



RHODES GROVE CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

RHODES GROVE – News in a Nutshell

Fall/Winter 2019

I am excited to share that the Board of Directors at Rhodes Grove Camp has hired Dwight Myers to serve as the Interim Executive Director at the Camp.

Dwight is from the Greencastle area. He has served in ministry locally at both Camp Joy El and Antrim Brethren in Christ. For the last ten years, he has been working in various managerial capacities at Lowes in Waynesboro, PA. Dwight recently felt God calling him back into camp ministry, and we at RGC are blessed to be a part of that calling. We look forward to the leadership Dwight will bring to the camp as we continue to move through this time of transition to the next executive director.

Just because we use words like “interim” and “transition” during this season of life at Rhodes Grove Camp does not mean that God is slowing down or has hit the pause button. As you can see from the rest of this newsletter, God has been and is on the move at RGC!

We ask that you continue to pray for the camp as Dwight begins his role as Interim Executive Director. We ask that you pray for us as a camp as we continue to move through this season of transition. Most of all, we ask that you continue to pray that we may offer Christ-centered experiences that reveal God's majesty.

Sincerely,
Keith N. Elliott
Board Chairperson

“But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.”

Acts 20:24

As Keith shared, my name is Dwight Myers and I began serving as the Interim Director for RG on August 26th. I have lived in the Greencastle area my entire life. I attended RG one summer as a camper through Released Time before Camp JoyEl existed. I have been married to Susan (Spangler) Myers, who attended RG camp as a youth, for 35 years. We have 2 grown children and one granddaughter who you will probably hear me talk about on occasion. My daughter Amy met her husband, Brad Weller, while serving on summer staff here at RG. So, I come with some sentimental attachment to RG.



The life journey that led to me becoming the Interim Executive Director has been an interesting one. I have been a student, car salesman, cutlery salesman, advertising salesman, restaurant manager, technology store manager, Released Time Ministry coordinator, camp program director, youth pastor, adult pastor, and most recently a home improvement store manager. God has used this journey to teach me many things. And as I enter this season of life, the lesson that stands out to me is from Acts 20:24. Too often in my life I placed value on the status of my job or my status in other people's eyes. I believe the above verse clearly sums up what gives true value to our lives... carrying out the Great Commission of making disciples in all the world. I am thankful that God has chosen Rhodes Grove as my place to make disciples for this season.

I am excited to be a part of Rhodes Grove for many reasons but three stand out...

1. I love camping ministry! I believe great things happen at camps because God works when people set time to come apart and connect with Him. I'm looking forward to seeing God work on the grounds of Rhodes Grove as campers and guests make time to be with Him.
2. I love the picture of the body of Christ that can be seen at camp! Camp gives a picture of what God is doing not just in our local congregation but across the larger body of Christ. I'm looking forward to meeting guests from many churches and hearing what God is doing outside of Greencastle.
3. I am excited by the staff I have met! I spent the first two weeks here getting acquainted with the people and ministries of RG. I am encouraged by the passion and vision of the staff to build the Kingdom through the ministries of Rhodes Grove. They are not content to remain where we are but desire to do everything they can to “finish the work assigned”. As I listen to them talk about their roles, it's not just a job. They truly desire to share the Good News and make disciples.

If you are reading this letter, it means you also have a heart for Rhodes Grove and a heart to see Acts 20:24 lived out. Read on to hear how God is working in the lives of others here at camp. I know you will be encouraged. Be sure to “tell others” about the wonderful grace of God being displayed at Rhodes Grove and in your own life!

Dwight Myers - Interim Executive Director

Introducing Mike Masser

Hello, I would like to introduce myself, my name is Mike Masser. I became part of the RGC family April 1st. I am serving as the Operations Director. I reside on campus with my wife Michelle and daughter Aliyah. I come to RGC with 27 years of construction experience in commercial, residential, industrial, and facility maintenance. My role is to oversee the daily operations of RGC. I am excited to have a hand in fulfilling all that GOD has in store for the ministry.



