!](http://www.ligoniercamp.org/apply!)







## A SUMMER JOB THAT BECAME A HOME

Alexandra Morar

**M**y name is Alexandra Morar and I am a '22 graduate of Waynesburg University. I came to Ligonier for the first time ever this summer, and from the moment I stepped foot on property, I felt like I was home. Even though this summer was for sure a learning curve (especially embracing the odd language of the "KYBO"), I never felt unwelcomed. Whether it was my mentor, Becky Juliano, uplifting me, our Program Specialist, Michele, staying up into the wee hours of the night to guide problem-solving, our Summer Camp Director, PJ, ensuring huddle systems were okay, or other year-round staff scrambling to meet endless requests, I always felt like I had support. I worked with a phenomenal leadership team that truly embodied a selfless character of Christ. I was always impressed by their levels of intentionality and how creative they were in devising programs, including a Sasquatch hunt. Even the support of our church, the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, was unbelievable. On Commissioning Sunday, the church prayed over all of the staff and announced how they pray for us all year long. Knowing that a group of people were so devoted to our camp and staff just blew my mind; I have never felt so cared for.

As Women's Director, I had the opportunity to closely work alongside and pour into female college and high school students. They even raised thought-provoking theological questions we were able to investigate together. I was absolutely astounded by the amount of growth counselors experienced in their levels of confidence and leadership capabilities. During training, so many of the girls were nervous and hesitant about working with campers. Some worried about homesickness, others feared they were not strong enough. However, by the end, they all shared how they each surprised



themselves with what they overcame, and I treasured these moments. A lesson our Executive Director, Pat Myers shared was that if we believe we cannot do something, we are right. I know this does not sound motivational, but it is true. As Isaiah 40:29 proclaims, "He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might, He increases strength." As the summer progressed, I was struck by how well these young women flourished in giving their tiredness, worries, and frustrations over to God. Hearing their stories of campers accepting the Gospel, wanting to live like the new creation 2 Corinthians 5:17 encourages, or persevering through family hardships, allowed me to see how God was working through each of them. I really felt God's presence here at camp this summer, and I know they did, too. I was reminded of God's power and how evident His love is as I observed these courageous young women become older sisters to so many struggling campers. I encourage everyone to try out counseling for a summer; the life experience and growth you will experience is priceless. Today I am forever changed, thankful, and blessed to call Ligonier a second home.

## Upcoming Important Dates

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Camp Registration Opens:** Nov. 1  
**Fall Blast:** Nov. 18  
**Week of Giving:** Dec. 5-9  
**Dinner Auction:** Mar. 25

### SUMMER CAMP

**Session 1:** June 18 - 23 (NL/CC)  
**Session 2:** June 25 - 30 (NL/CC)  
**Session 3:** July 2 - 7 (NL/CC)  
**Session 4:** July 9 - 21 (CC)  
**Session 5:** July 23 - 28 (CC)  
**Session 6:** July 30 - Aug 4 (CC)

### LITTLE LIGS

**Session 1:** July 18 - 20  
**Session 2:** June 25 - 27  
**Session 3:** July 5 - 7

### FAMILY CAMP

**Session 1:** July 19 - 23  
**Session 2:** July 26 - 30  
**Session 3:** August 2 - 6  
**Session 4:** August 7 - 11

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



## INTERNS

Michele Robinson

**T**his fall, we welcomed Bryce Dixon and Heather Ratcliffe as our intern team, and we could not be more excited for what God is going to do in their lives' this year! Bryce has served as a counselor for us the past two summers. He is excited to learn more about the adventure program and is spending time discerning what field of work God is calling him to. In his free time he enjoys being in community playing video games, board games and card games! Heather joins us after having spent multiple summers at our neighboring camp Pine Springs. She has a degree in Children/Youth Ministries from Waynesburg University and is interested in going into camp ministry full time. She is looking forward to learning all of the off season activities of a camp. When she's not at the office, you can find her reading or spending time drawing/painting. They have been incredibly busy with prep for our golf outing, hosting groups, and learning the details of how each program works. We're thrilled to have them here!





# LIGONIER GAZETTE



## REMEMBERING BILL SCHWAB

Tim Habecker

Those of us at camp often snickered and occasionally sniped about the projects that took a little longer given Bill's inclination toward conversation. Yet on the day of his funeral, the sanctuary was standing room only, testifying to the fact that all of us had appreciated the conversations more than the patching, the plumbing, and the myriad of other odd jobs Bill had performed as maintenance staff over the years.

When it became apparent time was running short last spring, Bill was not entirely sold on the idea of his own funeral. He preferred to pass away without the fuss. His attitude began to change though as he realized such a service could be one last opportunity to testify to the truth and power of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Assurances that such a service would be limited to 60 minutes or less and followed by sausage and pierogies sealed the deal.



