



***“We seek not rest but transformation.  
We are dancing through each other as doorways.”***

- Marge Piercy

Dear Friends,

The summer was a smashing success! All three programs, Mustang Island Family Camp, Camp Capers, and Duck Lake, had healthy enrollments; the staff was wonderful, all summer long; the clergy led us, challenged us, and fed us; and the campers made it all worthwhile as they played, sang, swam, hiked, and prayed.

I love Marge Piercy’s quote about transformation and the image of dancing through and with each other. What a beautiful metaphor for the camp experience and our life together as a diocese. Camps and conferences, as a department, is in the midst of transformation and change.

Part of that change is saying goodbye to Stacy Dowdy, who has had a dramatic impact on our programs during the last five years (not really goodbye as she will remain in a volunteer role on three camps and conference committees). Stacy unselfishly unleashed her unconditional love on the campers and staff at Camp Capers every day, all summer long. Stacy is fiercely dedicated to her ministry, and she brought passion and integrity to the camp program, site, and staff.

We have two new fantastic additions to our year-round professional camping staff, Brian Kates and Johnson Jeffers, both of whom did outstanding jobs as summer Staff Directors at Camp Capers and Mustang Island Family Camp last summer. Johnson is the new Program Director at Mustang Island and Brian is our new Program Director at Camp Capers. Both are responsible for helping plan, coordinate, and lead programs and host groups year round. I am excited about the new energy and excitement that Johnson and Brian bring to their roles and I am confident they will help take our camping program to the next level!

After three wonderful summers at Duck Lake, we are moving to a new campground in Colorado for our adventure programs. The new site, James Park, is located approximately one mile away from Duck Lake, on the St. Vrain River. James Park is a wonderful campground owned by First Baptist of Boulder that includes a beautiful mountain lodge with a fireplace and commercial kitchen. There are also two dormitories that sleep 20 each and a cottage that sleeps 6. This centrally located site, nestled in the heart of the Roosevelt National Forest, offers many opportunities for adventure, relaxation, and meditation.

God blessed our Diocese with unique opportunities for transformation and renewal in the shape of our camping programs. I feel personally blessed to be able to dance through many door ways with you on our journey together.

Peace!  
Rob

