Camp Christopher Set To Deliver Summer Fun To Campers

By Tess Flannery, Director of Camp Christopher

Parents send their children to camp in order to invest in their growth and development. The dynamics of a well-run summer camp cannot be mimicked at home. Reputable summer camps give children opportunities to practice social skills like friend-making, cooperation, compromise and conflict resolution. They learn to set concrete goals around skill development like learning how to use the paddle board, hitting a bullseye in archery, or setting a personal record in our Color Run. The key to this experience is a setting in which campers feel supported by counselors and peers. Kids must be comfortable in failing and trying again, secure that they will be safe and encouraged at every turn.

Activities offered by a high-quality summer camp allow campers to shift from a mindset of learning to a mindset of growth. Rather than believing they have a static level of ability in any given activity, campers learn that they can improve their levels of ability through practice, effort, focus and drive. They learn to think for themselves and have individual opinions. They develop their own motivations to succeed that will stay with them forever.

As we enter our 94th summer, I am proud of Camp Christopher’s excellent reputation. Our identity is rooted in a strong tradition of community, our appreciation for the unique natural environment of these grounds, and our commitment to Catholic Social Teaching. I am proud of our committed and talented staff who help thousands of children realize their full potential each year. But I am most proud and impressed to have known so many parents who have made the brave and selfless decision to send their child to summer camp.

Throughout this past year, Catholic Charities has continued to make changes to programming and facilities to improve our services. Some of these include:

- Cabin James Gibbons will receive the same internal improvements to the paneling that it received in 2016- With funding from the Friends of Camp Christopher, cabin James Gibbons is being sided internally with knotty pine to brighten and update the campers’ experience.
- Catholic Charities provided funding for the complete renovation of the Low Ropes Course, including new elements and activities to make the activities more challenging and fun than ever.
- The St. Francis Dining Hall received funding from Catholic Charities for several new pieces of commercial equipment including a dishwasher, stand mixer, warming oven, etc.
- New beds and mattresses as well as interior renovation within cabins Rene Goupil and Isaac Joques.
- A new well was drilled and the existing well was updated to meet the growing demands of the camp.
- Hiring of our new Assistant Camp Director, Tom McGraw, a 9 year veteran in the camping industry.

Improvements will continue to be made throughout the spring and open for you to see at our Open House Events.

Making the decision to send your child to camp is not easy, and we appreciate the trust parents place in us year after year. We will do our best to provide children with with safe, exciting and fun experiences from which he or she will benefit for a lifetime.

Register For Camp Christopher at campchris.org
Open Houses April 15 and May 12 / 1 to 3 p.m.

Join Us!

Friday, May 18 for a chance to bid on a dinner party in your home with the
Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, Bishop of Cleveland

For Details on Derby For Dollars, See Pages 3 & 4
Greetings! As the weather breaks and the Spring season is upon us, I would like to offer a message of hope and ask for prayers for new beginnings. Our value of hope calls us to live and work for hope for the future knowing that in God’s hands all good will always prevail.

In response to the Opioid Epidemic, we are developing resources to respond to those in crisis through their recovery process. I am pleased to announce that we will be providing service coordination for the United Way’s Bold Goal #4 project to reduce overdoses in Summit County. This role allows us to provide treatment referrals and concrete resources to address the barriers to recovery. In addition to the service coordination piece, we are developing an Intensive Outpatient Program to serve those persons in recovery. We appreciate the support of the Summit County ADHMS Board and the United Way of Summit County.

Please pray for our staff as we begin this new endeavor. See the back cover for details of the Hope for Healing event coming up April 12 at St. Vincent’s Church.

Summer camping programs are gearing up for another fantastic year. Please visit us during our Open Houses at Camp Christopher. We would love to show you around. Registration for all programs is open.

As you can see in this issue, our programming efforts strive to instill hope in those persons we serve. Spread the good news with others and join our efforts.

God Bless,
Catherine
3rd Annual Derby for Dollars

Friday, May 18, 2018
Portage Country Club
240 North Portage Path
Akron, OH 44303

Featuring Father Leo Patalinghug

A Fundraiser to Support Catholic Charities Summit County Programming in Summit County

☐ Derby Tickets       Qty. ______  x  $125.00 each= $__________

☐ Grand Prize Raffle  Qty. ______  x  $25.00 each= $__________
   (Ticket to win 1 of 3 great prizes - winner need not be present to win.)

