

Avon Park Camp Association

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Vol. IX, No. 4**Higher Ground**

Quarterly eNews

JANUARY 2018**From Our President**

Greetings in Jesus' name,

Recently, Ella Mae and I had the opportunity to spend a couple of weeks in Avon Park. We were amazed at how rapidly the mess from the hurricane had been cleaned up.

I want to thank those who gave so generously to help us make the needed repairs from all the damage. A special thank you to Dale Dorothy, our trustees and many volunteers who helped with the cleanup and repairs. Your hard work saved us thousands of dollars.

We are now eagerly looking forward to camp meeting starting Sunday, February 4, at 7:00pm. The camp closes on February 11.

We have an outstanding team comprised of Nelson Perdue, J. K. Warrick serving as evangelists, Chris Bounds as the Bible teacher and Mike and Denise Cork, the song evangelists. You will not want to miss one service.

I have been asked to open the camp on February 4th at 7:00pm. Monday the 5th will be missionary day. The camp evangelists begin on Tuesday morning with the Bible hour.

Please pray earnestly for a great move of God on our camp this year.

Grace and peace,

-- *Tom Hermiz***From our Director of Operations**

Dear friends of Avon Park Camp,

We bring you greetings and best wishes for a safe and prosperous year of 2018. May this be a year of great spiritual growth for all of us as we seek to follow Jesus.

Along with many of our friends who are returning to Avon Park for the winter season we are happy to welcome fifteen new guests who have joined us for the first time. We trust that their time here with us will be a blessing to them. It's always encouraging to see how those who have been here in previous years reach out to welcome our newcomers.

As we begin the new year, all but two of our apartments are either occupied or reserved. There are only a few dormitory rooms that are not yet reserved, and just a very few smaller sites left in our RV Park. We expect most of our facilities to be full during our camp meeting the first week of February. During this past year, four houses on the camp grounds have sold and currently there are six houses up for sale. The price range is from \$45,000 to \$92,000. All but one of the houses is fully furnished. If you know someone who may be interested in purchasing a home here at Avon Park Camp, you may encourage them to contact the camp office.

Our new activity center in the Fellowship Cafe just opened and there are daily activities during the week as well as many special activities and events planned throughout the winter season. This will help everyone to get to know each other better and encourage great Christian fellowship.

Our Tuesday morning Bible Studies in January will be led by Michael Sanders from Warner University in Lake Wales and for the months of February and March by our own Rev. Ray Bachman. We want to encourage everyone on the camp grounds to attend our weekly Bible Studies as well as our Thursday morning times of Prayer Fellowship.

One of the big events we've been facing this fall has been cleaning up debris and repairing the damage to our buildings from hurricane Irma that came through Avon Park in September with winds clocked at nearly 130 mph. The camp received damage on about 90% of our buildings. Most of the damage was limited to fascia, soffits, and roofs along with some water damage. We are so grateful that there was limited structural damage.

Thanks to the help of many volunteers all the debris has been removed and many of the repairs have been made. Our largest apartment complex is still in need of a new roof that we hope to install prior to the rainy season this next spring if adequate funds become available.

Blessings!

-- Dale Dorothy

From our Treasurer

Dear friends of Avon Park Camp,

Thank all of you who are able to reside on the camp grounds, at least for a period of time, and those of you who have been here before but are now unable to come. It is a blessing to recognize that we receive prayer and financial support from you in both categories. As you know Hurricane Irma went directly over Avon Park Camp but did a little spin or two before moving on which left some damage to most of the property. Wind damage insurance has not covered much of the repairs, but so far we have received \$19,600.00 from our request sent to you. Thank you and perhaps there are those who were waiting for the New Year to give.

Each year we experience numerous deaths among our people and Memorial giving has been very generous this year. Some give in Honor of individuals as well. We are very blessed with volunteers who will share their time and talents to help in so many ways on the grounds and save many

dollars. However, in months when we are very low on the presence of residents we have to pay cleaners as guests use our facilities. Appliances, including Air Units are needing replacement and our property taxes have increased by a healthy 30%.

All that to say letâ€™s pray that 2018 will be a stable and prosperous year for all so that Avon Park Camp may continue to upgrade buildings and ground and push forward in the Lordâ€™s Ministry which He is blessing and using for the building of His Kingdom. We honor, praise and glorify Him and thank You for your faithfulness to Avon Park Camp.

-- *Bonnie Hudson, Treasurer*

Prayer Opportunities

Please pray for Jean Alexander, Grace Anderson, Billie Beard, Jim and Suzy Bryce, Burnis Bushong, Joanne Chew, Flossie Coller, Dean and Carol Ellicott, Joanne Gamber, Walter and Genny Hackett, Imogene James, Jack and Dorothy Luckert, Bette McVety, Reba Peters, Jim and Heidi Rahenkamp, Bob and Arlene Sanger and Phil Tackett.

Please pray for the Enright family. Ken and Lorraine were missionaries to Congo and Zambia. Their son John and daughter-in-law Kendra (continuing the work in Zambia) were in an accident December 26th. John was killed, Kendra had broken ribs, but is home now recuperating.

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

Announcements

BROCHURES AVAILABLE

The 2018 Camp Meeting Brochures can now be downloaded and printed:

[2018 Brochure Inside](#) | [2018 Brochure Outside](#)

CONCERT SCHEDULE

The concert schedule for the 2017-2018 Camp Year includes the Mark Dubbeld Family on Friday, February 2, and The Lore Family on Friday, March 2. In addition, the KMBC Trio will be part of our worship on Saturday, February 10, and God's Bible School Choir will be here again on Monday, February 26th.