Since my first day here it's been a very busy time. We had to open the seasonal lodging, pool, bath houses, and Family Camp readiness. We have experienced multiple underground leaks on the seasonal water lines, pressurized sewer and water main. Both the air conditioning for the Miller Lodge and Meadows Conference Center needed major repairs for the summer season. We had to replace one of the two filtration systems for the pool. This is all above the daily upkeep and routine maintenance. Through it all, the amazing team here at RGC has persevered. 1 Corinthians 15:58 NKJV, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord"

The summer has flown by. As we head into Autumn, I am reminded of the song Turn Turn Turn by the Byrds [To everything {turn, turn, turn} There is a season {turn, turn, turn} and a time to every purpose, under heaven]. Some may know these lyrics come from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8. "to everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven..." NKJV. Rhodes Grove is in a season of change, not just a weather season. We have this year restructured the management team. A new Ministry Director was put in place mid-February, I was placed as Operations Director April 1st, and the hiring process has begun for an Executive Director. As RGC goes through its season of changes, would you please consider partnering with our ministry? The best way you can partner with us is through prayer, but you can also help by volunteering, a one-time donation, or becoming a monthly donor. We here at RGC are excited about the future, and I hope we can count you in as part of it.

Mike Masser, Operations Director

Fearless

Fearless is our 2019 theme and there are opportunities to rely on the truth of 2 Timothy 1:7. To be fearless in the unknown knowing that God always provides. To be fearless during transition knowing that God has a plan and goes before us. To be fearless as we look to the future and know God is already there! In Guest Services this summer we prepared for and cleaned up after 3,641 guests that came through Rhodes Grove from May-August. Who knows how many toilets, showers, floors, windows, beds and surfaces were cleaned! For the kitchen that meant, 16,468 meals were served! As fear crept in during moments of tight deadlines and short staffing, God reminded us that there was no need to fear and that everything that was needing to be accomplished would be. And it was! This Fall brings new and returning guests: quilters, scrapbookers, doggie friends and their owners, women's ministries, college aged young adults, youth groups, human services employees, family gatherings and youth sports teams. As we prepare to serve them and provide Christ-centered experiences that reveal God's majesty, will you join us in praying that each guest who enters our gates feels welcomed and valued and leaves feeling refreshed and with a seed planted that Christ loves and values them too? Will you also pray for our team at RGC to stay healthy, refueled, and focused on Christ as we carry out tasks working together as we serve?! Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership!



Carrie Forney, Guest Services Coordinator



Looking Back on this Summer

I haven't had a "summer off" since I was 14, I have just been working at camps. So, I was never really nervous for the summer when I came into the Ministry Director role. Until it all kind of hit me, what our team was about to embark on, on that first Sunday when campers came. I don't know if it was a release of all the work we had put in to get to that point or what it was, but something inside me knew what God was going to do at this place was going to be crazy. Let me tell you, it was, with the very little preparation, and the transitions happening at camp, it was nothing but a God thing to see so many kids lives impacted for Jesus. Out of 467 campers 110 made decisions for Jesus! Not only did our campers grow, but our team grew as well. Seeing 15-21 year olds who come from all different places, backgrounds, and who all have

different testimonies, it is amazing how they can grow together and become a family over 7 weeks. It was awesome to see how God used every team member, no matter what their position to impact a camper's life. Glory be to God for that. My goal every summer and in my ministry here as a whole is that we eliminate distractions so that kids and families can hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I gotta give a huge shout out to the team because they did exactly that! I want them to know they are awesome and ever so appreciated for what they sacrificed, to do God's work this summer. With very few issues and a whole lot of life change, I say it was a great summer. Moving forward into the fall, I am looking forward to heading out to college campuses to recruit staff, starting another year of 24/7 leadership, creating the program for next

summer which is the RGC 2020 Summer Games, and some of our new events and creating more opportunities for people to come to our property. We have our 1st Annual Youth Fusion event on October 19 and our 1st Annual 24/7 Leadership Pancake Breakfast on November 2. We are also in the process of creating some men's ministry opportunities, and are looking to have that up and going in the Spring. We are also working on opening our coffee shop and smoothie bar called THE GROVE, which will be available to campers and guests groups.

