

News from The Point

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It Was a Great Year!



2009 was a great year for Pilgrim Point Camp. Attendance was up, due in large part to the decision by Wade Zick and the Faith Formation for Children and Youth Team to hold our Conference Youth Event here at Pilgrim Point. And there was also a large increase in the attendance for the Young Adult Weekend and a new weekend event for Youth Leaders held at PPC (another program from Wade!). There was also a nice increase in both our July Family Camp and Senior High Camp.

We also celebrated **50 years** of ministry in this special place with an outdoor worship and old fashioned church picnic in July. Folks enjoyed good food, swimming, pontoon rides and sitting in the shade and sharing memories of summers spent at Pilgrim Point Camp on the shores of Lake Ida.

Winter on the Shores of Lake Ida

[Pictures are on the Web](#)

You can find many great pictures on the Pilgrim Point Website of the wonderful Christmas snow at camp. Dee gets to snow shoe in to check on things about once a week. Ronnie, the camp dog, is always grateful to tag along. These pictures were from a clear bright day on December 29th. Enjoy them and maybe



they will tempt you to come on out to Alexandria and pay us a visit during a very beautiful time of the year at Pilgrim Point Camp—but then—every season is beautiful at Pilgrim Point Camp! Come and see us—if not in person then visit www.pilgrimpoint.org.

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Pilgrim Point Camp is located on beautiful Lake Ida, just 15 minutes north of Alexandria, Minnesota.—Alexandria, easy to get to and hard to leave. PPC is a ministry of the Minnesota Conference of the United Church of Christ. For more information please go to our website at www.pilgrimpoint.org



Testimonies From our Campers

After an especially inspiring week of counseling for Senior High Camp, RJ Meyer had the wonderful idea of asking campers to submit testimonies to be shared around the Conference. To get folks thinking we posed three questions.

- 1) How has camp impacted or changed your faith?
- 2) What helped form or transform your faith while at camp?
- 3) What sort of growth did you witness in other campers or counselors that affected their faith and/or your own?

We'll share some quotes in this and subsequent newsletters. We'd also be grateful if these testimonies might inspire you to share your answers to the questions above. Send them to Dee at deed@uccmn.org

- “When I first went to Pilgrim Point, it was amazing. It was the first place I felt truly and unconditionally accepted. After my 2nd time there, I knew God existed”.
- “I have met some of the most amazing, caring, and wonderful people during my time at PPC. I am honored to call these people friends, a few of them my best friends. I am not the same person that I was when I first went to PPC and I cannot imagine my life without it”.



- “It was Pilgrim Point that had inspired him, that had provided him with strong role models for how to live. He said that whenever he got down or was stuck in a difficult situation, he needed only to recall his experiences at camp and he could make it through - that he wouldn't compromise the kind of person he is”.
 - “...basically how everyone was one big family at camp..just how much love and understanding and respect everyone has for one another..you could come as you are and be accepted, because it didn't matter how different you were..the one thing that you all would have in common is your faith in God...”
- “The memories I make at camp are some of the best, and everyone is great there- the staff, counselors, campers- everyone. I love this camp because everyone treats you like family, or as if you've been friends for years”.
 - “Camp is probably one of the things I look forward to the most during the summer. I get to learn about God and experience it first hand. All while having fun and enjoying the experience. I meet new friends and get in touch with old ones. It really has been life changing to experience this from my elementary-high school years”.