



Community of Christ

December 28, 2018

Dear Cedar Valley-Nauvoo Mission Center,

I hope you had a very peaceful and merry Christmas season and are gearing up for a wonderful new year with your congregations revved up with enthusiasm and creative ideas for growth! If I can encourage you to step out in faith, without having all the answers, I want to do so. My son gave me a plaque that I love, it says, "We may not know the path, but we trust the One who is the way!" Our Lord has all the answers. We are to trust God to lead us. My testimony is that...God will walk with us as we step out in faith to do His will!

We are gearing up for the April 27th gala/fundraising event at Camp Nauvoo and have asked each congregation to try to get at least one table of eight people to attend this exciting event. The Moline congregation is working on filling their third table, perhaps your congregation can do this as well. The Moline group is planning on carpooling to Camp Nauvoo so we can enjoy the whole day together. By the way, for any number of people over eight that participate the cost is reduced from \$30/per person to \$25. The more the merrier! We are hoping to have people come and spend the night (FOR FREE!) in one of the lodge's guest rooms, the tiny houses, the retreat house, the RV sites, or the cabins. They will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. So, please let me know ASAP as the nicer facilities will be reserved first. Currently, there are two lodge guest rooms, one RV site, and one tiny house reserved! Don't miss out! We just ask that you clean up after yourselves as your gift.

The open house will officially be from 3:00-5:00 PM, even though our flyer says 3:30-5:30 (a printer error). We need people who are familiar with the grounds to shuttle our guests around the sites. If you have a vehicle that can carry passengers and you would like to help in this way, you are welcome. Currently, we have a couple of drivers but our hope is that we can have shuttles leaving every 5-10 minutes from the lodge. Tours will take about 30-45 minutes, so we need several drivers.

We have asked each congregation to donate a \$20-25 item for our auction. Many individuals have asked if they can donate an item as well. The answer is yes...of course! A friend of the church wants to donate a quilt valued between \$500-1000. This is getting exciting! If you have your item ready for us to publicize on Facebook/eBay, please contact me so we can make arrangements to pick it up. The plan is to publicize all auction items on Facebook to allow everyone who has social media to like it and share it so the word can get out to all of your friends.

We are hoping several congregations can find a way to help us purchase 60” round tables. The cost is about \$100 each. Any donation amount is appreciated. We suggest putting out a container in your congregations for people to drop their donations in for the Camp Nauvoo expansion project. We have already had individuals send money to cover the cost of one table. Remember, it is considered a charitable donation for your taxes and receipts are available upon request.

The gala will start promptly at 5:30 PM and run until around 9:00 PM. The dress code is business casual to semi-formal. There will be both a silent auction and a regular auction. Seating for dinner will be by congregations, if purchased as a group. This includes a social hour with hors d'oeuvres (possibly served by our youth) and a catered dinner buffet. We will also have live entertainment. The evening will end with an auction of big ticket, donated items. All proceeds (after expenses) will help fund the Camp Nauvoo expansion project.

We are working hard to make this a wonderful event. We hope you will get excited about coming and that you will invite a friend and/or neighbor to attend with you. We can promise you a great time with wonderful friends and church family. The public is also welcome to attend.

SAVE THE DATE! Plan now to come...and bring your checkbook just in case you see something you want to bid on or want to give a donation!

For additional information, questions, comments, concerns, reservations, or donations please contact:

- Deb Batey, President, Camp Nauvoo Operations Group (319-750-5065)
- Pat Reaves, GALA Reservations (309-762-6622)

Blessings,

Pat Reaves

Pat Reaves,
Mission Center Invitation Support Ministries