

# Greetings from Harttstone Bible Camp



PICTURED ABOVE: PEYTON, DREW, TYLER, EDEN, JAMEY & JENN SAUNDERS - JULIE, DAVE, STETSON, MAYLEE, ZOEY & DARCY DICK



## HARTSTONE Bible Camp

*Holiday Newsletter 2016*

Dear friend of Hartstone,

***Our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases – Psalms 115:3***

When you are cold, it makes you happy to put on a jacket. When you are hungry, it makes you happy to have food. When you are lonely, it makes you happy to have companionship. So too, our Lord is pleased to fulfill all His desires. We serve a happy God! Our God is in the heavens and does all that He pleases. False gods are needy, unhappy, deficient gods that seek to be appeased and satisfied. How encouraging it is to know that the Lord our God is one and that there is no other. Our God is not deficient or needy. He is not dependent on mankind. He is completely content and satisfied within His Trinitarian Self. Just like we are happy when our desires are met, so too is our all sufficient, sovereign God. Oh, the joy that comes to a follower of Jesus Christ knowing that our God is happy and that He is happy with His children, desiring to fill us with His joy through His Spirit.

This past year has been so “happy” up here at camp. It has been amazing to watch how God has been providing for Hartstone. From increased camps, to staffing needs, to finances, and church relationships, it has been wonderful to be a part of. As I send out this annual letter I can't help but think of how blessed and thankful I am for you and your partnership with us in this ministry, whether it's coming up to Hartstone for a camp or volunteering for a work service day or making a financial contribution. We couldn't do it without your continued love and support, so thank you from the bottom of my heart.

**QUICK UPDATE FROM THIS PAST YEAR:**

If you haven't already heard, you probably noticed on the front of this card that we have a new family on staff at Hartstone. The Saunders family moved to Hartstone in September, and Jamey is now overseeing Hartstone's Maintenance Ministry. Jamey and his wife Jenn have four children and came to us from Middletown Bible Church. We are so excited to have them join the Hartstone family. The Tulip family is now residing in Kansas where Jens is working as a physical therapist. They are happy to be around their family with Courtney's twin sister living in the same home town. They have purchased a house that Jens is using his craftsmanship skills to make into a beautiful home. We are so thankful for the Tulips and their many years of faithful service to Hartstone. Please pray for them as they begin this new season of life in Kansas.

This year Hartstone hosted 26 camps, four more than last year, and we already have three additional camps confirmed for the 2017 season. What a blessing and privilege it is to serve Christ and His people through this ministry!

Some other exciting things transpired this past year:

- **Chapel Project:** Phase 1 of the chapel project was completed in March, and we will begin phase 2 starting in December.
- **New Septic System:** In last year's holiday newsletter, I informed you about the failure of our Dining Hall's septic system. Through the generous support of some financial donors and the help of some skilled tradesmen, we were able to replace the old system and install a new, upgraded unit.
- **New stage at Victory Circle:** Many of you that came to camp this past year saw the new stage. This was a very kind and unexpected gift from Grace Church of Sacramento. A crew of men came to Hartstone before our summer season started and built a new stage, adding additional tiers to the amphitheater to accommodate full seating capacity.
- **New deck and dock at the Pond:** Before Jens Tulip left, he wanted to enhance the usability of Hartstone's fishing pond. He built a beautiful new deck and dock that stretches out into the pond, providing a good spot to "park" our paddleboat. He also developed parking spaces at the pond and did some beautiful stonework on the new gate leading to the pond.

## 2 NEEDS FOR HARTSTONE:

- Our **Walk-In Freezer** in the Dining Hall has died and needs to be replaced. The replacement cost is \$10,000. If you would like to help us with this expense, please let me know.
- Our **Golf Cart** is on its last leg and needs to be replaced. This little golf cart is a highly valued member of our ministry team. We use it for everything from running errands around camp to transporting guests in need of mobile assistance. Because one of the main uses of the golf cart is giving tours of Hartstone, we would love to replace our 2-seater cart with a strong battery powered 4-seater with additional space for transporting equipment in the back. It is a challenge to provide tours to more than one person at a time with a 2-seater cart, particularly when tours include the pond and beach. If you are able to assist with replacing or upgrading our golf cart, or have a multi-passenger utility vehicle that you would like to donate, please let me know.

Continued....

## **HARTSTONE'S 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY!!!**

2017 marks 50 years of ministry for Hartstone. In 1967, Hartstone Bible Camp was established by a group of IFCA churches (Independent Fundamental Churches of America). These churches desired to have a place where they could all fellowship together while being committed to preserving, defending and proclaiming the truth of the inerrant and all-sufficient Word of God. Hartstone Bible Camp is a 501(c)(3) religious non-profit with a Board of Directors and is dedicated to the Lord Jesus Christ. The Board of Directors operate the camp under a written Constitution and Bi-Laws. The Mission Statement of Hartstone Bible Camp is "to share Christ's love by serving churches through a camp experience".

