



Illinois Campers On Mission

August 2023

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President's Letter—

Hello COM family,

I want to thank everyone who came for the awesome week at Hamilton! We had great turnout (39), great food and wonderful fellowship! The church looks great, too!!! Look for the photos and report in this newsletter.

It was warm but tolerable at night and the siding we have been planning to put on for three years is mostly completed. There was only one partial wall to complete but we ran out of siding.

The women set up a regular bear factory in the fellowship area and made a lot of bears (170)! We also got a good start on making bags for Morning Star Mission that we will visit in September (32 bags).

Thank you to a great crew that came from Iowa COM. We appreciated them coming and helping us. It is a blessing to work together with other states any time we can. We are grateful to Rick Mott, Iowa COM President, for setting up the electric for our 13 campers. We could not have done the project without his help. He was a God send.

Watch your emails for any information updates about the project at Carmi if we need to communicate with you. They have lots for us to do as always and we are ready to move forward. Look for the information we have so far on page 3 of this newsletter.

Please see page 8 for information about the men's and women's retreat at Streator preceding the fall rally. It is important to support these events and the Streator camp with our attendance if possible. Please contact Jacob and Katie if you need more details.

Psalms 133:1

Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!!!! Amen

Hope to see everyone at Cami!

Fred Riley



COM Officers

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- 1 Fred & Paula Riley
- 1 Andy Thomson
- 4 James Rentfrow
- 4 Cheryle Walters
- 6 Penny Meese
- 6 Clayton Horton
- 8 Paula Riley
- 8 Wendi Young
- 10 Chet Whyers
- 12 Ken Ramsey
- 14 Philip & Stephanie Hall



Tentative Schedule for 2023 IL COM Work Projects

August 21—25	Carmi Children's Home, Carmi
September 16	Fall Festival, Carmi Children's Home
September 18—22	Morning Star Mission, Joliet-
October 18-20	Fall Rally, Streator Baptist Camp
December 2	Christmas Luncheon, FBC, Farina

Other Dates for your Calendar: (See Don or Jan Kragness)

October 23—November 5	IL COM work week at Great Passion Play
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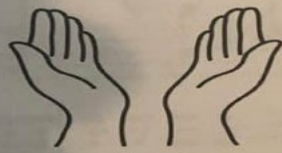
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Our Region 4 Representatives, Don & Jan Kragness, announced at our Hamilton work project that Jerry and Renee McGovern, National Coordinators for Campers on Mission, have resigned their position as of immediately. Lead Presidents who hosted the 2023 National Rally in Michigan, Cindy and Rick Truesdail, are acting as interim Coordinators at this time. A team is beginning the process of filling the position on a permanent basis.

Please be in prayer for Jerry and Renee as they transition out of this position and for Rick and Cindy as they take on the additional responsibilities during this interim period. Please also pray for the committee that is working on this process to find new National Coordinators. Updates will be given as decisions are made.

Campers on Mission 2024 Rally

June 3rd – June 7th
New Castle, IN



Reaching One More in '24

- one more for Christ
- one more Member
- one more Project

**Save this date on
your calendar
for next year!**

**National Rally is a
valuable time to
recharge, make
new friends, learn
new things, praise
God with your
brothers and
sisters and relax.**

August Work Project— Baptist Children's Home

Carmi, Illinois

Phil, the head maintenance person at Carmi, says they have lots of work for us to do. There is some work on the basement at the buildings in Mt. Vernon, tree trimming to be done, building a small storage shed and other smaller projects. Please bring tools for these projects.

Lisa Tennyson has been hired to take on the responsibilities that Paula Joy used to do. Paula Joy is now the Director of Development and Marketing. Lisa would like to meet with the women during the work week at Carmi (probably on Wed.) She will describe her duties and share ways that COM can help meet some of the needs of BCHFS.

