



# CAMP LEBANON

A MEETING PLACE WITH GOD

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**MISSION:** Camp Lebanon is dedicated to providing a 'Meeting Place with God' to help the Church do the work of Christ.

**VISION STATEMENT:** Camp Lebanon views its Vision Statement as an experience (vs. site Master Plan and/or attendance goals) that includes all four elements that are to be a part of every programmed event.

*Through (1) the "funnest fun," (2) loving relationships, (3) beauty inside and out, and (4) Truth declared and illustrated, Camp guests young and old will taste the delight of being desired by their Creator God.*



## THE MINISTRY OF CAMP LEBANON

### VISION – AN EXPERIENCE:

Through (1) "The Funnest Fun!", (2) Loving Relationships, (3) Beauty Inside and Out, and (4) Truth Declared and Illustrated – Camp guests young old will taste the delight of being desired by their Creator God.

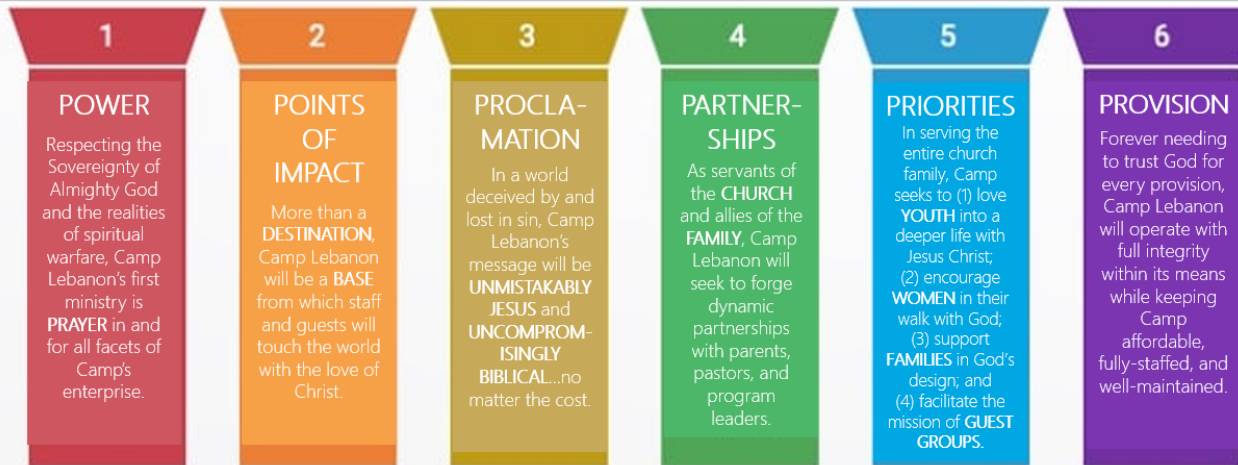
### GUEST PRIORITIES

- Safety
- Service
- The Gospel
- The Funnest Fun!

### CORE VALUES

Because ministry is all about relationships, Camp Lebanon is committed to:

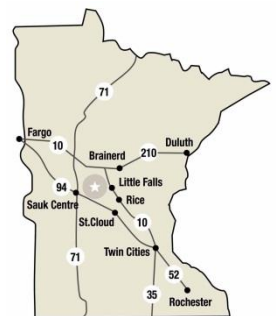
- God-Honoring Service
- Christ-Illustrating Love
- Excellence
- Team Unity
- Celebration of God's Creation
- Integrity in Everything



**MISSION:** Camp Lebanon exists to provide a 'Meeting Place with God' to help the Church do the work of Christ.

**LOCATION:** Camp Lebanon is located five miles west of Upsala, a friendly community of 400+ with another 1000+ in the surrounding lakes and farming areas. Situated fifteen miles from the geographic center of Minnesota, Camp is an easy two-hour drive from the Twin Cities. Distances: 110 miles northwest of US Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, 35 miles northwest of St. Cloud, and 25 miles south of Little Falls. Area churches: Community Covenant, Gethsemane Lutheran (ELCA), Word of Life Free Lutheran, St. Mary's Catholic, and Country Community - Holdingford (CCCC). Upsala Area School is a fine community school that serves grades K-12 with an average class size of approximately 30.

