



BOXCROSS

Spring & Summer 2023



Note from the Director

by Matt Cox



What started gradually in December at the Winter Solstice, gains momentum through the Spring with the greatest amount of change being noticed during March (the Vernal Equinox). The pinnacle will occur during the Summer Solstice. What I am referring to is the amount of daylight that we are able to enjoy. During the winter, morning barn chores begin and evening chores conclude

in the dark. Strategically placed lights help with this process, but when daylight comes, everything is navigated so much easier. Light makes all the difference.

Our theme for this upcoming summer at the Ranch is "Walking in the Light". We're focusing on I John 1 which tells us - "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."

This is such a rich passage, and I'm excited for us to be memorizing and meditating on it. In the Gospel of John, he tells us about the nature of God. Other gospel writers tell us about what God did and also what Christ, who is God, did and said. John however focuses also on who He is; His character. God IS light. John tells us in his gospel "God is spirit" and further on he tells us that "God is love".

Scripture is filled with references to light, and we celebrate that light is life. John 1 instructs us regarding Jesus that; "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it." He goes on to tell us that Jesus was "the true Light which gives light to every man." He grants that light to us, but it is conveyed to us through the Lord Jesus Christ. This is salvation!

Paul tells us in II Corinthians 4:6 "For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

Through the light of the Gospel comes eternal life. So as the days grow longer, may we be encouraged to celebrate the Light of Life; Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

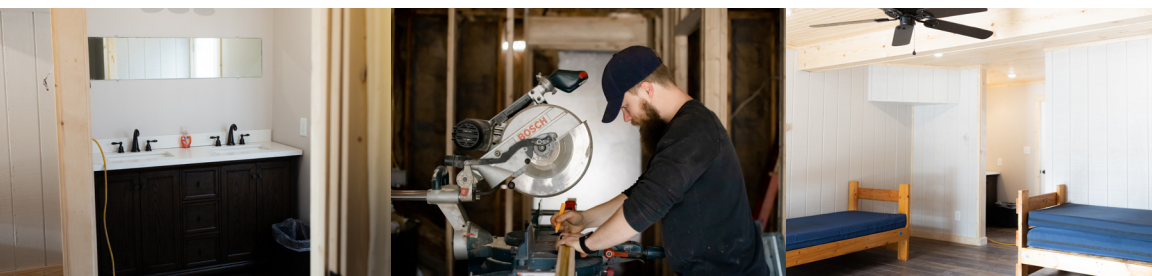


Progress Report

by Donnie Rosie

We are excited to announce that \$117,258 has been raised for the Bunkhouse Renovation Project! This is more than our original \$100,000 goal, but most projects cost more than estimated, so we anticipate the extra funds being a huge blessing. Since we have met the goal, we have already started working on this project since it is a big one. We will replace the roof, renovate 6 rooms, 6 bathrooms, and add a porch. If there is money left, we will also work on adding bathrooms to Settlers Bunkhouse and renovating two other smaller bunkhouses. We hope to get as much done as possible before June 1st. There is much to be done as we get ready for our busy spring retreat season and summer camp, but we are encouraged with all we have accomplished so far. We are still taking volunteers and donations if you want to help with this! Maybe your church would like to bring a work group out to help us work on the project?

Since our fundraising is going well for that building project, we will focus Warren Gives toward the scholarship fund, as we have done in the past. We aim to raise money so kids can come to camp regardless of funds. During this event, we hope to win the state challenge and have a donor from all 50 states. We have won the challenge before, but we have never had all 50 states accounted for during that day. Will you help represent your state? Will you help us send even more kids to camp? We hope that you join us for Warren Gives day on May 10th. We would also love for you to help spread the word to those who have financial needs and invite them to Summer Camp. Scholarship information can be found on our website.





Glimpse Into Our Lives

by Jenni Cox

One of the greatest joys of being on staff is watching our staff family grow. We're not just talking about new hires either! We will be welcoming 4 new babies this spring at the Ranch! One has already made his appearance. We just love watching all of the little ones running around camp, and for myself, it brings back memories of my own children in their younger years. Cowboy boots of all sizes have littered our mudrooms and my girls have outgrown many prairie dresses. At present, there are 28 staff kids under the age of 18.

The Ranch can be a place of wondrous adventures. When my own kids were little, a whole bunch of them would take advantage of a former excavation area, playing in the puddles and dirt mounds for hours. They fondly named this particular place L.A. Upon returning to the house covered in mud and showing off the frogs they had found, I inquired what L.A. stood for. I was informed it meant Large Area. Though I admit I thought it stood for something more intriguing, I always loved seeing these times of creative play.

Being raised on staff has its own unique challenges and blessings. They are given the opportunity to witness many aspects of working in ministry with all of its joys and struggles. They have the blessing of experiencing God at work, hearing testimonies throughout summer camp, the School of Discipleship, retreats, etc., but as parents, it can be easy to bring your work home, and sometimes even bring your kids to work. Staff kids have the challenge of sharing their parents with the public, but also the chance to serve alongside them. One former staff kid shared with me that their greatest struggle was seeing their parents, but not feeling like they had access to them. Sometimes they desire to serve in anonymity instead of being seen as "the son or daughter of" My own children have shared that they love their relationships with the other families, that they feel there were, and still are, many looking out for them. They grow to love the student body and often these students have become "adopted" big brothers and sisters to our kids. Yearly goodbyes are hard.


