

St. Louis Camp Meeting Association of the Church of God

St. Louis Campground
8489 N. Bagley Rd.
St. Louis, MI 48880



(989) 681-2581
www.stlouiscampground.org

Happy Spring from the St. Louis Campground!

This last winter has been very uneventful for us, which is great news! The snow is finally melting, but coupled with the constant rain we've had over the last few weeks, the grounds are mushy and very wet...but it won't be long until the sun shines, the grounds dry up, and campers start to arrive! Tom and Kathy have been receiving a great number of phone calls over the winter from people wanting to stay at the campground, and also to book weddings and special events! The 2022 camping season is looking like it will be a busy and fantastic year!

The St. Louis Campground will be officially open for camping on May 1, and we would love to see you at any time! Give our office a call at (989) 681-2581 and speak to Kathy for camping arrangements. Also, you can check out our website for information on Camp Meeting 2022, as well as a calendar of events (coming soon!). If you'd like your group or event featured on our calendar, please use the Contact Us form on the website and let us know!

We have a few exciting happenings on and around the campground this year:

- Tom Schaefer and a few of the board members would like to start a Monday morning coffee clatch on the campground during the summer. They will meet 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. for coffee and a devotion, after which they will raise the flag in the prayer garden and say a prayer to start the week off.
- We are exploring starting up a weekly Saturday night activity during the summer in the hopes of encouraging more folks to come visit us even when not camping. Events like a campfire or hot dog roast, a hymn sing, or even just showing a faith-based movie in the tabernacle would be great ideas! If you'd like to participate or host an activity, give Tom and Kathy a call at the office.
- This year marks the return of the Alma Highland Festival, May 27-29, 2022 (Memorial Day weekend). We invite anyone who would like to stay on the campground that weekend to come spend some time with us and let the camp be your home base while you visit the Highland Festival. Our special holiday camping rate applies that weekend also – 3 nights of camping for \$75!
- We will be hosting the Tent of Meeting at the campground on August 26-28. This is a gathering of youth who desire a deeper encounter with God and is a free event. All are welcome to attend this spiritual revival for the next generation of Kingdom builders!

For information on any of these events or programs, please give Tom and Kathy Schaefer a call at (989) 681-2581.

Our development and operations committees have been hard at work researching new activities to bring to the campground. We've discussed options like a splash park and a disc golf course, and they're always taking suggestions for what activities you'd like to see on the campground. If you'd like to share your ideas or suggestions, feel free to call the camp office and let us know!

We would like to give many thanks to Tom Schaefer and Medler Electric for putting in LED lights around the grounds last year. Our winter Consumers Energy bills are lower than ever! New LED lights and new fans were also installed in the tabernacle, which will cut down on excess noise from the old mercury lights and old fans, improve lighting, and reduce the electricity bill even more!

Many of you may remember that the bookstore was closed last year due to a mold outbreak. We are happy to report that the building has been stripped to the studs and cleaned, and we are waiting to do another test to see if the mold was completely eliminated. Our goal is to have the Business Office and the small bathroom ready this summer to allow our Treasurer, Sandy Turk, to be able to have her workspace back. Once we confirm the mold was eradicated, we can start to rebuild. This is a project that was unfortunately not included in the 2022 Budget, so the Board of Directors is hoping and praying that the rebuild won't be too costly. If you would like to donate

toward this project, we would very much welcome your gift! Sandy, our treasurer, has been instrumental to the work of the St. Louis Campground and is also one of its biggest supporters. Her heart is truly for the camp and enjoys being there as much as she can. If we can provide Sandy a beautiful new office, we can show her how much we all appreciate her!!!

The Board of Directors would like to remind the cottage owners that if they choose not to pay the one-time Seasonal fee of \$400, if the cottage is utilized anytime outside of camp meeting, occupants must pay half the nightly camping rate per night of occupancy. The current nightly rate is \$30, so the nightly rate for cottage occupancy is \$15. The seasonal fee was raised to \$400 this year from \$250 previously, and will allow cottage owners to stay at any time during the camping season in their cottage. Cottage owners are still responsible for the annual \$200; that is the yearly fee for having the cottage, usually paid at camp meeting. To make arrangements for paying either the seasonal fee or for using your cottage outside of camp meeting, please stop in at the registration office and see Kathy Schaefer or call the camp at (989) 681-2581. It is also important to note that all campers/cottage owners are **required** to check in at the office before taking occupancy on the campground. We appreciate your cooperation with this!

If you'd like to volunteer your time on the campground, Tom and Kathy would be very excited to have you! There is always a project for someone who wants to help – big or small! Come and work for a day, a weekend, a week, or a month! Does your youth group want to do service? How about Boy or Girl Scout troops? We have dorms available for groups if they so choose to stay overnight. If you're interested in volunteering, give Tom and Kathy a call at the office for details.

We always welcome monetary donations throughout the year toward either the general fund or for special projects. The general fund helps us cover unbudgeted items like equipment or building repairs, which we all know can pop up from time to time. Funds can also be marked for special projects, and the money will be used only for the project you specify. If you are interested in donating to the St. Louis Campground, please feel free to send your check to:

Sandy Turk
77 North Baker Rd.
Midland, MI 48640

God never fails to supply our every need, and we thank Him daily for that. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to previous and current donors, and to our prayer partners as well. We wouldn't be here serving God without you. Please continue to keep us in your prayers, that we will do the Lord's will and spread the news of His great works in everything we do and say. All glory to God the Father!

In His Service,

*The Board of Directors
St. Louis Camp Meeting Association of the Church of God*

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