Austin Masser, Ministry Director



Wish List

Guest Services

- IMMEDIATE NEED: Linens for donated 39 Queen Mattresses, \$100-\$140 per mattress
- 25 twin mattress encasement covers - \$1,250 (\$50 each)
- Elegant Table Covers, 3 rectangle (\$23 each) and 5 round (\$16 each) - \$150
- 2 Portable Tripod Projection Screens (\$80 each)
- 1 Collapsible Wagon (\$60-\$70)

Program

- Battle Company, BRX laser tag guns and software, \$ \$4,655.88
- Rhode Camera Microphone \$70.99
- Sony Alpha a6000 Dslr Camera \$799.00
- DSLR Camera Gimbal \$99
- Breville Brim 19 Bar Espresso Machine \$299
- Flavored Coffee Syrups

Facilities

- Pool pump room ventilation system \$400
- Water treatment shed ventilation system \$400
- Bath house ventilation upgrade \$150 per bath (6 total)

- 3-D archery target (to start a men's ministry) 9 @ \$100- \$200 a piece.

Kitchen

- \$50.00 monetary donation to replace kitchen hot pads & dishcloths.
- \$200.00 monetary donation towards replacing kitchen small wares. Current needs are commercial grade water pitchers, serving utensils, food grade spatulas and knives.
- \$180.00 each would upgrade our current kitchen utility cartswishing for two.
- Looking for an individual with food service knowledge, a desire to serve and direct teen staff, to work occasional evening dinner shifts & weekend hours as a Kitchen team leader. Ideal for a retired person or stay at home mom looking for flexible, occasional work to supplement income.
- Big Ticket.... \$\$\$... 15,000.00 IF YOU HAVE THE MEANS TO BE GENEROUS!!! RGC kitchen has been limping along with AGED freezers ever since I arrived on the scene 10/1/2000! A huge blessing would be to replace current old units with a walk in freezer!



1. **Youth Fusion** – October 19th, 5-10pm, Grades 6-12
2. **24/7 Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser** – November 2, 7-10am
3. **Fall Scrapbooking Retreat** – November 14th-17th
4. **Winter Ladies Quilting Retreat** – January 30th-February 2nd
5. **Winter Blast** – February 7th-8th, Winter Camp for 3rd-6th Grade
6. **Winter Ladies Scrapbooking Retreat** – February 13th-16th

RHODES GROVE
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 Phone: (717) 375-4162
 www.rhodesgrove.com

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Change Service Requested



Offering Christ-centered experiences that reveal God's majesty.

WINTER BLAST
2020
 Rhodes Grove Camp

February	Friday	Saturday	Grades	Cost
7-8	7PM	7PM	3-6	\$49

...AND A CHANCE OF SNOW

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT AUSTIN MASSER AT AUSTIN@RHODESGROVE.COM
 REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.RHODESGROVE.COM
 Registrations are due by February 1



Memorial Gifts

IN MEMORY OF	GIVEN BY
Glenn & Mabel Ulrich	Harold & Lori Shipp
Vesta Shipp	Harold & Lori Shipp
Genevieve Livingston	Ann Diener
JoAnne Dunning.	Norina Householder
Ray Ankerbrand	Linda Ankerbrand
Glenn & Mabel Ulrich	Harold & Lori Shipp
Vesta Shipp	Harold & Lori Shipp
Janell Kline Love	Thomas Gsell
Clarence "Bill" Blubaugh .	David & Catherine Blubaugh

In Honor of Gifts

IN HONOR OF	GIVEN BY
Phil & Sue Wagner	Rosalyn Ewan
The Rhodes Grove Staff. . .	Richard Rotz