**CEDAR LAKE:** An ideal lake to facilitate an active camp, Cedar is 253 acres in size with a mean depth of 39 feet (maximum depth 88'). Served by a public boat landing, Cedar boasts quality fishing for largemouth bass, walleye (stocked), pike, and panfish. Clear year-round, Cedar Lake registered 20+ feet in clarity readings in recent summers becoming clearer as the summer goes on.



**CAMP HISTORY & OWNERSHIP:** Established in 1947 and incorporated the following year, founders sought to establish a summer Bible Camp to reach youth in Minnesota with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Over time this vision grew to a year-round ministry for youth, families and adults with an outreach that crosses Minnesota borders both west and east. Organizationally independent, Camp is currently owned by twenty churches that comprise the Cedar Lake Baptist Assembly, Inc. At least 50% must be members of the Venture Church Network (formerly Conservative Baptist,) but Camp gladly serves a wide range of denominations that either send campers to Camp Lebanon events or program their own. Each February at the Annual Meeting of the Membership a Board of Directors is elected consisting of ten members that set policy for Camp's operations and ministries.

## PROPERTY

Camp's main site is a fifty-acre peninsula on beautiful, spring-fed Cedar Lake. In 1993, Camp secured eight acres of undeveloped forest now called "Eagle Ridge" and currently used for tent camping. In 1999, Camp acquired 13.5 acres west of the driveway, now known as "Sunset Cove." The very next year, Camp added 15 more acres to the west famously referred to as "Bass Point." Anticipating future expansion, Camp purchased the non-contiguous 65-acre Johnson Property in 2002 and resold it to develop the long-awaited "North 40" parcel secured in December 2006. In 2008 a comprehensive site plan for Camp Lebanon's 143 acres was adopted by the membership and approved by Morrison County. It was updated for the second time in 2021. The plan serves as a development guide for future site improvements and program expansions.



## FACILITIES

- *The Rock!* (The gym, official name Ebenezer, "Thus far the LORD has helped us." New in 2024. Basketball, volleyball, pickleball courts, blacklight dodgeball and other games. Large common area and meeting spaces.)
- *Cedar Bay Lodge* (14 hotel-like rooms sleep five, full baths; built 1989, renovated 2004 & 2011.)
- *Birch Point Cottage* (Lodge-like, 4 rooms; built 1990, renovated 2003 & updated 2011.)
- *Cabins* (15 year-round units each sleep 12; community showers short walk away; constructed 1951-1994.)
- *Chalet* (dining hall 200+, main hall 250+, lounge, rec room, gift shop; 6 housing units sleep 52, elevator, handicapped friendly; built 1949, renovated 1970, enlarged 1996, entry reworked 2012, Main Hall remodeled 2014.)
- *Scandinavia* (6 housing units sleep 48; meeting room & recreation area; built 1993, renovated 2002, updated 2012, 2021.)
- *Log Cottages* (2 charming units with bedroom, bath, kitchenette, living area, loft; sleeps 4-6; renovated 2008.)
- *Main Office* (two-story, five offices; built 1975, renovated 2001, updated several times.)
- *Activity Center* (nature, crafts, canteen, generator; built 1969, renovated 1996, refloored 2018.)
- *Source of Life Gazebo* (beautiful meeting area for up to 25, fireplace, lake view, built 2000, renovated 2014.)
- *Eagle's Nest Rec Pavilion* (functions like a fun play space, feels like chapel, built 2016.)
- *Legends Field Wiffleball Stadium* (world class miniature ballpark with a big league feel, built 2017, improvements ongoing.)
- *Beaver Point Boardwalk, Tree House, hiking trails, sand volleyball court, tennis/basketball court, 2 ballfields.*
- *Waterfront:* beach, diving raft, sailboat, 4 pontoons, pedalboats, canoes, kayaks, corcls, ski boat, water toys.)

## CAMP'S FUTURE:

Three big efforts will be required to fulfill the Master's Plan. **Phase 1** (currently underway!): *Elevate* Camp's Impact (multi-purse gym). **Phase 2:** *Expand* Camp's Impact (North 40 Lodge, Second Site). **Phase 3:** *Enhance* Camp's Impact (Dining Hall).

## WINTER PROGRAM:

*Mega Fun* (grades 3-6), *Arctic Blast* (2 events, grades 7-12), *Winter Chill* (staff reunion.)

## SPRING PROGRAM:

*Quilt & Craft* (4 weekend & mid-week sessions), *Men's Advance!*, *Mother/Daughter/Grandma* (2), *Dads N Lads*, *Young at Heart Seniors & Senior Day*, *YAR* (Young Adults Retreat).

