

MICHINDOH NEWSLETTER



A FAMILY NEWSLETTER ABOUT EVERYTHING
MICHINDOH



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COVENANT PRAYER

BY JOHN WESLEY

I am no longer my own, but yours.
 Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.
 Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
 Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,
 Praised for you or criticized for you.
 Let me be full, let me be empty.
 Let me have all things, let me have nothing.
 I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.
 And now, O wonderful and holy God,
 Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
 you are mine, and I am yours.
 So be it.
 And the covenant which I have made on earth,
 Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.

"Keep me safe, my God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing." I say of the holy people who are in the land, "They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight." Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more. I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods or take up their names on my lips. Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay. You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. Psalm 16



A LETTER FROM OUR CEO



BY JEFF KNOLL

The past two years at Michindoh have been truly amazing. When you hear me say that, you may wonder where I have been hiding and how I have avoided all of the difficulties facing our world since COVID sprung on the scene. No, I was right in the middle of it when our ministry of 65,000 guest days a year was declared unessential and neither our staff nor the guests we serve could step onto the campus. We faced it all; sickness, staffing shortages, loss of financial security, loss of loved ones, protocols, and virtual learning. But, do you know what really stands out throughout that time? God's loving faithfulness.

In every situation, God's grace and provision were there to meet our needs. Our team of staff pulled together to help each other and allow a few people to get a lot accomplished. God opened new doors of ministry and when we could not serve our normal guests, we became a quarantine sight for those who needed to isolate after exposure. When people began to feel comfortable returning to camping ministry, it was such a blessing to have people return to our campus and see kids enjoying Christian fellowship throughout God's beautiful creation.

In order to overcome staffing shortages, uncertainty of guest attendance, and COVID protocols, we had to learn flexibility and to envision new ways of doing things that have ultimately made us a stronger ministry. Friendships were rekindled as people from Michindoh's past returned to help us through these challenging times. An empty campus gave us the opportunity to work on facilities that are rarely vacant. Harmony Springs, our western-themed youth camping area, was expanded, a new miniature golf course building was erected, guest facilities are being remodeled and facility infrastructure is being upgraded throughout the grounds. All of these opportunities, and more, God has provided throughout this season of reliance on Him.

More importantly, God continues to work in and through the lives of our staff and the people God graciously allows us to serve. The impact of Christian camping has been more relevant as children have gone through a time of fear and isolation under COVID. Hundreds of people, young and old, have turned to Christ as God's love has been made real to them through their experiences at Michindoh over these last couple of years. Our staff have seen God's ministry in our own lives as he has brought us closer together as a ministry team and as we have seen his loving kindness worked out in the lives of our families.

My hope and prayer for you is that through this season you will reflect on God's loving kindness and that you will recognize his grace sustaining you during these uncertain times. We would love to have the opportunity to minister to you through our Christian camps and retreat facilities. Feel free to contact us if you have youth that could benefit from a Christ-centered camping experience or if your family, church or Christian group is looking for a place to retreat with the Lord. We would love to share our Christian hospitality with you.



BY TRAVIS FAVREAU

We are really excited about a new opportunity that Michindoh has developed this year called the Michindoh Guest Service Associate Development Program. The purpose of the GSA development program is to provide a healthy growing environment to train energetic young adults to meet the increasing demand for experienced professionals in camp and retreat ministry leadership & administration. Our goal is to provide full-time, paid camp positions, with intentional opportunities to grow in camp and retreat ministry experience and leadership. After working through this program, one would have the experience and skills necessary to help navigate the unique, multifaceted needs of a seasoned professional in modern camps and retreat centers.



Meet Alexandria Larson

Alexandria, who goes by “Alex,” and her husband Peter joined Michindoh in June of 2021. Alex originally hails from Vermont and has camp experience from 2 different camps before Michindoh. As part of our GSA development program, Alex stepped into the role of the primary onsite host this past weekend, under the supervision of the G.S. Administrator. Hosting, Dining Room Management, Lifeguarding, and High Adventure activities are just a few of the areas that Alex has excelled at in the past 10 months. Alex is also taking on some additional responsibilities as a social media coordinator and managing various concession areas that we have at camp. Alex enjoys learning new things, photography, reading, kayaking, board games, and challenging herself to grow. Her favorite scripture passages are Romans 8:18 & Psalm 25.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

BY BETHANY

The Outdoor Education program has been blessed to see so many students this school year! With a full schedule in the Fall, we were able to serve 17 different schools. After a small winter break for Christmas and New Year's, we are now in the full swing of the spring season. Our weeks are booked with schools up until June. Our staff are ready and prepared to have a great “spring semester” of schools at camp. We thrive on the energy of kids coming to camp eager to learn new things, set new goals, and make new friends. Our hope is that students can take something they learned from Camp and apply it to their lives back at home. Thank you to all the schools who continue to come to Camp Michindoh for the Outdoor Education Program. We love having campers on our grounds!



