

# Leave a Legacy

## The gift that keeps on giving



Joanmarie knows future generations will need what the Mission offers. That's why she's made us a part of her estate plan.

Joanmarie has been a volunteer at our Men's Learning Center, teaching reading, math, and computer skills.

But she also wanted to keep giving, even after she's gone. That's why she included Union Gospel Mission as part of her estate plan.

"What the Mission does is vital to our community," she says. "For those who are homeless, it is a loving, supportive family. For others, it provides their first exposure to the light of God's love."

In order for the Mission to continue reaching future generations, Joanmarie has made us a part of her will.

Here at the Mission, we don't provide legal counsel. But if you have questions about your personal plan for wealth transfer — including making Union Gospel Mission a part of your legacy — please feel free to contact Wayne Hoffman, our planned giving officer, at 651-789-7638.



77 Ninth Street East  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
651-228-1800  
Ken Peterson, Executive Director  
www.ugmtc.org

# THE *Heart* OF THE MATTER

A MESSAGE FROM KEN PETERSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## At summer camp, follow-the-leader is more than just a kids' game

**H**is name was Eddie. I remember because he was a really bright kid in a really tough spot. With no dad at home, he had no male role model. Grandma was doing the best she could to raise him, but I could tell from talking to her that Eddie was a handful.

*We see a child's God-given abilities emerge.*

Still, I knew that camp could change him. I just didn't realize it was my 9-year-old son, Andrew (who was also attending camp that week), who would play such a key part in that change.

All week long, Eddie followed Andrew around until the two seemed inseparable. Andrew taught Eddie how to start a campfire, put up a tent, and untangle a fishing line. Andrew was a good teacher, but Eddie was also a good student. Before long, Eddie

had his own little entourage following him around, learning about collecting firewood and baiting a fishhook.

Think of it as follow-the-leader, except in this game we see a child's God-given abilities emerge.

This month, KidsMatch, a matching grant aimed at sending kids to camp, doubles every gift up to \$25,000. So if you give to send one kid to camp, you're actually giving two kids the chance to have a life-changing experience.

The only way needy kids like Eddie can go to camp is if you will help send them. Please be generous. Your decision today just might impact their lives forever.

Thank you for being there for our kids!

### Your gift **DOUBLES** up to \$25,000 to send kids to camp

**YES, KEN!** I want KidsMatch to **DOUBLE** my gift to send twice as many hurting kids to summer camp. I'm enclosing:

- \$35, which doubles to \$70 to send kids to camp.
- \$175, which doubles to \$350 to send kids to camp.
- \$70, which doubles to \$140 to send kids to camp.
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ which doubles to send as many needy kids to camp as possible.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_



**THANK YOU!** Please make your tax-deductible check payable to Union Gospel Mission. Mail it with this form in the enclosed envelope to P.O. Box 64389, St. Paul, MN 55164-0389. Questions? Call us at 651-228-1800. Give online at [www.ugmtc.org/kidsmatch](http://www.ugmtc.org/kidsmatch).

Yes! I would like to be kept up-to-date on important programs and efforts by joining the e-mail list.

HERE IS MY E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_



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## SUMMER CAMP

(continued from page 1)



the positive. "They told me I had good communication skills, and that I had good insight and should raise my hand more in class," he continues.

That was all Kwame needed to hear. Feeling like there were no limits to what he could do, he began to excel in school and worked as a junior camp counselor in the summertime.

In fact, he became so involved that he received the WCCO Good Neighbor Award in 2007 for 3,000 hours of volunteer service over a three-year period.

Looking back, he says he'll never forget the fun he had that one fateful summer.

"It was like having recess all day, and then getting the chance to go to church," he remembers. "For me, it was the best of both worlds."

But summer camp will always be more than fun to Kwame; it was the week that changed how he viewed himself and his potential.

"I used to wonder if I'd ever graduate from high school, and could imagine myself living from paycheck to paycheck," he says. "Camp taught me that I could do much more than that."

*Camp changes kids' lives. And right now, the KidsMatch grant doubles every gift up to \$25,000. So when you give, you're not just helping one child, you're helping two kids go to camp.*

*Please send a generous gift to Union Gospel Mission today, and help twice as many kids like Kwame reach their full, God-given potential.*

*Thank you, and God bless you! ■*

*"It was like having recess all day, and then getting the chance to go to church."*



# Twin Cities MESSENGER

OUR MISSION IS CHANGING LIVES!

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## INSIDE



**2** **SCRAPBOOK MEMORIES:** Camp was a BLAST last summer!



**3** **For Evelyn, the journey started at camp**



**4** **Follow-the-leader is more than a game**



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For more information, visit us online at: [www.ugmtc.org](http://www.ugmtc.org)

# SUMMER CAMP: Teaching kids they don't have to settle for less

It was just one week of summer camp. But those few days changed Kwame's life forever!

