



March, 2016

TO: Youth Camping Committee
Program Committee
Guthrie Grove Board of Directors
Youth Camp Directors
Reunion Directors
LHMC and PBMC Administrators

Guthrie Grove has been a *special place* to members and friends of Community of Christ for 60 years. From the time that a committee stepped onto these grounds in 1956, the experiences shared here have been important in countless lives. Ask anyone who has attended any of the hundreds of youth camps, reunions, and retreats, and you will find that experiences at Guthrie Grove have been transformational. Many believe that Guthrie Grove is sacred space, blessed by our creator. As you begin the ascent up the hill to Guthrie Grove you may sense the special meaning of this space.

Over the past six decades Guthrie Grove has grown in monetary value as well. From an initial investment of \$75,000, this space has grown to a value of over \$1.5 million. Housing for the campers has evolved from ground tents to the "hog-house" cabins to the duplex cabins and the lodge. It requires substantial resources and hundreds of volunteer hours to maintain and improve the grounds and its facilities. Over the last five years we have invested substantial resources in upgrades and repairs to Guthrie Grove and the board is committed to maintenance and improvements to the extent that resources permit.

It is the wish of the Guthrie Grove Board of Directors that you emphasize to all campers that Guthrie Grove is a *special place* and we ask that everyone do their part in protecting this space. In order to limit maintenance and repair expenses, we ask that you participate in our call to stewardship. Please be especially mindful and respectful of Guthrie Grove as a *special place*. Let us do our part to ensure these grounds will be here for the benefit of generations to come.

Please ask campers to read and respect the guidelines prepared for our stewardship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Anders". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "A".

Steve Anders, Chair
The Guthrie Grove Retreat Center Board of Directors