## SUMMER PROGRAM:

9 youth sessions (kindergarten graduates - high school grads, 1859 campers in 2023.)  
4 family events (Memorial Weekend, Summer Fun Weekend, Family Week, Labor Day Weekend.)  
*Leaders In Training* (grades 10+, three weeks of leadership development; 3 sessions in 2023.)  
*Sweat Team* (age 14+, two weeks of entry-level service training; 30 participants in 2023.)

## FALL PROGRAM:

*Dads 'n' Daughters*, *Men's Retreat*, *Women Retreats* (2), *Senior Adults & Senior Day*, *Quilt & Craft* (5).

## OPERATION:

\$2.5M budget. 50+ program events. 100+ rental groups. 12,000+ year-round guests.

## MEMBERSHIPS:

*Christian Camp & Conference Association (CCCA)*; *Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF)*

## MANAGEMENT STAFF:

<i>Executive Director</i>	Greg Standafer [2023]
<i>Director of Ministries</i>	Shane Hollenbeck [2019]
<i>Director of Facilities</i>	Scott Shoemaker [2021]
<i>Director of Operations</i>	[open]
<i>Women's Ministries Director</i>	Cassie Jean Louis [2024]
<i>Guest Ministries Director</i>	Jon Dierenfeld [2023]
<i>Assistant to the Dir of Ministries</i>	Izzy Thostenson [2022]
<i>Business &amp; Technology Manager</i>	Marcus Nelson [1999]
<i>Food Service Manager</i>	Tony Cluka [2012]
<i>Office Manager</i>	Beth Leaf [2024]
<i>Registrar</i>	Scarlett Sutton [2024]
<i>Sales Manager</i>	Carrie Gilbertson [2023]
<i>Housekeeping Manager</i>	[open]

## HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

- 1946 Effort initiated to secure a camp site for Minnesota Baptist youth.
- 1947 46 acres on Cedar Lake with six buildings purchased for \$6000. First camps held.
- 1948 Cedar Lake Baptist Assembly incorporated with fifteen charter members. First cabins.
- 1949 Chalet Dining Hall and ten more cabins constructed to replace army tents.
- 1952 Modern sanitation facilities installed.
- 1954 Chalet's upper level added.
- 1965 Family Camp ministries inaugurated.
- 1970 A-Frame Prayer Chapel (three-season) built.
- 1989 Hotel-like Cedar Bay Lodge opens new era in adult & family ministries. Quilt ministry begins.
- 1993 "Eagle Ridge" (8 acres) purchased for \$90,000.
- 1994 Scandinavia retreat facility constructed with an immediate gain of 1000 campers.
- 1996 Chalet renovated and expanded, elevator, added housing. Ministry expands by 1000 guests.
- 1998 "Sunset Cove" purchased.
- 1999 10,000 camper threshold reached. "Bass Point" purchased (campfires, creation studies.)
- 2006 "North 40" purchase (\$692,000) inspires an expanded vision.
- 2008 New Master Plan adopted by membership, approved by Morrison County. New shop.
- 2009 "Footprint for the Future" finished as 60K cubic yards of dirt moved to reset Camp's footprint. Zipline opens!
- 2011 State of the art waste water management system installed.
- 2012 Camp's "Hub" renovated, Chalet entry reimagined, and well upgraded.
- 2013 North 40 RV Park. Cabin renovations. New mattresses. A/C.
- 2014 West End septic upgrade. Source of Life Gazebo renovation.
- 2015 Eagle's Nest Pavilion barn raising. Quilt Blessing turns 25!
- 2016 Eagle's Nest dedicated. Beaver Point Board Walk – Phase I.
- 2017 Legends Field (wiffleball.) 70<sup>th</sup> Celebration.
- 2018 Camp rezoned Shoreland Commercial. Conditional Use Permit for new Master Plan.
- 2019 Chalet Deck replaced.
- 2020 COVID Family Resort. Scandinavia renovation. Dining Hall makeover. 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Quilt Ministry.
- 2021 Chapel Tent. Pontoon upgrades. Master Plan Updated.
- 2022 75<sup>th</sup> Celebration. Gym Campaign. 12,273 year-round guests (record!) Beaver Point Boardwalk – Phase 2. Docks.
- 2023 Gym construction begins! Tubing Hill toe rope. Staff duplex purchased. 18,547 summer youth.

