



Holmes Camp and Retreat Center



75th Anniversary Celebration

Event Journal and Silent Auction

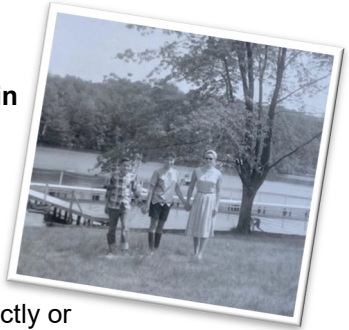
October 23 & 24, 2021

WELCOME FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the 75th Anniversary Celebration of Holmes Camp and Retreat Center.

As each of you know, **Holmes provides a welcoming Christian community where, in a natural setting, lives change, and faith grows. It offers hope, renewal and a sense of belonging.** It is truly a place of stillness in a turbulent world. Each of us is here this evening because Holmes, in one way or another, has impacted our lives, directly or through family and friends.



When Holmes was founded in 1946, the world was a much simpler place. Now, everything moves at a lightening pace, as we are bombarded with information, images and “pitches.” But **the last 18 months have also**

shown us that people yearn for love, support and companionship as well as a safe place to experience the beauty of nature, the joy of communion with the Lord and fellowship with others. So, even though Holmes is turning 75, it is more relevant now than ever before.



Prior to the pandemic, Holmes introduced new programming, such as **Camp Q**; the response from the campers that attended and their parents, as well as PC-USA and the local Presbyteries, was overwhelmingly positive. During the pandemic, Holmes presented **on-line church services** that were seen by thousands. This fall, Holmes is introducing an **Advent prep class** for church leaders and an **online confirmation program**. And, planning is now underway to continue to expand into other new and innovative programming for next summer and beyond.



But in order to move forward, **Holmes needs to continue to invest in its infrastructure.** The opening of **Vinik Hilltop** was a major step in expanding the residence options offered at Holmes. However, some of the other buildings are aging and also need love and attention. A campaign is presently ongoing to raise funds to revitalize **Agape**. And, be-



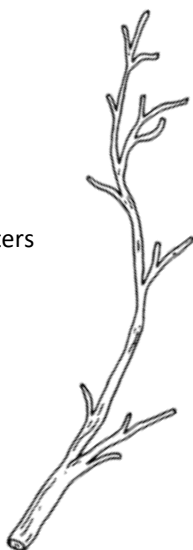
cause of a recently discovered water leak, significant work will also be required to rehabilitate **Nunemaker**, a building that came online in 1973 and has provided thousands of campers and church groups with a true camping experience. **The funds raised during this 75th Anniversary Celebration will support the efforts at restoring Nunemaker**, so please purchase an item in the silent auction and use the envelopes placed on your dinner tables to give generously.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, **thank you for attending this event.** Please enjoy the 75th Anniversary Celebration and continue to support Holmes and its future.

Philip J. Kochman
President, Board of Directors

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Congratulations on 75!



**Supporting Holmes
Through the Decades**

4765 Henry Hudson Pkwy, Bronx, NY 10471
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Holmes Camp and Retreat Center
75th Anniversary Celebration

WEEKEND PROGRAM



SATURDAY

Check In.....1pm

Nature Walk2pm

Led by Associate Director Kyle Branin

Auction Preview & Activities.....2 - 5pm

Auction curated by Victoria Neilson and Jane Ritter

Cocktails & Dinner at Agape.....5pm

Welcome by Jane Ritter, Event Chairperson

Grace by Rev. Mark Hostetter

Dinner Prepared by Mark Ainsworth

Call to Action by Philip Kochman, Board President

Dessert, Music & Celebration

at the Lodge.....8pm

Introduction by Linda Burpee

Music by David Frost

SUNDAY

Breakfast.....8am

Served by Kyle Branin, David and Linda Burpee at Agape

Grace by Ansley LaMar

Chapel.....9am

Charlotte's Room Led by Rev. Mark Hostetter

Music by Lani Hostetter-Habib

Departure.....10:30

ALL TIMES APPROXIMATE



WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

While I have only been a part of the Holmes Camp community for a short time I have had the chance to see the community accomplish some amazing things. **Since the last Holmes Gala, despite the ongoing pandemic, we have:**

- Opened Vinik Hilltop, with ten beautiful rooms and additional meeting space
- Made significant progress on renovations in Agape, with new roofing, upgraded HVAC in several rooms, and major upgrades to the kitchen
- Ventured into the world of online programming, launching several new programs
- Begun to welcome back camps, conferences, and retreat groups—old and new—from across the region.

Looking forward there is the potential for amazing things! **Holmes is blessed with passionate volunteers, generous donors, an active board of directors, a rich history, and a stunning location with extensive infrastructure.** Holmes Camp & Retreat Center is looking forward to spring confirmation retreats, a busy winter of retreats and camp rentals, and introducing our ***Snow Place Like Holmes* family dinner and camp benefit this coming February.** We are also excited to

resume our own residential summer camp with re-vamped programming and new options for teens in summer 2022.