Each one of them views their childhood through their own experiences, personality and set of lenses. They reap so many blessings though we know the front lines can also be a hard place to grow up. Our prayer is that they would take the precious years of memories here and use them to build a foundation of dedication to the Lord. Would you join us in these prayers?

WANTED ITEMS

- Pony Vaulting surcingle
- Driving harness for small draft
- Vaulting saddle pads
- 6' ladders
- NKJV or ESV Bibles
- Brooms*
- Snowmobile
- Vet Wrap
- 24 - 70 Canon Lens
- Office Pens*
- Highlighters*
- 65# Card Stock Paper
- Regular Size Staples*
- Towels*
- Multiple Sizes of Band-aids
- Vacuum Cleaners*
- Kickballs
- Swim goggles
- Basketballs
- Little Tykes Houses

*You can view these specific items and more on our Amazon wish list.



 View List

Retreats & Events



Open House | May 29

We invite you to join us on Memorial Day for a day filled with fun, western activities. Open House is a great time for you to find out what Miracle Mountain Ranch is all about! Doors open at 10:00 am and festivities wrap up at 5:00 pm. This is a free event.



Golf Scramble | August 25

Enjoy a rousing game of golf for a great cause! Proceeds will go toward the Summer Camp Scholarship Fund, enabling kids to have the opportunity to experience camp at Miracle Mountain Ranch. This is a wonderful opportunity to have a great impact in the lives of children! This event will take place at Corry North Hills Golf Course. Registration starts at 12:00pm.



Family Camp | August 9-12, September 1-4

Family Camp weekend is a great opportunity for you and your family to get recharged after a busy summer. Experience great fellowship with other like-minded families, and enjoy a variety of activities including trail rides for ages 8 and up, pony rides for younger kids, wagon rides, swimming, basketball, confidence course, hikes, gopherball, campfires, and more.



Horse Lovers | September 22 - 24

Our Fall Horse Lover's retreat is a relaxing weekend focused on enjoying God's creation while riding our scenic trails. Other options include pony cart driving, vaulting, training demonstrations, trail obstacles, and arena classes to get you more familiar with riding. There will be open campfire cooking and many hands-on cowboy experiences all flavored with an ample portion of genuine western hospitality.

Retreats & Events



Ladies Retreat | Sept 29 - Oct 1, Oct 6 - 8

Come experience a weekend of refreshment and restoration as we enjoy God's creation and the fellowship of others! These weekends offer encouraging sessions, hikes, trail rides, wagon rides, crafts, and other activities. Come make new friends or bring a group from your area for a memorable experience. We would love to have you join us as we seek God's face and learn what He desires to teach us through His Word.



Homeschool Day | October 5

This fun and educational field trip will be a unique homeschool adventure. We plan to provide wagon rides, a Message from the Mount, fire safety training, used book sale, animal science, and more. This day will run from 11:00am. until 3:45pm. If you register online the cost is \$8/person. Day of registration is \$9/person.



Dinner Trail Ride | October 13

Are you looking for an evening spent enjoying God's creation? Join us for a trail ride through the lovely fall colors. Stop to savor a cowboy-style meal, and listen to God's Word. After you enjoy some smoked pulled pork, a dough boy cooked over the fire, and our signature Dutch oven cobbler, we will mount back up and return to the Ranch. The cost is \$50 per rider.



Harvest Party | October 14

Join us for a day of fall activities for the whole family! We will have a variety of harvest games, activities, Message from the Mount, snacks, Cowboy Campfire (wood branding and peach cobbler), wagon rides, trail rides (pony rides for ages 7 and under), concessions, a pie baking contest that includes a silent auction, and more! This event begins at 10:00am and will conclude at 5:00pm. This event is free.

Praise

- **School of Discipleship** - for the work that God is doing in the students lives
- **Summer Camp** - for registrations coming in
- **Winter and Spring Retreats** - well attended
- **Mexico Mission Trip** - plans are coming together for the trip
- **Cattlemen's Remodel Project** - progress continues and we're on target to be completed by summer
- **Funds** - for the many donors who make the ministry possible
- **Housing** - we've been able to put in two new staff housing units, that are nearing completion
- **Resident staff** - for their faithful service

Prayer

- **School of Discipleship** - for wisdom going into the summer and for next year's students
- **Summer Camp** - for safety, bunks to be filled, and hearts to be touched and changed
- **Scholarship** - for the funds to be raised and the kids to be reached
- **Summer Staff** - for the supply of young people willing to serve
- **Volunteers** - for the many hands needed to make our summer run smoothly
- **Retreats** - attendees this spring and plans for the fall
- **Resident Staff** - health, financial support and encouragement in the work
- **Mexico Mission Trip** - for safety and an impactful time
- **Cattlemen's Remodel** - timely completion
- **Resident Staff Housing** - finances and safety for the installation of the 2 new units



