



Summer 2010 at Camp Capers began with many changes. First, we reworked our summer schedule so that all sessions began on Sunday and ended on Saturday. This was a wonderful change for working parents and for those who have to travel long distances to get to and from camp. It required a very fast turn-around between sessions for the staff, but they adjusted quickly. Second, we introduced our new entrance to camp which allowed cars to get off the narrow county road as they waited for registration to begin. The entrance road got rave reviews! People loved the beautiful, winding drive. This also assisted us in a highly streamlined registration system. Parents were thrilled with the quick check-in process. Third, since the campers now draw for bunks, there is no longer any reason for families to arrive hours early and sit in hot cars! Who doesn't like that?

The physical grounds may change at Camp Capers, but one thing never does – the friendships, spiritual formation, and fun. Campers return home with stories full of games, singing, new friends, and an awakening or renewed connection with their spiritual side.

The parent surveys we received were full of comments about the wonderful and “life-changing” experiences their children had, and campers who can't wait to go back next summer. One parent told us, **“Camp Capers continues to be a great place to send my daughter. I love being able to drive off knowing she will have a great time, meet new friends, see old ones, learn more about Christ and build on her relationship with him, and be completely safe and loved the whole time.”**

This is our goal for every camper, every session.

We could never achieve that goal if it weren't for the amazing young people who devote their summers to loving and serving the campers as part of the Summer Staff. This summer, under the leadership of Staff Director Elizabeth Allen, we were blessed with an exceptionally strong and dedicated staff who began preparing for your children months before the first camp session. They were led spiritually by deans, chaplains, and teachers from around the diocese who offered their gifts for one session each. They were supported by over 100 high-school aged volunteer session counselors who spent hours in training to prepare them to care for your children. All were served by Work Crew members who made sure the facilities were in great shape and all physical needs met. Not to mention the work done by Brenda, Charlie, Papa Bear, Sandra, and the nurses. It is truly a group effort!

In looking forward to summer 2011, we are excited to have **Brian Kates** already working as our Staff Director, and we are preparing to interview future staff members. We have read all the surveys and are already addressing the biggest concern – the e-mail issue from this summer. Rest assured we will not use that system for sending emails to campers again! We are looking for a more user-friendly system for parents, family, and friends. We value your feedback, but mostly, we value you and your children who continue to return to and support Camp Capers. As we sing in “The Happy Song” every summer, “Unseen angels celebrate, for the joy is in this place.”