DARREN KENDALL

God is good! At Michindoh we have seen this truth manifested time and time again. Two years have passed since we entered into the first COVID-19 lockdown and since that time, Michindoh has been able to witness God moving mountains. It has not been easy, but God led us forward.

As we approach summer 2022, we are excited for what God has in store. This year, we are offering 2 Discovery Camps, 4 Explorer Camps, 1 Adventure Camp, 1 Adrenaline Camp, and 6 Day Camps. Each week will offer a unique theme, unique games, and unique programming all supported by the many activities that campers can't get enough of. All this information is offered in detail on the summer camp page of our website.

I would, however, like to highlight our amazing deal for Explorer Camp 3. Michindoh has always offered high-quality programming for affordable prices. For us, money allows us to do what we do, but it is not the reason we do what we do. Our goal is to create amazing memories that kids can look back on for the rest of their lives. We would never want anyone to miss out on a week of camp because of a lack of finances. This is why for Summer 2022, we are offering a 45% discount for our Explorer 3 camp. That is a week of camp for only \$199! We realize that times have been tough, so we want to help you out. For other discounts and scholarships, please see <https://www.michindoh.com/ways-to-save>.

Also, for Summer 2022 - we have continued to make improvements to our LIT (Leadership in Training) program. Specifically, we have split the program into two divisions - Program LITs (for ages 14-17) and Counselor LITs (for ages 16-17). This division allows us to better serve each of our participants and create more intentional leadership development avenues. Did I mention both positions are paid? This is an extraordinary opportunity that you will not want to miss. For more information, check out <https://www.michindoh.com/leaders-in-training>.

At Michindoh, we are always looking for more ways to serve you and we hope to see you at Michindoh this summer.



DEBBIE HERRING

Early each Spring, Michindoh hosts a weekend retreat just for married couples looking for a chance to get away from their normal routine and spend some quality time together on our beautiful campus. We had 50 couples at our March 2022 Michindoh Marriage Enrichment Retreat. We had a great time laughing together, worshipping together, and receiving encouragement from God's Word concerning building stronger marriages. The weather turned out to be sunny and warm, so couples were able to enjoy walks by the lake, use of our putt-putt mini golf, a ride on our zip-line, and/or a trip around our high ropes course. We also had a mean game of volleyball going on in the Dietzman Ministry Center gym that left most of us sore the next day. Our Saturday evening banquet featured live piano music while we enjoyed Herb crusted Ribeye steaks or chicken Marsala.

When asked what they enjoyed most about retreat, one couple said that they enjoyed all the laughs, the teachings, and the comradery between all the couples. Another couple said they enjoyed playing the ice-breaker games, the speaker, and the worship songs. Still another couple said that they enjoyed, "everything from start to finish and EVERYONE in between!" Every year we get reports of couples who came to retreat discouraged in their relationship with their spouse, but God used the Michindoh Marriage Enrichment retreat to allow them an opportunity to reconnect, deal with issues without the distractions of everyday responsibilities, or just have fun together and refresh. This retreat is not designed to be marriage therapy in any way... but God is always faithful to do amazing things when we seek Him and make Him the center of our relationships. We had young couples here who have only been married for a few months, as well as older couples who have been married 40 years or more. Whatever stage of life you are in, Michindoh Marriage Enrichment retreats offer something for everyone.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Join with us in giving thanks to God for how He has been faithful to Michindoh through COVID-19.
- Pray for God's continued leading as we enter into our busiest summer to date.
- Pray for strength and wisdom for our leaders.
- Pray that God will continue to lead strong Christians to join our summer staff and pray that God will prepare their hearts and spirits to serve His Kingdom well.
- Pray for all the campers who come to Summer 2022 that God will touch their hearts and minds.
- Pray specifically for campers who do not know God's love that they will receive the gospel this summer.