The 90-acre property has been developed over the years to include a total of 16 buildings in the main area of camp. The original purchase included Alder Springs, a natural underground water source that has been developed by Hartstone to provide water for the camp and its neighbors. In 1997 Hartstone Bible Camp purchased an additional 14 acres of property that provides a beach front along the Eel River, a two story log cabin lodge - "The River Lodge" - and seven one room log cabins. The camp was very active from the late 1960's through the early 1990's. However, as the participant church congregations began to age, the demographics changed and the camp became less vibrant. Facilities were neglected and were in a state of advanced deterioration. In 2003, Hartstone hosted only nine camp groups. In 2004, a commitment was made to repair and revitalize the camp. The first step in this process was to clean and repair the property. A new board of directors was established with a fresh focus and vision. Stan and Valeri Walker were the instruments in the Lord's hands to bring about the changes needed to revitalize the camp. Since then, Hartstone Bible Camp has experienced increased growth and vibrancy. Today, Hartstone Bible Camp strives to glorify Christ and live out its Mission Statement and Core Values by providing excellent service, excellent food, and an excellent environment for all its guests.

## **CHAPEL PROJECT UPDATE:**

By God's grace and the generous support of His saints, last year we completed phase 1 of the chapel project. Many of you this past year were able to see the transformation of the Meeting Hall into a beautiful Chapel. Last year's holiday newsletter brought in \$28,000. This allowed us to redo the interior walls, construct a new stage platform, add beautiful real wood wanes coating, lay carpeting, and set up new, comfortable, padded sanctuary chairs. God provided volunteers for almost all of the work that was done, and the total cost for phase 1 was \$18,000. We are so excited to have \$10,000 left over from last year's support letter to start phase 2.

Looking forward, our next desire is to start phase 2 in December. This second phase will include: a new sound system with construction of a sound booth, a new pulpit, a beautiful cross mounted on the wall at center stage, an electric drop-down screen and high end projector, stage lights, new house lights, and HVAC system. This will complete the chapel as a sanctuary. We project that the cost of phase 2 with volunteer labor will be around \$50,000.

The last and final phase will be phase 3, which we would like to accomplish in 2018. Phase 3 will be an addition to the front of the chapel where we will put in new handicap ADA restrooms with a foyer area. The area will include a fireplace and comfortable seating along with a potential cry room for the moms with babies. We will also have a display telling and showing the history of the Hartstone ministry. This will be accompanied by a beautiful covered porch entrance leading into the foyer restroom area. We project that this final phase will cost around \$100,000. Please pray that the Lord would continue to provide the funds to complete our chapel project. We believe that His provision thus far is evidence that not only does our Lord deserve worship, but He highly desires it! We are so excited to be able to bless our brothers and sisters in Christ who visit Hartstone with a new beautiful place to hear from His Word, pray, and worship in song! Please prayerfully consider how you could partner with us.

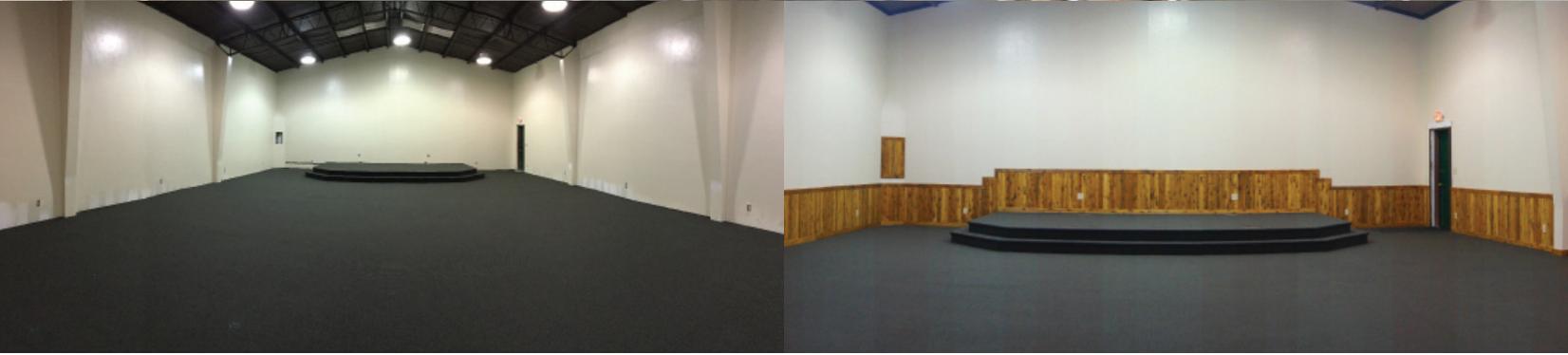
If you would like to be a part of this Christ honoring endeavor, you can make a tax-deductible donation to Hartstone Bible Camp and in the memo identify "Chapel Project." If this is not designated, your contribution will go into our general fund which helps us in our overall camp operations. If you would like to donate via PayPal, you can do so through our website: [www.hartstonebiblecamp.org](http://www.hartstonebiblecamp.org) (We praise God that over the last 5 years Hartstone has benefited from monies received from family trusts, please consider us in your estate planning).

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry. God bless!

Not to us,

(Psalm 115)

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# HARTSTONE

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**HARTSTONE'S FUTURE CHAPEL**



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