



# SHORElines

a quarterly newsletter of Grace Outside | Michigan Area United Methodist Camping  
March 2024



## IN THIS ISSUE

### COVER

Double Your Impact, New Program Director, Summer Hiring

### BACK

Family Fun Day, Guest Services Coord.



## Recreation Inspiration

### Grace Outside Hires Program Director

Grace Outside recently hired Allison Vitale as full-time program director. The move represents a commitment to growing the spiritual experiences for summer campers and retreat guests at all the Grace Outside destinations. Reach out to Allison at [avitale@graceoutside.org](mailto:avitale@graceoutside.org)

### Summer Staff & Internships

Your referrals help us hire the best staff! Have them visit our website at [graceoutside.org/jobs](http://graceoutside.org/jobs)

### Registration Open!

Register now for Summer Camp and Retreats. Visit [graceoutside.org/events](http://graceoutside.org/events)



## Double Your Impact:

## Donations to Camp Affordability Fund Matched!

Have you ever felt the transformative power of camp? For some it is that special time around the campfire when the Holy Spirit weaves our stories together. For others, it's relaxing in the cabin with new friends released from the stress of daily life. If you've been to camp, you know that the friendships forged, the skills learned, the confidence built leave a lasting impact on your life. At Grace Outside, everyone is welcome and the cost of camp should never be a barrier.

You can help make camp accessible to everyone by donating to the Camp Affordability Fund. Thanks to a generous anonymous donor who will match all camp scholarship donations, you can double your impact! Your gift helps campers:

- Connect with nature: Immersed in the outdoors, campers learn to appreciate God's creation
- Develop independence: Away from familiar surroundings, campers gain confidence and self-reliance as they try new things
- Create community: Camp fosters a sense of Christian hospitality, love and belonging, creating lasting friendships.
- Build a spiritual foundation: Through fun outside activities, role models and Christian teachings and conversations, campers grow closer to God and walk their own faith journey.

Be part of this life-changing experience! Our "scholarship" account is depleted after helping campers the last few years and we no longer receive funding from the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church. As a non-profit organization, your gifts may be tax-deductible. Thank you!



SCAN TO GIVE ONLINE

THANK YOU GIFT!



BONUS: Monthly Sustaining Members will receive a special thank-you gift!

## LET'S GO! HERE'S MY GIFT TO HELP GRACE OUTSIDE GROW

☐ My check is enclosed. ☐ Please charge my credit card (below) ☐ Give online at [GraceOutside.org](http://GraceOutside.org)

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Make this a monthly donation ☐ Make my gift anonymous ☐ I decline my thank you gift

Designate: ☐ **Camp Affordability Fund** ☐ Use where needed most ☐ Wesley Woods ☐ Lake Huron ☐ Lake Michigan  
**YOUR GIFT DOUBLED!**

Credit Card Donations only:

Acct. Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes, add me to your email newsletter list.

☐ Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.



Return this form with your gift to: Grace Outside/MAUMC, PO BOX 134, ST JOHNS, MI 48879 or charge by phone: 616-970-7838



Grace Outside  
Michigan Area United Methodist Camping  
PO BOX 134  
ST JOHNS MI 48879

INSIDE: SHORElines  
the new name for your quarterly  
Grace Outside newsletter



“One of the things that's pretty amazing about camp is showing young people how loved and special they are. Grown ups listening to their stories and spending time with them is one way we demonstrate God's love.”  
— Janell Kebler, Leader Elementary Camp, Wesley Woods Camp & Retreat Center



graceoutside.org

## Family Fun Day April 28

Invite Your Friends to a Fun-Filled Family Day at Wesley Woods Camp & Retreat!

For a fun and exciting afternoon together outside, come to Wesley Woods' Family Fun Day Sunday, **April 28, 2-5 pm**. This free event introduces your family and friends to the amazing experiences children and youth have at camp. Enjoy archery, games, arts and crafts, BBQ picnic, tours.

Your RSVP helps us plan: you can sign up on our website or call 269-721-8291 or email registrar@wesleywoodsmi.org.



## New Guest Services Coordinator

Lake Huron Retreat Center is excited to announce Bonnie Bonnaci as its new Guest Services Coordinator. A valued team member serving in housekeeping and food service since May of 2022, she is enjoying helping with all aspects of a guest's experience. From a first contact call, planning and detail coordination, and all the way to rebooking, Bonnie is using her gifts daily in this role. We are thankful for Rev. Cora Glass who recently transitioned from Program and Hospitality Director to now offering retreat programming as an independent provider for the ministry.