

December 2012

Greetings from Bethany Birches Camp,

God is moving in the hearts of children in central Vermont. We have seen a longing and desire among these children to hear more about God. And so we provide a place to gather, to connect, to teach, and to plant seeds of faith in our campers. We do this so that they may come to know and understand Christ, and to become a light in the world.

Since the 1960's Bethany Birches Camp (BBC) has provided a place for kids to come to know God and each other. BBC was born out of a desire to spread God's love and help young people experience that love. Camp was made possible through generous gifts of land, labor, and love. The need for these gifts still exists today. Fortunately, we have succeeded as far as our current but limited facilities allow.

The current pavilion is in failing health. The floor gets very wet when it rains, the foundation is rotting, the fireplace is structurally unsound, there is limited or no storage, there are no bathrooms, and the health department has concerns about the kitchen. In addition to these items, the pavilion cannot be enclosed which means that it is constantly exposed to Vermont's extreme weather conditions and can't be used for year-round programming.

Without the pavilion, there would not be a program at BBC. With the pavilion in its current condition, BBC is limited in the programming that it can offer.

After careful consideration and discernment, the camp's board of directors has recommended the building of a new pavilion to replace the existing pavilion. The new pavilion will resolve all of the current issues, plus provide enough space for program expansion and preserve the style of building we've come to know and love. To see the plans, find a video located at <a href="https://www.bethanybirches.org/mission-possible">www.bethanybirches.org/mission-possible</a>. We are excited about the opportunities this will create for serving more campers and providing a place for them to learn about God year-round.

We have been touched by the early support for this project, and we are reminded of what Jesus said in Matthew 19:26 "...with God all things are possible". The costs associated with the construction of the new pavilion (\$1.4 million) and the regular fundraising for program subsidy (\$100,000/year) bring the total estimated project cost to 1.8 million dollars over a 3-4 year period.

We invite you to join us in the community of love we call camp by making a generous gift to *Mission Possible: The Pavilion Project*. Please prayerfully consider how you might help with this renewal of our facilities. Thank you for your consideration and ongoing support for Bethany Birches Camp.

Sincerely,

**Chad Yoder** 

RDT Co-Chair & BBC Association Member

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RDT Co-Chair & BBC Board Member

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