☐ Donation  $_______________

PAYMENT - Must be received by May 11, 2018
Pay online at ccdCLE.org/derby4dollars or select an option below.
☐ Check payable to CCSC enclosed.
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Catholic Charities Summit County is a 501(c) (3) organization (Tax ID: 34-1318541).
A portion of event sponsorship is tax deductible as permitted by law. We will mail a receipt.
Development News

Derby For Dollars …Dinner With The Bishop

Join us at the iconic Portage Country Club in West Akron Friday, May 18, for the third annual Derby for Dollars. You will have the chance to bid on dinner at your home with Bishop Nelson Perez!

Father Leo Patalinghug will be back to cook live on stage and deliver his message of the importance of food to the family and in our own spiritual lives. Check him out at fatherleofeeds.com.

Also scheduled to appear is Sister Ana Gonzalez, who will deliver a message detailing the importance of the Basic Needs and Emergency Services of Catholic Charities of Summit County. Sister Ana is a native of El Paso, Texas. You will not want to miss her passionate words.

Derby for Dollars benefits the Basic Needs Programs of Catholic Charities in Summit County. With the poverty rate in Summit County close to 15%, the demand for Emergency Financial Assistance, Community Hot Meals and our Food Pantry programs far outweighs our capacity which has never been greater.

Please plan to join us May 18. For more information, call 330-762-2961, ext 220 or visit www.ccdocle.org/derby4dollars. More information on Page 3.

#23

No, not that #23 … But, mark your calendar for the 23rd annual Catholic Charities Community Services of Summit County Golf Outing Thursday, June 7, at Mayfair Country Club, 2229 Raber Road in Uniontown. Entry fee is $100 ($400 per foursome) and will include full breakfast and lunch buffets as well as a delicious dinner generously catered by U.S. Foods in Mayfair’s beautiful banquet facility. For an additional $25 per player ($100) per foursome, participants can pay for prize raffle tickets, 50/50 tickets, mulligans and skins game entry in advance.

So please plan to join us to support our programs for people with developmental disabilities. For more information, call 330-762-2961, ext. 220, or look for details at www.ccsummitcounty.org.

Partners In Giving

Thank you to all who made this year’s Partners in Giving campaign an incredible success. The generosity of our donors here in Summit County is an inspiration to the staff and volunteers who work each and every day to provide the highest level of programs and services. Our theme was Serving God, Serving Community. Together, we make that happen for those in need.

Donors

2017-18 Partners In Giving

Thank you to all who made this year’s Partners in Giving campaign an incredible success – We exceeded our goal by more than 21 percent. The generosity of our donors here in Summit County is an inspiration to the staff and volunteers who work each and every day to provide the highest level of programs and services. Our theme was Serving God, Serving Community. Together, we make that happen for those in need.

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Program News

CC Summit collaborating with St. Vincent-St. Mary students

Catholic Charities Summit County is engaging students from St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in a pilot program called Youth Leadership Corps. The students will participate as mentors and have opportunities for formation and engagement in a variety of the services Catholic Charities provides.

These include our Community Hot Meals, Adult Day Services and other programs. Students would meet regularly with Catholic Charities staff members and gain service hours toward their graduation requirements. Students are working toward a program certificate of completion. Nearly 100 students from St. Vincent-St. Mary have expressed interest in the program. The Service Corps would be of great benefit to our MAGIC Mentoring program which is funded through a State Community Connectors Grant.

Partners with the Lake Anna YMCA

Catholic Charities Summit County is offering parenting classes at the Lake Anna YMCA in Barberton. We use the nationally-recognized and evidence-based Active Parenting curricula: one for parents of children ages 5 to 12 and the other for parents of teen-aged children.

Classes began in late February and run through April.

Active Parenting sessions tackle topics like: Cooperation & Communication, Responsibility & Discipline, Building Self-Esteem and Understanding & Redirecting Misbehavior.

Active Parenting for Teens curriculum includes: Responsibility & Discipline, Issues surrounding Drugs, Sexuality and Violence and Building Courage. Teens are welcomed and encouraged to participate.

