



CAMP PADDY RUN

News

PADDY RUN OUTDOOR MINISTRY COMMITTEE

FALL 2010

WWW.CAMPPADDYRUN.ORG

## CHOSEN BAND ROCKS YOUTH RETREAT

### Mountain Valley Mission Community comes together to host 'Mission Possible' event.

It was an ideal September weekend for the first Mountain Valley-sponsored event of its kind at Camp Paddy Run. 'Mission Possible' was the theme of this weekend retreat, September 24-25th, for youth grades 7-12. Focusing a majority of its Bible study and worship time on the work of missions, the retreat both educated and inspired young adults to begin making a difference in the lives of others.

Pastor Carrie Evans of Warrenton shared her experience during the earthquake last year while in Haiti. The Warrenton Church has an ongoing mission project over in Haiti. At the evening vespers service, youth prayed for the children over in Haiti, whom they learned, often were brought to school naked and would receive clothes from mission workers just so they could be allowed in.

Randy and Lisa Webb, of Nineveh and Woodstock churches respectively, witnessed to the youth about their missions both close to home and as far away as Russia. David Duckworth of Clear Brook shared his stories and photos of his trip to Romania in 1999. *(Continued page 3)*



*Above: Christian rock band, Chosen, headlined the 'Friday Night Mayhem' at the first Mission Possible event in September.*

## A SUMMER OF FIRSTS

### Looking back on another camping season full of first-time visitors and summer fun.

The Paddy Run Outdoor Ministry Committee, or PROM Committee, was delighted with this year's line-up of activities and events. "I was really excited to see so many first-timers," said Amy Tubbs, PROM Committee chair. "Since we began overseeing management of the camp in 2006, we've been really working hard to make churches and families aware of this magnificent place," she adds.

The summer season began with a visit from the Shenandoah Presbytery staff on May 15th. Spouses and children were also invited to come along and enjoy a tour of the property, recreation and a barbeque picnic. PROM Committee members and a few campers were also on hand to answer questions and share some of their favorite experiences.

For all but one staff member, this was everyone's first visit to Camp Paddy Run... but hopefully not their last!



*Above: The staff of Shenandoah Presbytery enjoys another beautiful day at Camp Paddy Run.*



*Left: Day Campers 'circle up' several times a day to give thanks, sing, and have prayer time. Right: The Paddy Run Regatta is a favorite activity for campers. Teams are challenged with constructing their own sturdy vessel to race down Paddy's Run.*

## NEW LEADERSHIP JOINS A LONG-STANDING TRADITION

### The Parish of the Valleys Day Camp, once again, 'packs the house!'

For many of the kids in Strasburg and the surrounding areas, The Parish Day Camp is a highlight of their summer. Hosted the last full week in June, the week offers Bible studies, crafts, games, recreation, lunch, snack breaks, and of course, SWIMMING - a hands-down favorite of most young campers. Bringing together the very young to those nearing high school graduation, the camp offers something for every age.

Bob Lowell of Mount Hope church has been coordinating the efforts of the camp for many years now. "What amazes me is how the same kids keep coming back every summer— even well into their high school years. I've seen them go from a 5-year old boy to a young adult who is eager to nurture a relationship with Christ." He also adds how the teenagers have become role models for the younger campers.

Though there are many returning faces every year, there always many new-comers as well. Among them, Sally Robinson, Interim Pastor for the Parish of the Valleys. This was her first year at the Parish Day Camp, and much like her predecessor Rev. Richard Slider, she wasted no time getting involved. Sally served on one of the teaching teams for elementary-aged campers. Because the various grades rotate through the lessons, Sally had a chance to interact with all the grade school children.

When asked to comment on her first summer participating in day camp, Sally responds,

"I loved being at Day Camp for the first time this summer. Seeing so many children, young people and adults praising God and learning about Jesus with real enthusiasm was wonderful. Camp Paddy Run is a terrific place for this kind of experience, and I look forward to at least next year. "

The Parish Day Camp is truly a group effort, involving so many churches, individuals and donations. It is a shining example of what can be accomplished when we all contribute our part to the body of Christ.



Above: Presbytery staff and guests enjoy the view from the new bridge spanning Paddy's Run.

### 5TH ANNUAL KICKBALL TOURNAMENT WELCOMES NEW CHURCHES

... and the same 'ole unpredictable spring weather!

Paddy Run's official kick-off to the summer has always been the annual Youth Kickball Tournament and Campout. And this year was no exception. With over 50 people at Saturday nights picnic and worship service, the event welcomed two churches new to this event and that haven't visited Paddy Run in many years.

Falling Waters Church out of Hedgesville, WV brought their youth group and Burnt Presbytery from Winchester was joined by several of their congregational members. Another 'first' for this event: sadly the kickball was forfeited Sunday afternoon due to bad storms.

