



LOOKING BACK AT HOW GOD HAS LED----- LOOKING AHEAD TO HOW HE IS LEADING

It is easy to look back for most of us and remember what God has done. Looking forward to discern where He is leading may not always seem so easy but is exciting, challenging and causes us to stretch our faith.

As the Board and Staff of Covenant Cedars enter a season of reflecting on the past 65 years of ministry, they also are being challenged by what they believe God is calling them to.

The Board of Directors have therefore given approval in "stepping forward" in developing a "Discipleship Program" for up to 40 students throughout an 8 month course that would include Bible Study, Identity Development and Life 101. This program would include 4 environments for learning:

CLASSES Students would attend up to 19 hours of class each week. Classes would be taught by seasoned leaders and professionals not just from within Covenant Cedars and the surrounding community, but from across the U.S.

TRIPS Travel is a unique learning environment and is a key component of the program. Students would embark on up to 6 different trips during their 8 month stay. During travel, students not only learn but would be challenged in ways that cannot be duplicated in the classroom.

COMMUNITY This is perhaps the most important ingredient in leadership development. Students would live in the new "Summer Staff Housing" that we were planning to build anyway. This gives this new project an even greater use and purpose as it would house these students September to May and house Summer Staff June to August. There the students will not only learn how to cook, clean and maintain their own living space, but are also tested in their ability to "love their neighbor as themselves."

SERVICE Students would also have the privilege of working two days per week at Covenant Cedars Bible Camp.

Not only is this a great lab environment for what the students have learned in the classroom, but it also helps to defray a portion of the program costs for getting each student the opportunity to practice the disciplines of serving.

It is our hope to help fill the leadership void with men and women who gain the right to influence other people through their resemblance to Jesus Christ. Our concern is for students who lack life direction with or without a degree. We want to offer a place where students come to better understand God's design for them and gives them the opportunity to "put into use" their design.

"We need ordained plumbers, accountants and others in our marketplaces. People who make a difference within their areas of skill, because of their faith!"

When: The first step in this developmental process will be to raise funds needed to construct the building described in the next article that would house both this program and allow us to increase the number of Summer Staff needed for our growing camp activity.

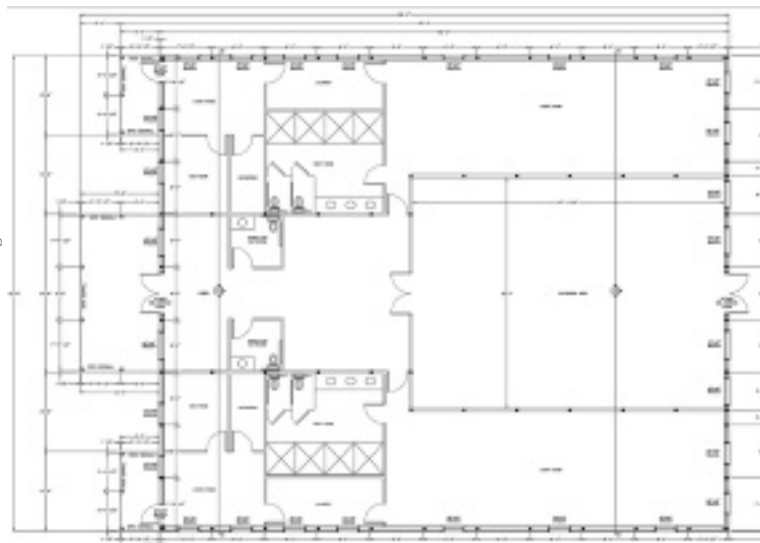
Where: This entire program (other than the trips) would be carried out right on the grounds of Covenant Cedars. The building would be located just off the road and just south of the church building at the entrance.

Why: We believe that there are many young men and women in the Midwest who are teachable, eager to grow and have a desire to influence other people through their resemblance of Jesus Christ. Learning to lead while being led is an experience that is often missing in our world today and this program can be a valuable experience.

More info to come: Please pray with us toward this goal. If interested in helping, please contact dan@cedars.org



72'-0" NORTH ENDWALL



NEW SUMMER STAFF HOUSING

The Ministry of Covenant Cedars has grown more than **25%** over the past two years which means it requires a few more needed to serve than what we currently have on summer Staff. Our current Summer Staff housing however, only has space for **26 beds**, which limits our ability to add more staff. Also, the two cabins currently used for Summer Staff are in the greatest need of replacing.

