hiking, caving, swimming, swinging, boating, building, praying, singing
Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things” (1 Cor. 13:7).

Date: August 3—8
Location: Camp Phillipo in Cannon Falls, Minnesota
Director: Carmen Lee
People: 240 campers
grades 1—12
60 staff members

Left: Third-grade girls wait to sample some homemade root beer. Dry ice adds carbonation to the concoction and produces white smoke.
Above: Campers and counselors walk a windy path to Friendship Point where they watch the sun set over Lake Byllesby.
Activities:
tower climbing
sailing
tubing
canoeing
swimming
archery
rifle shooting
field games
outdoor cooking
bike trips
high adventure course
making and drinking root beer

Fun Fact: Servant Camp has hosted 6,200 campers since 1977.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things” (1 Cor. 13:7).

Below: Seventh-grade boys test their mettle on a high ropes course.
Activities:
camping
swimming in a river
cricket
soccer
volleyball
map-reading
wilderness survival skills

Campers used bamboo shoots to fashion tables, lantern-hangers, a camp broom and racks for their shoes and towels.

May 3—5
Cranbrook Botanical Gardens
Director: Locksley Robinson
15 boys, ages 6—16
18 men

Ten of the boys who attended the camp live at a children’s home run by the Sisters of Mercy, where Locksley Robinson and Joseph Mutidjo serve as mentors. All the boys and men slept in tents and prepared their own food over an open fire. Joseph spoke to the group about being a man of God and told stories about his father Francis, who was also present at the camp.

A torch ginger flower, in the botanical garden and nature preserve where the Jamaicans camped.

Michael Rodriguez (right) gives a map-reading demonstration.

From left: Dane, Chrishane, Matthew and Ray learn to fashion tools from bamboo.

Below: Breadfruit, more like a starch vegetable than a fruit, is marvelous roasted on a wood fire.

Above: Frank Grant (right) and Locksley Robinson (center) build a kitchen table from bamboo.
Oahu Keiki (Kids’) Camp
Be Strong and Courageous

May 24—26
Camp Timberline,
in Oahu’s Waianae Mountains
Directors: Harlan and Julie Klein
20 campers
6 adults

Activities:
- archery
- hiking
- swimming
- capture the flag
- making beaded candle holders
- painting canvas bags
- memorizing Scripture verses
- late-night group games

Nicholas Busekrus climbs down the clubhouse ramp.

Campers enjoy the evening activities.

Above: Nikaela Busekrus (left) and Christine McCabe. Right: Grace Klein shields her face from the fire’s heat while roasting a marshmallow.
This year was the sixth year of Allendale’s day camp and the first year that the camp lasted the whole summer. Once every two weeks, counselors took the camp’s girls to Harmony House, a nursing home in the neighborhood. Many of the girls were afraid to go at first—they’d never been to a nursing home before. But over the course of the summer they came to anticipate and appreciate the visits. They sang songs like “The Horse and the Rider,” accompanied by hand motions, and they performed a choreographed praise dance, delighting residents. One girl captured a common sentiment, “I didn’t want to go. But I’m glad I did.”
J.T. McManmon (Servant Branch, left) takes a break with some Allendale boys.

A praise dancing practice.
BUFFALO CAMP
We Can Change the World

June 22—27
126 campers
grades 3—10
53 counselors

Directors: Tom and Theresa Shriver

Camp LiLoLi (Life, Love, Light)
in the Allegheny Mountains
of New York.

Branches represented:
Buffalo
Indianapolis
New Orleans
Northern Virginia
Oahu
Shreveport
South Bend
Tampa
Vancouver/Portland

Above: John Crimmins (northern Virginia) paddles with his hands.
Above right: Girls from the lambs group take a break from games. In the foreground are Amy Bergman (Tampa, left), Sonia Halvachs (Buffalo) and Grace Craiker (northern Virginia).
Buffalo campers hail from 10 different branches—nearly half the community’s locations. Beginning in February, eight Vancouver/Portland campers and their families began an earnest effort to raise money for their travel costs. They baked and sold Irish soda bread, hustled tulips, washed cars, hosted a traditional Mexican dinner, and did lots of yardwork. They earned enough to pay for their plane tickets (their goal) and even had a surplus to cover some of their camp fees.

