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The Mountain Edition

Blueberry Mountain Bible Camp and Retreat Center

Spring Volume

Dear Friend of Blueberry Mountain,

There is so much in life to be thankful for. I hope you find yourself saying “thank you” to others often in the course of a week or even a day. First and foremost as believers, thanks should be directed towards our God. For, *“Every good and perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning”* (James 1:17).

God has blessed us with the gift of ministry on Blueberry Mountain. It is a gift *“... exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think”* (Eph. 3:20).

That gift is all about people, the staff who serve full-time on the mountain, the volunteers who serve with them, and the people who give and pray, that the ministry would continue with God’s blessing upon it.

Two of those people are Scott and Tina Farrington. God has used them mightily as they have given of themselves, first to God, and then to others. They have served selflessly and God has given them fruit in their own lives, in the lives of staff and volunteers, and of course in the lives of campers. They will be greatly missed by all of us in *Child Evangelism Fellowship*[®], although we look forward to seeing them serve from time to time as volunteers in this ministry that they have come to love.

We thank God for Eliza, Justin, and their daughter Lilliana. They are a dedicated and gifted young couple whom God is using on Blueberry Mountain. They are sure of God’s call upon their lives for this work, but they are going to need more help than ever. We are praying for ministry partners to join them on the mountain. Just as God called Scott and Tina, we are praying and trusting that He will call those servants of His choosing to meet the need.

We are thankful for a growing family of volunteers. It is so encouraging to see God’s people giving of themselves to minister the Word of God to children, teens and adults. I served at Blueberry for two weekends this past winter. The unity of God’s people serving together was such a joy to all, and I am sure, pleasing to the heart of God.

I was particularly impressed by the spiritual maturity demonstrated by the teens who served with us. The spiritual growth that takes place in the lives of young men and young women who are learning to serve, and learning to take responsibility for others is one aspect of our camping ministry that is simply remarkable. That growth comes by the grace of our Lord Jesus as He works in them and through them.

I am thankful for all of you who give and pray and care for this ministry that God has entrusted to all of us. If you are not already doing so, would you prayerfully consider supporting this good work that God is accomplishing here at Blueberry.

Prayer partners, volunteers and donors are needed. Thank you and God bless you.

‘Til Every Child Knows,


John Romano

Winter Update



We had a blast this winter on the mountain! The Lord provided snow, ice, kids, teens, and lots of volunteers to keep things running smoothly for 11 weekends straight!

We were excited to have three Arctic Blast programs with our camp kids and teens, but because of a storm we had to cancel our Junior event. It's always a bummer to cancel a retreat, but the Lord made it possible to get all but one of those kids in

one of our other two programs. We spent those weekends sledding, skating, eating smores, playing gaga, lego building and most importantly, learning about our Savior. During these retreats, our Interim Director, John Romano, and another local Pastor were able to clearly teach from the Word of God. Some of the campers were here with us for the first time, and we were excited they were able to hear what the Lord had for them. We pray that some of the lessons sharing the characteristics of God will maybe help these kids in the uncertainty that they are facing today. We pray that they lean on His strength to get through today and look to His goodness for their future.

Our other nine weekends of ministry were spent hosting various youth groups and churches. Though this is not what we would consider our main ministry, we are always blessed by the groups that come to "retreat" here. Lives are changed and even though we only hear about it a couple times a year, we are glad to be used by the Lord to help these other ministries reach their youth for the Lord. We look forward to another great winter in 2021!

Summer Schedule



We are trusting the Lord during this pandemic to work out the details to our summer camping season. As of right now, we are keeping our current dates and will make the final decision on June 1st to either cancel or push the dates further down into July. So many kids wait all year to come and for many, this is the only "church" they get to attend. Please pray with us for direction.

