

Camp Blue Diamond Program Director



Mission

Camp Blue Diamond is a 238-acre Christian retreat center, summer camp, and family campground nestled within the Rothrock State Forest near Petersburg, PA.

The mission of Camp Blue Diamond is to encourage discipleship of Jesus Christ and to facilitate growth and healing in each person's relationship with God, others, themselves, and the created world through providing summer camp and retreats for the children, youth, and adults of Middle PA District Church of the Brethren, and providing rental facilities to other organizations and Christian churches.

Affiliations and Accreditation

Camp Blue Diamond is affiliated with the 55 congregations of the Middle PA District Church of the Brethren. As a Church of the Brethren camp we believe that Jesus is the Son of God, the Holy Spirit is God's presence in the world today, baptism must be a conscious choice made by the believer, and that believers should practice social justice, simple living, peaceful nonresistance, and the teachings of Jesus. CBD is a member of the Church of the Brethren's Outdoor Ministries Association (OMA).

Camp Blue Diamond is also affiliated with the American Baptist Churches of the Centre Association of American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania and Delaware (ABCOPAD).

Camp Blue Diamond is proud to be accredited by the American Camp Association. Developed exclusively for the camp industry, this nationally recognized program focuses on program quality, leadership training, and health and safety issues. As an accredited member, we are required to review every facet of our operation including hiring procedures, counselor training, emergency plans, healthcare procedures, and a host of program policies.

Camp Blue Diamond has voluntarily submitted to this independent appraisal done by camp experts and has earned this mark of distinction. Only about 1/4 of all children's camps in the US meet ACA's accreditation standards.



Additional information is available at www.campbluediamond.org.



Summer Camp

The mission of Camp Blue Diamond is to encourage discipleship of Jesus Christ and to facilitate growth and healing in each person's relationship with God, others, themselves, and the created world. During summer camp, this mission is accomplished as approximately 450 children and youth experience God in a variety of settings, including daily Bible discovery, vespers, group building activities, campfire, music, nature, crafts, swimming, canoeing, adventure activities, recreation, and living together in a Christ-centered community.

The curriculum is based on scripture—age appropriate, geared to an outdoor setting, respectful of God's creation, and adaptable to a variety of learning styles. However, the opportunity to experience God is a part of everything we do as we keep Christ at the center of all programming and relationships within the community.

Camp provides an opportunity to get away. It's a place where campers, old and young alike, are free to explore, run, laugh, play, make friends, and experience God in new ways. The summer program is primarily based on small group cabin units combined with large group activities. Children and adults have many sessions from which to choose:

- ◆ Kiddie Camps (ages 5-7 + adult)
- ◆ Tenderfoot Camp (grades 1-2)
- ◆ Pioneer Camp (grades 2-4)
- ◆ Junior Camps (grades 3-5)
- ◆ Junior Adventure (grades 4-5)
- ◆ Cooking Camp (grades 5-6)
- ◆ Caving Camp (grades 5-7)
- ◆ Creative Arts Camp (grades 5-8)
- ◆ Jr. High Camps (grades 6-8)
- ◆ Youghiogheny Adventure (grades 7-9)
- ◆ Counselor In Training Camp (grades 9-11)
- ◆ Outdoor Living Skills Camp (grades 8-12)
- ◆ Youth Camp (grades 8-12)
- ◆ Family Camp (all ages)

We believe that a church camp experience will positively impact a child's life and we are committed to providing a program that respects the rights and dignity of all.



Retreats and Gatherings

Camp Blue Diamond provides programming for a variety of retreats and gatherings for children, youth, and adults:

- ◆ Junior Retreat
- ◆ Junior High Retreat
- ◆ Youth Retreat (co-host: Middle PA District)
- ◆ Spring Camp Work Day
- ◆ Father/Son Retreat
- ◆ Quilt & Craft Camp
- ◆ Senior Adult Day

Group Rentals

Camp Blue Diamond is a beautiful setting for groups of any size to gather for retreats, meetings, picnics, worship, and more. The Retreat Center consists of the Main Lodge, Hemlock Lodge, the Ouch House, and the 10 surrounding, winterized summer camp cabins. This area is available year-round to rental groups except during the summer camp season: June through early August.