However, as we look towards the future, we also face some challenges. Most immediately, the COVID-19 pandemic wears on, impacting our capacity and program options as we strive to keep our community safe. The associated staffing and supply chain complications have been felt as well.



And apart from the short-term challenges of the pandemic much of our infrastructure is aging and requires significant ongoing maintenance or major repairs. We are actively renovating Agape in an ongoing project, and due to water damage Nunemaker requires significant repairs before it can again welcome campers, churches, and families. **Holmes relies on donors like you** to help us through these, and many others, facilities projects.



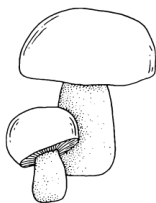
But what has stood out to me the most in my short time among you is not the programming, the potential, or the facilities. It is the community. You have welcomed me in with open arms and wonderful support. You are quick to share a story of camp, or what that memory means to you. You hold Holmes Camp, the people and the place, close to your heart. Thank you all.

And lastly I would be remiss to not take the opportunity to publicly thank Grace, Paul, and Ryan; the members of our community with whom I interact every day. Without their warm welcome, diverse skills, and herculean efforts, these few months I've been with you all would not have been possible.

On their behalf, and my own, I would like to thank you for being a part of the Holmes community, and for being here tonight.

Sincerely,

J. Kyle Branin
Associate Director



Congratulations on 75 Years!!



Eleanor & David Garlow



THANK YOU

to our sponsors, underwriters and supporters

SAINT DONORS

The Grace and Eleanor Charitable Fund
Mark Hostetter and Alex Habib
National Interiors
John Quesada and Ivy Conner
Stephen & Susan Richardson
Reade H. and Joan Ryan

EVENT COMMITTEE

Jane Ritter, Chairperson
Victoria Neilsen, Auction Coordinator
Grace Buck
Brenda Verdesi

EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Patrice Ainsworth
Darby Ainsworth
Patty Richardson
Ben Verdesi
The Park Family

Dedicated to the belief that all children are gifted and talented.



SuperKidz Kamp
Congratulates
Holmes Camp and Retreat
Center
On
Your 75th Anniversary



ARE YOU ASKING ...WHAT DO I DO WITH THE KIDS THIS SUMMER?
July 29 to August 6, 2022



SUPERKIDZ@SUPERKIDZKAMP.COM - 973.991.0297

MENU

The dinner menu will be featuring "Holmes Grown" tomatoes in a variety of preparations throughout the meal

First Course

Freshly made mozzarella burrata

Dinner

Seared shrimp
with fall vegetables and sundried tomato-risotto croquette



Stuffed roasted chicken
with reduction sauce, artichoke, and potatoes

Dessert at the lodge

Build you own smores by the fires down by the lake

OUR SILENT AUCTION IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THESE GENEROUS AUCTION ITEM DONORS

Mark Ainsworth
Kyle Branin
Fifth Tuesday Quilters
Lisa Harnisch
Mark Hostetter and Alex Habib
Claudia Kuhn
Ansley LaMar
John and Eloise Morehouse
Malcolm Ritter
Emily Ford Sytsma
Paul Verdesi
Mass Audubon Wildwood Camp
Gary Wolf

Happy Anniversary from C Wayfinder

Wayfinder runs Live Action Roleplaying programs for kids and teens around the Hudson Valley. Experience the magic of Holmes in a new way as it transforms into a fantastical land as the backdrop of our Adventure Game.



WWW.WAYFINDEREXPERIENCE.COM

WAYS TO SUPPORT HOLMES

THIS EVENING

- ✝ Participate in our Silent Auction
- ✝ Sponsor an item from our Giving Tree
- ✝ Make a donation during dinner
- ✝ Purchase a Camp Quarantine 2020 Book



You may think you know all about the beautiful trails, the trees and fauna and the history of Holmes but this 85 page beautifully photographed tale of pandemic-driven “quarantine” daily hikes at Holmes, interesting discoveries along each path and seasonal changes will give you an entire new insight!

\$25 each

AND INTO THE FUTURE...

- ✝ Purchase a plaque on our Memory Wall
- ✝ Join us at a work day
- ✝ Send a child to Summer Camp
- ✝ Plan your next church retreat at Holmes
- ✝ Sign up for a program



Upcoming Programs:

ONLINE CONFIRMATION PROGRAM AND RETREAT

Starts: November 7

Lead by: Paul Alcorn and Kathy DiBiasi

REIKI LEVEL ONE CERTIFICATION

November 12—14

Lead by Anne H. Bentzen

For more and to register for Fall Programs: Holmescamp.org/camps

**Congratulations and love to the
Presbyterian Center at Holmes
On 75 years!!!!**

*We owe a lot to camp—it's where we met, where
we perceived our calls to ministry, where we
married, and where we learned about love
and community, & our Spiritual Home.*



June 11, 1983

July 31, 2021

Same rock &
tree,
Different day!