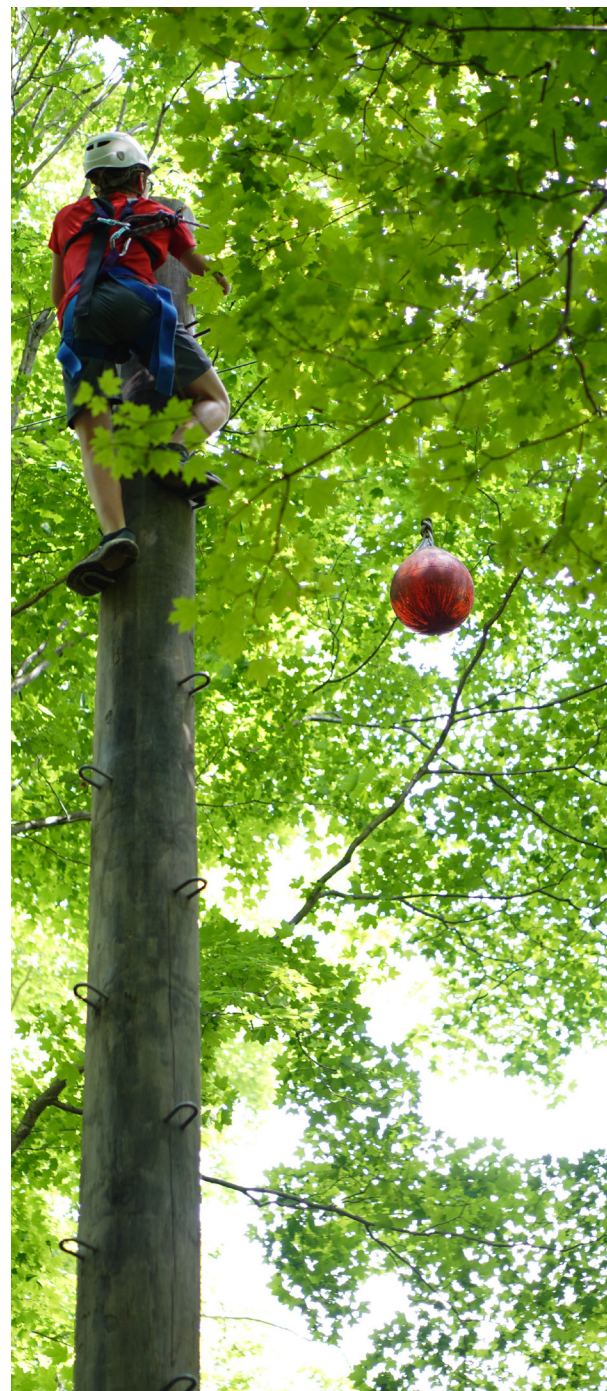
The irony was Bill always made himself available to others, and for way longer than 60 minutes if necessary. Locally, he went on youth retreats and taught Bible studies. Regionally he earned a reputation as the "unofficial greeter" at Ligonier Camp. "Mr. Bill" cooked for the staff and especially interns. He always, always asked, "How you doin'?" Often he would wait for an honest reply, and then call you on it when you lied and said, "Fine."

There are still many reminders of Bill strewn throughout the camp's 540 acres. Most of them appear in the form of broken things he used to repair. But one is a new magnolia tree planted at the entrance, between PA-711 and the Ligonier Valley Trail, dedicated to Bill's memory and ready to welcome all who turn in the driveway, just as he always did.

## Week of Giving

Decemeber 5-9, 2022

Mark your calenders for our annual week of giving. It's our hope to finish off the remainder of our Foundation For the Future campaign by the end of the year. Keep your eyes out for updates on social media and prayerfully consider participating in this year's week of giving!



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Ligonier Camp & Conference Center is one of the oldest continuous operating Christian camps in America. Established in 1914 by the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, the camp serves over 8,000 people of all ages.

**Our Mission:** To provide people with reflective and recreational opportunities that will build faith in Christ, self-esteem and supportive relationships

If you would like to be removed from the LCCC mailing list, please write "Remove, return to sender" across the address label and place in your mailbox.

## REGISTER ONLINE

*Registration for 2023 Opens November 1st*

Do you want an experience of outdoor adventure and all the fun of Ligonier this summer? It's not too late! We are back to full capacity and ready to get back to the camp program we all know and love.

Demand was high last summer and spaces will fill up quickly! If you're interested in joining us, please register early. You can do so by going online to [ligoniercamp.org/register](http://ligoniercamp.org/register). We know we will again be blessed with incredible families and enthusiastic campers this summer, and we are praying that you will be one of them!

**WWW.LIGONIERCAMP.ORG**

