



# CAMP PINNACLE NEWS

DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

## Paint & Heal Recap



**“We painted trees... and just like us, every single one came out completely different.**

**Different shapes, different colors, different strokes – yet together they make something absolutely beautiful.**

**A perfect reminder that healing isn't about being the same...It's about showing up, expressing yourself, and celebrating your own unique growth.**

**What a special night.” Terry Copeland**

**For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**Isaiah 9:6**



**Dear Pinnacle Families,**

**“For Unto us is born this day....”**

**Christmas is my favorite time of year! Friends and Family celebrating the birth of our savior, Jesus. The Bible said He GAVE His only son” the Word also shows how Jesus gave Himself for us. During this Christmas season, Let's give of ourselves to helping and ministering to People. Most Importantly, Let's give ourselves to Jesus, in all that we do!**

**Thanks for all that you do for Camp! Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas! May the New Year in 2026 be one of your best years ever!**

**In Him  
Stephen Flach  
Executive Director**



**The Outhouse:  
Christian Short Stories  
Written by a former Camp Pinnacle staff member**

In addition to all the people who normally attend the Saturday night get-togethers at the Barnwell's farm, there were quite a few visitors there last week. The Jackson family was there as guests of the Angus McKenzie family. Their daughter Penny asked Freddie Barnwell if he would tell a story. Penny said how much she enjoyed his stories the last time the Jacksons were there. Farmer Barnwell didn't need much coaxing; he is always more than willing to tell us a story, almost as eager as everyone is for him to tell a story. Emma Downs was in her normal jovial mood as she suggested he tell us the story about the outhouse.

Farmer Barnwell said it was the night they had the big Fall Harvest dance at the community center when he was a teenager. The harvest moon lit up the sky that Saturday night, except for an occasional cloud passing over. What a beautiful crisp fall evening it was!

On their way home, Freddie Barnwell and his buddy, Doug Auspelmeyer, decided to pull a prank on their schoolmaster. They snuck out beyond his house, and quietly made their way out to his outhouse on the brow of the hill, taking advantage of one of those occasional clouds passing by overhead, so as not to be seen. Freddie and Doug gave the outhouse a big shove; the outhouse went rolling down the hill. Freddie and Doug ran as fast as they could and didn't stop running until they got home.

The following Monday their schoolmaster took the boys aside and asked if they knew who pushed his outhouse down the hill. The boys were quite vocal in announcing their lack of knowledge in this area. They assured the schoolmaster they knew nothing about the outhouse being pushed down the hill.

Their schoolmaster told them the story about George Washington and the cherry tree. He told them when George Washington's father asked him if he knew who chopped down the cherry tree, George replied, "Sir, I cannot tell a lie, it was I. I chopped down the cherry tree."

The boys asked "what did George Washington's father do to his son?" The schoolmaster told the boys George Washington's father told his son how proud he was of him for his honesty and didn't punish him at all because of his honesty.

The schoolmaster, still upset about his outhouse having been pushed down the hill Saturday night, told the boys he was going to give them one more chance to tell the truth. Sheepishly the boys (looking down at the floor) said "yes, sir, we know who did it, it was us."

Their schoolmaster grabbed both boys by their collars, took them out behind the schoolhouse woodshed, picked up a paddle and gave both boys a good ole fashioned spanking on their seats of understanding.

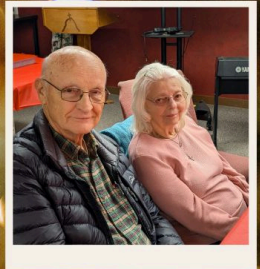
Freddie Barnwell and his friend, Doug, could hardly talk they were crying so hard. After a few minutes they were able to get out the words - "you told us when George Washington's father asked him if he chopped down the cherry tree and George confessed, his father didn't whip him because of his honesty."

Their schoolmaster, still upset about his outhouse having been pushed down the hill Saturday night, responded to the boys with these words "George Washington's father wasn't IN the cherry tree!"

Everyone had a good laugh and then Freddie Barnwell asked if that isn't exactly the way we are. **Just like the schoolmaster, how forgiving we are towards others, is usually in direct relationship to how much we feel we were offended.**

However, Jesus said "Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one other, just as God in Jesus Christ also forgave you." Ephesians 4:32-33.

Share the joy of laughter



Merry Christmas  
from all of us at  
Camp Pinnacle

Rich is #1







# UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC -  
MAR

## SNOW TUBING

Youth Groups, Small Groups, Life Groups, Bible Study Groups, Church-wide Gatherings...Come enjoy being on this beautiful mountain for the day!!

Get bundled up & head to the Tubing Hill for ENDLESS WINTER FUN! Warm up around a fire with COOKIES, hot cocoa, tea & coffee in Bessie Wood Lounge!

<https://www.camppinnacle.org>



DEC  
1-  
JAN 3

## CHRISTMAS LODGE

Escape the busyness of the Christmas season this year, with a family or couples getaway to Camp Pinnacle's Christmas Lodge!

COME JOIN US and RELAX DECEMBER 1-JANUARY 3, 2026



Dec  
19-20

## NATIVITY CAMP

Children ages 7-15 are invited to spend the weekend at Camp Pinnacle and enjoy LOADS of fun activities, and be a part of a live nativity skit performed on Saturday evening at the Live Nativity Event!

MORE INFO: <https://www.camppinnacle.org/nativity-camp>



Dec  
20

## LIVE NATIVITY SERVICE

Come join us for dinner at 5:00PM in the Dining Hall followed by a Live Nativity service in our Gymnasium at 6:30PM. A night of Christmas celebration!

MORE INFO: <https://www.camppinnacle.org/live-nativity>



FEB  
13-15

## COUPLES GETAWAY

Come and "get away" to Camp Pinnacle for a wonderful weekend of rest and quality time with your spouse!

We will be sharing "The 4 seasons of Marriage" (secrets to a lasting marriage) by Dr Gary Chapman.

SAVE THE DATES: FEBRUARY 13-14-15, 2026



# WAYS TO HELP

We wish you a Merry Christmas



Thank you to all who supported Camp Pinnacle in 2025. We are truly blessed and looking forward to what God will do in 2026.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE**

## PARTNER WITH US



www.camppinnacle.org  
518-872-9100  
info@camppinnacle.org

I will give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ monthly to the work of Camp Pinnacle.  
Enclosed is my tax deductible gift in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

- Support for the General Operating Expenses
- Donation towards the Janet Truax Scholarship Fund
- Horse care-pole barn
- Legacy giving for the next generation of campers



Checks can be made payable to Camp Pinnacle and mailed to  
621 Pinnacle Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186

Many options available for giving online through givebutter

<https://www.camppinnacle.org/donate>



Select a payment method

☐ Credit or debit card

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☐ Donor advised fund

☐ U.S. bank (ACH) *Lowest fees!*

☐ Check

Won't you become a monthly Pinnacle Partner today?

BOOK YOUR NEXT CHURCH RETREAT TODAY AT  
CAMP PINNACLE  
AND MAKE US A PART OF WHAT GOD IS DOING FOR YOU!

## Retreats

Camp Pinnacle has been a place where God meets hearts and lives are changed. Your church can experience renewal and fellowship by setting up a church retreat — and by choosing Camp Pinnacle, you're helping sustain a ministry that depends on God's provision and the generosity of His people.



✓ Groups- small or large    ✓ Beautiful campus    ✓ Open all year round

**DON'T WAIT, CALL TODAY!**

518-872-9100

[www.camppinnacle.org](http://www.camppinnacle.org)

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