

A Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

Issue #4 | July 2017

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Get Involved:



BCH Center Staff:

Executive Director - John Koch

Guest Services

- Jennifer Boyd, Manager
- Kristen Paradis
- Jon Ingalls

Bookkeeper

- Beverly Morello

Camp

- Alessia Doss, Director
- Abby Holmes
- Housekeeping - Jes Stearns
- L'ALL D'



A Letter From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church, Michael Curry, often speaks of establishing the "beloved community". Curry describes the beloved community as "...the practical image of the world we pray for when we say, 'Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.' A community where all people may experience dignity and abundant life, and see themselves and others as beloved children of God."

My highest hope is that the Barbara C. Harris camp program allows kids to experience some of that "beloved community" and for that experience to be a life-changing transformation. An encounter that will not only change individuals, but potentially change our culture by growing a community of "reconcilers, justice makers and healers".

- Lindsay Riccio
- Christie Seppala

Facilities

- Caleb Baker, Manager
- Rory MacFarlane

Kitchen

- Peter McEachern
- Felicia Cronan
- Ryan Richard - DJ Sparks
- Michael Comeau
- Steve Regeimbal
- Brendon James
- Abby Cahoon
- Kerry Holt
- Issac Blake
- Bodie Swain
- Jonathan Pope
- Sean Boggis
- Allyson Beckman

BCH Center Featured Staff:



Caleb Baker, Buildings and Grounds Manager

Caleb has been working at the Barbara C. Harris Center since the fall of 2014 with a shared role in Guest Services and Facilities. He was recently promoted and is now the Buildings and Grounds Manager. Caleb loves the variety of being able to work outside and the administrative part of

his position at the BCH Center. One of his favorite parts of the job is being able to work with such a great group of people.

When Caleb is not at

A fitting accolade to the legacy of the Center's namesake, The Rt. Rev. Barbara C. Harris.

Center served hundreds campers encompassing a kaleidoscope of diversity. Some came for the very first time, some returned for a second, third or even fourth time! While they enjoyed the traditional trappings of summer camp they were unknowingly participating in something much larger; a 2000-year-old movement to change the world.

To support families in their desire to have their children participate in camp, the Barbara C. Harris Center partners with a variety of other organizations to offer scholarships. It is our intent to never turn a child away from camp for financial reasons. In 2017 The Barbara C. Harris Center, The Church Home Society, Episcopal City Mission, St Andrew's by the Sea Church (NH), and a special grant given to the Bristol County Churches collectively awarded over \$240,000 in scholarships. By any measure, a stunning accomplishment. A tribute to the Episcopal Church's commitment to support the "least of these" and make a difference in the world.

Sincerely,

John Koch Executive Director



Barbara C. Harris Episcopal Camp · Greenfield, NH



the BCH Center he enjoys spending time working on projects and being with the people he loves, including his wonderful girlfriend. He is very involved at the Monadnock Congregational Church and also runs a small non-profit with his brothers called Christ's Initiative.

BCH Center Board of Directors:

- The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates
- Lynd Matt
- The Rev. H. Mark Smith
- Alessia Doss
- John Koch
- Dr. Don DeLollis
- Stephen Mascoll
- The Rev. Paula Toland
- Dr. Karen McAlmon
- Jonathan Treat
- The Rev. Natasha Stewart
- Allison Greenstein
- Andrew Foss
- The Rev. Aileen DiBenedetto
- Dr. Michelle Porche





Session 3 Chaplains: The Rev. Harry Easterly, Patsy Easterly, The Rev. Natasha Stewart, The Rev. Maggie Arnold, and The Rev. Jon Strand

Life as a BCH Camp Chaplain

I love coming to Camp! It was not something I was able to do as a child but I always jealously listened to my little sister when she was picked up from Girl Scout Camp. She told of the fun she had had and new experiences and friends she had made. However, twelve years ago when Bishop Tom Shaw directed all the newly ordained clergy to be a chaplain up at the Diocesan Summer Camp, I will admit it was not something I was excited to do, at all. However, three days into my first summer at BCH Camp I was convinced it was a thin place to meet God close-up and feel God's presence daily in a palpable and real way in the faces of each and every one of the campers, counselors, staff, and in the beauty of space. Since that first summer I have been back to Camp nine times as a chaplain. And while I have seen many challenges and changes during that time, I have also seen God in action and been reminded of the love of God that surpasses all understanding.

While the formal part of the Chaplain's role is to lead worship with sermons that inspire the campers and staff alike, the informal part is the truly rewarding time. You never know what a camper will say as you gather in the Arts and Crafts cabin, or sit in a canoe playing dodge ball, or take a walk with them up "Mount Barbara"! I have been repeatedly surprised as campers have opened-up to me about some deep pain or struggle and they have wondered where is God in that. These are the moments when chaplains play an important part in the life of the campers, and in keeping our identity as an Episcopal Camp, as we help the next generation understand our tradition and theology. I often come away from these conversation with a deeper appreciation for the perspective of the next generation of church leaders.

