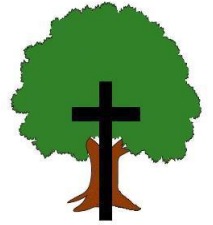


The Briarwood Vine

Providing a Natural Setting Where People Experience God's Love
September 2010



THANK YOU!!

I must start this issue of the *Briarwood Vine* with a "Thank You." We had a wonderful summer camping season this year. A record number of kids

attended Briarwood this summer for a fun-filled and inspirational time. **We increased our summer attendance by approximately 15 percent over last year** - the type of growth that only comes because of support from people like you.

And our summer season ended with a blast as we held our first BriarWOODSTOCK. Nine Christian bands and many people braved the heat and had a wonderful time. (See our web site – www.briarwoodretreat.org – for pictures!)

A special thank you to our Program Director, Jon Thompson, who put heart and soul and many, many hours into summer camp and BriarWOODSTOCK. And a thank you to all our year round staff, our wonderful counselors, and all the volunteers who make Briarwood such a special place.

We have some wonderful events coming up - including the next Sunday Brunch (September 5th) and our yearly Confirmation Retreat (September 10-11). So come join us! Your support - financially, through your presence, and by your prayers - is a blessing to this wonderful ministry at Briarwood. Your partnership makes a difference as we continue to grow and serve as a "natural setting where people experience God's love."

+ Peace +

Pastor Rob Moore

Executive Director, Briarwood Retreat Center

We believe that God's purpose for Briarwood is to provide a natural setting where people experience God's love.

Thank you for your partnership in the camping and retreat ministry of the synod.

Confirmation Retreat – *Beginnings* September 10 to September 11

The new confirmation class in your congregation will be *beginning* very soon. Do you remember in previous years how long it took to move from a bunch of individuals to a cohesive group that works well together? The Briarwood Confirmation Retreat is a great way to move through that process.

By bringing your confirmation class to Briarwood September 10 to 11, you can have a great start this year. Your confirmation

students will have a great time, see confirmation as something that is fun and important, and begin the confirmation journey with



a good first step. The confirmation retreat will provide plenty of opportunity for your confirmation class to meet on its own as well as lots of fun time with the whole group. The cost is only \$50 per student (including room, meals, and programming). Adult sponsors are free. More information, including a brochure and registration form, can be downloaded from our web site (www.briarwoodretreat.org).

Next Sunday Brunch

September 5th – 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



Our next quarterly Sunday brunch will be the first Sunday of September (September 5th). Norm and Jeramy (our two skilled chefs) present a feast for

the eyes and a delight for the stomach at each brunch. Reservations are encouraged but not required. Email us at bw@briarwoodretreat.org (or call 940-241-2099) to make your reservation. For more information about our Sunday brunches, including a full menu and pricing, go to www.briarwoodretreat.org/brunch.htm.