Eight years ago, Kwame entered Gospel Hill Camp for the first time as a sixth-grade homeless kid with a reading disability, a speech impediment, and "absolutely zero" self-esteem.

By the time camp was over, Kwame not only believed he could accomplish anything he wanted to do, but he came home with a fresh, new understanding of his relationship with God.

*"My teachers always told me I'd be good at sports, but I'd never succeed at academics."*

"Camp taught me that I don't have to settle for less," he says, "and that God has bigger plans than we can possibly imagine."

Today, Kwame is a 20-year-old sophomore at



When Kwame was younger (inset) he says camp was like recess all day with the chance to go to church — "the best of both worlds!" Today, he's all grown-up and attending Augsburg College.

Augsburg College, on the verge of getting his first job. But it wasn't that long ago that this young man was a shy, struggling 12-year-old who couldn't see anything good in his future.

"My teachers at school always told me I'd be good at sports, but I'd never succeed at academics," Kwame remembers.

But his counselors at camp were different. They focused on

(continued on page 4)

**KidsMatch DOUBLES EVERY GIFT up to \$25,000**  
KidsMatch is our special matching grant that automatically **DOUBLES EVERY GIFT up to \$25,000** to send kids to summer camp. Send your gift **TODAY** and help **TWICE** as many kids experience a life-changing week at our Gospel Hill Camp.



Camp was a **BLAST** last summer!



Nobody can beat this team!

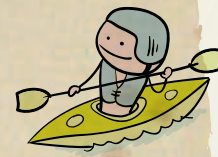
"I can always find something fun to do."



The counselors are great!



Friends forever!



"First thing I'm gonna do when I get home is ask Mom if I can come back next year."



Best friends forever! These are the girls that prayed with me.

### A NEW BACKPACK HELPED KWAME FEEL "NORMAL"

When Kwame's was young, his mom could never afford proper school supplies. So he'd spend the first few weeks of each school year borrowing pencils and paper from friends so he didn't have to ask the teacher.

He recalls, "The other students would roll their eyes at me, or even worse, would ask me, 'Again?!' It was embarrassing."

So you can imagine Kwame's delight when he got a new backpack filled with school supplies on the last day of summer camp.

"That felt great. It felt normal," he says. "Before, I felt like an outsider."

*This year, the Mission is distributing new backpacks and school supplies to nearly 800 kids in need. We can only do it with your help. Please send a generous gift today. Thank you!*



### For Evelyn, the journey started at camp



Camp was just as fun, encouraging and safe yesterday as it is today.

Camp memories last a lifetime. Just ask Evelyn Determan. Forty-five years ago, Evelyn attended summer camp as a 12-year-old.

"The counselors were so personable and kind, showing Christ's love in a way that really touched me," Evelyn recalls. "I felt so cared about when I was there."

Evelyn grew up with nine brothers and sisters, so she didn't get a lot of attention at home. And she remembers the school she attended as regimented and strict.

But camp was completely different. Not only was it fun, she says, but more importantly, it was the beginning of her journey toward faith in Christ.

"I didn't accept Christ until later in life, but what I learned at camp — from the truths of God's Word to those Bible camp songs — definitely stayed with me," she explains.

It stayed with her so much, in fact, that when Evelyn recently got a new job after a long layoff, one of the first things she did was send a gift to Union Gospel Mission to help send kids to camp.

Today, she's passing along the lessons she learned at camp to her own children, as well as to the kids in her Sunday school class.

"Camp taught me how to have a relationship with God," she says. "I want my kids to know that."

*Thank you for introducing kids to Christ by helping them go to summer camp. You are a blessing to this community!*

## CALL TO ACTION

As the school year approaches, kids need **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

With the new school year fast approaching, here's your chance to help kids in need get off to a good start.

When you donate any of the items listed below, you'll be helping to provide hundreds of fully loaded backpacks to school-age kids whose families can't always afford the required school supplies.

Here's a complete list of what these kids need before the first day of school:



- Backpacks
- Pocket folders
- Spiral notebooks
- Loose-leaf paper
- Rounded scissors
- Post-it notes
- Eraser tops
- Colored pencils
- Colored markers
- Covered pencil sharpeners
- Pens (red and blue)
- Glue sticks
- Pencil boxes
- Clear tape
- Kleenex
- Crayons
- Calculators



The deadline for dropping off school supplies is August 10.

Please drop off your items at:

Union Gospel Mission  
Central Services  
UGM Men's Campus  
435 University Ave. E.  
St. Paul, MN 55130



For more information, contact Linda Ferreira at 651-789-7562.



Surprise! This girl lives in my neighborhood!



### POSTCARD

Dear Cindy,  
Hope you're having a wonderful time at camp. Miss you!!!  
Love, Mom & Dad



Cindy  
Gospel Hill Camp  
580 West Highway 96  
Shoreview, MN 55126