Those signed up to attend:

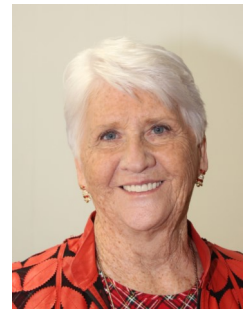
Jim & Marilyn Diercks & family

Doug & Suzy Kingsbury	James & Catherine Rentfrow	George & Penny Meese
Andy & Marilyn Thomson	Randy & Kay McClellan	Terry & Debbie Odum
Richard & Anita Evans	John & Francie Lindeman	Sonny & Sondra McKenzie
Leroy & Irma Burnett	Dick & Karen Mowers	Gary & Karen Watson

Chaplain's Chatter -

As I watch this summer fly by and realize how many miles we have traveled for COM projects and meetings, and personal travel, I am amazed at what God has done with us and through us and through all of His servants who love Him. God has provided us safety in our travel, friendships that encourage us and good health to be able to work for Him. God has given us beautiful sunrises and spectacular sunsets, cool weather for sleeping and warm weather for working, wisdom in tasks we help with and the blessing of working with people all over the country who love you and serve you. We have had the privilege of working at a summer youth camp at Streator and got to see first hand that God is working in the lives of kids and adults who will lead the church into the future. Praise Be To God for His many blessings and reminders of His care for us each day and for all of you as well. May we never forget His love for us.

Marilyn



Lifetime Achievement Award

James Rentfrow presents a 2023 COM Lifetime Achievement Award to Jim and Chloe Page. It is with grateful hearts that IL COM was able to nominate Jim and Chloe for this award. Jim and Chloe have been faithful, hard working members of IL COM for many years until health conditions have prevented them from being with us any longer. Thank you for your leadership and participation in IL COM. This award is well deserved. You have been a blessing to many people and encouragers to those of us who had the privilege to work with you. May God bless you for your days of service and give you warm memories.

