



June 2017



Dear Camp friends,

At age ninety, Sandy Abeler's legs are tired. Her knees don't want to bend and that replaced hip isn't cooperating. But in the water, "Swimming Grandma" is as free as a...fish!

"I may not be able to walk, but I can swim!" Sandy beams. And because she can swim, this "teenager-at-heart" with an inexhaustible love for Camp Lebanon still has a fun way to help kids get to Camp and hear the Gospel. You can help, too!

On Tuesday, July 4 at 11 AM, Grandma Sandy plans to make her sixth and final swim across Cedar Lake. After being dropped off on the far shore, her near half-mile swim back to Camp's docks will take a full half-hour or more. Her stiff shoulders won't allow her to use the American crawl stroke, but gliding through the water on her side or back will get the job done. Escorted by a large fleet of swimmers, pontoons, kayaks and canoes, she'll get there when she gets there!

Join the flotilla and multiply the blessing! You won't even have to get wet! This year, we're looking for 500 sponsors to join "Sandy's Swim Team." Your generous gift of \$25, \$50, \$500 or more will help Sandy reach her \$45,000 goal (\$500 for each of her 90 years!). Whatever the amount, you'll make a "big splash" with the hundreds of kids and families who will receive help. Last year, we awarded \$57,000 in grants to help children like Abby come to Camp. "I'm so glad I had a chance at Super Kids to learn how to live closer to God," she wrote. "On August 14, I got saved! Now I have two summer birthdays!"

For Sandy, going "all in" is simple. "It's all about helping kids find their way to Camp and a life-changing experience with Jesus!" Inspiration comes from her oft-quoted life verse: "She did what she could." (Mark 14:8) And she's done a lot for Camp! Her first five swims raised \$29,000 in scholarships. It's an amazing story about an amazing lady, and it was captured last summer in KARE 11's *Land of 10,000 Stories* by Boyd Huppert. (To watch the three-minute video, simply google "Swimming Grandma 89." Enjoy!)

Well, it's almost time for one last swim by a 90-year-old wanting to bless a 70-year-old ministry. Thanks for "jumping in" with us!



Bill Abeler, Executive Director



P.S. If you'd like to physically "take the plunge" and swim with Grandma Sandy, please contact us at [monte@camplebanon.org](mailto:monte@camplebanon.org) for details. Advanced notice and a \$250 minimum sponsorship is required. Whoever raises the most rides across with Sandy! Find sponsoring friends and go for it!

## I/We want to join Sandy's Swim Team and "swim" for scholarships!

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  new email

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  new address

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  primary Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  primary

One time gift:  \$10  \$25  \$50  \$100 (average grant)  \$500  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly scholarship support: I/We want to give \$\_\_\_\_\_ by automatic bank withdrawal. Please send ACH card.

Pay by check (preferred) or charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to  MC  Visa  DISC Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

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Return to: **Camp Lebanon • 1205 Acorn Rd • Burtrum MN 56318** or give on-line at [www.camplebanon.org/donate](http://www.camplebanon.org/donate)