All sessions are led by staff of the Catholic Charities Behavioral Health Department.

If your group is interested in hosting Parenting Workshops, please contact 330-762-7481.

Volunteer News

April is National Volunteer Month, when we celebrate the work that volunteers do year-round. Volunteers enhance the programs at Catholic Charities in Summit County with a unique personal touch. Whether it is teaching a seven year old a new craft at Camp Christopher, sharing a laugh with an older adult in Summit Adult Day Services, serving a Hot Meal to those in need or assisting a child with developmental disabilities, our volunteers impact lives every day. We rely on hundreds of volunteers to provide services and help us grow to meet the needs of all participants. Volunteers are the cornerstone of our programs.

Catholic Charities is celebrating with a Volunteer Recognition Event April 16 at St. Augustine Manor in Cleveland. Sites throughout our eight-county system submitted nominations for “Catholic Charities Volunteer of the Year” and “Catholic Charities Volunteer Group of the Year.” We are proud to nominate our beloved Women’s Board President and faithful volunteer Anne MacWherter to receive this honor:

Anne embodies concern for the poor and hope in her volunteer duties with us. Over the past decade, Anne has been a faithful volunteer on Wednesdays for our community hot meal and food pantry at Blessed Trinity Parish in North Akron. Anne serves by sorting through donations of food that are served at the meal and in the pantry. She plays a vital role in helping us feed thousands of people each year. Anne also is in her second year as President of the Women’s Board of Catholic Charities of Summit County. She has been a member for nearly a decade. Her leadership on the Women’s Board has been remarkable, overseeing the annual style show (as well as participating as a model). The event raised more than $14,000 in 2017 (2018 still being tabulated) which the Women’s Board donated to Camp Christopher, Emergency Assistance and the Food Programs. Our Women’s Board also does the Christmas Bags of Love program which provides gifts and household items for more than 30 needy families in Summit County and running monthly meetings efficiently and enthusiastically. Anne and her husband John support CC Summit with a financial contribution each month. They also support all of our fundraising efforts. Anne continues to inspire with her Concern for the Poor and her willingness to provide Hope for those in need.

Anne’s devotion to helping those in need via countless hours of volunteer work drives others to do the same. Everyone loves working with Anne because she is passionate about our mission, and that inspires others to do and feel the same.

The annual style show has a huge financial impact on Camp Christopher (camperships), Emergency Financial Assistance and our Food Programs. These efforts are in addition to her volunteer work each Wednesday in our Hot Meals program and Food Pantry at Blessed Trinity. Anne’s leadership through the Women’s Board as well as her individual volunteer efforts are inspiring and we cannot thank her enough.
Plan Ahead

**Camp Christopher Open Houses**
Summer camp is just around the corner and we are looking forward to another great year! Tour Camp Christopher and check out our cabins, dining hall, horseback riding facilities, ropes challenge courses, zip line, archery area, lakes for swimming, fishing, and canoeing and more! Come register for the 2018 Camping Season. Our staff will be on hand to answer any questions and help you complete your registration.

**April 15 / May 12**  
All will be from 1 to 3 p.m.  
Location: Camp Christopher - 1930 N. Hametown Road, Akron

**ADS Caregiver Support Group**
The caregiver support group meets the last Wednesday of every month from 10 to 11:30 a.m. It is an opportunity for sharing, education, and support. This group is open to anyone who is a caregiver. They do not have to have someone enrolled in our program. Have them please call 330-762-2000 to RSVP.

**Hope & Healing Beyond Heroin**
Join us for a community prayer service to help end the opioid epidemic. Counselors and Community Resource Information will be available.

**April 12 / 7 to 8 p.m.**  
St. Vincent Church - 164 West Market Street, Akron  
For more information Email: jdouglas@stvincentchurch.com or Phone: 330.271.7970

**3rd Annual Derby for Dollars**
May 18 / 6 to 10 p.m.  
Location: Portage Country Club, 240 N. Portage Path, Akron  
To register: visit ccdocle.org/derby4dollars or phone 330.762.2961

**23rd Annual Golf Outing**
June 7 / 9 a.m.  
Location: Mayfair Country Club, 2229 Raber Road, Uniontown  
To register, go to www.ccdocle.org/summitgolf or call 330-762-2961, ext. 220