

**MONTLURE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH CAMP**

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CAMP NEWS

SPRING 2013

2013 Camp Curriculum Focuses on All Things New

From the very beginning, the earth and its people have experienced God as Creator. In Genesis the creation stories present God as bringing order out of chaos and of forming beauty with both color and contrasts of light and dark. God created humans in God's image and likeness as part of that creative order. Ever since that first creative effort, God has continued to create. With each new day, dark sub-

sides and light shines forth, seeds sprout and produce new beauty, and humans find new potential within themselves as they face the



future.

As this year's campers come together, they will have a week of new ex-

periences to enjoy. They will have a clean slate upon which to begin—concerns, disappointments, and challenges will not go away, but new friends and fresh opportunities can offer new perspectives on their lives before camp. As they join other campers and their leaders in praising God, they will discover or be reminded that God is with them in each moment. They will also learn that new friends in Christ can offer a different perspective, and that God will continue to do a new thing in us, both individually and collectively.



Let's Go Up To The Mountains of the Lord...and BUILD!

Can you pour concrete? Frame a building? Plumb a sink? Plant a tree? Move rocks? Wash down walls? FANTASTIC! There is a job for you at Montlure! All skill levels are needed to rebuild and restore Montlure in time for the 2014 camping season. So gather your friends, rally your church, recruit a local

boy/girl scout troop, or join in with an already scheduled work crew this summer. Give Montlure a day or a week, any and all help is greatly appreciated. Call Danielle Brown at 623.341.4699 or e-mail her at wd4u2live@gmail.com to schedule your time.





Montlure Camp Council
October 2012

*So if anyone is in
Christ, there is a
new creation:
everything old has
passed away; see,
everything has
become new!”
2 Cor. 5:17*



A Message from the Executive Director

I was sitting in a coffee shop a few days ago while waiting to meet a friend and I happened to overhear a conversation between two young pastors. I was struck by a couple of things as I listened. In sharing his work resume, one of the pastors chronicled his time with a local congregation and then said, “I have always had a passion for starting a new congregation.” To which the other replied, “I know what you mean. It is easier to give birth to a new church than it is to bring new life into an existing church.” That is not the first time I have heard that particular statement in reference to church growth and I don’t want to comment specifically on that statement so much as I want to hold it in conversation with our theme for this summer, All Things New.

The truth is, it might be far easier to attract new members to a congregation if it is a new church, however, I think it is as just important to highlight the ways we see God at work creating new life in existing ministry. One of Montlure’s strengths is her ministry that has spanned almost 87 years and at least 5 generations of young people. When speaking of Montlure, the word tradition often makes its way into the conversation. And for many, the ministry and ex-

perience that Montlure offers (traditions included), is a source of comfort. Parents send their children to camp with confidence, trusting that their children will also encounter Christ and build lifelong friendships, as they did in their youth.

The Wallow Fire in 2011 has had a huge impact on Montlure. There has been loss and many of the folks who have journeyed to Greer to survey the damage feel the impact of loss regarding the damage to the forest and our facility. We have experienced the challenge of continuing the summer ministry off site. Yes, it has been hard work for Montlure to continue her ministry, especially in the last few years. That being said, our theme for this summer is exactly the promise we need to hear, encouraging us as we chart our course for the future. We are definitely building on the strength of the past as we look forward to the new opportunities in the years to come. Our offsite camping has caused us to be flexible and adaptable, highlighting the relational aspect of our ministry. “We would rather be in Greer, but it is more important to be together” is something I’ve heard the campers and staff say repeatedly over the last two years.

2 Corinthians 5:17 reads: “So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” Montlure’s council has been diligently and tirelessly pressing forward, in order that we might begin the rebuilding process when the Forest Service deems it safe enough for us to return. This journey back to our mountain has been long, much longer than I could have imagined in the first weeks after the fire, but I am encouraged and have high hopes for the ministry Montlure will offer when we are able to be back in Greer. There are new things on the horizon and I am convinced that God is at work in our ministry. I am thankful for the many people and groups who continue to partner with us, nurturing new life in order that the children and youth in our midst can have life changing encounters with God.

