
CAMP OPENS JULY 27

Rawlinsville Ramblings

Rawlinsville Camp Meeting

Praising the Lord in Song, Sermon and Service

SUMMER 2026 Issue 107

INSIDE

You will be a big fan of dining room changes!



More ceiling fans, LED lighting and new chairs in the dining room are among the changes to the Boarding House. **Page 3**

New evangelist named for Camp's first week

The Rev. Tim Valentino will fill the pulpit in the first week. He replaces Rev. Rich Stevenson, who canceled for medical reasons. **Page 2**



RCM sweat equity



Photos by Stephanie Reddinger



It takes a lot of cottage holders and volunteers to maintain the grounds at Rawlinsville Camp Meeting. They were out at Camp on May 9 for spring cleanup day. In the top photo, a crew raises one of the many heavy doors on the Tabernacle. Above, Deb Kocher fills her wheelbarrow with mulch. At left, Hezekiah Price rakes mulch near the Tabernacle. More photos of the cleanup can be found on Pages 5 and 6.

Rev. Tim Valentino fills pulpit for first week

The Rev. Timothy R. Valentino will fill in for the Rev. Rich Stevenson as RCM's first week evangelist.

Rev. Stevenson was forced to cancel when he developed blood clots in his lungs. He is having difficulty breathing as his body adjusts to new medications.

Please remember Rich in prayer.

Pastor Tim will preach the first Monday through Saturday. The Rev. Steve Lennox, the second-week evangelist, will preach Sunday through the last Saturday.

In his biography, Tim refers to himself as "a grace-loving husband, father, grandfather, pastor, seminary professor, conference speaker and incurable Phillies fan."

Tim has served in pastoral ministry since 1992. His pas-

sion, he wrote, is to "teach and preach the Scriptures in such a way that seekers might be captivated by the gracious character of God, and disciples might be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit." His calling is best summarized in the apostolic mandate: "Tell the people the full message of this new life" (Acts 5:20).

Tim has been a professor at Kairos/Evangelical Seminary in Myerstown, Pennsylvania, since 2007. He has also taught numerous online university graduate courses and Bible Institute classes and has written for theological journals. He blogs at "This New Life."

He earned a bachelor of arts degree from West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia; a master of divinity degree from Evangelical Seminary,



Rev. Timothy Valentino

Myerstown; and a doctor of ministry degree from Southern Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

Tim is working on his second doctorate at Kairos/Evangelical Seminary.

He and his wife, Sonya, live in Myerstown. They have a son and daughter and two grandsons.

RCM Calendar

July 16

Summer Ladies Auxiliary Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Children's Building.

July 18

Kitchen cleanup day starts at 8 a.m.

July 26

Spiritual Life rally at 7 p.m.

July 27-Aug. 9

The 141st session of RCM.

Aug. 22

Post-Camp kitchen and Boarding House cleanup starts at 8 a.m.

Oct. 8

Association banquet at 6 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7 p.m., both in the Boarding House.

Oct. 15

Ladies Auxiliary meeting at 7 p.m. in Children's Building.

Oct. 16-17

Fall Fest and auction.

Jan. 14, 2027

Association meeting at Grace Community Church of Willow Street, 7 p.m.

DAPHNE HATHAWAY, PRESIDENT OF RCM ASSOCIATION

Sign and logo going green, same message

After updating the sign at the Camp entrance over a number of years, the time has come for a new sign.

The entrance sign was in shades of red and black, while our most recent logo had been a burnt orange depiction of the Tabernacle steeple with the words, "Jesus Saves" underneath.



Daphne Hathaway

Working with the digital media lead, Amanda Sigman, to update the sign and logo into one unified color



Above, the mockup for the new sign at the Camp entrance. Below, the refreshed Camp logo. Both were updated by Amanda Sigman.



scheme, one option stood out.

The color scheme based on shades of dark green seemed to suggest the beautiful woods of Camp and the shady grove where we return for spiritual refreshment each year.

The new sign will be up before Camp opens for its 141st session.

I began to read about the meaning of different colors and found that, in the Christian faith, the color green symbolizes life, renewal, hope and

spiritual growth. It ties closely to nature and God's creation, frequently appearing in Scripture as a sign of God's provision and the flourishing of the faithful.

This seemed like a perfect parallel to the blessings we receive through the ministry of Camp.

As I continued to read, further Biblical symbolism indicated that green represents:

■Life and Refreshment:

Green pastures (as seen in Psalm 23) represent rest, peace and God's restorative provision for the soul.