BIBLE STUDY

January Bible study meets January 13th, 20th and 27th at 10:00 am in Luce Lounge. Studying the

Gospel of Matthew, the leader this month is Rev. Larry Locke, Adjunct Faculty, Warner University. February and March Bible Study leader is Ray Bachman.

FRIDAY NIGHTS

Most Friday night speakers have been scheduled.

JANUARY: 5th-Dr. Michael Sanders, Professor of Christian Formation, Warner University; **12th**-John and Priscilla Kunkle, WGM Texas-Mexican Border; **19th**-Evangelist Lane Loman; **26th**-Diana Furr, Champions for Destiny

FEBRUARY: 2nd-Mark Dubbeld Family; **4th-11th**-Camp Meeting; **16th**-Ray Bachman; **23rd**-Dale Linhart

MARCH: 2nd-Lore Family; **9th**-Missionary Bark Fahnestock, Ethiopia, SIM; **16th**-Bill Brown, retired Nazarene pastor; **23rd**-Frank Carter, retired Friends minister, District Superintendent **30th**-Dave Cowles-Good Friday Service

AUXILIARY LUNCHEON

The Ladies' Auxiliary annual luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, January 25th, at noon. This year we will be having a baby shower for Choices. Tickets are on sale Fridays after Evening Service.

COUNTRY STORE CRAFT SHOW

The Ladies' Auxiliary presents the Country Store Craft Show on Friday and Saturday, February 23rd and 24th. Come ready with your items to show or sell. More information to come.

FELLOWSHIP CAFE

We still need volunteers to help in the Fellowship Cafe for January and February. The commitment would be for approximately 2-3 hours, 7 or 8 different days. For those who have already volunteered or anyone else willing, please email or contact tonyarlawrence@gmail.com (517-416-3448). Looking forward to a wonderful time with all of you.

HOMES FOR SALE

We still have some houses and park models for sale on the campground. For more information, call Beverly Cowles at 863-368-1107.

NAZARENE CHURCH DAY

Church of the Nazarene Day is Tuesday, February 6. Following the morning service the group will gather in the Dining Hall to share dinner and fellowship. Invite your friends from the area to join us!

MISSIONARY CHURCH DAY

Missionary Church Day is Wednesday, February 7. Get it on your calendar now and be sure not to miss.

We will start the day with the 10:30 preaching service in the Tabernacle with Dr. J. K. Warrick bringing the message. Following the service we will move to the Clubhouse at Oaks Village at the Southeast corner of the Campgrounds. We will kick-off with a catered meal where we will be able to carry-on conversations more easily and have no rush to finish eating and chatting.

Our program will feature singing, a short musical concert, testimony time and a message from Dr. Gregg Choneweth, President of Bethel College.

For more information, contact Dawn Batterbee Miller at batterbee@aol.com.

CAMP MEETING 2018

The 79th annual Avon Park Holiness Camp Meeting from Sunday, February 4, through Sunday, February 11, 2018 promises excitement and spirit-filled worship with Preaching Evangelists Dr. Nelson Perdue and Dr. J. K. Warrick, Bible Teacher Dr. Christopher Bounds and Mike and Denise Cork, song evangelists.

Dr. Hermiz will open the camp on Sunday evening. Monday is MISSIONARY DAY, and Tuesday begins our schedule of Morning Magnification at 7:00 am, Bible Study at 9:00 am, Morning Service at 10:30 am, Missionary Moments at 6:15 pm, and Evening Service at 7:00 pm.

Please reserve your room, apartment or RV slot early, as those who only come for part of Camp Meeting will have fewer available openings. Brenda will be pleased to help you with your reservations. Call her at the office: 863-453-6831

[2018 Brochure Inside](#) | [2018 Brochure Outside](#)

Sharing Corner

George and Shirley Allen (Lot 38) will celebrate 62 years of marriage on January 28th.



The campground has been active this fall. We started our Friday night services the first Friday in November, and have enjoyed great fellowship, preaching and music. We shared in a camp and community Thanksgiving Dinner, a Christmas cantata by the choir of Community Bible Church the first Friday in December, and a Christmas Dinner. These events help make the season for those of us who are away from our family during these times. Some of our family members came and joined us in the events. If you have never come to Avon Park early enough to share in these festivities, please consider it for next year. (And stay for the Easter dinner April 1st!)



John Neihof's new book. Jonah and the [Bitter Blues: A Biblical Solution to the Problem of Bitterness](#), has been published, and is now available at Amazon.com

The Strange Preacher's Kid

Jesus is David.
We are the helpless Israelites.



And Goliath



is dead.

GUEST AUTHOR: ADAM FORD

You know the story of DAVID AND GOLIATH and are familiar with the triumph of the boy David over the giant Goliath. Maybe you have been taught that this story is an illustration of how we, with God's help, can slay the giants we face in life.

Take yourself out of the role of David to see the glorious essence of this story. The Bible is not about us, it is about Jesus. If we try to make ourselves into the hero of the story, we set ourselves up for epic, frequent, egregious disappointment. What happens when you gather your stones, ask God for help, and head out to the battlefield to face life's giants like criticism, broken relationships, depression, job loss, cancer, failure, etc.? Sometimes, by God's grace, you win. Other times not.

But if we realize that we're not David and we put Jesus in His rightful position as King, Conqueror, God, Hero--we can't lose. Ever. Because Jesus is the one who stood toe-to-toe with the overpowering giant of SIN, DEATH and HELL. Jesus is the boy who faced death like a lamb led to slaughter, and Jesus defeated the monster on behalf of his people, and Jesus is pleased to give His people the spoils of His victory. JESUS is David. We are the helpless Israelites. And Goliath is dead.

-- Adam Ford adam4d.com

Questions or comments about this newsletter may be directed to
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