Current Camp Dates:

Adventure Camp (Ages: 14-17)
July 5-10

Discovery Camp (Ages: 11-15)
July 19-24

Junior Camps (Ages: 8-12)
Aug. 2-7 & Aug. 9-14



Registrations are now open for enrollment on our website:

www.blueberrymountain.org

Can you think of a child or teen that would benefit from a week of camp? Maybe your neighbor's children, your teen's classmates, or your grandkids? Please give us a call or email and we can send camper registration forms right to you. Though we do not advertise this on our website, we do have a scholarship program that provides help for families that can not afford to send their kids at full price. Those that need this assistance just need to call our office to make arrangements.

Praise and Prayer

Join us in thanking God for what He has done and what He will continue to do.

Retreat Ministry

•We were blessed to have so many visit the mountain for our 2 Arctic Blast Retreats.

61 Retreaters

40 Staff Members

•We are thankful for the church retreats we were able to host as well.

9 Groups

302 Retreaters

Work Day

•Pray with us that this work day will be able to happen despite COVID-19. As of now, we are reserving June 13 for this event.

•Pray that enough volunteers come to help us get ready for summer camp.

Camping Ministry

•Pray for the timing of COVID-19 and the various camps around the state.

•Pray for our 4 summer camp weeks. Our Goal again this year is to get close to **150** kids and teens.

•Pray for staffing, especially in the kitchen as Tina will no longer be with us. We will need staff that is knowledgeable about food service rules to help with this transition.

•We are excited to have 3 young people interested in serving with us as interns. Pray that they can raise the amount they need to participate in the program.

Finances

•We are asking the Lord to increase our regular monthly financial partners. Ministry could not continue without faithful donors.

•We hope to add full-time staff to our team but cannot do that without much needed financial support.

Staff

•We are in need of a couple interested in serving with us as full time staff. We are looking for people with backgrounds in cooking and maintenance.

Thank You!



We have had the privilege these last six years to work with an amazing couple on Blueberry. Scott and Tina Farrington have brought such joy and overwhelming support during their time with us. With a heavy heart, we are saddened to announce that they are feeling the Lord call them back to Andover and to their family. Even though they will not be with us, we know that they will be praying for this ministry and continuing to support us from afar! (And if we can convince them to visit...from close!)

We will miss Scott's love for people and his willingness to help whenever and wherever he can. Whether early in the morning or late at night, you were guaranteed to see "Mr. Scott" hard at work to make sure this ministry stayed accessible even in snow storms. Scott, we love you and your soft heart and will never forget what you have taught us! (Like how to drive through anything...but also how to walk up a driveway with dignity!) We will miss your servant heart and most of all your tears...they reminded us that the people around us really matter. Come visit...we'll sit around a campfire...a "small" one!



We will miss Tina's love for the kids and teens of our mountain and her burden to see the Word of God taught. Her knowledge in our kitchen, the office, and in the program will be a huge hole to fill. Her energy to do a job well and right has been a foundation that she has been able to pass on to a whole generation of staff. We hope to continue following her example (as well as replicating her yummy food...but don't hold your breath...she's really good!) and wish her the best with the direction the Lord has pointed her in. Cuddle those grandkids "Miss Tina", but don't forget to visit! We love and miss you already!

Truck Fund Update

We were so thankful to be able to make a truck purchase with the funds that our supporters helped us raise. We bought a 2012 2500 Dodge Ram diesel truck that has been a wonderful addition to the mountain! Kids and teens enjoyed the ride up all winter and it has been so much easier to use for projects around the property. We are left with \$7,500 in the fund and we are hoping the Lord will lead us to an older one-ton with a plow. Keep us in your prayers that we will continue to raise enough to make our final purchase before next winter. We thank those of you who were so faithful to pray and give!



Camp Work Day - June 13



We hope you can join us on June 13 (Lord willing) for our annual work day! (formerly held on Memorial Weekend) We hope to get our property ready for summer camp and there's plenty of weeding, mowing, cleaning, wood projects, sewing, and fire wood to do!

If you are interested in joining us Friday night, we will be fellowshipping around a campfire till late. (For those of you who would like to stay over, please let us know so we can save you a bunk.)

Want to come for just the work day? Snacks, coffee, and assignments will be ready by 8 am Saturday morning. Lunch and supper will be provided for those of you who want to join us and we will end our day with a campfire. Email us for more info.