#### GREAT BAND, AWESOME MESSAGE!

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#### Mission Possible, continued from page 1

During Saturday morning's activity, youth learned that those that have accepted Christ Jesus as Lord are called to influence and give life through the grace of God. Mission trips change lives because it changes the heart of the one that goes where Christ calls. The leaders challenged the youth to be on missions which start right where they are: home or school and to stretch their faith and participate in a mission trip. They talked about going to Tyrone, PA next summer and several signed up to participate in the 2010 Crop Walk through the MVMC.

The weekend was also blessed with much musical talent. *CHoSen*, a Christian rock band from Tyrone, Pa., performed on Friday night and rocked Star Tannery during an outdoor concert. Participants of the weekend all received band T-shirts. *Sheri Hummer with Grace* was another musical group who brought a fun, gospel beat to Saturday's morning worship.

Overall, 17 youth and 8 adults participated in the event. All those involved agreed that 2010 was just the beginning of an event we hope to see continue to grow every year as the message of *Mission Possible* remains relevant to our lives as Christians and as Presbyterians. When asked if they'd do the drive again, the band replied, "Yes. Definitely!"



Above: Members of the band Chosen, a Christian Rock Band from Tyrone, Pennsylvania.



### LAST WEEKEND'S FALL YOUTH RETREAT BROUGHT A TWIST TO REALITY TV.

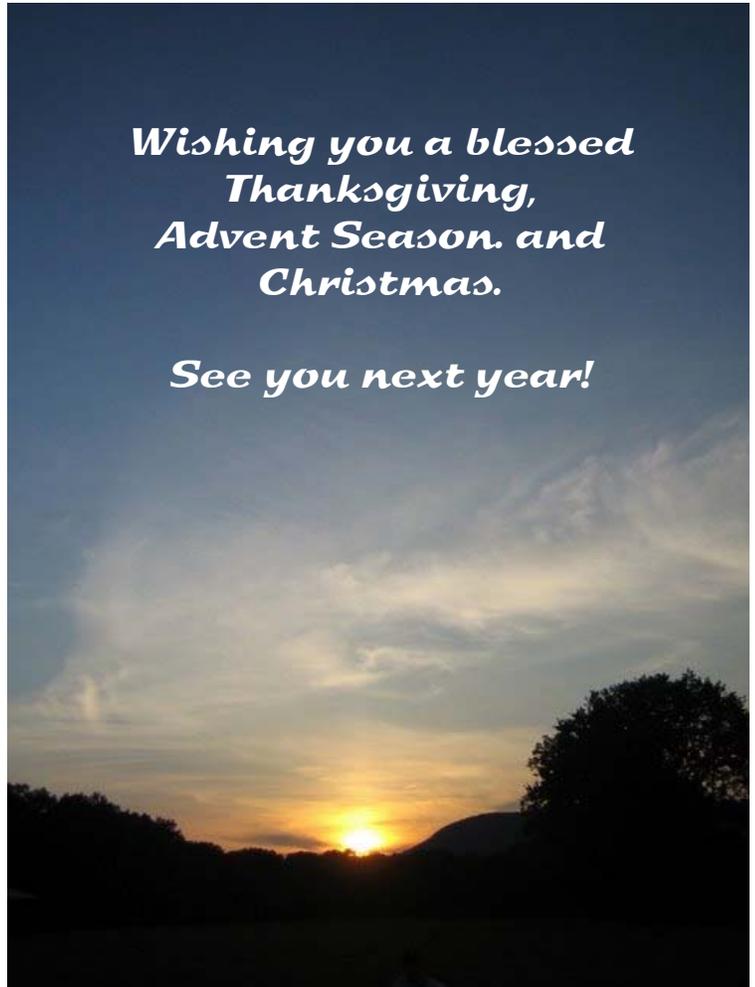
No doubt with shows like *American Idol* and *Dancing with the Stars*, youth today are addicted to reality television shows. So this year's Fall Youth Retreat brought many of these fun competitions to life— giving participants a hands-on experience in our very own version of some of their favorite shows including *Ace of Cakes*, *American Idol* and *Project Runway*!

But when the last votes were cast and the cameras stopped rolling, this weekend really focused on how Jesus is the star of your very own reality. And by following his teachings, you can be the superstar in your own life! The lessons throughout the weekend focused on what Jesus teaches us about how to live our life and how following the mainstream doesn't always lead us down the right path.

A highlight of the weekend for many was the Saturday night karaoke and dancing— brought to you by 'D.J. Lori-O', Camp Paddy Run's very own Reservation Coordinator!

## Thanks for reading!

-The Paddy Run Outdoor Ministry Committee



Above: Paddy Run is known for its inspirational sunsets.

### PADDY RUN OUTDOOR MINISTRY COMMITTEE

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