The Rising Sun and Lakeside cabins, Camp's "Beach Houses in the Woods" are ideal for smaller groups and families. Both cabins have 3 bedrooms (sleeps up to 15), a living/dining room, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, a loft, central AC and heat, and TV/DVD.

Lakeside and Campground Pavilions are available for picnics from May through September. Each pavilion has picnic tables for 100, and the Lakeside Pavilion has a worship amphitheater nearby.



Fundraising Events

Several fundraising events are held each year in support of the ministries of Camp Blue Diamond. Heritage Fair, a fall festival featuring homemade foods, crafts, activities, auctions, and a Brethren Heritage Center, has been held at Camp for 40 years. The Brethren Open Golf Tournament has been co-hosted by Camp and the Middle PA District every August for more than 25 years.

Camp hosts Annual Fundraising Dinners each spring. The program includes a family-style meal, live entertainment, and staff updates. In recent years, Camp has also hosted a fundraising day at several steakhouses within the Middle PA District.



Family Campground

Camp Blue Diamond operates an RV, Trailer, and Tent Campground with 46 trailer and tent sites and a primitive cabin. All sites include a table, fire ring, and water. Both 30 and 50 amp service is available as well as sewage. Washhouses offer toilets, sinks and showers. A dump station, dumpster, firewood and ice are also available. Smoking, vaping, alcohol are not allowed. Pets on leashes are permitted.

The Campground has a family-oriented, quiet atmosphere. It is a great place to relax, enjoy nature and have family time. A Wi-Fi hotspot is available in the campground parking lot. The lake and sandy beach are open to guests for swimming and canoeing. Hiking, a small ball court, beach volleyball, biking, and fishing are available. The Campground is open to guests from May 15 through October 31.



Shaver's Creek Outdoor School

Camp Blue Diamond is a beautiful setting for learning about the environment and what needs to be done to protect it for future generations. During the year, Penn State's Shaver's Creek Environmental Center and Camp Blue Diamond host twelve weeks of Fall and Spring Outdoor School.

Fifth grade classes from Huntingdon County, Mifflin County and various other PA schools take part in the Shaver's Creek program. During their stay at Camp, students learn about Pennsylvania wildlife, how early settlers lived, and what can be done to protect the environment.

During Outdoor School, Camp Blue Diamond staff provides food service, facilities, and maintenance. Shaver's Creek Outdoor School staff provide programming, leadership, and counselors.



Upon This Firm Foundation

In 2016, Camp Blue Diamond launched the 'Upon This Firm Foundation' capital campaign with a goal of \$650,000. Four building projects were established in addition to a goal of creating a Reserve for Replacement Fund. As of October 2020, the campaign reached \$690,000 in pledges for the projects and an additional \$52,500 pledged toward the Reserve for Replacement Fund for maintenance and building needs.

- ◆ **Campground Utility Improvements:** New underground electrical and water lines replaced those existing in the Family Campground. Cost was approximately \$140,000. *(Project completed May 2018)*
- ◆ **Office Renovation:** The former Shop Building was renovated to include a reception area, a large workroom, offices for the Executive and Program Directors, and a restroom. Cost was approximately \$50,000. *(Project completed Dec. 2019)*
- ◆ **Family Campground Washhouse:** A new central washhouse with restrooms and showers will replace the two existing smaller ones. Cost for this project will be approximately \$80,000. *(Construction will be complete in 2021)*
- ◆ **Multi-purpose/Recreation Building:** The Multi-purpose Building will have a large single room suitable for rainy day recreation for summer camp, outdoor school, and retreat groups. Other features will include a kitchen, restrooms, and a fireplace large enough for group campfires. It will be located between the Main Lodge and the Nature Center. Other large group activities like the Heritage Fair Auction, District Conference, and dinners could be held in the facility. Cost will be approximately \$350,000. *(Construction anticipated to begin in 2022)*

Watch the campaign video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQEnVbxVKIE>

Program Director

Camp Blue Diamond is seeking a gifted individual with a passion for outdoor ministry to serve as the next Program Director (PD).