Every year I have attended BCH Camp I am with a different group of colleagues, each bringing different gifts and talents, and different passions and skills to share with the

campers. Every year I learn more about the amazing group of clergy we have in the Episcopal Church. And every year, I see chaplains use their individual gifts to further the experience of campers. You don't have to be woodsy to be a chaplain, you don't have to be musical, you don't have to be sporty, you don't have to be artsy... you only have to have a passion for the formation of our next generation of church leaders and be willing to help them come to a deeper appreciation of our church and the love of God for all people. I hope to see you all at Camp next summer!

- The Rev. Natasha Stewart





Campers trying out the new kayaks and paddleboards.

Summer Camp 2017 Recap

Our 15th summer of BCH Camp was nothing short of amazing. This summer, we served over 500 campers - our highest number in 5 years. More than half of our campers were new to camp. The towns in Massachusetts that sent the highest number of children to camp were Lowell, Brockton, Natick, Haverhill and Lynn. We also expanded our reach into New Hampshire, serving more than 100 youth from the granite state.

The faith formation theme this summer was "Brave Change/Bold Changemakers." Largely influenced by the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts' Mission Strategy, our summer's theme focused on teaching campers about having courage in the face of adversity, standing up against social injustice and leading others into a bolder vision of God's dream for the world. To this end, we looked at scripture and learned about young, bold changemakers such as Malala, Ruby Bridges, Erica Fernandez and Ryan Hreljac.

Perhaps the most exciting part of summer 2017 was the expansion of our waterfront with the arrival of 12 new kayaks and stand-up paddleboards (SUP's). Campers and staff loved experiencing Otter Lake in a new and exciting way - whether it was a sunrise paddle, picking blueberries around the perimeter of the lake, or giving SUP yoga a try.

We are so grateful to the Church Home Society for providing us with the funds to afford this opportunity for our youth.

As the leaves begin to fall and the sun sets earlier and earlier, we at BCH Camp will hold the memories and lessons learned from summer 2017 close to our hearts as we begin shifting our focus to all of the wonder that 2018 will hold. With Winter Camp being only a short 6 months away, there is much to be excited about. Thank you to our camp family for being a part of our beloved community!



Compline at Sunset

Conference Center





Family Camp

Family Camp marked the last conference group at the BCH Center before the arrival of summer camp. The group had four days of beautiful New Hampshire weather. During their stay Family Camp enjoyed plenty of indoor and outdoor activities. They had perfect temperatures for both swimming and boating. When they weren't at the waterfront campers were participating in a smorgasbord of activities including basketball, hiking the BCH Center trails, lawn games and puzzles. The highlight of the retreat was the Un-

Talent Show, where participants got a chance to show off their "skills". And to top it all off, they had a nighttime "Compline under the stars" with our namesake the Rt. Rev. Barbara C. Harris herself in the crowd. We had a great time hosting Family Camp and cannot wait until next summer to see them again!

Quilting Retreat

The Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center is hosting an independent quilting retreat, open to quilters of all abilities. Come enjoy a cozy weekend with friends of new and old and bond over a closely shared hobby.

February 23rd - 25th, 2018

Stay tuned as more information becomes available and registration will be open soon.





Summer 2018 Weekends:

Summer 2018 weekends are still available for retreats at the Barbara C. Harris Center! Take advantage of warm New Hampshire weather, and bring your group here for a stay on any of these dates:

Friday, June 29th - Sunday July 1st

Friday, July 6th - Sunday July 8th

Friday, July 20th - Sunday, July 22nd

Please contact <u>Jennifer Boyd</u> if you would like more information about bringing a group to our campus, or to schedule a tour. We look forward to hearing from you!

Felicia's Featured Recipe

Cauliflower Pizza Crust



Ingredients:

- 1 Head Cauliflower
- 1/2 Cup Mozzarella (shredded)
- 1/4 Cup Parmesan (grated)
- 1 tsp Garlic (granulated)
- 1 tsp Oregano (dried)
- 1 tsp Salt
- 2 Eggs (lightly beaten)
- 1 Cheese cloth

Yields: 3 Pies

Oven Temperature: 425 degrees

Cook Time: 20 Minutes

Preparation Steps:

- Cut cauliflower into small florets, blend until fine.

- Wrap in cheese cloth and steam for 8 minutes,, run under cool water (still wrapped) and squeeze out any remaining moisture.

- Unwrap cauliflower and place into mixing bowl. Add remaining ingredients and mix thoroughly.

- Divide into 3 equal portions, place on sprayed sheet pan and form into circles, 1/4" thick.

- Bake at 425 degrees for 20 minutes (flip sides at 10 minutes).

- Place desired toppings on dough and bake for 5-8 minutes.

- Remove, cut, enjoy.



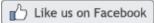
BCH Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association. ACA accreditation assures parents that camp practices have met national standards around health, safety, program quality,



and facilities.



Stay Connected:



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Refresh - Reflect - Renew