



June 2019

The Briarwood Vine

It. Is. Go-time.

The Briarwood offices are buzzing with activity as our program staff members put the final touches on Summer Camp. Sarah, Madi, and Avery—our Program Coordinators and our new Community Engagement Manager—are focused on overnight summer camp and BASE Camp, Briarwood's awesome day-camp experience.

Finding the right numbers of people—kids and counselors—is a top priority. We're still recruiting counselors, so if you have young adult leaders you can recommend, we'd be interested to speak with them! Christi, our registrar and office manager, is keeping track of everything, ensuring that we have right number of campers in every week. The camp store is getting stocked with t-shirts and water bottles!

During the Briarwood Gala, I offered a presentation on the newly articulated vision for Briarwood Leadership Center. Alongside all of our new priorities for the Synod and our surrounding communities, I reminded all who attended the Gala that, at Briarwood, Camp is at the Core.

Even as we shift our fundraising energies from the Gala to the upcoming gold tournament (Friday, September 13), it was good to remind ourselves why we engage in those activities. Yes, they're

tremendous fun. And yes, it's good for people who love Briarwood to get together and celebrate their memories and commitment. But really, it's about the kids, for whom Camp is at the Core.

Our fundraising events have the dual function of highlighting our infrastructure needs and providing camperships. Camperships fund Briarwood's commitment that financial need will not prevent any young person from experiencing camp. Providing access to the experience of camp is one way Briarwood is committed to sharing the Gospel with all.

It's a busy time at Briarwood. Our entire staff team is focused on the final preparations for summer camping—preparing for our core mission and ministry. We are building a new future at Briarwood for the good of all within the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod and the communities around us. We appreciate your support and look forward to partnering with you!

Robert O. Smith
Director, Briarwood Leadership Center



Mark your calendars to join us at the annual Briarwood Golf Outing on September 13 at Bridlewood Golf Club



May 30 - June 14 **Summer Staff Training**
June 16 - Aug 2 **Summer Camp!** September 13 **Briarwood Golf Outing**

bw@briarwoodretreat.org

www.briarwoodretreat.org