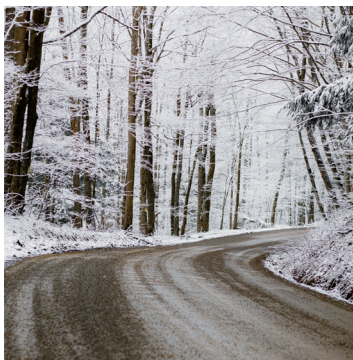
SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP

The weather recently has been a godsend for people who like to make small talk. Sleet, snow, ice, and rain have been pouring down on us for weeks, it seems. As cold, wet, and muddy as it is, I keep reminding myself that all this unpleasant weather now will pay off in just a few short months. Our students are in a similar spot. The early spring is a busy time for them. Classes, homework, training, and retreats combined with the weather tend to produce fatigue. We don't think this is a bad thing, however. These are just the kind of conditions we so often need in life to learn patience, endurance, and reliance on God for his strength in the midst of difficulty. Just as with this strange weather, we want our students to look beyond their immediate trials and circumstances to understand that in God's providence, trials now will produce so much fruit in us later on. James said it best when he wrote: "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing" (James 1.2-4). By faith we and our students are learning that when life is hard, rather than seeking sinful comfort or a way out of difficulty, we can persevere in faith and praise God, knowing that a rich harvest is just around the corner.



Visit our Website






Follow us on Instagram!

@miraclemountainranch



Summer Camp 2023



 Summer Camp

Buckaroo Camp



Come enjoy three days of swimming, games, pony rides, vaulting, a hayride, and crafts. A full week of summer camp can be a little daunting, so this two-night/three-day camp is a great introduction to what camp life is all about!

For more information and to register for these camps, please visit our website.

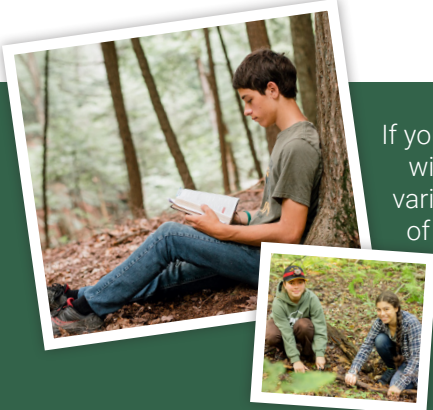
Adventure Camp



If you are looking for the classic summer camp experience with field games, sports, trail rides, climbing wall, and more, look no further than our adventure camps. The two adventure camps that we offer are Wild West for ages 8-12, and Pathfinders for ages 12-16.

For more information and to register for these camps, please visit our website.

Wilderness Camp



If you are looking for a week of outdoor adventures - our wilderness camp might be the perfect fit! We offer a variety of different Wilderness Camps, but for each one of them you can expect to sleep and eat at our outdoor campsite.

For more information and to register for these camps, please visit our website.

Day Camp



If you are looking to experience a week of summer camp, but would rather not commit to overnight camp, then a week of Day Camp might be just what you are looking for. Drop off is at 9am and pickup is at 5pm.

For more information and to register for these camps, please visit our website.

Horse Camp



With over 80 horses on our Ranch, it's the perfect camp for the horse lovers! We offer a variety of horse camps to try to include every level of rider.

For more information and to register for these camps, please visit our website.

Registration Details



You can register and find all this information and more on our website mmrm.org. Our 2023 Summer Camp is filling up quickly so if there is a specific camp you are interested in, we encourage you to check it out sooner rather than later!



Summer Camp

JOIN OUR SUMMER STAFF TEAM!

One of our core philosophies is to strive for excellence in our ministry and programs. We are seeking to partner with qualified staff who are excited about similar ministry goals. Our camp program would not exist without staff and volunteers who embrace these opportunities. Our vision is to purposefully disciple our Summer Staff, Volunteers, and In-Trainings as they in turn pour their time and energy into the people and tasks before them. We would be honored if you would apply for this exciting, rewarding summer opportunity.





Summer Staff

- Programming Staff
- Counselors & Assistant Counselors
- Food Service Staff
- Wranglers
- Vaulting Instructors
- Riding Instructors
- Lifeguard
- Housekeeping/Landscaping
- Operations
- Store Clerk

Volunteer

- Food Service
- Housekeeping/Landscaping
- Lawn Care/Maintenance
- Nurses



In Training Program

MMR's In-Training program is designed as a discipleship model to instruct young men and women in areas of Christ-like character, integrity, and maturity with practical training and experience in a variety of areas within the summer camp setting. In-Trainings are given assignments geared toward personal reflection in light of Scriptural truth, partnered with life application. Assignments are supplemented by one-on-one mentoring from qualified staff who are committed to speak into the teens' lives with truth and love. Structured leadership training is available for In-Trainings in Media, Barn, and Counseling. The In-Training Program includes attending part of our Staff Training at the beginning of the summer, and then assisting during two weeks of camp at any point during the summer in the area you have chosen. In-Trainings will need to attend Staff Training June 18 – 23, 2023.

Cost: \$435 - 3 Weeks of Training



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