



Changing Seasons-

Mission.....Possible!

During Summer residential camp, one game that is anticipated and enjoyed by campers - and staff as well - is Mission Impossible. A number of individuals are assigned as Keepers of Mission Stations and located around the grounds in normal, out-of-the-way, or secret spots. The Keepers hold tokens that are given to camper teams who complete special mission activities at their stations. Off the camper teams go, to first find the Mission Stations, and then perform their mission activities for the Keepers, hoping to get all the tokens and back to base before any other team.

With team work, communication, and hard work (up and down the hills!) the Mission Impossible becomes possible – and a whole lot of fun along the way!

Of course it isn't really that easy! Along the way, camp counselors have taken on the task of blocker – tagging teams and freezing them on the spot! It takes the help of the medic (camp dean or counselor) to unfreeze the team if they again perform some 'impossible' mission tasks.

Our team at Pilgrim Heights knows the mission is possible – even with the blocks along the way. After camp season this year we had to say goodbye, with thanks for years of dedicated service and best wishes, to our Director of Administration, Lynnette Harwick; Guest Services Director, Ashley Gratopp; and Maintenance staff person, Darrel Niedermann as they move on to the next steps in their careers. Staffing changes can be hard, but also can be opportunities to evaluate and refine the vision that supports the mission. Team work, communication and hard work with Board, staff, volunteers and supporters - and that fun along the way – lead to Mission Possible for Pilgrim Heights Camp & Retreat Center.

You are invited to share your efforts to our Mission Possible! Register for an event, plan a personal or professional event, volunteer and/or donate – join our Mission Possible!





The Common Buckeyed Butterfly has dot circles on its wings.

A First for Tama County!

John Clayton, our Wildflower champion, has sighted two butterflies at Pilgrim Heights this summer that have never before been recorded as seen in Tama County.



Orange wings with scattered markings help identify the Meadow Fritillary butterfly.

The grounds of our sacred space at Pilgrim Heights are looking good!

It takes the help and hard work of many people to keep making us look better and better!

Daily thanks goes to Darrel Niedermann, our maintenance go-to staff person.

And gratitude galore goes to volunteers of all sorts – church work groups, board members, gardeners, mowers, tree trimmers, waterfront keepers, weeders, cleaners, and visitors who live by the words 'leave a place better than when you arrived.'



Pilgrim Heights welcomes growing numbers of bees...

.... And we support the habitats Monarchs call home!

Thanks to John Clayton for the pictures.



Thank You for a Great Summer



We couldn't do it without our wonderful:

Summer Kitchen Staff: Angelica, Elizabeth, Jennifer, Jovana, Laura & Shelby

Summer Program Staff: Catie, Carrie, Courtney, Jasmine, Jen, Jordan, Mariah, Nehemias, & Sarah

Volunteer Deans and Counselors: Amanda, Ben, Bob, Chad, Chloe, Cleo, Dane, Danielle, Dave, Elizabeth, Gordon, Jane, Jesse, Jessica x 2, Jonah, Judy, Kate, Ken, Leah, Leon, Mackenzie, Marissa, Miguel, Mikayla, Milana, Milo, Nicole, Ryan, Sarah, Steff, Sydney, & Uriah

Year-Round Staff: Ashley Dodson, Ashley Gratopp, Darrel Niedermann, and Lynnette Harwick

Families and friends who brought campers and stayed for a cookout at check out!



Summer Day Campers are growing in numbers and had daily quality time at the Children's Garden, Nature Explore Classroom and waterfront. How can the Summer Days not be better when filled with weeks of rocks, wildflowers, birds, fish, insects, trees, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, water and wetlands!

Ask a Day Camper what they learned about these nature topics at Pilgrim Heights' Day Camp.



The **theme** at church camp this summer was the basis of many new friendships, insights and **fun**. We learned about the **courage** it takes to show up somewhere new, to trust and forgive as we build a **community**. We explored what it takes to stand together, to seek justice. We found **faith** in ourselves and others to change and to connect. We were a **fearless** bunch!

Thank you to donors, too!

These are additions to our 2015 List of Donors:

\$5,000+ Donors: Kenneth & Ronda Connelly

\$1,000+ Donors: William & Barbara Yungclas

\$100+ Donors: Ruth & Roy Dahlenberg; Zion UCC, Lowden; Zion UCC Sr. High Fellowship, Lowden; Joleen Wilson; Keith Wilson; Shirley Yungclas, Mary Jane & Roger Zimmerman

Gifts in Honor of Craid & Sue Schroeder: Joleen Wilson

Memorial Gifts Judy Kuehl: Betty Gerber

Memorial Gifts Miriam Kline: Jane E. Meyer; William & Barbara Yungclas

Memorial Gifts Nancy Kress: Kent and Janice Strackbein

A revised 2015 Annual Report is available online and through the office.

Along with our own residential summer church camp, Pilgrim Heights hosted a number of other groups focused on time away at camp to explore faith, nature and find some fun. Share our sacred space with friends you know who are searching for a special place for their adventures.

Come Join Us Year Round

Spirituality Retreats
Stargazing
End of Summer Picnics
Campfires
Pumpkin Picking next door

Fun and Relaxation
Last Hurrah before Winter
Family or Individual Getaway
Ice Fishing
Plan an event of your own

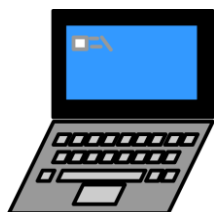


Sign Up and Mark your Calendars!

UCC Confirmation Retreat
Men's Fall Work Weekend
Women's Fall Retreat

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August 26th-27th
October 28th-29th
November 11th-12th



Connect with us online:



<http://www.pilgrimheights.org> or on

Facebook



Pilgrim Heights Camp & Retreat Center, a non-profit service of Our Sacred Space, Inc.
3005 E Avenue | Montour, IA 50173 | Phone: 641.492.6165 | Fax: 641.492.6289

