

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CAMP REMEMBERS SUSAN SHIELDS

The lead article of this issue of our newsletter features an individual whose life and work epitomize the tagline on our masthead: *"Touch a Life Today and Tomorrow."* If you read our newsletter on a regular basis, you may remember our announcement of a new endowment fund, established in January 2010:

**CENTRAL CAMP
 SUSAN SHIELDS**

Established by the board of Central Oklahoma Christian Camp in memory and appreciation of Susan Shields' many contributions and gifts of time, talent and treasure as an employee and volunteer at Central Oklahoma Christian Camp and Conference Center, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

When we asked the staff of Central Christian Camp (CCC) for their help in telling Susan's story, they provided us with the following narrative.

On March 16, 2010, long-time employee, friend, donor and

"...of course, my charity of choice is Camp and Make Promises Happen...maybe some help with college for the counselors...they have made such a difference with our campers."

-from some of Susan's final words and instructions to her son, Parker

volunteer at Central Christian Camp & Conference Center (CCC), Susan Shields, passed away. For twenty years she was in charge of bookkeeping, scheduling, operations and sundry duties which kept CCC on an even keel. This was in addition to raising a son as



a single parent, plying her fabulous crafts, and keeping up with the latest in bluegrass music.

Thousands of campers have taken part in the many programs offered by Central Christian Camp. During her time with the camp, Susan played an integral part in shaping and developing these programs – her hard work is evident. So far this year, more than 700 campers and counselors have been served through the Disciples Camping Program, 1,600 campers and counselors have been served by Make Promises Happen, and many more experienced all the camp has to offer.

Susan played a key role in developing a ski trip for Make Promises Happen (MPH) Campers to the National Sports Center for the Disabled. Each spring, campers from across the state travel to Winter Park, Colorado to participate in accessible skiing adventures. For thirteen years, campers have been enjoying this trip – all because Susan so strongly believed that people with special needs should live a life without limits.

Susan was proud to be a part of the new growth and development at Central Christian Camp over the past several years. She worked tirelessly to ensure that each camper, volunteer, staff member, and guest had a memorable experience. Susan's spirit will always be part of Central Christian Camp; in her memory a tree and marble bench has been placed in Memory Forest at Camp.

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"Susan was my best friend because she knew me and she liked me. I love her with all my heart and miss her so, so much."

- Erin, Make Promises Happen Camper

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I/we wish to make a perpetual gift to the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation, Inc.

Please select the endowment fund(s):

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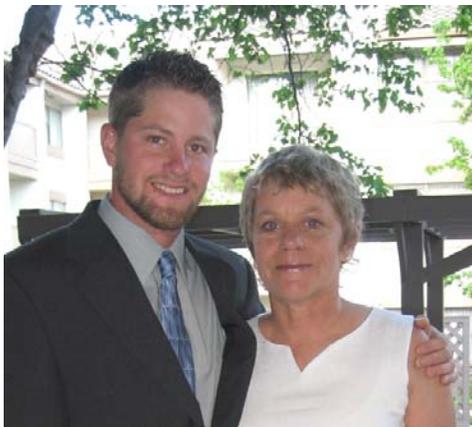
Central Christian Camp remembers Susan Shields (continued from page 1)

We know that with every new program, new event, and new camper – Susan will be celebrating our success. Susan's love and dedication for CCC and its MPH programs has been extended in perpetuity in a couple of ways. One is through her friendship with all who continue to participate and enjoy the programs and facilities at CCC. The second is through a permanent endowment fund in her honor set up at Oklahoma Disciples Foundation.



Memory Forest at Central Christian Camp

Contributions to this fund will help nourish the people, programs and facilities to which Susan dedicated much of her life. For information on this fund and other ODF funds that benefit CCC, please visit: www.okdisciplesfoundation.org. Click Named Endowment List, then scroll to Central Christian Camp & Conference center under *Campsites & Programming*.



Susan Shields with her son, Parker

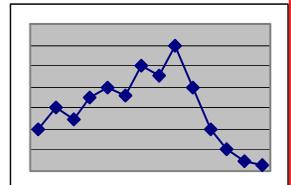
What is MPH at CCC?

Make Promises Happen began in 1971 as a ministry of Central Christian Camp, serving children and adults with special needs through recreational programs. The first camp had just twelve campers and three volunteer counselors. Today, Make Promises Happen is the only year-round camping program for children and adults with special needs in the state. The camp serves more than 2,000 campers every year with camps and adventure trips; more than 500 volunteer counselors donate over 30,000 volunteer hours annually. For more information about Make Promises Happen and Central Christian Camp, please visit:

www.centralchristiancamp.org

Update on Creating Congregational Cultures of Generosity

Is your church budget tight? Does your minister ever preach about biblical-based giving? Does your church have members who never give? Do you know whether your minister gives money in support of your church budget? Does current giving at your church resemble the downward trajectory on this graph?



We, Oklahoma Disciples Foundation, have **Good News** for you! Send your minister and two active layfolks to our workshop in October!

Central Christian Camp, near Guthrie, Oklahoma, will serve as the setting for the second ODF-sponsored workshop on "Creating Congregational Cultures of Generosity," October 18-20, 2010. Oklahoma Disciples Foundation has contracted with the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving to present these interactive workshops discussing congregations, stewardship and giving as a way of life. With the objective of helping *transform the culture of giving* within congregations, this event is the second in a series, with the first held at Camp Christian May 25-27, 2010. If you missed our detailed report on that program, you can access our Summer 2010 newsletter online at: www.okdisciplesfoundation.org (click the Newsletters link on the home page, then the Summer 2010 Newsletter link on the Newsletters page.)