The Board has therefore prioritized the above new facility as the next project on the Master Plan to be constructed.

What we did not realize however is that God had more in mind for this building. The article on the front cover describes how this building would be used the rest of the year as housing for the Discipleship Program that is proposed:

Cost Approx.	\$295,000
Current Build. Fund	\$70,000
Start Date	As soon as funds are raised

This new facility would **house up to 48 staff or students**. Includes dorm style rooms for male on one side and female on other. Separate laundry rooms for each, separate bathrooms, two apartments for Interns, a common lounge area and classroom space.

The start potential for the Discipleship Program is dependent on the completion of this facility. Please help us reach this goal!

FACILITIES CREW

When walking into the Kitchen at 6:30am every morning this summer, the facilities crew wondered why God would wake them up at such an early time to start cooking countless amounts of eggs, bacon, sausage and McCedars. We think we are more than prepared for what will arise on any particular day, until a little girl came up to the serving window and asked for a packet of butter. Staring with confusion the server said, 'yes of course.' When they handed the little girl the butter, she smiled and said it was for her eggs. That was certainly a first for the Kitchen Staff.

Another early morning when we

had cinnamon rolls a little boy walked up to the window. The server asked him if he wanted seconds. The little boys eyes lit up, "my mom never lets me have two cinnamon rolls."

Some of the most rewarding moments in the kitchen would have to



be the "special" meals we serve. For example, the Summer Staff all dress up and wait tables to serve these children who might not have a birthday any other time of the year. We also got to serve several beach parties or hoedowns at the lake. Yes, these special meals are a lot of extra work, prep, and planning. However, the experience for the guest is a priceless moment that you could never recreate. We aren't here to just feed hungry children, rather we are here for kids to be kids, for guests to have a worry free stay, and to show the love of Christ through our servant hearts.

ACTIVITIES CREW

This summer has been great and it has been humbling. The Summer Staff of 2014 has been amazing and each day as a team we accomplished the work that needed to be done. The



Activities Crew served alongside of the Facilities Crew and did show a humble attitude in serving each other and our guests.

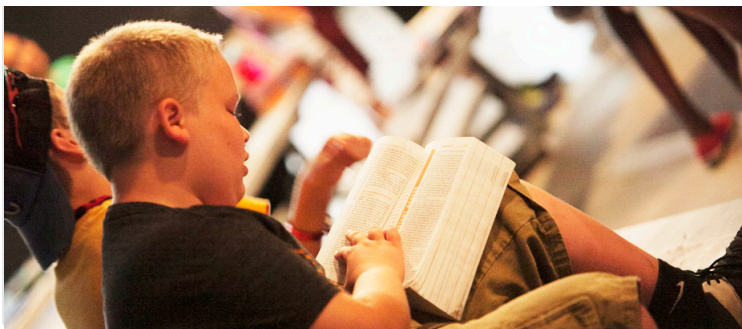
There were so many new faces on the Activities Crew this summer. However, there was also a nice mix of veterans to help those who were new on staff. This allowed us the opportunity to practice servant leadership and teamwork that we otherwise wouldn't have had. God has taught us throughout the summer to trust that He is our strength and that He will bring us through each day. In the midst of serving, God has given the Activities Crew opportunities to see Him work. He has worked not only in the campers, but in the Summer Staff that He called to camp this summer. God has truly blessed our crew.



PROGRAM CREW

As we reflect on "STRIVE" 2014 one cannot help but to see all that God has done. We saw more campers come through the gates of Covenant Cedars than we have for many years and were blessed to watch God move in great ways.

There were a total of 663 campers this summer. We had 24 accept Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, 207 rededications, and 65 campers called to fulltime ministry! Out of this many students there were a lot commitments



made to strive to read their Bibles and improve family relationships.

All in all "STRIVE" 2014 has helped the words of 1 Timothy 4:10 to ring clear in many lives. It states that, "...to this end we toil and STRIVE, because our hope is set on the living God, especially of those who believe".

Our determination is this: That our only hope in life and death is found only in the living God. We can only toil and strive with purpose in life if we are not our own, but belong to God.

By God's Grace alone, through camp this summer, many lives were changed for His glory. Thank you for your prayer and support which also make camp possible.



- Please join us for the •



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
& ALUMNI WEEKEND

— October 3-5, 2014 —

Covenant Cedars Bible Camp
2909 N W Road, Hordville, NE 68846