Hamilton, IL FBC July 16 -20

Present: IL COM

Fred & Paula Riley

Richard & Anita Evans

Leroy & Irma Burnett

Andy & Marilyn Thomson

George & Penny Meese

Jim & Marilyn Diercks, James, Logan, Sky, Ella, Joann, Eve

John & Francie Lindeman

Dick & Karen Mowers

Terry & Debbie Odum

Catherine St. Dennis

Doug & Suzy Kingsbury, DJ

Visitors: Don & Jan Kragness, James & Catherine Rentfrow

IA COM

Rick & Sarah Mott, Abby, Leo, Becca

Denny & Bev Davis

Dave & Doreen Short

John & Glenna Golderman

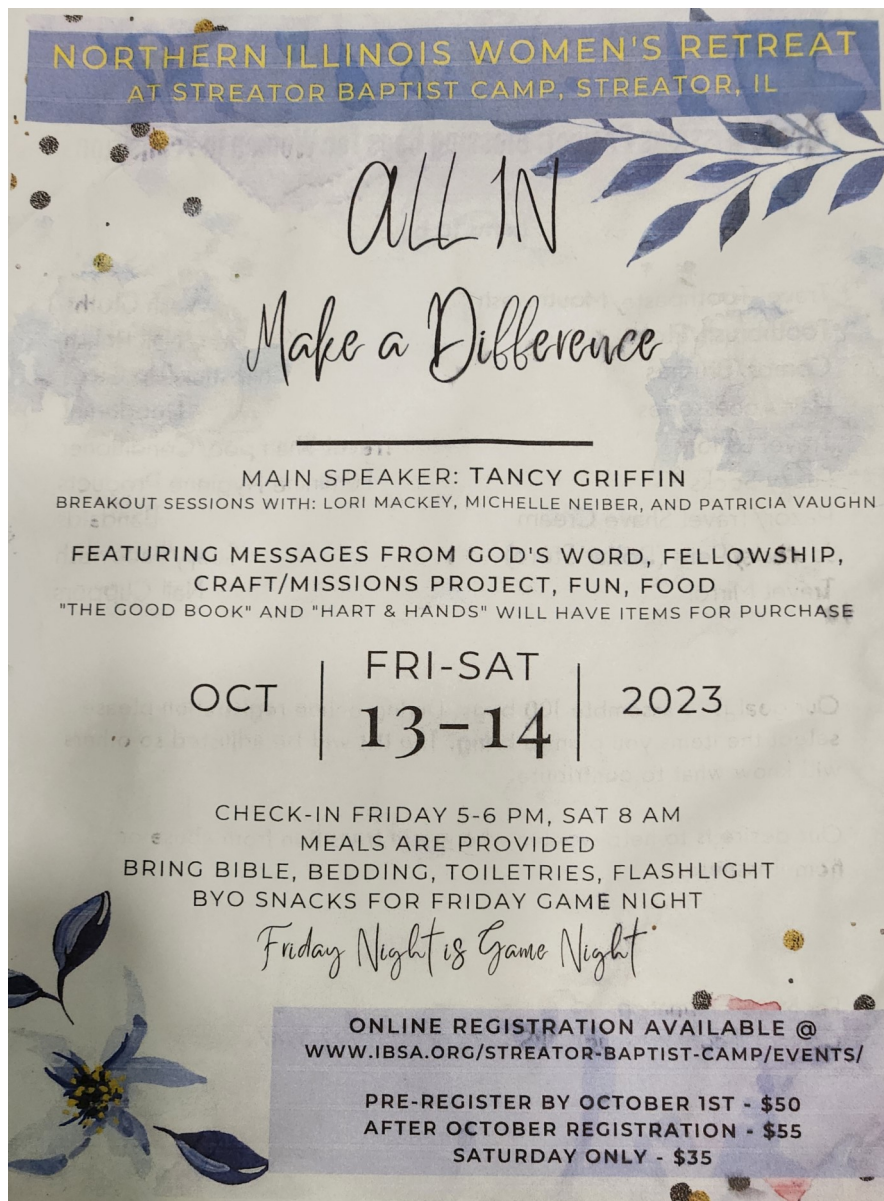
Projects completed

1. Removal of windows and doors to prep for siding, build 2 x 4 frames and cover with plywood – 6 windows, 1 picture window, 1 door
2. Power wash outside of gym building (2 sides with mold)
3. Electrical work – replacement of exterior lights, prepped west side for new lights on parking lot, eliminated unsafe conditions with exterior lighting, 12 florescent light bulbs to LED light bulbs, connected campers temporarily for power
4. Gardening work outside front of church – removed plants for siding work and replanted.
5. Wrap building with building wrap & install siding
6. Remove and replace rotted wooden siding
7. Vacuum and clean rooms where windows were removed and were used by COM for eating and fellowship
8. Completed 170 bears
9. Made 32 pillowcase for drawstring bags









COM Fall Rally is
October 18-20 at Streator
Baptist Camp.

There is a wonderful women's retreat scheduled for the weekend ahead of that, Oct. 13-14. Here is the flyer for that retreat. The speaker is exceptional and will be a perfect start for the weekend. Why not plan to come early to join this amazing new retreat? The men can help cook or do projects or just rest while we women are filled up. They are also asking for items for blessing bags.

On October 16—18, there is a wonderful men's bible study. See the information below. The women can help cook or sew or shop or rest before the rally starts and support the men in prayer.

Men's Retreat
Streator Baptist Camp
October 16—18, 2023

Come join other men in Christian study and fellowship as you dig into the scriptures with speaker, Ric Worshill. The cost is just \$100 and that includes your meals, study materials and housing. You can enjoy the beautiful camp surroundings that God provides as you enjoy a time away from the usual business of life with other Christian men. You will share fellowship and spend time together. Contact Don Kragness for reservation and details (618-983-5546).