■Spiritual Growth:

Believers who trust in God are compared to a "tree planted by the water [that] sends out its roots by the stream," keeping its green leaves even in dry seasons

(Jeremiah 17:7-8).

■Hope and Healing: In prophetic traditions, green is a color of healing, revival and the hope of eternal life.

We hope you like the new logo and sign color at Camp this year; but, more importantly, I hope every time you see this green, it prompts you to pray for the blessing of healing, renewal, hope, refreshment and growth!

BOARDING HOUSE

Feast your eyes on changes

By Erik Walter

Co-chair

Boarding House Committee

"Come and dine, the Master calleth, come and dine; you may feast at Jesus' table all the time" is a refrain from the hymn "Come and Dine" by C.B. Widmeyer.

This session when you come to dine in the Boarding House, we pray you will encounter Jesus' presence. In addition, we hope you appreciate some of the upgrades inside and outside intended to improve our experience as we fellowship over food.

Under the leadership of the RCM Association and Ladies Auxiliary, multiple improvements were approved for the 2026 and 2027 sessions. Many of these projects are finished or underway.

We thank the following teams:

- Ladies Auxiliary for its identification of needed upgrades and financial support, especially in replacing the dining room chairs.

- Boarding House committee for working to coordinate with the Ladies Auxiliary and Association to identify needs.

- Buildings and Grounds committee for maintaining and improving the interior and infrastructure.

- Executive Committee for its oversight and guidance for these projects.

We also thank the donors who contributed more than \$3,000 through the fundraising



Photos by Erik Walter

Above, the new chairs are in place. Also shown are the new LED light fixtures and fans. Below, Kevin Johnson checks in the chairs. Bottom, serving stations that will be used this session.



Photo by Stephanie Reddinger

registry to help pay for the improvements.

So, what changes will you see?

Twelve ceiling fans (replacing four) and improved lighting fixtures have been added to the dining room. By my math, the dining room should be three times cooler this summer!

Next, you will find new chairs in the dining room and on the Snack Bar porch. The previous chairs became a hazard. The new chairs are wider and sturdier. We will have more highchairs for our smallest diners.

New serving tables were purchased for our cafeteria-style service. Both hot and cold serving tables will be used in the service line.

New dining room tables are planned for the 2027 session. If you look under the tablecloths you will find tables of varying widths. New tables will bring uniformity to the dining room.

They will also benefit events
More BOARDING HOUSE Page 4

Ready, and old enough, to help in Boarding House?

By Erik Walter
Co-chair

Boarding House Committee

Rawlinsville Camp Meeting has a rich tradition of encouraging volunteer service.

We rely heavily on volunteers to run our food service operations in the Boarding House during Camp sessions, special events and fundraisers.

I remember as a teen assisting in the dining room, and later the kitchen, during "Rawlinsville Church Day" to serve its pork dinner. I particularly enjoyed waiting on tables when we functioned as a "family-style" restaurant.

The Boarding House can serve as a great introduction to service for our youth. Ephesians 2:10 directs us, "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

We want to share our youth volunteer standards with you. The purpose of the rules is not to discourage volunteerism, but to bring uniformity and conformity to our food service.

Many of the opportunities are in the two kitchens where the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) sets rules for safe operations. Although operating as a religious non-profit entity, we run licensed commercial kitchens.

There are multiple opportunities to serve in the Boarding House, in the operations of our two kitchens, dining rooms and Candy Store.

Following are the rules, by ages, for young people volunteering in the Boarding House. Each successive age group may perform services of



Photo by Melissa Markley

From left, Emilia Rohrer, Lexi Markley and Killian McGaw are ready for customers in the Snack Bar last Camp session. They were all 15 years old. See information below for how youth, ages 10 to 17, can help in the Boarding House.

the younger age groups, plus the additional duties outlined for their age group.

Under Age 10

No volunteer opportunities in the Boarding House.

Ages 10 to 14

May not enter the kitchen areas while in operation, including the candy store. Volunteers of this age, with an adult supervisor, may perform certain light duties in the dining room areas. Volunteer opportunities include:

- Light stocking (confined to dining room);
- Wrapping silverware for

inside service and preparing plastic ware for takeouts;

- Setting tables;
- Filling tea and water pitchers;
- "Table running" (delivering food and drinks to tables – but you cannot work in the serving line);

■ Bussing tables;

The handwash station for these volunteers is the dining room bathroom. They are restricted from entering the kitchens while they are in use.

