

History of Camp Emmanuel

The lake, which is so much a part of Camp Emmanuel, was constructed by the CB & Q Railroad in the early 1920's to supply water for its steam locomotives. When the railroad no longer needed the lake, three doctors bought the property and constructed cabins along the dam. The doctors later donated the land to the District of Southern Illinois, retaining use until they died. Plans began for the development of Camp Emmanuel.

In the 1940's, two army barracks were acquired from Fort Ellis near Ipava and moved to the camp. Six cabins were also moved from Camp Ellis in sections and reconstructed on their present locations. Camp Ellis served as a German POW camp during WW II. Original German writing is still evident in the main lodge.

Camp Emmanuel was dedicated in 1947. In 1948, 55 youth gathered for a work camp weekend. During this weekend, ground was broken for the first building, a 40x60 structure on the North side of the lake. This building now houses the chapel, breeze way, nurse's office, and dining hall and kitchen. The first camps were in the summer of 1948.

Land acquisitions to the West and to the North provide hiking trails, security, and income. A number of additions and improvements over the years have enhanced the facilities available for your enjoyment at Camp Emmanuel.

To Get To Camp Emmanuel

From the North: Take route 24 to Astoria, Illinois. Turn South on Pearl Street, travel 3 miles, turn left at **CAMP EMMANUEL** sign on left.

From the South: Cross the Illinois River at Beardstown on Rt. 125 North. Turn Right on Route 100. Proceed through Frederick and turn left in Browning at the Post Office. Follow the road North out of town, through Bader, and when the road turns right after passing the red barn on the left, go straight North. Turn right at the **CAMP EMMANUEL** sign in 1 mile.

Information

For additional information concerning any aspects of Camp Emmanuel's facilities or camping schedule, contact the camp managers or check the camp web site.

www.cob-net.org/camp/emmanuel.htm
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Jerry & Connie Reynolds
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CAMP EMMANUEL

Christian Camping in Central Illinois

Jerry & Connie Reynolds
Managers

PO Box 557
Astoria, IL 61501
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Camp Emmanuel Is....

Camp Emmanuel is a Christian campground owned and operated by the Illinois/Wisconsin District of the Church of the Brethren. All who use the facilities are expected to demonstrate a spirit of Christian fellowship. The camp has a rich history and offers several natural wonders in addition to excellent rustic facilities for family and group outings.

Relaxing

For those who just want to get away for a while and enjoy some peace and quiet, Camp Emmanuel offers four rustic housekeeping cabins for rent. A boat is provided with each cabin for use on the picturesque 17 acre lake.

Camping

If tent or RV camping is what you are looking for, Camp Emmanuel has 40 sites from which to choose. Electric hook-ups are available at half of the sites and a sewage dump station is located in Astoria, just 3 miles away. A bath-house with flush toilets and hot showers is provided for the housekeeping cabins and the RV/tent camping areas.

Fishing

The beautiful, spring fed, lake offers great fishing for the angler. The lake is stocked with a variety of fish. If the right spot can be found, some very nice fish can be taken from this lake.

Hiking

For exercising, observing wildlife, or just for fun by yourself or with friends, Camp Emmanuel offers a variety of hiking options.

Well marked and maintained woods trails and natural wooded areas allow the hiker to view God's wonders in nature firsthand. Many species of plants and trees grow on the camp grounds and wildlife is protected here as Camp Emmanuel is a Wildlife Nature Preserve.

Swimming

The lake at Camp Emmanuel is also a great place to cool off on a hot summer day. A sand beach, roped off swimming area, and floating dock with a diving board provide hours of swimming enjoyment. A lifeguard is required for all swimming activities.

Special Gatherings

If you desire or need more space for a special gathering, the entire campground, pavilion, porch, and kitchen may be rented for picnics, meetings, weddings or reunions. Availability of these facilities will depend upon other camping schedules. Please check with the camp managers for dates when the camp will be available.

-Special Features-

Camp Emmanuel offers several attractive features which make it an unusual and special campground. The main lodge building has a kitchen and dining area which will seat up to 80 people. A large screened porch overlooks the lake. The porch has a fireplace at the East end and is ideal for games and crafts. Upstairs, in the main lodge, is a Chapel and meeting area. Six sleeping cabins with room for 12 in each are nestled under the whispering pines. A remodeled bathhouse is centrally located. Two campfire rings with benches are ideal locations for evening campfires, cookouts, and meditations or sing-a-longs. The quiet, calm atmosphere found on Vesper Hill in

the evening brings a peaceful close to a busy day's activities. It is also a wonderful spot for star gazing. Camp Emmanuel offers something for everyone.

-Rental Rates-

Housekeeping Cabins

---- \$30.00/night for 1 - 4 people,
\$45.00/night for 5 - 8 people
includes use of 1 boat & the bathhouse

RV/Tent sites ----- \$12.00/night
w/electricity
\$ 8.00/night
no/electricity

Lake Usage ----- \$5.00/day

Reunions or other special events

----- \$50.00/half day
\$75.00/full day
includes shelter, 4 boats, sports equip.
does **not** include use of the kitchen
Full Service Fee --- \$25.00/day adult
\$17.50/day child
includes 3 meals, facilities,
boats, & sports equip.
No Service Fee ---- \$13.00/day adult
\$11.00/day child
includes facilities, boats, & sports equip.,
no meals
Swimming available - Lifeguard required
2 hour minimum
Ask managers for rates