

Avon Park Camp Association
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Higher Ground
Quarterly eNews

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January 2015

From Our President

Greetings to the Avon Park camp meeting family,

Ella Mae and I enjoyed spending some of our vacation time at AvonPark from December 15th to January 3rd. During this time I was able to meet with the camp board and work on several items for the camp meeting. I had the privilege of speaking for the Thelma Bushong memorial service and for the Friday night candle lighting service. These were very special and meaningful occasions. Also, I had the opportunity to preach at our CCCU Community Bible Church.

We are looking forward to being back for the camp meeting around the 25th of January.

I want to urge you to begin earnestly praying for a mighty move of God on the camp services. We anticipate live streaming the services so that those who cannot get to Avon Park will be able to enjoy the services live on their computers.

Ella Mae and I are looking forward to another great camp meeting. Your presence will be a blessing and you will be blessed.

Grace & Peace,
Thomas H. Hermiz

Camp Meeting 2015

The 76th annual Avon Park Holiness Camp Meeting is Thursday, January 29, through Sunday, February 8, 2015. Scheduled Evangelists are George Holly, Norm Wilson, Nelson Perdue, with Bible Teacher Jonathan Morgan and Todd Guy, song leader. Missionaries will be Andy and Lizet Bowen, WGM, and John and Lisa Hamilton, OMS. See our [Camp Meeting Page](#) for more information and to download brochures.

Make your reservations for Camp Meeting today! For dorm rooms or apartment or trailer rentals, call Rosa at the office 863-453-6831. For the RV Park, please call Sonny and Dianne at 812-945-7828. Our campsites are also available year round!

IF YOU HAVE PREVIOUSLY RESERVED A PLACE AND WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND, PLEASE CALL ROSA OR DIANNE SO YOUR PLACE CAN BE FILLED WITH SOMEBODY FROM THE WAITING LIST.

Prayer Opportunities

Please pray for Jean Alexander, Mary Allen, Jim Allison, Ray Bachman, Norma Barnard, James Boardman, Flossie Collier, Len Gamber, Tom and Ella Mae Hermiz, Bob and Bonnie Hudson, Pete Mass, and Heidi Rahenkamp.

Please pray for those traveling, our camp leadership team, and each member of our camp.

News

Christmas Dinner



Ah! If only you had been here! The somethingth annual Avon Park Holiness Camp Christmas Dinner was a time for fellowship that cannot be matched at any other place or time (Well, the Thanksgiving Dinner was pretty close.). Once again we celebrated Flornell (Flossie) Collier's birthday-103 this year. The picture above of Bette McVety is an example of the festive-wear sported by our many Camp Members and Friends.



Great Events!

We enjoyed three great events already this season. Ann Downing led us in an inspiring evening of song and story in her inimitable style. Jaime Jorge shared his violin talent and introduced us to a young [Leah Flynn](#), (how precious can you be?), and Stephen Ditchfield shared Christmas Memories that inspired us all. What a great way to kick off the season!

In addition to these concerts, we have been sharing worship every Friday night, with Dr. Tom Hermiz leading in the candle lighting event, and Rev. Dean Gilkerson following the next week with communion. We are so blessed to have such leadership and the spirit is already here. Camp Meeting is going to be great!

Announcements

BE CAREFUL WHERE YOU PARK!



The city is working on a drainage project on the grounds, and the work has not yet been completed. There is no fence yet around the new retaining pond (see picture above) which is where many of us have been parking in previous years. Please be careful and do not cross the yellow warning tape. It is dangerous out there!

Because of the high rainfall this summer, the lake cleanup is not finished yet either. The city just can't get their equipment down to do the work. You will see that the lake is even still over the dock. oh my.....

If you have any news, pictures, poems, articles, or other items you would like included in the Camp Meeting daily newsletter, contact Patricia Bridewell at editor@avonparkcamp.com or 270-274-0270. Deadline is January 31.

Reminder: Calendar and Event Pages

Our new [Calendar](#) gives a quick overview of what is going on in the Camp. You can always access it from the [Calendar](#) link on the website. If you don't see an event listed, please let Patty know (editor@AvonParkCamp.org) so it can be added.

We have also updated our [Events](#) page which may also be accessed from a link on the website. From there you can check out the guest artists for this season.

THE KRAMERS IN CONCERT



FRIDAY JAN 23 at 7 pm
(in the Tabernacle)

GERALD CRABB IN CONCERT



FRIDAY FEB 13 at 7 pm
(in the Tabernacle)

GOD'S BIBLE SCHOOL CHOIR IN CONCERT



MONDAY FEB 23 at 7 pm
(in the Tabernacle)

THE WACASTERS IN CONCERT



FRIDAY MAR 13 at 7 pm
(in the Tabernacle)

BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Due to the illness of Rev. Ray Bachman, the Camp-Wide Bible Study on Tuesdays has been postponed. Please listen for updates during Friday evening services.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

The Ladies Welcome Tea will be held on Wednesday, January 21 in the Dining Hall at 2 pm. The theme is "The Bride of Christ" and is based on the words of Jesus in Matthew 13:45 *Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls*. We are asking each lady to wear pearls.

GERALD CRABB IN CONCERT

We are fortunate this year to have Gerald Crabb in our tabernacle on February 13. You won't want to miss this!

Gerald Crabb is a Dove Award Winner, singer, songwriter and preacher. He has written over 400 songs and has had 22 national number one songs. Many of the songs that this songwriter has written have been recorded by popular groups and singers such as The Crabb Family, Randy Travis, Marie Osmond, Marty Raybon, Larry Sparks, Jason Crabb, The Gaither Vocal Band, The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir, Donny McClurkin, Karen Peck, The Talley Trio, The Hoppers, and many others. You can read more on his website GeraldCrabb.net.

You may recognize "Through the Fire", "Please Forgive Me", "Please Come Down To Me", "Sometimes I Cry", or this editor's favorite, "Master of Grace". It will be great hearing these songs from the author as he shares some of how the songs came to be written.

CAMP MEMBERS' ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations and God bless you to George and Shirley Allen, who celebrate their 59th anniversary on January 28!

The Strange Preacher's Kid

"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them." -- Luke 1:68 NIV

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ...He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him." --John 1:1-4, 10-11 NIV



We sing "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come", but it is not the world rejoicing: It is God's people. The world, the world he created, the children he so longed to have fellowship with, did not recognize him. They did not receive him.

It is difficult to imagine, to believe, that God who exists in eternity past and in eternity future, who created the world was actually born as a baby. Yet that is exactly what he chose.

With the birth of Christ came the humanization of God. He was no longer purely divine. He was in the world in a new way, in a way that mankind could see, hear, touch. And he could die. God could offer himself, his human-born self, to effect the restoration of our fellowship with him.

We can receive him, learn from him, live in him, and share in his life. All the world can have this joy if they only will. Pray for those you love who are unsaved that they will be drawn to Christ. Lift him up and they will be drawn to him.

-- PAB

ePRAYER MAILING LIST

The Camp prayer chain is active. Please contact Joanne Gamber, 863-453-3172, with any requests.