



TALL TURF *Today*

SPRING
2022
ISSUE



LEADERSHIP LESSONS

Our Leaders In Training (L.I.T.) have been focusing this school year on getting a better understanding of who we are as individuals. They have been gaining a better understanding of knowing who not only others think they are, but also who God says you are. They have learned what traits they possess as individuals. Two of our L.I.T.s, Jayda and Ka'mari, have experienced writing a personal mission statement along with going through some career exploration. They have researched different career options, along with what it takes to obtain that career. They have explored what colleges have their career of choice along with what classes are need. They also have obtained and ideas of what values they hold as a person. Jayda (L.I.T) stated that her focus is "to serve as a leader by taking charge, being creative and being a positive part of someone's life. Along with using my kindness to make other people's days better and being as joyful as you can". Ka'mari has told us "some values I hold as a person would be loyalty and kindness, the reason is because I'm always a loyal person and I help people out in serious situations. I would say kindness because I hold no anger or hate inside of me and believe its important to be kind to one another and to help each other".

CEO Corner

Greetings! As we begin our new budget year, which runs from March 2022 through February 2023, I must first give thanks to our Lord and Savior. For the third consecutive year, Tall Turf Ministries (TTM) has operated with a balanced budget. Our current team of board members, donors, staff, and volunteers have been committed to improving our organization's financial performance.

We also give thanks to Dr. Steven Timmermans and Ms. Angela Nelson on their service as board members and wish them well. We also celebrate two new board members: Mr. Michael John Franklin and Mr. William Hoogstrate. Both bring a long history with TTM and a wealth of knowledge and passion to support our organization.

I am also extremely excited to announce our collaboration on outdoor

education with a local foundation. This will help us provide additional content to our campers who may not have the opportunity to gain experience with the numerous environmental components of camp. It will also help us show how reconciliation can occur with God and nature.

Finally, we are so excited to have camp this summer! Accordingly, we have over 20 employment vacancies and many camper openings. All are listed on our website. Please do all you can to spread the word.

Blessings to you and all you love!

Sincerely,
Marcus Hargrave,
CEO



Meaningful CONVERSATIONS

"Why won't black people stay in our church?"

"How can I do more?"

"We want to see reconciliation occur."

These and other questions were asked when Tall Turf Ministries was invited to come have a discussion on racial reconciliation. These topics fit right into the mission of TTM. For over 50 years, we have impacted the lives of youth and families and equipped them for lives of reconciliation in God's world.

We welcome the opportunity to facilitate these conversations with your church, organization, or business. Please feel free to call us at 616.452.7906 to start the process.

David and Marcus leading a discussion on racial reconciliation at local church.



Manager REPORTS



David Brassler
Site Manager

The snow and ice are melting, the birds are singing, plants and animals are starting to wake from their winter slumber, and the natural spring off the yellow trail is burbling new life into the forest. These are all miraculous signs that spring is here at Camp Tall Turf. This season is one of our favorites here – and the warmer weather and longer days mean that summer is around the corner, and with summer comes campers! We are so blessed to have a paved road for easy access to Camp. The mud used to make it nearly impossible to

reach Camp in anything other than a truck.

We are also doing a lot of preparation for the summer camp season – raking, cleaning, painting, maintenance, upgrades, removing downed trees and branches, and bringing supplies out of storage. We are so blessed to have work groups to help us. Churches, schools, and others help us do much of the preparation for the summer. Camp is a great place to be this time of year. If you're itching to spend some time on God's Turf, call the office and schedule a family gathering, retreat, or work group. We have lots of fun projects, for all ages and skill levels! Volunteering at Camp is a great way to bond with your family, friends, and faith communities. We can't wait to see you!