“Fundraising was an opportunity for third-through tenth-graders and their families to work together as brothers and sisters,” says Beth Kabele, who spearheaded the efforts. She says the campers appreciated camp more because they earned their way. “They couldn’t wait to go.”
GIRLS
March 15
Buckner’s Cave near Bloomington, Indiana
20 fifth- and sixth-grade girls from the South Bend branch’s Girls of Praise group, along with leaders and guides.

When the South Bend branch’s Girls of Praise group arrived at Buckner’s Cave in March, they found it covered in graffiti and volunteered to join a group cleaning the cave. “I still have this image of Nora Zusi with goggles, gas mask, earplugs and a sandblaster in her hand,” says Mary Behrens, one of the Girls of Praise leaders. “I remember thinking, We’re building God’s kingdom by cleaning up this cave!” The girls also explored the cave, which begins with a 600-foot crawl that leads to a series of open caverns. “No one got lost, or cried or even lost a shoe,” notes Mary, “and we encouraged one another to keep going during the harder parts.”

Right: Sarah Behrens, Clare Driscoll and Mary Behrens.

BOYS
January 5
Lost River Cave, near Bedford, Indiana
45 men and boys from Boy Scout Troop 325 (sponsored by the South Bend branch)

The boys explored part of the 21-mile-long Lost River Cave, the second-longest cave in Indiana, which was discovered just 10 years ago. The cave features rough terrain, including jagged rocks and an underground river. When one group of seven fell behind and failed to show up at a stopping point, Eagle Scout Michael Couch led a rescue mission, taking Danny Thomas and Nick Massa along with him. The rescuers made marks in the mud on the walls to track their path through the dark and twisty passages. Eventually they heard the seven boys calling out and led them to safety. Michael “proved himself a real caver,” says expedition leader Joel Annable.

Middle: Michael Couch points to a caver’s delight, bats!
Left: Nick Massa (pictured) and two other young men helped hunt down a group of lost cavers.
Early in the week, one of the boys, Jon Sherfick, fell and injured his hip. Dr. Neal Coleman, one of the adults on the trip, feared the problem might ultimately require surgery, since the boy could barely get up. There was no cell phone reception in the area, and no way to call for medical evacuation, so they pressed on. The next day Jon fell again and he could barely walk because of the pain. At troop chaplain Taylor Davis’s suggestion, they prayed over him, and the troop divided Jon’s gear. Jon began hobbling at the back of the line. Two hours later, he had moved from the back of the line to the front, and he was able to finish the trip without much of a struggle. “If it wasn’t a miracle, it was close to it,” Neal says.

July 3—11
Lake Superior Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada
8 Boy Scouts and 5 adults from Troop 77, (sponsored by the Muncie branch)
Activity:
A 50-mile hike over seven days on a Lake Superior shoreline trail. The hike featured lots of scrambling and boulder-hopping. There were so many rocks that, at one point, it took the troop nine hours to hike three miles. Often the trail was hard to see because of the boulders. “It was the most difficult trip we’ve ever made,” says scoutmaster Pete Walters. “If we had known how difficult it was going to be, we might not have attempted it.”

