



The BUCKING Board

NEWS AND UPDATES FROM SILVER BIRCH RANCH



COME CAMP WITH US!

- Dave Wager

Isolation is not a good thing! God made us to be together and has compared members of His family to parts of a body. Our bodies are made up of many parts, yet each part plays an important role in the success of the entire body.

As the body works together, it grows together. Each part is strengthened by the other, functioning in total harmony.

Silver Birch Ranch has been and remains dedicated to healthy relationships, and healthy relationships are healthy because people intentionally pause the ordinary busyness of life and focus on enjoying God and each other. The year 2020 has been challenging in that it has limited our face-to-face interaction, frustrating because it seems impossible to plan, and wonderful in that the importance of what we do at SBR has never been more evident.

God has been faithful to us throughout this past summer, as He has been since November 1967. Our staff has created new protocols, we emphasize normal healthy practices, and we have marveled at how many campers enjoyed what, perhaps, we had begun taking for granted.

Now we look forward to welcoming you back! We know that we will never eliminate risk, and we can never guarantee that Covid-19 will not be transmitted on our grounds, but now that we have some practice mitigating the risk, it is time to get back to the being with people, together worshipping God, and being challenged by His Word.

Serving together is still the bedrock of building strong communities, and this past summer we witnessed the many Summer Staff and volunteers forge a community that will be valued for a lifetime. Throughout the winter and spring we will continue to have many opportunities for groups to join us and serve our guests in a variety of ways, and I invite you to contact Brad Ellis (brad.ellis@silverbirchran.org) to see what is available.

Silver Birch Ranch remains committed to being an effective, safe, fun, and affordable tool in the hand of the local church, and it is laser-focused on knowing Christ and making Him known. Virtual forests, lakes, and camping need to be replaced by the real thing.

For those of you who can join us, we hope you make plans to do so. For those who cannot come, or, for now, choose not to do so, we encourage you to pray, give, and cheer us on to whatever the new normal becomes.

We promise to continue to do our best at providing a safe and real place for you to enjoy God and each other. We hope to see you soon!

FROM OUR MAILBOX

-JM2 Counselor

"As I sit here thinking about my time at Silver Birch Ranch, I can only smile and praise God! There are so few words that can describe what was experienced there this summer. Camp has ALWAYS been so, so special, but this summer? This summer was extra special. The joy was pouring out of the kids as they were able to be FREE! Free spiritually hearing about God's gift of eternal life and love for them. Free physically-getting to interact face-to-face with other healthy human beings! Getting to play games, run, playing Uno, swimming at the beach, and just sitting around laughing and talking. Sitting in Chapel hearing the life-changing truths of God's Word and Jesus' love, and praising Jesus through song!

Best quote of the week? When I asked a camper who made the decision to accept Christ's gift of salvation what she thought about it, she said...with wide eyes and the biggest smile ever..."IT'S THE BEST GIFT EVER!" Just incredible! I am praising God for giving the faith to SBR staff to open, the wisdom to keep everyone safe, the humility to serve, the faith that God will provide the money needed, and the evidence that it was all worth it because LIVES WERE SAVED AND CHANGED!"

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

-Jason Kemper

It's hard to think that another summer has come and gone. Even though Summer 2020 wasn't quite what we imagined, we are thankful that we were still able to open our doors and minister to hundreds of campers and witness many of their lives changed forever. As we shift our focus towards next summer, we can't help but get excited as we jump into the mystery realm of Summer 2021: The Search.

Whatever your connection to SBR is – whether you are a camper, volunteer, parent, friend, prayer warrior, or financial supporter – God has used, and continues to use each of you to make Christ known every summer. As we look to the future, I want to encourage you to continue to partner with us as we strive to use these grounds to show people who Jesus is. So take a look at the dates, and start planning your summer now, because we would love for you to join us for another amazing summer here at SBR!

Top 10 List

1. Electric Golf Carts
\$2,000
2. Golf Cart Charger
\$400
3. Cross-Country Ski Equipment
\$500
4. Hockey Skates
\$50 each
5. Commercial Grade Winter Tubes
\$110 each
6. Freezer Compressor
\$3,500
7. Outdoor Basketball Backboard
\$3,000
8. Drum Machine / Drain Snake
\$600
9. Connelly Tubes
\$250
10. Paddle Boards
\$300

If you can help with one of these items, please contact us at 715-484-2742. Silver Birch Ranch is a 501(c)(3) organization. All gifts are tax-deductible and are appreciated. If you are interested in finding out about other ways to support the ministry of Silver Birch Ranch, visit our website.

Camp Name	Dates
Family Camp #1	June 5-11
Junior-Middler Camp #1	June 12-18
Riding Adventure Camp #1/TRAX	June 12-18
High School Camp	June 19-25
CCC High School Camp*	June 26-July 1
Family Camp #2	July 2-7
CCC Middle School Camp*	July 7-12
The Chapel High School Camp*	July 12-17
Junior High Camp	July 17-23
The Chapel Middle School Camp*	July 23-28
StuCo High School Camp*	July 29-August 2
StuCo Middle School Camp*	August 3-7
Junior-Middler Camp #2	August 7-13
Riding Adventure Camp #2	August 7-13
Family Camp #3	August 15-19
Homeschool Family Camp	August 26-29

*These marked weeks are reserved for specific churches and aren't open to public registration.