The main role of the PD is to oversee all aspects of programming, working to ensure that each is Christ-centered, allowing campers and staff to experience growth and healing in their relationship with God, others, themselves and the created world. Duties include but are not limited to managing and supervising summer staff, organizing retreats, helping to coordinate rental groups, assisting with kitchen and housekeeping duties during Outdoor School, and participation in Camp Board meetings, church visits and the American Camp Association. Outdoor ministry at Camp Blue Diamond requires flexibility and teamwork. In this spirit, the PD may be called upon to provide help in other areas as needed. The PD is accountable to the Executive Director and Board of Directors. *See a more detailed description below.*

Qualifications include strong interpersonal skills, as well as leadership, organization, and communication, along with a basic knowledge of program development, computer skills, and marketing.

A Bachelor's Degree is required, along with camp leadership experience. The applicant should be a Christian and a member of the Church of the Brethren or have an appreciation and understanding of Brethren beliefs and values.

This full-time, salaried position includes health benefits, a generous PTO/holiday package, and onsite housing and utilities. Review of applicants will begin on October 1, 2021. It is expected that an appointment will be made in November with an anticipated start date in January 2022.

How To Apply

To apply, submit letter of interest, resume, and 3 references to Jerri Heiser Wenger, Co-Executive Director, at campbluediamond@verizon.net, or:

Camp Blue Diamond
P.O. Box 240
Petersburg, PA 16669

Note: New employees must have an acceptable background check in order for an official offer to be given. More information will be provided to candidates who advance in the interview process.



Detailed Job Description

Summer Camp

During the summer camp season, the main role of the Program Director is to oversee all aspects of programming working to ensure that each is Christ-centered allowing campers and staff to experience growth and healing in their relationship with God, others, themselves, and the created world. This requires strong leadership, exceptional training, well thought-through Bible studies and worship experiences, and care given to the health and welfare of campers and staff alike.

- ◆ In close cooperation with Program Committee and Executive Director: select summer camp theme, develop schedule, interview and select summer staff, secure references and required background checks.
- ◆ Prior to summer camp: responsibilities include, but are not limited to securing program leadership, communication with staff, assure implementation of ACA standards and expectations, schedule leadership for staff orientation, and become acquainted with Bible curriculum.
- ◆ Plan and implement summer staff orientation: providing staff with information and tools needed to create a safe, fun-filled, and Christ-centered summer camp for campers.
- ◆ Throughout the summer camp season: supervise program staff ensuring strong leadership, coordinate schedules, assign camper, staff, and CIT housing for each program, oversee the registration process, and continuously serve in a supervisory role overseeing all aspects of summer camp.
- ◆ Regularly evaluate all aspects of summer camp, staff concerns, perform in-person mid-summer and end-of-summer evaluations, and prepare a written evaluation to be reviewed with the Program Committee at the end of the season.

- ◆ Oversee Health and Safety concerns by: enforcing policies for staff and camper well-being, assist in first aid and emergencies as needed, work with the Health Care manager in carrying out the Implementation of the Health Care Plan.
- ◆ Other responsibilities include, but are not limited to: support and encourage summer staff, serve as a resource person, purchase supplies as needed, report facility concerns to Facilities Director, enforce conduct boundaries, and communicate concerns with Executive Director.

Retreats and Programming

Plan retreats and other programs throughout the year. Other programming responsibilities include:

- ◆ Continuously research and collect resources and ideas for program opportunities
- ◆ Maintain positive relationships with congregations, district leadership, and past and potential staff persons.

Housekeeping and Kitchen

All staff members are called upon to help in all aspects of camp ministry including helping in the kitchen, doing housekeeping, and maintenance/facility work.

Committees

Serve on the Camp Board and Program Committee (ex officio) and others as called upon.

Other Expectations

Attend and actively participate in weekly staff meetings, communicate with Executive Director, maintain record of expenditures, and turn in expenses to Executive Director.

A more detailed position description will be available prior to the interview process.