Gratefully yours,

Rev. Stephanie Hamilton

Rev. Stephanie Hamilton

The Montlure Newsletter
is going green!
To receive an electronic copy,
send your email address to
camp@montlure.org
with “e-newsletter list”
in the subject line.

2013 Summer of Restoration

Last summer, we had to put our rebuild plans on hold, maintain and enhance our flood controls, and monitor the mountainside for any further debris flow, *which did not occur*. This summer, the Lord willing, we will rebuild and restore! We are very close to getting approval from the Forest Service to build a new Boy's Bath House and a new cabin with restrooms, with ground-breaking scheduled for late April. Volunteers will be needed during this rebuild to install a wood deck from the bunkhouse, make bunks and wooden benches, and apply a stone finish to a retaining wall, in addition to assisting the construction crew. Concurrent with the rebuild, many, many more volunteers will be needed to restore the camp grounds to a safe condition, while also leaving in place the

necessary storm water drainage controls.

To start, the entire mountainside will be scoured for loose rocks and tree debris. The rocks will be segregated and staged for various reuses, such as for lining pathways and channels, building a new meadow labyrinth, and for making masonry posts for a new property boundary fence. We will then use our back hoe to rework and rehabilitate the drainage channels, including the redeployment of sand bags. Also, Apache County will be asked to relocate some of the Jersey barriers and take the rest away! Then the fun really begins....restoration of trails, adding foot bridges, and planting 4 to 6 foot high trees!

That's all for now. A volunteer schedule will be available once the camp restoration plans are finalized. In the meantime, contact Danielle Brown at 623.341.4699 or via e-mail at wd4u2live@gmail.com for volunteer inquiries.

Dan Dowler
Chair of Facilities Committee



ADEM Grant Money

Montlure has been blessed to receive grant money for our Wallow Fire cleanup from the Arizona Department of Emergency Management (ADEM.) Following the Wallow fire, concerns about the effects of the fire and particularly soil erosion on the Little Colorado River watershed prompted the State of Arizona to offer "Post Wallow Fire Clean Water Act Section 319 Grants" through ADEM. The grant received by Montlure was a 60%/40% matching fund grant for up to \$47,800.

The grant has already paid for purchase of tree seedlings and native grass seeds which were planted in and around the camp last summer. A drip irrigation system was installed to help the seedlings get established. Funds were used to purchase "straw wattles," rolls of straw that are laid out on the hillsides to control erosion, and will be used this coming summer to help re-establish the trails throughout camp. A backhoe was purchased and much backhoe work was also done last summer under the grant on restoring the creek that runs through camp (as after the fire considerable rock and debris

was washed down the creek into camp.) The grant will repay a good portion of the backhoe purchase cost. We still have a considerable amount of work to do this coming summer but it is great to have the extra financial support provided by the grant.

All in all, much thanks are due to ADEM for helping fund our clean up effort. With their help and the help of our many volunteers we are slowly but surely getting the camp grounds back in to good shape.
Jim Davy



You Can Help

As we begin a new year of camp, please consider Montlure as a charitable donation. Last year we had a large number of requests for financial aid for campers and our scholarship fund was depleted.

The actual cost to send a camper to Montlure is approximately \$550. The average fees received is approximately \$425. The difference between the camp fees and the actual costs we incur are covered by donations from churches and individuals.

Consider making a donation to the camp in the name of someone special.

Donations can be made by credit card at www.montlure.org under the Support Montlure tab or by mail to Montlure Presbyterian Properties, PO Box 31993 Tucson, AA 85751-1993.
Theresa Asher

From the President



“Last summer, we had amazing help from work camp volunteers.”

Hello Montlure Friends,

This was another year of restoration for Montlure.

The first summer after the fire (June 2011) we proceeded to protect the rest of camp by deploying various flood control provisions consisting of sand bag barriers, Jersey barriers and storm water flow channel. These provisions are still in place so that we can monitor the mountainside for further storm drainage and debris flow from snow thaw and spring rains.

