



Year End Appeal

November 2025

Dear Friends of Camp Arnes,

As we look back on 2025 and look ahead with anticipation to 2026 we are filled with gratitude for all God has done and continues to do through Camp Arnes. It has been a year marked by growth, renewed ministry momentum and deepening partnerships with churches and our wider community.

A Year of Growing Impact

For 76 years Camp Arnes has been ***"A Place to Grow"***. This summer Camp Arnes once again welcomed hundreds of campers, many experiencing camp and the message of Jesus for the very first time. We are blessed to see camper numbers improve this year over last year as families place their trust in us and as God touches each life for where they are at. We continue to see children and youth respond to the Gospel, and we rejoice in every story of faith and every life touched.

Camp is also a great place to train the leaders of tomorrow giving spring and summer staff the chance to grow in leadership skills as they prepare to enter future schooling or the workforce.

As part of our effort for continued fiscal improvement; for the first time we welcomed staff to camp that came with their own full financial support. Ongoing support from one of our donors facilitated that approximately 75 campers could come to camp.

We continue to plan to develop a Christian retreat and conference center, already making new bookings in the marketplace and developing our hospitality skills. Plans to develop a gap year program, possibly accredited, are underway and we hope to be making announcements on this new programming soon. These initiatives will develop meaningful blessing and training to our secular and faith based communities while diversifying our sources of revenue.

Deepening Relationships with Churches

One of the joys of this year has been the renewed energy and connection with church communities across Manitoba and beyond.

- We hosted multiple church retreats and family weekends
- New churches joined us for summer programming
- Congregations partnered with us in prayer, volunteers, and support

Looking ahead to 2026 we are excited to share that we are planning several large church partnership events, leadership retreats, and opportunities for ministries to gather, grow, and serve together here at camp. Camp Arnes is increasingly becoming a home and ministry hub for churches, youth groups, and Christian schools.

Deepening our Relationships with our community.

We have growing partnership with two Hutterite communities. They provided 18 cabin lead staff this summer plus volunteers in our maintenance and kitchen programs. Donations of food are also appreciated from them as well as from Kroeker farms. During the fires experienced this summer, we were able to host Gem Lake Wilderness camp to facilitate their program until it was safe for them to return to their facilities. Our spring family fun day with fish fry and the sold out fall supper (home cooked turkey dinner) welcomed guests from all around Gimli, Arborg and surrounding communities.

Pool Facility Renovation Underway

We are excited to share that work has begun on the indoor pool renovation. This has been a prayerful and long-term priority for our ministry, and through generous support, volunteer efforts, and God's provision, we were able to replace the pool roof.

We are hopeful that the pool will reopen soon, giving campers, rental groups, and church communities a fully restored aquatic facility, enhancing programs and strengthening year-round ministry opportunities.

A Mission That Remains Unchanged

No matter the season or program, our purpose remains firm:

To lead young people to a growing and meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ through adventure in creation.

Camp Arnes is still a mission field. Roughly 65% of our campers continue to come from homes and communities where financial support is needed. We continue to partner with organizations and donors who ensure every child can experience camp regardless of financial ability. We need your prayer, volunteer time and financial support.

We praise God for every child reached and are working on follow-up programs and we remain committed to expanding this work faithfully and sustainably.

Our 2025–2026 Ministry Goal

As we prepare for the coming year, we are prayerfully seeking to raise **\$250,000** to support:

- Camper subsidies for children in need
- Ongoing ministry programs and leadership training
- Essential operational and facility needs

Monthly giving continues to be one of the most impactful ways to support Camp Arnes, giving Camp the stability to plan confidently and steward resources well.

Thank You

Thank you for praying, volunteering, giving, and believing in this ministry. Camp Arnes has always been a place where God moves in the quiet moments by the lake, in laughter around the campfire, during chapel worship, in new friendships and in the stillness of a child's heart discovering Jesus. Where children achieve personal goals in high ropes, kayak, archery and orienteering. Where staff are stretched and learn how to push past their perceived limits.

As we close 2025 and move toward a new year, we ask you to prayerfully consider partnering with us again, just as so many have over the past 76 years.

"Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Galatians 6:9

May the peace and joy of Christ be with you this Christmas and throughout the year ahead.

We look forward with faith to all God will do in 2026!

With gratitude in Christ,

Elton DaSilva

Executive Director — Camp Arnes

Ways to Give

Mail:

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Online Giving:

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E-transfer:

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