### Westminster Woods Camp

18487 Barber Rd Fall River, KS 67047

westminsterwoodscamp.com

Facebook: Westminster Woods

Instagram: @westminsterwoods



October is fundraising month for Westminster Woods!

Fall 2021



# the Woods

## 20 Years of serving the Lord at "The Woods" from our director...

#### A time to celebrate

On September 1st, 2001, our family answered God's call, and Westminster Woods became home. It has truly been a blessing, and we are so thankful to continue serving this ministry. There have been challenges and blessings along the way as we learned to trust God.

#### Here is just a small sample of challenges and God's blessings

- \* Our first year, a group of middle school boys accidentally broke a hydrant behind a cabin on a chilly winter day that maybe registered five degrees outside. We were brand new and still figuring things out, but thankfully a plumber just happened to be volunteering with the group. Together we located the camp water shut off under a steel plate in the middle of the road, covered by three inches of snow and another three inches of rock, and we were able to make the repair. After that, we just began to understand that God always sends exactly what we need.
- \* The early morning storm that took out the power when we had 130 hungry campers wanting breakfast was a challenge. The blessing was that Diane had woken up early and was in the kitchen before 4:00 am prepping breakfast for a tired kitchen staff, and so we finished cooking with the gas grill easily. It turns out eating breakfast by lantern light in the middle of a storm is pretty cool, and the campers loved the start of that particular day.
- \* Ice storms bring many challenges, including many broken branches that all need to be cut up and hauled off. The blessing is that they also bring many volunteers who love "The Woods" and who want to help. We have made some incredible friends as a result of ice storms.

#### The rest of the blessings we want to list involve people who also love "The Woods"

- \* Campers who find Jesus. We are blessed by them every year.
- \* Young people. We are surrounded by a college-age students each summer and almost every weekend of the year. These young people care deeply about sharing the love of Jesus. We are reminded continuously that the future is in excellent hands.
- \* Volunteers. Who are always there when we have a building project, leaves to rake, trail maintenance to do, buildings that need to be painted, food to cook, dishes to be done, garden mulching, planting, and weeding, and the list goes on. We do not take this blessing lightly. Thank you!
- \* The past and present leaders. This includes people who had a vision long ago to establish this camp and those who work diligently now in various ways to continue to preserve the camp and God's mission at "The Woods."

#### To God be the Glory!

# October is fundraising month, join us in

supporting camp! Watch for more info on

Facebook: Westminster Woods Instagram: @westminsterwoods

Ways to give:

- -Venmo: @wmwcamp
- -Paypal: westminsterwoodscamp.com/giving
- opportunities
- -Mail a check: 18487 Barber Rd. Fall River,

KS 67047

New

- A waterfront shed that holds all of our lifejackets, oars & paddles, inflatables, safety equipment, and fishing equipment.
- A new snack shack! A fun little shack that holds all of the good snacks, drinks, ice cream, and camp merchandise.



I am sure that many of you are aware that Westminster Woods was able to offer our "WOODS" summer camp June program to a wide variety of churches and families in 2021. This multi-week program has taken place in the month of June for many decades. Prior to the registrations coming in we really did not know what to expect. Would parents feel comfortable sending their children to summer camp this year? It did not take long before we received the answer. Over 450 campers were able to experience their time growing closer to God at "The Woods" in June.

#### July and August

The months of July and August were spent hosting multiple churches. Many of these groups have been offering their summer camp program here at "The Woods" for many years, even decades. We started the month of July hosting a new camp. A group of churches from the Presbyterian Churches in America. Its always fun getting to know new people and this group was no exception. The following weeks were spent sharing in the ministry of the camp with dear friends. Eastminster Church held camps for the next two weeks, a week with those energetic middle schoolers and a week with the high school ministry. It was a joy to watch campers and staff alike grow in their relationship with Jesus. We were able to spend the last week of July with Kansas Bible Camp. KBC is a group of North American Baptist churches that come together to offer summer camp to elementary and middle school aged campers. We love to hear about Bible quizzing from their campers. It is a definite favorite time for them. We finished up our summer camp season the first week of August with "The Kansas Wesleyan Kids Camp." It is another group of wonderful churches that come together to offer a week of camp for elementary age campers. The campers and leaders alike are enthusiastic and simply love Jesus. It is a joy to share in camp with each of these groups as their campers learn more about who God is and what He can do in their lives.

#### Attendance & COVID

A multitude of people shared the same opinion. They, both campers and staff, needed this time at "The Woods". It is so important every year and this summer it felt even more

necessary. Yet despite the value of this time at camp every group in June, July and August were down almost 20% in attendance. We are pleased to announce that to our knowledge not one of these groups or our campers had a COVID related illness after their stay at "The Woods." Most importantly, they are all sharing the love of Jesus Christ with the campers that come to their retreat. We are so blessed to be a small part of the good work they are doing.

# Westminster Woods Winter Retreats

Young Adult / January 7-9 High School / January 21-23 Middle School / February 25-27 Thank you for your support of Westminster Woods! We are continuously blown away by your generosity and heart for this ministry, the campers, and the God we all serve.

#### **Summer Camp Dates 2022**