Top: Terry Bomkamp (Rockford) and Pete Walters (Muncie).
South Bend
Camp
Make Love Your Aim

June 8—13
Camp Tannadoonah,
near Vandalia, Michigan
Director:
Randy Raciti

Top: Andy Powers hammers.
Second from top: Camp director Randy
Raciti and girls’ director Amy Zwerneman.
Third from top: Left to right, third-graders
Claudia Linczer (South Bend), Karoline
Bolka (Muncie), Jane DeCelles (South
Bend), Macy Sorg (Muncie).
Right: Counselor Justin Walters and ju-
nior counselor Caleb Day stand behind
the fourth-grade boys, (from left): Danny
Couch, Andy Powers, Luke Staffelbach,
Zach Thomas, Will Feeks, Paul Murphy.
95 campers
grades 3—7
75 staff members

Activities:
Archery, hiking, swimming, dodgeball, canoeing, obstacle course, inner-tubing, low ropes course, capture the flag, skits, newspaper ball war.

“...I did not think capture the flag would be a good idea, but I was wrong. It was amazing! There were two teams, red and white. I was on the red team. The point of the game is to capture the other team’s flag and run to your side without getting tagged. If you get to your side with the flag, your team wins. My team won the two times we played, but the white team played very well. I definitely think we should play capture the flag next year!” —Jane Pingel, age 11.

Top: Kitchen staff volunteers Larry Day, Michelle Walker, Michele Lattimer.
Second from top: Staff member Laura Ficker (South Bend) somersaults toward the water.
Third from top: Karoline Bolka (Muncie) blows the shofar.
Left: Jeff McGowan assists at a flag ceremony.
**Vancouver/Portland Day Camp**

**Send Us Out**

Date: July 31—August 3  
Location: The community’s new property in North Port-land, with day trips to Silver Falls, to a bowling alley and to branch members’ homes.  
Directors: Keith and Stephanie Justen  
People: 32 kids, ages 2—16, with a rotating crew of branch members serving as counselors.  
Activities: Scavenger hunt, cooking, hiking, campfires, bowling, art, soccer, making ceramic mirrors, Lord’s Day opening, pancake brunch.  
Fun fact: This was the first year for camp in Vancouver/Portland.

Boy campers fulfill the camp’s theme, Send Us Out, by getting sent out of the University of Portland library during a scavenger hunt.

Campers roast marshmallows. From left: Peter Justen, Eli Shreves, Dan Kabele, Jacob Cole, Hilary Shreves, Isaac Shreves, Annalise Busekrus (Oahu), Ann Carey, Jo Clark.

Girl campers pose by a box where letters get “sent out,” in another illustration of the camp’s theme. Left to right: Nadia Busekrus (Oahu), Caleigh Justen, Maria Castro, Kady Busekrus (Oahu), Abigail Justen, Naomi Shreves.

Caleigh Justen shows off a feather.

Jo Clark

Michael Milano traces Eli Shreves.

Jo Clark

Luke Glover
This summer, a team of missionaries in Indianapolis focused on neighborhood kids. During their daily trips through the neighborhood, the missionaries would find kids on the street, tell them Bible stories or perform skits about the life of Jesus. They held weekly kids’ meetings, and had kids over to their house to help change the oil on a car, build a wheelchair ramp, or cook for a new mother. The kids have learned to pray with one another for healing and some have prayed with their parents or grandparents. Sometimes they even hold their own prayer meetings, copying the way the missionaries hold meetings.

Above: Hannah Brummer (Indianapolis, standing) plays a storm in a skit about Jesus calming the storm.

“Our first skit performance was for the group of kids who hang out on their front porches—we call them the ‘porch kids,’” says Rus Lyons. “They were still in their pajamas around noon on the Saturday we stopped by. Our play was, at that point, a one-woman play about Jesus calming the storm, starring Chris Vieck, who used her hat to indicate which character she was.

“The kids enjoyed it so much they wanted to act it out themselves,” adds Rus. “One person played Jesus, two were disciples and one was the storm. Later they wanted to perform it for some kids across the street (whom they did not know), who had gathered for a birthday party. As we left, the porch kids were having fun with their new friends.”

Below J-T Kelly plays a storm, Rus Lyons (right) plays a rocking boat and a hat stands in for a sleeping Jesus.
“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another” (1 Jn. 1:7).