

# Oak Leaves

Volume 17  
Issue 3

August 2017

## 2017 Associational Camps

### **Linn Livingston/1000 Hills Youth:**

Registered: 189 Professions: 16

### **Heartland Youth:**

Registered: 120

### **Harrison/North Grand River Youth:**

Registered: 72 Professions: 4

### **Saint Joseph Youth:**

Registered: 149 Professions: 15

### **New Life Camp:**

Registered: 240 Professions: 4

### **"Intro to Camping":**

Registered: 31

### **Missouri Valley Children:**

Registered: 134 Professions: 8

### **Thousand Hills Children:**

Registered: 155 Professions: 8

### **St. Joseph Children:**

Registered: 267 Professions: 9

### **Heartland Children:**

Registered: 65 Professions: 6

### **Harrison/North Grand River Children:**

Registered: 186 Professions: 20

### **Missouri Valley Youth:**

Registered: 95 Professions: 5

### **Linn Livingston Children:**

Registered: 156 Professions: 8

## *2017 Summer Camp Report*

### **Summer Camps**

We were in the final week of camp as I first wrote this report. Both Assistant Manager Brad and I (Don) were experiencing something new that week as Brad ran the sound board for evening worship and I was on bass for the worship band. Tuesday evening was good, but Wednesday night was a whole other experience as the children sang Just As I Am/ Broken To Be Mended.

Being up front and hearing those voices was quite a blessing. Of course, someone could share that testimony on most any night of the summer as our Lord is worshipped each evening of camp. This summer

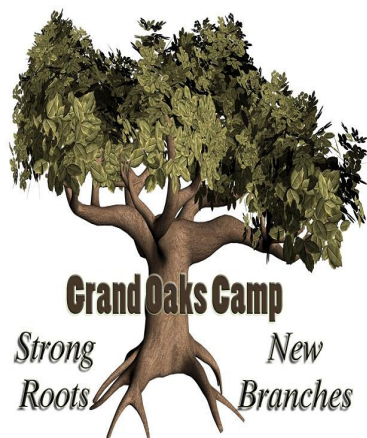
we have seen 1,350 children and youth register along with 488 adults. Add pre-campers and the total is 1,856—just above the total for 2016. Each group varies, but typically there are from 5 to who knows how many “day workers” that come in and out to help. It was a typical summer at camp with a little sun burn, some wasp stings and a few broken bones. But there were also lots of new experiences, new friends and some lifetime memories. The bottom line, though, is the statistic that reflects eternity.

There were 103 professions of faith made at camp this summer, including one of the kitchen volunteers. We are praising God for all that were drawn closer to HIM because of the ministry of Grand Oaks.

### **Campus Updates**

We have seen several improvements and regular maintenance advancements this past year. New roofs have been installed on the Riverview Cabins, the Nurse Cabin, the storeroom and the old pump house by Steen Lake. The loan of a platform lift tool allowed us to trim a great many of the old white oaks and other trees around the campus, making it much safer to be under those trees! The Heartland Association provided labor and leadership for constructing a porch on the front of the Nurse Cabin. This improvement has been greatly appreciated by the nurses and the campers visiting the nurse—especially on rainy days or hot sunny days. A project undertaken over the winter has resulted in a noticeable saving of electricity this summer.

*(Continued on page 2)*



## **SRNB Campaign Ticker**

Received:

@\$370,000.00

Pledge Balance:

@\$8,500.00

Overall Goal:

\$500,000.00

Fund Balance Toward Multi-Purpose Center:

@\$105,000.00

## Grand Oaks Baptist Assembly, Inc.

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mer. Fluorescent lighting was removed from the chapel, dining hall, retreat center and other select spaces and replaced with LED lighting. It is most noticeable in the Dining Hall and Retreat Center where the lighting is better and the monthly savings considerable. Two major purchases this year were the total replacement of one of the heating/cooling units in the chapel and the acquisition of a lightly used 72" John Deere zero turn mowing machine. An injury that left manager Boyer hobbled most of the summer made this a near necessity to allow him to continue the mowing while manager Fields took over a great deal of the "leg work"!

### Campground Events

We are currently booking dates for winter retreats and other off season events. We have hosted quite a number of family gatherings and swim parties this season. A new partnership began in January as the Grace Family Fellowship church began renting space here each Sunday. That will continue through most of the fall until they move into space they have purchased in town. We recently hosted a home school family retreat focusing on God's Wonders of Creation with the event built around the Solar Eclipse. Just over 100 people from 3 states participated in the event. The climax was the moment of totality made even more spectacular by the skies finally opening at that precise moment! The North Missouri WMU Day Retreat will be coming up on September 14<sup>th</sup>. MBC/WMU will be holding Missions Exploration for the kids on October 7<sup>th</sup> and the Great Outdoorsman Day, hosted by Heartland Association but open to all will be on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Those are just a few of the events and activities taking place here.

We are here to serve YOU. Please call and see if WE can partner with you in ministry.

*Since 1945 Grand Oaks has been a place to "win the lost, disciple the saved and train believers for Christian service." That is still our goal today as we provide a facility for our member Associations to conduct summer camps and other activities. Grand Oaks is supported solely through user fees and donations from individuals, churches and Baptist Associations. Grand Oaks does NOT receive funds from Cooperative Program giving.*

*The facility is open year round and is a great place for group retreats as well as family events. We encourage each of our churches to consider scheduling an event. Grand Oaks provides a quiet and usually uninterrupted experience in a beautiful outdoor setting. Won't you call soon?*

*"Oak Leaves" is a periodic publication of Grand Oaks Baptist Assembly, Inc. distributed by email. Contact us to be added.*

## Volunteers Welcome

A campus this size is in constant need of upkeep. There are several projects needing attention and volunteers in the coming months. We would welcome individuals with a day or week along with groups of volunteers working as a team. Here are a few of the projects:

- ◆ Painting & trim installation on Nurse Cabin
- ◆ Adjust and tweak the fence around the lagoon.
- ◆ Raking/Blowing and burning leaves.
- ◆ Painting and staining.
- ◆ Tear out the old water system in the pump house below the lake to make the building more useful for storage.
- ◆ Brush clearing, dead trees to fell.
- ◆ Some TLC on the big Water Slide at the pool.

