

A CHALLENGE AHEAD

Trinity Pines was established in Cascade and annexed into the city limits in the late 1990's. Our first camp opened in the summer of 2001. The Camp is structured under a non-profit status from the Church of the Nazarene – like any local church on our district along with other properties owned and operated by the Nazarene denomination. In 2023, Valley County Assessor sent a notice and form to be completed that deal with the camp being assessed property taxes. This was the first time in our history that we had received such a notice. We immediately defaulted to our non-profit, tax-exempt status and returned the requested information. The result was an assessment placed on the 200 acres (we have three separate parcels of land). We appealed the assessment and won the appeal and did not have to pay property taxes as a religious non-profit organization. In 2024, the same tax information came but this time the form was different. In 2023, the form was heavily weighted on financial information, and they claimed our RV and Camp Store ran competition to local businesses in town and therefore we should be assessed property tax. In 2024, the emphasis had shifted off finances to guest usage. This time the form requested the number of days Trinity Pines is used by Nazarene affiliated groups and the number of days by non-Nazarene affiliated groups. A small committee worked to compile all the data counting heads for the entire tax year. The report came back into two categories – those guests affiliated with the property owner (Nazarene) and those guests termed a commercial (or ones nonaffiliated that the assessor claims were for profit to the operation and would qualify for a property tax assessment). Trinity Pines was presented with a tax bill in the amount of \$29,000+ dollars. We were then contacted by a number of other church related and non-profit camps and learned that they had all been assessed a similar tax status dealing with days that the camp was deemed to be commercial. Trinity Pines has entered into an agreement with legal counsel and plans to file a reaction to the tax that is being assessed leaning on our non-profit and tax-exempt status as a religious organization. The group of camps are working with the Idaho Non-profits organization and may result in seeing a change in the law by the 2025 Idaho legislature. Please make this a matter of prayer. These types of assessments and costs impact our bottom line of camp operations, which translates into increased fees to meet budgets for the camp. This is not an attack on the Nazarene camp alone and we are going to apply leverage for an equitable settlement going forward.

Rick Waitley
Camp Executive Director

CONTACT US: Association Management Group 55 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 100 Meridian, ID 83642 ph: 208-888-0988 fx: 208-888-4586 rick@campidaho.com Cascade Address: 349 Cabarton Road Cascade, ID 83611 ph: 208-382-6200 office@tpines.org	Camp Hope Kids Camp Jun 6-9
	Because Kids Grieve/Camp Erin Jun 7-9
	Tree City Men's RV Retreat Jun 7-9
	Genesis Girls Camp Jun 10-12
	Genesis Boys Camp Jun 12-14
	Sr High Camp Jun 17-21
	Boise Chinese Christian Church Jun 21-23
	Kids Camp Jun 24-28
	S ID Assemblies of God Teen Camp Jun 28-Jul 3
	S ID Assemblies of God Kidz Camp July 4-7
	Heritage Bible Teen Camp July 11-14
	Camp Hope Teen Camp July 11-14
	Church of God Idaho Family Camp July 11-14
	Jr High Camp July 15-19
	St Paul Baptist Men's Retreat July 19-21

“AT-A-GLANCE” TRINITY PINES CALENDAR

CAMP MONTHLY

TRINITY PINES CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

CASCADE, IDAHO
JUNE 2024

FARMHOUSE UPDATE: The floor joists in the existing structure have been raised and leveled and a new crawl space hand dug for access under the house. Excavation has been completed and foundations will be poured this week to allow for construction to start for expansion of living space and the addition of a new garage. NOTE: We are ready for volunteers who would like to help on this project. If you are available with a work crew to invest a day or a few days please contact John Theien, Administrator at the camp with your availability so he can schedule individuals and teams to assist. Call 208-382-6200.

MEDICAL PERSONNEL AT THE CAMP: Each of the Intermountain District Camps have been asked to identify a camp medical staff member for their respective camps. We appreciate Britni Nelson, Karcher Nazarene, Nicole Davis, Nampa First Church and Kris Duggan, Gooding Desert Hills stepping forward to offer their expertise and assistance. A special shout out to Greg Galloway, Karcher Nazarene who inventoried medical supplies for the nurses to use as we head into the summer.

ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY: Trinity Pines has entered into an agreement with Dr. Peter Crabb, NNU Economic Professor to complete an Economic Impact Study related to Trinity Pines and the revenue generated by the camp in Valley County. The last time we did a report like this was in 2013 and the report indicated that Trinity Pines camp had a \$1.7 million dollar impact on Valley County in 2011-2012. We will be anxious to see what the current numbers reflect. This report will be used in our appeal to Valley County related to the property tax issue.

30TH ANNIVERSARY: We are just a few years away from celebrating 30 years of Trinity Pines Camp. Matt Dahlgran has offered his services to compile a collection of stories of the work God has done at and through Trinity Pines. Stories of salvation, calls to ministry, blessings, or other miraculous works of God. If you have stories to share, please send them to trinitypinesstories@gmail.com. Matt is a member of the Camp Program/Development Committee and an associate at New Hope Church in Boise.

CAMP MISSION PROJECT: Each year Trinity Pines summer camps identify a Camp Mission project. The projects alternate between international and domestic and this year the project is titled Camps and Cuba Kids. We will be generating funds to send to Cuba to help meet financial responsibilities for summer camps for children there.

FRONT ENTRANCE: A combination of moisture, rotting logs and age caused the loss of the large front entrance structure on the north end of the Trinity Pines property. The board met on Saturday, June 1 at the camp and discussed plans for a new front entrance at the north entrance and adding a second entrance structure at the south end of the property.

SOMETHING NEW: Campers and guests will experience a new low ropes course that includes elements with a variety of platforms. The user is given planks of various lengths to connect to the platforms in order to move from platform to platform. It is a team building activity. At Jubilation Station, we also have two sets of a new game called Carpet Ball. There are two elevated boxes with carpet as a base and pool balls to roll back and forth in competition. Thanks to those who helped to build these new items. Many of the materials used were materials on hand at the camp.

RIDE THE BUS: If you are a parent or guardian and don't have time to take your kids up to camp, there is the opportunity to have them ride the bus from The Village in Meridian to the camp in Cascade on Monday and Friday. The cost to ride the bus is \$30 for either roundtrip or just one way. The bus will be offered for Kids, Junior and Senior High camps only. Be sure you sign up in advance to ride the bus so details can be sent to you related to this opportunity.

TOUR TRINITY PINES: Because of its popularity, we are offering a one day tour of Trinity Pines again this summer. NOTE: Please see the enclosed flyer for more details and make sure to reserve your spot and mark your calendars.

SUMMER-CAMP INTERNS:

Lily Walsh - Junior at NNU and an Elementary Education Major. She is from Moscow, ID.

Erek Messick - Sophomore at NNU and a Christian Ministry Major. He is from Wasilla, AK.

Nick Angood - Is not attending further education but feels called to work with horses in a ministry capacity. He is from Meridian, ID.

Benjamin Espinoza - Junior at NNU and a Mechanical Engineering Major. He is from Nampa, ID.

Emma Goossens - Junior at NNU and a Social Work Major. Her parents are missionaries with the Nazarene church and are currently in the Philippines. She has lived many places that hold a special place in her heart and does not claim a hometown.

Brooklyn Hallet - Sophomore at NNU and a Psychology Major. She is from Boise, ID.

Abby Compher - Sophomore at NNU and a Christian Ministries Major. She is from Middleton, ID.

DISTRICT CAMP MEETING: You will want to be at Trinity Pines, August 9-11 for the District Camp Meeting at the Campground. Rev. Bob and Colleen Skinner will be the guest speakers. Bob is a product of Intermountain District, served as a missionary for several years and is the current District Superintendent for the Rocky Mountain Region, which includes churches in Montana and Wyoming. This is a fun packed weekend of relaxation, fellowship, good food, singing songs, activities for children, and great times of celebration in the worship tent. Registration for this will soon be online at www.tpines.org. Space fills quickly, so get your reservations in as soon as the form is available. You can join us for the entire weekend or even just for a day. The final worship session will be Sunday morning and there will be a lunch option to follow that is available to all.

PAVE THE WAY

PAVE THE WAY: Thank you for the response for additional pavers to be installed at Trinity Pines at the west entrance to the conference center. If you would like to purchase a paver to express your family, church or personal recognition as a Trinity Pines supporter in the walkway, contact our Meridian office for more details and we will email you a form to complete. Each paver costs \$250. What a great way to indicate the impact Christian camping has had on your personal or family's life.

WWW.TPINES.ORG

