

## SHELDON CALVARY CAMP

It is a breathtakingly dynamic time in the life of Sheldon Calvary Camp. We continue to live into the realities made possible by gifts we have received – in our capital campaign and beyond.

The capital campaign projects are unfolding. Beach improvements allow full access to Lake Erie for swimming, kayaking, collecting beach glass, and simply being by the water. The entire camp community of over 250 people gathered on the beach one Sunday morning to celebrate the Eucharist. Construction plans include a new dining hall, an environmentally sound building to accommodate both our traditional summer campers and expanded year round opportunities, a new all-season office and staff housing.

By far the most engaging project of the summer has been the restoration of the property to the east of the original camp. Through a most generous gift from a foundation, separate from the capital campaign, we were able to acquire forty acres of land spanning Lake Road. We have long dreamed of incorporating this land into Calvary Camp, and reclaiming its natural beauty. The property, once a summer cottage resort, held 24 dilapidated, disused buildings and an unimaginable accumulation of things collected over many decades. After much labor and preparation through the spring season, we were able to begin demolition and restoration work on June 1. This work was made possible by another significant foundation grant. The buildings have been removed, all usable materials recycled, and the land reshaped and ready to be green again. Pathways to the lake shore are under a canopy of wonderful old trees. On the south side of Lake Road, there is a five-acre pond, repaired and awaiting rain water to fill it and a windmill to keep it aerated and alive. This peaceful woodland space holds the promise of fishing and boating.

Sheldon Calvary Camp is a sacred place, a beautiful part of God's creation set apart and tended for ministry. We are filled with gratitude for the overflowing generosity, and with wonder at the possibilities that lie ahead. While much of our current energy is directed toward the stewardship of property and facilities, we never lose sight of the community created in this holy place. Over one thousand campers, 70 staff, and many families have joined us in 2016. This year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> summer for Sheldon Calvary Camp. We are ever mindful of the privilege of serving in this remarkable ministry, and of helping to build a community of love and faith that endures.

Tim Green, Executive Director  
The Rev. Leslie Reimer, Director of Spiritual Life  
Samantha Borkovic, Program Director  
Susan Roth, Staff Development Director

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