



A Look at DaySpring

September 2011

Dayspring Conference
Center
8411 25th Street East
Parrish, FL 34219
941-776-1018

Meet the Chef: Tom Gottschalk

What Dayspring has to offer:

- 92 acres of beautiful Florida habitat on the Manatee River
- Various accommodations to suit your groups needs
- Meeting spaces
- Indoor and Outdoor Chapel, as well as Stations of The Cross
- Recreation, including canoes and ropes courses
- Buffet style meals
- Friendly and helpful staff to make your stay more comfortable.

Tom has been at DaySpring for three years and has been the Director of Food Services for the last two years. Tom has served as Sous Chef, Executive Chef and Kitchen Manager at many fine restaurants, such as The Colony, Patricks, Longboat Key Club and Pattigeorges in the Manatee County area. Besides Executive Chef at Gecko's, he was also a managing partner. Tom has a staff of 9 that work one of several shifts from 5:00am to 10:00pm.

Over the past couple of years we have seen a lot more demand in dietary needs for our guests.

There are many more vegans, vegetarians, gluten free and flexitarians than in past years. Tom has willingly accepted these changes and implemented menus to reflect the trend. Each meal now comes with a vegetarian option. Other requirements such as no dairy, no pork, etc. are handled on a case by case basis.

DaySpring has also seen an increase in peanut allergies in children, some to the extent that they cannot be in the same room as peanuts. Most guests with the above need self monitor their food intake, but DaySpring does their part in informing guests of what foods contain dairy, peanuts, etc., as well as providing other options.

When you are at DaySpring, come look at the new kitchen, check out the new stove and say "hi" to Tom. Let the Reservations Department know if your group has any specific requests for dietary needs.





Upgrades at DaySpring

In this last year, many upgrades and renovations have been done at DaySpring thanks to the help of the Diocese of Southwest Florida, various ECW church groups and the other individual donors.

- Due to structural and ground problems, both the porch, the north wing of the dining room, and the kitchen have been reinforced with proper material and new floors added. The kitchen has a new composite floor, new walls, and a dropped ceiling. The Food Service's office was removed from the kitchen to make the room bigger. The dining room and hallway were painted a lighter color to make it brighter.
- A new floor, including base and tile, at New Pavilion, the largest meeting room on campus.
- Wifi in Curry Hall, New Meeting Room, Bishop Haynes Lounge, Bishop Haynes Meeting Room, Upper Room, Pavilion A and Pavilion B. In Sept., Wifi at the Pool House, Cabins 1-6 and Retreat House.
- Repairs and enhancements to zip line, low and high ropes courses.
- New life jackets for the canoes and kayaks.
- Water and electricity at the waterfront and an outside shower.
- The sidewalk between Cabins 1 & 2 has been replaced.
- A new stove, thanks to a donation from ECW, St. Michael and All Angels.
- Outside lighting in the semicircle in front of Curry Hall.
- TV for group pictures and a TV for menus, etc. in the hallway before the dining room.
- A new sound system, microphones, DVD players, AV cabinet, a speaker phone for video conferencing and a podium.
- Hot water heaters, air conditioners and roofs have been replaced or repaired as needed.
- Panic bars on dorm doors so that the doors, when locked, can be exited in case of an emergency.
- A 1985 dump truck replacement and a golf cart.
- The refrigerator in Pavilion A
- New carpet at Pool House, patio furniture for the deck patio and the pool made into a fountain pool.
- Cabins 1-6 have new shower curtains, a privacy curtain in the common area, lamps, curtains and decorative items added to the bedrooms and bathrooms.
- The entry road will be smoothed and repaved in September.
- Reservations software upgraded to Windows.

Heartfelt Appreciation



There are two groups that have always helped DaySpring through the years and we cannot begin to show enough appreciation for them.

The first group to thank is **VENICE REBELS**, a quilting group that comes three times a year. Venice Rebels has not only made quilts for DaySpring and Camp Able, but also, this year, gave them to migrant workers' children during the cold season. The group also has given gifts at Christmas to children of DaySpring employees at the annual Christmas party.

The second group that much appreciation is due is **EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)**. The Diocese (ECW) group, and all the ECW groups in Episcopal churches are real friends of DaySpring. They were instrumental in getting a Labyrinth, and this year, donated money for decorating of the Cabins. Their latest goal is to donate money for a much needed pool at DaySpring.



Venice Rebels
April - 2011

VENICE REBELS



ECW Board
April 2011

ECW BOARD

Our deepest thanks!

Meet a Group at DaySpring

Quilters love DaySpring for the serene setting that it provides for quilting. We recently added more electric outlets in the New Pavilion that will make their task easier. One of the quilting groups to stay at DaySpring recently was **THE QUILTERS WORKSHOP OF TAMPA BAY**.

The Quilters Workshop of Tampa Bay's visit was really special as they made dresses for little girls in Africa who are in need. Each participant was given a pattern to follow. In the picture, the quilters are standing in front of the beautiful dresses. Their goal is to make 50 of these dresses.



Summer Camps at DaySpring

Five summer camps were completed in June and July at DaySpring. Attendance in all camps was an increase from the previous year. The Diocese hosts an Elementary Camp and a Youth Camp in June, and is planning to add a high school camp in 2012. Camp Able is held for a week in July for youths with disabilities. Please contact Michelle Mercurio at 713-556-0315 if you're interested in any of these camps.

Pathfinder also hosted an Elementary and Youth Camp in June and July. Pathfinder's goal is to engage, challenge and transform kids with lasting results.



Camp Able

Diocese Youth Camp



Pathfinder

*(Contact Pathfinder at 727-328-0300
or at www.pathfinder-ed.org)*