During 2012 the Council hired an architect to prepare plans for the replacement boys bathhouse and bunkhouses each earmarked for construction in summer 2013 so that the camp can open for the summer of 2014. The facilities committee and our architect are working with the US Forest Service and the Apache County people to ensure we are meeting all their codes and safety concerns for this rebuilding effort. Last summer, we had amazing help from work camp volun-

teers. Besides cleaning existing structures and clearing debris, these youth & adults replanted 1,000 or so small conifer trees along our property lines and elsewhere on the mountainside. The aspen trees are coming back and will most likely be the dominant trees for our near future. In the fire prevention slurry that was dropped on the camp, seeds were included and we have seen wheat and wildflowers growing on our hillside. There is definitely lots more sunshine on our property now!

During the past fall, we had all the dead trees hauled down off the mountain and most have been removed to local logging companies. The Council held our Sept. meeting up there, using the lodge as home base. The main concern coming out of this meeting was that our camp is still not safe enough for young campers, so we have made alternate plans to be away for one more summer.

2013 brings new excitement for Montlure

Council. We will be launching a capital campaign this coming spring, construction on our new bunkhouse and boys bathhouse will be breaking ground and we will be welcoming more summer work camp volunteers to keep the existing building in good shape.

One of the miracles of the Wallow fire was that our cross in the chapel area was not harmed despite the wood shed behind the cross having been incinerated. We know from this observation that God intends for us to continue his ministry at Montlure. Accordingly, we are committed to restoring the Montlure experience as soon as safely possible.

Submitted by Janie Parks, Council President & Kelly Wood, Council Secretary



From the Ashes: A Campaign to Rebuild

The Wallow fire has kept us out of the Montlure camp facilities since June 2011. While most of the buildings were spared, the camp suffered severe damage, that will require both repair to the forest area and rebuilding.

The support for this effort is overwhelming - the stories we've heard from generations of campers and parents have convinced the Montlure Council that we need to rise from the ashes.

We have developed a Capital Campaign plan to get us back to Montlure by 2014! This is an ambitious goal, but we know the mission of Montlure is worth the work to repair and rebuild the camp. The work includes upgrading existing facilities, where required; repairing the damage to both the buildings and the grounds; building cabins and the boys' bathroom; and creating a safe environment for our campers.

We're dreaming big with a goal of not just returning to the

White Mountains, but of building a camp that will be inviting to all generations for years to come. We need everyone's help.

Do you have a heart for service? Do you have a heart for Montlure? If you would like to help us achieve our dream - through committee support, administrative help, work camps or a multitude of other needs - please contact Stephanie Hamilton, Montlure's Executive Director (520.603.5080).

2013 Montlure Camp Schedule

<u>Camp</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>2013 Dates</u>
Juniors 1 (5 nights)	4-6	June 1 - 6
Junior High 1 (6 nights)	6-8	June 6 - 12
Senior High 1 (7 nights)	9-12	June 15 - 22
Junior High 2 (6 nights)	7-9	June 22 - 28
Juniors 2 (5 nights)	4-6	July 8 - 13

❖ *Grades are for the 2013/14 school year; that is the school year that campers will enter following the 2013 camping season.*

2013 Montlure Camp Rates

Senior High (7 nights)	\$440
Junior High (6 nights)	\$415
Juniors (5 nights)	\$390



Payments can be made by paypal and credit card when registering on-line or

by check when registration is sent by mail.

Late fees—add \$50 if registration is submitted less than two weeks before camp starts.

Fee includes transportation, t-shirt, and water bottle.

❖ Camper registration forms can be found on our web site. Please note dates for discounts.

❖ Our camps have proven very popular. Campers are registered on a first-come, first-served basis, so please **register early!**

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Early-bird discount applies for registrations received on or before March 31, 2013.

Camper registration forms can be found on our web site, www.montlure.org.



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Thank you to the following Churches and Individuals
for their continuing support of Montlure:



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