Ages 14–15

May perform light prep work and use basic appliances

(microwave and toasters) but cannot handle sharp knives or operate power-driven slicers, grinders, or mixers (including the milkshake machines). They cannot clean surfaces hotter than 100°F.

They cannot do jobs in the basement area or upper level of the Boarding House, unless accompanied by their parent or legal guardian. They may take trash bags to the dumpsters. Recommended jobs (in addition to those above, during lunch and dinner service).

- Snack bar drink and ice cream station;
- Snack bar facilitator (bun station);
- Candy store with an adult (maximum one volunteer of this age during any shift due to space restrictions);
- Light prep work in either kitchen under direct supervision;
- Service line (cold foods/desserts), but no serving of hot foods that are not packaged.

Ages 16–17

May perform most kitchen tasks but are still prohibited from using hazardous equipment like commercial meat slicers and large power mixers.

Any person involved in handling money must be approved by the Boarding House management team.

If you have questions about the policies or specific duties, see one of the three managers, Erik Walter, Ketrina Walter or Caroline Griffith.

The three managers are certified by the state as Serv Safe managers. Serv Safe is a state required food safety course for individuals who manage food service.

Boarding House

Continued from Page 3

like the Fall Fest, wedding receptions, church events and other gatherings when the room

is reconfigured. If you are interested in buying the old tables, we expect to offer those in good repair at the Fall Fest auction.

Outside the Boarding House, the porch was sinking, creating a hazardous, uneven floor. The

porch has been raised by the Buildings and Grounds committee. The porch and pavilion are expected to be stained before the Camp session. Work is underway to divert rainwater away from the structure and to keep

rocks and debris from washing onto the road and walkways.

We ask that you join us in the Boarding House this summer where we will again, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

Spring cleaning

On May 9, volunteers fanned out across the grounds of Rawlinsville Camp Meeting for spring cleanup day. While grass was mowed, limbs were removed, mulch was spread, in the photo at right, Carol Perry and Amy Donaldson prepare to feed the hungry crews. At right, curbside appeal is important as a capable crew spreads mulch at the gate. Below, Emily Messner and Sandy Harris clean the Tabernacle's pews. Below left, Keith Wagner pitched in by sweeping out the Tabernacle.



Photos by Stephanie Reddinger



Snakes alive, Mr. Rob and Jude!



Rob Eachus, aka Mr. Rob, top, and Jude Wagner, were told during spring cleanup day that a rat snake had been seen in the RCM office building. Rob wrote:

"Jude and I ... did find the snake rolled up in the carpet. We took the carpet outside... unrolled it and picked up the snake. It was really docile, a bit chilly. I clowned around a bit before Jude gently placed it in the woods. The snake was approximately three feet long.

"Jude is the son of Deidre and Bryan Wagner and the grandson of Connie and Bud Howett. He is in U.S. Army basic training, so snake wrangling was no big deal for him. This young man is making us all proud at Camp and by serving our country. He is a blessing to many."

The rat snake is not venomous and does eat rats and mice as its name indicates. The snake can grow up to eight feet in length and is a good climber. Shed snake skins have been found in the rafters of the Tabernacle.



Photos by Stephanie Reddinger

The crew above, Bob Lehman, left, and Evan Hathaway surrounded by his nieces, Ellie, left, and Avery Griffith, take a break on a trailer load of leaves. Below, an inside team opens

a door on the Tabernacle, while two men hold it in place. That is heavy lifting. At bottom, more heavy lifting is completed as the outside pews are placed.



LADIES AUXILIARY

You are needed in Boarding House

It takes many volunteers to make each Camp session a success. As in years past, the call goes out for Boarding House volunteers for the Candy Store, Snack Bar, the kitchen and dining room.

The Auxiliary is blessed that many of the Camp's founding churches continue to staff their traditional "day in the kitchen." Other area churches also fill spots, and the days that aren't covered by the Auxiliary are covered by family and friend groupings.

Some days we have a small group of volunteers, and we need to call on our volunteer pool of kitchen workers and line servers.

Following are the dates we are in the greatest need of volunteers, though we can use volunteers almost any day.

■ **Thursday, July 30**, noon and evening meals;

■ **Saturday, Aug. 1**, noon and evening meal;

■ **Sunday, Aug. 2**, noon meal; and

■ **Sunday, Aug. 9**, noon meal.

Help with dishwashing and sweeping the dining room after the evening meal is most welcome as well.