SILVER BIRCH RANCH
THE SEARCH
SUMMER 2021

Who?

N6120 Sawyer Lake R
White Lakes WI 54991

SILVER BIRCH RANCH

INTRODUCING THE NBI CLASS OF 2021!

- Steve Sanford

While most of the students hail from Wisconsin, this year's class spans from coast to coast – New York to California! This group is very musically talented with over half involved in leading worship. Already, we are seeing their servant attitudes as they work with retreaters. Our students have spent the first weeks orienting to each other and life here at NBI. We praise God for giving us the opportunity to invest in their lives!

Classes this fall semester include Old Testament Survey, Missions and Evangelism, Christian Theology, and the start of the Personal Development Seminar. In addition to the academics, the students will be involved with the on-going ministry of Silver Birch Ranch and in the local community, giving them ample opportunity to put legs to their learning.

The sum total of all these experiences and opportunities will mold and shape these young people in incredible ways as they live out their calling within the Kingdom of God. Please join us in praying for them.

Maybe you or someone you know would benefit from a year at Nicolet Bible Institute. Here's the essential information:

Facts about NBI:

- One-year, college level program
- Affordable - \$7950 for tuition, books, fees, room, and board
- Qualified and caring instructors who hold earned master's and doctoral degrees
- Foundational Bible Courses – to help you own your faith

Visit our website at www.nicoletbibleinstitute.org or contact Rich Hess, Dean of Students, at 715.484.2322 x226 if you are interested in more information. Apply early. Space is limited. We are actively accepting students for the fall of 2021!

Finally, don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram if you are interested in relevant information about NBI and in seeing highlights of the student year.

TRADING POST ONLINE

Our Trading Post is restocked and we have updated our online store. Now is a great time to get some of your early Christmas shopping done. All of the proceeds go toward helping campers come to camp. So it's a great way to not only represent your favorite camp, but also be a part of helping young people come to camp and hear about Jesus. Head on over to silverbirchbranch.org/store to start browsing our latest selection.



SBR SUMMER MISSION PROJECT 2020



Silver Birch Ranch
N6120 Sawyer Lake Rd.
White Lake, WI 54491
715-484-2742

Every summer at Silver Birch Ranch we prayerfully select a project that we can support financially from donations received from our Full-time Staff, Summer Staff, and Volunteer Staff.

This past summer, 2020, we partnered with Restoration Ministries in Harvey, IL. Our goal was to raise funds to sponsor students so that they could attend a Christ-centered summer day camp program at their site. Each \$10 gift sponsored one student for an entire week of camp. We were able to raise \$1,241.65 to cover 124 students. A special thanks to everyone who contributed financially and supported this project with prayer. We thank the Lord for allowing us this opportunity.

Follow Us On:



• **Fall Men's Retreat**

October 2-4, 2020

• **Father-Daughter Retreat**

October 9-11, 2020

• **Mom Camp**

October 16-18, 2020

• **Fall Couples' Retreat**

Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2020

• **Scrapbooking Retreat**

November 12-15, 2020

• **Quilters' Retreat**

November 19-22, 2020

• **Winter Family Camp**

December 26-29, 2020

• **Winter Jam**

February 5-7, 2021



Scan QR code with your smart phone to learn more about our events and retreats!

SEASON OF TRANSFORMATION – WOLF RIVER REFUGE

- Matthew Shruck

Fall is well underway in the Northwoods, and we're anticipating an early, but very colorful autumn. We've already had a few frosty nights, but our cabins remain warm as we continue to host families and groups at the Wolf River Refuge. This summer has been a busy one, both for our calendar and for our work gloves. The changes that have taken place at WRR started with our new wooden pergola this spring, and they're not ending with the leaves on the trees. The new Nicolet Bible Institute class came over for a work day during their orientation and helped with the landscaping on our hill, as we continue to highlight the view of the Wolf River. They also assisted in some painting of cabin exteriors. Our new interns, Jordan and Shane, have been busy learning the ropes, pressure washing decks, and prepping for re-staining. We installed a new dock on the Wolf River, as well. Later this fall, we have a church group coming to serve by developing our path to the dock, setting up a new gathering location, staining our pergola, and splitting wood. We've also done some work replacing both cabin siding and roofing around the property.

Covid-19 has continued to alter the world around us, but our mission at the Wolf River Refuge remains the same. To that end, building relationships and investing in families is exactly what we've been doing all summer long. Our construction of the pergola proved to be perfect timing, as families, extended families, and groups felt comfortable around each other, around the fire, and in the cleansing Northwoods' air. The amount to which this gathering place has been used this summer, and the relationships that have been built around it, prove that God has His hand on this place. I pray that the rest of the new additions and improvements will continue to benefit our guests, their visits, and ultimately, the Kingdom. Further, I pray that this fall season and all the beautiful colors in God's creation will continually remind us that change is good, change is necessary, and that these changes, both in the trees and on our grounds, signify a time of preparation for new growth. Of course, we know that we are never done growing in sanctification either. Therefore, we invite you to revisit the Wolf River Refuge, so that as you enjoy the transformation of our grounds and of the many seasons in our lives, we can also join with you in celebrating the transformation that Christ has done in each of our hearts.