

# OZARK WILDERNESS BOYS CAMP



Issue #2, Fall 2023

## WHAT IS GOD DOING?

I once heard a man say, “We should always be suspicious that God is up to something amazing.” His words have often inspired me to consider the work that our Maker is doing far beyond our control or our imagination. What better thing could there be for us than to each day be a part of His ideas and each day receive from His hand?



Now to know what all The Divine is doing, is just too great a matter for us to handle. But I’m sure He is pleased when we take note of what He has been doing and wonder at what all He might be up to.

Many things that have “happened” so far in the formation of Ozark Wilderness Boys Camp are clearly the orchestration of Someone Greater. Let’s take a look at a few of them.

He planted the thought in many different people’s hearts that “it would be great to have a Boys Camp in the Midwest”. It started with a thought.

He brought us together (some through unlikely connections) and got us talking about this idea. We encouraged each other.

He gave us confidence to say, “This really should happen”, and to move to action. It was time to pursue it.

He kept an ideal property for outdoorsmen hidden from the eyes of many deer hunters during an active real estate market. Surely they’d have bought it if they’d have found it.



He helped us get in touch with Bill Zercher, an extremely helpful realtor, who went all out to help us locate a good property for a camp. He’s a friend we won’t forget.

He inspired many generous people to contribute funds to purchase the land. We wouldn’t be here without them.



He united people from various Midwestern churches to join the vision of a Boys Camp and form a board of directors. It's a great group of men.

He brought lots of helpful volunteers to make improvements on the place and begin the work of establishing a camp. There's a crew of good men here today, working hard.

What all might He want to do with this place? Surely, He wants to make a place where boys and families find hope and healing. A place where truth is taught. A place where young men and women grow as servants in His kingdom. A place where a community of believers is a Salt and a Light to all who come. A "City" that is set on a hill.

How will He do it? That part is a mystery, that, it seems we can only experience as we join Him day by day in what He's doing.

"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus, throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen." Ephesians 3:20-21 ESV

-Albert Stoltzfus, Camp Director



A team of volunteers helped clear the new lane, Weiler Brothers Excavating did an excellent job building it, and more volunteers helped seed it. Many thanks to all who helped with this project!







## BEFORE BOYS



In starting a Boys Camp, the big question on everybody's mind it seems is, "When do you hope to have boys there?" Good question. Enrollment is the main thing we're working toward, and while we can project some dates, it's a bit early to have a solid answer.

A question we can answer with more certainty is "What needs to be in place before we're ready for boys?"

Three things come to mind: buildings, legal authorization, and staff. Laying the groundwork for legal authorization and forming a staff team, are gradual processes that need defined and are in development.

Buildings are a more objective need and offer a clear opportunity for people who are interested in helping. There are four building projects planned before we are ready to enroll boys.

1. A large maintenance building (currently under construction) that will also be the location of a temporary kitchen and dining hall.
2. A building to serve as a temporary office. (Plans are to use it as living quarters when a more permanent office is built later.)
3. A staff house large enough for a small family, some single staff, and some guest quarters.
4. A laundry/shower house.





# CAMP NEEDS

## FINANCIAL NEEDS

Our next building project is the office and living quarters. We need to raise \$250,000 by Dec. 31, 2023 to be fully funded.

The \$580,000 in interest-free private loans for the purchase of the land is outstanding.

## ITEMS

- An office printer copier
- A 7500 watt generator

## PRAYER

Please pray for us as we seek God's will for a project manager and secretary for camp.



Thanks to the help of several work crews, the camp maintenance building is quickly taking shape



To keep up with the progression of the camp, visit [ozarkwildernessboyscamp.com](http://ozarkwildernessboyscamp.com)