

Sabine Creek Ranch

2017 Summer Report

It was a wonderful summer at Sabine Creek Ranch! Celebrate with us as we consider all that the Lord accomplished through our campers and staff:

- † 1938 Summer Campers - 605 in our Preteen Camps and 1333 in other camps
- † 87 day campers over 3 weeks of Day Camps
- † Over 12,000 meals served
- † 27 Summer Staff
- † 4 weeks of Rec Teams from Dallas Baptist University
- † New Pavilion/Outdoor Chapel
- † And most important of all, the Lord drew many children and youth to follow Him as Lord and Savior!

As our summer came to a close, we were called upon to house 56 teenagers and adults who were escaping **Hurricane Harvey**. Their facility is just outside Rockport, Texas. We are always willing to provide a place for people in need and this decision was no different than others we have made in the past. As the week went on, we learned that although this group was smaller than some we have provided, the needs were great and challenging! The children, ages 13-17, who were with us were all from traumatic backgrounds, and were already in rehab for drug and/or alcohol addiction. As we served them 3 meals a day and interacted with them, we learned names. We learned personalities. They became comfortable with us. They were grateful – we heard “Thank you, Miss” dozens of times a day. And we also saw pain. These kids were accustomed to acting out at the drop of a hat, to resolving conflict with their fists or their words. So we also heard, “I’m sorry for my language, Miss” or “I’m sorry we disrespected you by acting that way.” We truly believe that they wanted to do well, they just weren’t equipped to do so.

So what did we do? We smiled, we said hello, we served good food, we gave hugs, and best of all, we shared the gospel. Will they respond? Only God knows. But they left here having heard the truth that Jesus loves them and died to rescue them. Please join us in praying for these kids who have the same Jesus-shaped vacuum in their hearts as we all do. If you want to add a few specific names to your requests – Eric, Cory, Felicity, Esme, Johnny, Vanessa, Dominique, Jeremy, Joseph, Tiffany. There are many more! It was a hard 7 days, but we would do it again in a heartbeat!

In January, **Laney Duncan** joined our full-time staff. A graduate of Dallas Baptist University, Laney has added a high level of organization and creativity to our already awesome team! She headed up our 3 great Day Camps and we are so very thankful for the difference she’s already made at Sabine Creek.

The theme for Preteen Camp this year was Basic Training from I Timothy 4:8 – “For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.” We had a great three weeks teaching kids the value of knowing Jesus and growing in their faith! It was a privilege to partner with the 19 churches who were with us this year.

Thanks to your generous gifts in 2016, we were able to add NINE new trees and a beautiful new **Hope Chapel**, given this Spring in honor of Karen Pritchard. We loved seeing campers relax in the shade of the pavilion, rocking in the new rocking chairs and just enjoying each other’s company. It’s rare to see kids just sit and hang out this days without being attached to their phones, and we love it!

As we enter our fall retreat season, we are wrapping things up from Summer 2017 and are already hard at work preparing for Summer 2018. Making repairs and improvements means camp lasts year round! Would you be willing to help us prepare? How can your generosity impact eternity for kids and families? As you enter the latter part of the year, please remember us with your financial gifts. We will not be holding a Partner Dinner this fall, but still do need your partnership! We are unable to participate in North Texas Giving Day due to the set up of our 501c3, but please remember us as you are making your donations in the next week!

Current needs at the camp are:

Shade

- \$80,000 – Our greatest need is the cover our current ball court to provide a place for outdoor worship for larger groups and for campers to play during very hot days

Scholarships

- \$220 – Will send one camper to Day or Preteen Camp

Landscaping

- \$5,000 - Trees and landscaping to complete the Hope Chapel area

Activities

- \$2,000 – Additional water element for new obstacle course
- \$150,000 - Swimming Pool

General

- \$5,000 – Repairs and improvements to our barn apartment to use for additional summer and retreat housing
- \$100,000 - General upgrades, expansions and repairs to existing buildings

Of course, gifts of ANY size are appreciated as we continue to serve the Lord in camp ministry. In addition, we will have small projects to complete throughout the fall and spring if your church small group or organization would be interested in a day of service. We will feed you a delicious lunch! Thank you for being a BIG part of what we do at Sabine Creek! You are an encouragement to us!

For His glory,

Eddie and Sarah Walker

Want to give? Mail to:

***576 Sabine Creek Rd
Royse City TX. 75189***

or donate online at sabinecreek.org