

Family Retreat - Part 2. After Tuesday lunch families were free to participate in a variety of outdoor activities with their volunteer partners. People were encouraged to try some new activities.



Going to archery



pool side on a hot afternoon



diving into pool



in the lake



When a person jumps and lands on the bag, the person sitting at the far right gets bounced into the air and then falls into the water. Then the jumper moves to the right end for his turn to get bounced.



The boat tows a person on the raft.



a game in the gym

The volunteers get 2 hours each late afternoon to be alone and rest. After dinner was Karaoke and games.





making bubbles

games and bubbles

games

Wednesday had a similar pattern of worship, instruction, and activities.



Bethany reviewed 1 Peter 2:9.

The parents had another sharing period.

Lunch time.

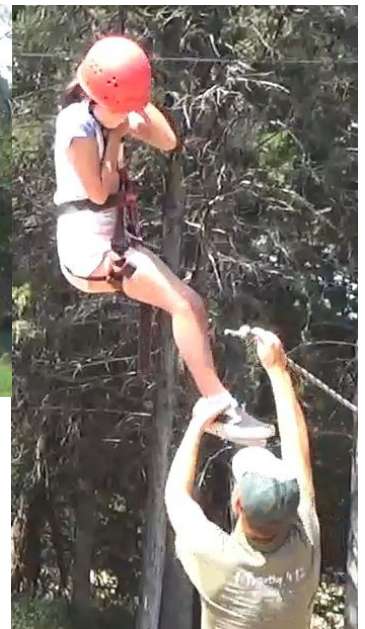


Haley and Isabel ready while Audrey and Scott climb tower.

Haley and Isabel descending.



Isabel and Haley nearing end.



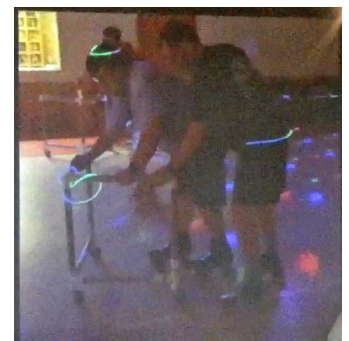
Isabel ready to dismount onto a ladder.

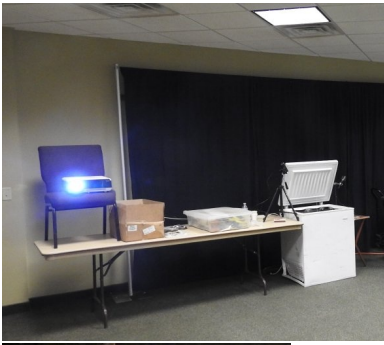


Amanda's fourth return.

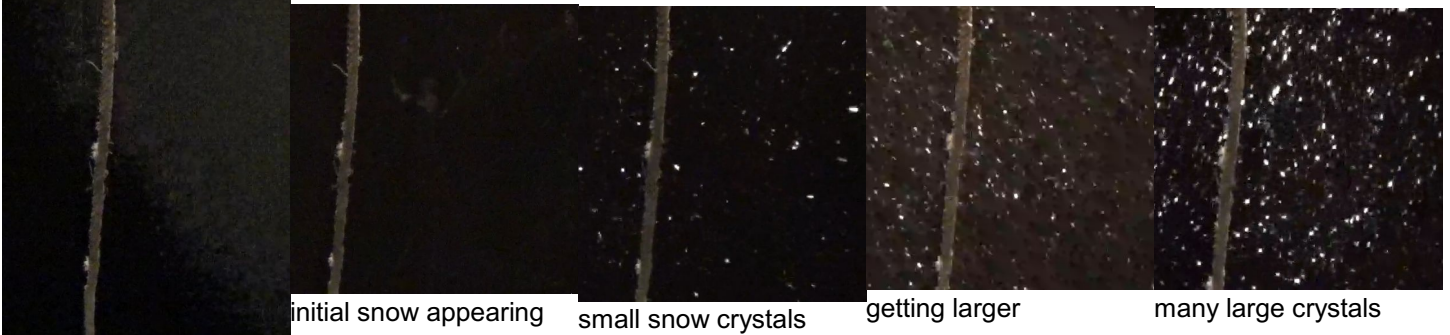
The campers needing wheelchairs crawled up the zip line tower. To dismount from the zip line, Haley had to be carefully raised to unhook the harness from the cable, then lowered to the ground and into her wheelchair. Her sister Isabel climbed down a ladder to the ground. Amanda watched others until she was brave enough to try the zip line. Then she went down 4 times.

In the evening the Glow Skate Party was done on roller skates and supports in the semi-dark in the gym (right photo). The parents watched the movie Life Arrows.





Several times during the Family Camp, Dr. Ed Holroyd (me) performed the “Instant Snowstorm” demonstration but without the technical details. He did it in this room and within the opened chest freezer. A video camera recorded greatly enlarged details and a projector put the image on the opposite wall for viewing by those who were not looking into the freezer. The supercooled cloud, made with his breath, was triggered into snow by a chilling technique, colder than -40 degrees. That was done with tiny dry ice fragments and with very old small bubble wrap. This sequence of images shows the rapid growth of snow crystals as they are being fed by fresh breath. A string is in each image for focusing.



initial snow appearing small snow crystals getting larger many large crystals

the edge of the cloud



Eden at archery

Thursday afternoon some did archery. Thursday evening was the talent show and then a campfire for Smores.



Haley reading poetry



Isabel painting



Adam on keyboard



But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 1 Peter 2:9 (the memory verse for the campers)

The worship songs chosen and sung by Ellie Powers were designed to encourage and inspire us.

Closing ceremonies were Friday morning at which the volunteers praised the accomplishments of their new friends.



Ellie praising Andrea Audrey praising Scott



Parade with song "Joy Comes In The Morning"

This Family Retreat was a good opportunity for families to relax and have fun and learning. The group sessions of the adults and caregivers let them discover that others have had similar struggles and sorrows and joys. Some people had obvious disabilities. Others had hidden ones. The siblings of those with handicaps have their own struggles. It was good to be around them and get to know them more deeply. I enjoyed this week and am inclined to participate in other such Family Retreats, possibly at other locations.

Dr. Ed Holroyd
24 August 2021

For more information about the excellent ministries of joni&friends see <https://www.joniandfriends.org>
They are very worthy of support. Perhaps you can join them in some way.



our "campers"