



650 Bible Camp Rd.
Woodbury, TN 37190
(615) 563-4168

www.shortmountaincamp.org

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What's Happening at SMBC!

By Mark Williams

As this camp year draws to a close this will be the last echo for 2009. We will provide the next update in January 2010.

Work on the new cabin is progressing well. The basement walls and floor and the upstairs floors are complete. The retaining wall and porches on the lower level have been completed. Those forms are now being torn down and new ones constructed to pour the upper level porches and the pad for the AC unit. After that work is done the logs and roof can be added.

The upgrade to the swimming pool is complete. As mentioned in the June edition (that was published in August, sorry), the pool had to be upgraded to meet current State guidelines and so does the pool house. The deck of the pool had to be raised and the floor and roof in the pool house will also need to be raised. Additionally, the pool house will have to be rewired to current electrical codes.

The work at SMBC continues with the current projects as well as others mentioned in earlier editions of the Echo. Additional work is ongoing and volunteers are still need to complete these projects. Please contact Jerry Nash if you would like to volunteer.

Financial Help Needed

By Mark Williams

Recently, several letters were mailed to congregations that support SMBC and some that do not to request support for camp. Please thank your elders if your congregation currently supports SMBC and ask them to continue to support camp and consider increasing support for next year. A one time donation above the current support would also be appreciated.

If your congregation doesn't support SMBC, please share what it has meant to you and ask that they consider supporting camp in the future.

Here is some information from those letters that you can share with the elders at your congregation in asking for support for camp.

It is our strong belief that camp is a very productive mission field. The statistics below are proof of that:

- 1932 people attended Summer camp in 2009 (not counting visitors and retreats)
- 80+ people were restored to their Christian Life
- 37 people were baptized into Christ
- This does not include those who were baptized after returning home

Here are a couple of facts regarding the revenue camp receives. Church support for camp in 2008 was \$36,023 which was 11.9% of the total revenue of \$302,519. In 2009, support has totaled \$22,455 or 6.5% of the total revenue of \$346,848 so far. Most of the revenue for our camp is provided by camper fees. We do not plan to raise camper fees again in the near future but you can see how little is currently provided by congregations. All of the projects previously mentioned require a lot of money. The camp has taken a loan to complete these projects and support is needed more now than ever.

There are several specific needs in which your congregation or even your family can provide help. The new boy's cabin will need 40 new bunk beds, an AC unit, Fixtures for the bathrooms, log siding, and electrical components. A new roof, concrete floor and electrical upgrade are needed on the pool house. The list below is the approximate cost for these and other items. We need sponsors



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for the following projects at Short Mountain. We ask that your congregation or family consider picking one or more of these projects to help with these improvements at camp.

Bunk Bed Frames (40)	\$50/ea.
Bunk Bed Mattress (80)	\$100/ea.
Shower Unit for new cabin (4)	\$200/ea.
Toilets/Urinals for new cabin (6)	\$200/ea.
Electrical Supplies for Pool House	\$1000
Electrical Supplies for New Cabin	\$3000
Concrete for Pool House	\$3500
AC Unit	\$5000
Logs for New Cabin	\$10,000
Roof for Pool House	\$10,000

Your congregation or family can also support by volunteering for any of these projects and others by contacting Jerry Nash at the bible camp.

Additionally, SMBC has a Memorial and Honorary Donation Program. You can remember the loss of a friend or loved one by making a donation to camp in their memory. By providing the Name and Address of the family, we will send a letter to them informing them of your donation to the camp in their name. This is a great way to remember your loved one and help provide a great opportunity for young people in the future. You can contact camp if you would like additional information about this program.

We would be more than willing to come and speak to your congregation or elders about the work at SMBC. We want to provide this God given blessing to as many children as possible. Please pray for the work at Short Mountain Bible Camp and that it may continue to grow.

Time

By Mark Williams

This year has flown by for me and my family. Recently my sister stated "Only 8 weeks until Christmas" the other day and that really struck me that the end of this year is rapidly approaching. I personally cherish the week of Summer camp each year. Last year, I heard that a camper told their dad as the rolled out of camp on Friday afternoon, "only 364 days until I get to come back to camp."

A week of summer camp is rated as being the number 2 reason, right behind Mission Trips, that people remain faithful in their adulthood according to a survey of people who grew up in a church and remained faithful as reported in a book entitled, "The Gospel According to Generation X." There is no doubt that camp is special. Our camp may not be the Hilton hotel but the work done there is more important than the luxuries in which we indulge ourselves.

We all know that we have no idea how long our lives will last. The bible says "No man knows the day nor the hour in which the Son of man will return." We see that our lives are also described as "vapor that vanishes quickly." We keep ourselves so busy with all the things that we do. Do we take time to love those around us? Do we take time to show how much we love God by reading, praying, and being involved in the work at our congregations? Are we too busy being busy to do those things?

We need to take account of how we spend our time. We will never get any time back so we must plan carefully how we spend our time. We MAKE time when a loved one passes away to mourn, we MAKE time for doing the things WE WANT to do. But we need to MAKE time for the things we need to do. Time with God, time with our families, and time with our brothers and sisters in Christ are the things we need to prioritize. I am thankful that camp provides an opportunity to enrich my life every year and hope that you feel the same way.