Nicole Cheeks
Business Manager

After two years of virtual learning, hanging out with friends virtually, remote working, and for some, attending virtual holiday celebrations (yes, my family was one of many who had virtual Thanksgiving in 2020) we are all craving some face-to-face connection! As the Office Manager at Tall Turf, one of the best parts of my job is during the summer months when I get to connect with campers and their families. I have missed seeing the excitement in the faces

of new and old campers as they arrive on registration day to reconnect with their friends and previous counselors from summers past. As we all look forward to a summer when we can once again come together to enjoy family and friends my wish for our campers is that this will be a summer where kids can go back to being kids. A summer where they get to enjoy the beautiful surroundings at camp that bring peace, happiness, and fun. A summer where they will form deep bonds with camp friends – having fun and creating lifelong memories. A summer filled with camp chants and traditions. A summer where they will know that there is no place they would rather be than Camp Tall Turf!

NOW Hiring

Tall Turf Ministries is beginning to recruit for the summer of 2022! Dates required for staff are typically the first week of June through mid-August, including two weeks of orientation. Staff are present for 5-day and 8-day youth camps, as well as 3-day weekend family camps.

Applicants 18 years and older: Applicants for staff positions must love God and working with youth, as well as willing to meet qualifications for the position in which they apply.

Applicants 14–17 years: Summer Leaders in Training Program Applicants must have a passion for growing in their faith and

leadership skills. Through the program, they will gain experience working with kids, serving in the kitchen, leading activities, Bible studies and much more!

Positions include: Summer Program Manager, Health & Wellness Officer, Waterfront Director, Food Service Manager, Adventure Program Manager, Staff Pastor, Leader In Training (LIT), Environmental Education Manager, Head Counselor, Counselors

For more information about positions for summer 2022 please visit www.tallturf.org.



2022 Summer Camp Sessions

TALL TURF STEAM ACADEMY: JUNE 20 - 24, 2022

Discover God's world through the study of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. STEAM Academy explores the unique features of camp, including age-appropriate veterinary care of farm animals and the systems and structures that make up the land and water on our property.

SCIENCE DISCOVERY CAMP: JUNE 27 - JULY 1, 2022

Discover and learn new things on daily adventures! This session will include hands-on learning experiences and adventures through activities like an overnight camp out, gardening, meeting animals, archery, hikes, mud pit, survival class, and more!

OLYMPICS CAMP: JULY 5 - JULY 12, 2022

Olympics week is an exciting session where campers participate in activities inspired by Olympic events, join in a variety of crazy competitions, participate in Opening & Closing Ceremonies and more! Campers will learn about different countries and cultures, as well as the importance of teamwork, cooperation, and encouragement.

YOUNG LEADERS CAMP: AUGUST 2 - 9, 2022

Looking for a unique camp experience that will help your child discover their full potential in Christ? Join us for Young Leaders Camp where campers will learn about the characteristics of positive leaders, discover their strengths, set and achieve goals, and learn the importance of working together. Through experiential activities and guided discussions, campers will be empowered to discover what leadership is all about.



FAMILY CAMP

Choose from these dates:

July 15 - 17

July 29 - 31

Engage with your family at Tall Turf on the beautiful shores of Campbell Lake! Families enjoy three days and two nights in Tall Turf cabins with fun activities to keep everyone entertained. All meals, snacks and activities are provided.

HOW CAN YOU PARTNER?

Pray

That Tall Turf Ministries will continue to make an impact for eternity in the lives of our campers and their families.

Increase

Your current or past giving to help us meet our critical needs.

Encourage

Your friends, family, coworkers, and anyone else you believe would be interested in supporting us.

Supporting

- Monthly giving
- Provide a Camp Scholarship
- Support a Camp project
- Refer us to a friend

Help us spread the word and mission of Tall Turf Ministries by liking and following us on social media. There are many open positions that we need to fill, please pass along the job positions to those who may be interested.

Thank You!

Board of *Directors*

- Lydia Kuyvenhoven, Chairperson
- Edward Postma, Vice Chairperson
- Tim Verstrate, Treasurer
- Mark Greidanus, Secretary
- Michael John Franklin
- Arthur Treadwell
- Bill Hoogstrate

Tall Turf Ministries *Staff*

- David Brasser, Site Manager
- Jim Brasser, Site Manager Emeritus
- Karissa Matson, Director of Programs
- Nicole Cheeks, Business Manager
- Marcus Hargrave, President & CEO



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