With our sons,
daughter-in-law,
& Granddaughter



*With love
Kathy Gorman-Coombs & Tim Coombs*

Holmes Camp and Retreat Center

Leadership



President: Philip Kochman

Hudson River Presbytery Members

Lisa Harnisch, Treasurer

Peter Jones, Vice President

Deborah Milcarek, General Presbyter (Ex-Officio)

Long Island Presbytery Members

Gary Wolf

Mark Tammen, General Presbyter (Ex-Officio)

New York City Presbytery Members

Lloyd R. Johnson

Philip Kochman

Emily Ford Sytsma

Robert Foltz-Morrison, Executive Presbyter (Ex-Officio)

Board Nominated Members

Mark Hostetter

Ansley LaMar

Jane Ritter, Secretary

Join Us!

**If you are interested in a leadership role
at Holmes Camp, reach out to
Holmes@Holmescamp.org to get started.**

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About Holmes Camp

RESIDENTIAL YOUTH SUMMER CAMP

Since 1946, children and youth have been exploring their faith and living in community at Holmes Camp and Retreat Center. Many of our staff (*summer and year-round*) have grown up at Holmes! Together, we strive to be a place where young people feel welcomed, loved, and comfortable to both play and learn – to appreciate each other, to recognize and follow God, and to tackle new challenges.



At Holmes, we focus on building a community, while also **developing self-esteem and self-confidence** by encouraging each camper to:

- Engage in Bible study and verbally demonstrate an understanding of Christian community.
- Demonstrate respect for self, authority and the rights and property of others.
- Develop responsibility through group living tasks.
- Form an interest in exploring and enjoying the natural environment.
- Express creativity through crafts, problem solving, worship and personal interactions.

HOLMES OFFERS A VARIETY OF PROGRAMS; SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

- Confirmation Retreats
- Education & Spiritual Restoration for Pastors and Church Staff
- Farm and Food Justice
- Social Justice Education
- Woman's Retreats
- Reiki Workshops
- Church and Organizational Retreats



For the latest news and information on our programs, join our eNewsletter by signing up at Holmescamp.org (see link at the bottom of the home page.) or contact 845.878.6383

Congratulations, Holmes on 75 years!

In loving memory of Jim Burke
1950's – Camper
1960's – Counselor
1990's – 2018 Board Member



Jim Burke 1937-2018

From his wife,
Jean Hrbek

CONGRATULATIONS HOLMES CAMP & RETREAT CENTER - 75 YEARS OF CAMP

Lloyd R. Johnson

Member of Board of Directors - Holmes Camp

Author of

GIVING TIME: *Dramatically Improve Church and
Personal Finances and Raise the Level of Generosity*

THE PASTOR'S RED BOOK: *What You Need to Know
Before and After You Interview with That Church*

FOOLS NEVER RAISE THEIR THOUGHTS SO HIGH:
The Wisdom and Wit of the Window Washer (Memoir-my dad)

Avail. at Amazon.com Email: Kingdomspeaking@gmail.com

Looking Back: 1999 Winter Gala at Camp



AMSKIER IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE HOLMES 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



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Community Presbyterian Church of Deer Park

1843 Deer Park Avenue, Deer Park, New York 11729

Rev. Dennis Carter
Pastor

Donna Marsh
Office Administrator



Kim Hunter-Riordan
Clerk of Session

John Horton Murray
Music Director

Our church has enjoyed using the Robinson area for our annual campouts for over forty years. We have also used the Nunemaker facility for over twenty years for our Fall retreats. Our youth group has participated at the work weekends for many years. We look forward to our church family enjoying many more years together at the Holmes Camp & Retreat Center. Congratulations on celebrating 75 years!

THANK YOU TO OUR STAFF

Year-Round Staff

J. Kyle Branin, Associate Director
Paul Verdesi, Maintenance Specialist
Ryan Kraus, Groundskeeper/Caretaker
Grace Buck, Administrator

Seasonal and On-Call Staff

John Eck
Bobby Kraus
Charles Wilde
Deborah Wilde



SPECIAL THANKS

**to our Dedicated Volunteers
who regularly take the lead on projects that improve the
camp experience for everyone!**

Mark Ainsworth
Darby Ainsworth
Kaleigh Ainsworth
Rev. Paul Alcorn
Chris Burke
David and Linda Burpee
Dave Neilsen
John Morehouse
Steve and Cheryl Silvernail
Louis Silvernail
Ben Verdesi
Brenda Verdesi
Jake Verdesi

Congratulations on your 75th Anniversary!

The Baker Family – Rocking Rock Farm
neighbors on the north side for 75 years

“We returned your lost
campers



&
Retrieved our
straying cows”



Congratulations on your 75th Anniversary!



*With our shared love
of Christ we are
blessed and grateful
for Sunrise Services
at Denton Lake, here
is to many more
years of service,
your friends at the*

**Holmes Methodist Church,
41 Holmes Road, Holmes, NY 12531**



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Westchester United Intergroup



Is food
too BIG in
your life?



There's No Place Like Holmes®

Holmes Camp and Retreat Center is a shared ministry
of the Hudson River Presbytery, Presbytery of Long Island,
and the Presbytery of New York City.



Holmes Camp and Retreat Center

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