If you are available at any of those times or are willing to be placed on the Auxiliary "on call" list, please contact one of the Auxiliary co-presidents: Diane Jacobs, mcjacobs125@gmail.com, 717-875-0006; and Sandy Lee, rclee15@comcast.net, 717-468-3317.

Copies of the menu will be posted on the Facebook private page before the Camp session.

The menu will be distributed to cottages on the first day of Camp. Menus will be available at the ticket window.

The adult meal ticket costs \$6 for lunch and \$12 for dinner.

We look forward to fellowshipping and working alongside you.

Technology team changes are all behind the scenes

By Steve Quigg

Tech team leader

For every minute you see someone on the stage in the Tabernacle this summer, just know that there were a hundred or so minutes of behind-the-scenes preparation that went into making that moment happen.

The evangelist will have refined his sermon; the worship coordinator will have planned the service; the ushers will have mapped out their routes; the musicians will have practiced their songs; and the tech team will have worked to keep the right quantity of electrons flowing in the right direction.

While it might take a village to raise a child, it takes a host of saints to set the stage for meaningful worship at RCM. The stuff you don't see behind the scenes has a big impact on the quality of your RCM experience, in person or online.

And it's not just the human element. You won't notice the clearer song lyrics on the confidence monitor from the new projector, but the musicians sure will. You won't see the new cables going to the outside speakers on the Tabernacle, but the people in the Circle will



Items to improve Camp technology, front, camera stabilizer mount and light controller cable; back, Children's Building projector, squirrel-proof speaker wire and confidence monitor projector.

hear the difference. You won't see the improved picture on the Children's Building movie screen, but your kids and grand-kids will.

You won't see the stabilizer on the remote camera mount in the Tabernacle, but those watching online will enjoy a picture that doesn't shake quite as much when the ceiling fans are turning. And no one will see the new light controller on the tech bench, but everyone watching online will enjoy the better visibility of those on stage leading us in worship.

It's all an investment in time, effort and money that you will

probably never see. But if it makes for a better and more memorable worship experience this summer, then it will have been worth every minute and every dollar invested. All for the glory of God.

Important links

Website: www.rawlinsville-camp.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/RawlinsvilleCampMeeting

Livestream of evening services

Facebook: bit.ly/watchrcm or www.facebook.com/RawlinsvilleCampMeeting/live

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@rawlinsvillecampmeeting/streams

Porches replaced on 6 cottages; work done on pavilion, driveway

The Boarding House isn't the only location around Camp to see improvements.

Ralph Huber, who chairs the buildings and grounds committee, reported the concrete front porches on six cottages were replaced. The work is shown at right.

He said work around Camp included fans and lighting for the pavilion next to the Boarding House.

More **PROJECTS** Page 8



Photo by Stephanie Reddinger

Successful second year for RCM registry

The final numbers from the registry fundraiser are in, and thanks to your incredible generosity, we raised \$10,382 for RCM this year, which is more than \$2,000 above last year's total. Last year was the first year for the registry,

A few additional highlights:

■136 of 149 items sponsored (90% of all available items).

■\$3,851 was donated toward the Children and Youth Ministry (95% of items sponsored).

■\$3,185 was donated toward the new

dining hall upgrades, including fans, tables, and chairs.

■Donors from at least 5 states participated.

■68 families were represented through donations.

To everyone who sponsored an item, thank you! Your generosity plays a vital role in helping make Camp possible. We extend a special thank you to Marticville Church for their significant donation through the registry to support our children and youth ministries!

Project needs donations, volunteers

Unto, a humanitarian ministry, is gratefully accepting donations of fabric, sheets and towels, which can be stained, used, etc., to support the ongoing production of LuoPads.

During the Camp session, a collection bin will be available on the Boarding House porch beneath the display cases.

Alternatively, you may bring your donation to the LuoPads making session at 1:30 p.m., Aug. 5. (The location will be announced during Camp.)

For questions, please contact Ketri-na Walter, Cottage 18.

Rawlinsville Camp Meeting Association

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Projects: Driveway, fans, lights

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Asphalt was laid to smooth the first driveway in the upper parking lot.

Both the pavilion and the porch of the Boarding House are expected to be stained before the opening of Camp.

The pole lights around Camp are now LED.

Kevin Johnson is the committee vice chair who handles grounds.



Photos by Ralph Huber

At left, new asphalt makes for a smoother first driveway in upper parking lot. Above, new fans will cool the pavilion.