

## Note from Wrangler Matt



March 18, 2021

Dear Friends,

I apologize. It's my fault. It seems like just yesterday I was in my 20's and my Mom and Dad, known to all as Uncle Bill and Aunt Phyllis, told me they were moving to Jewett Ohio, Mom's hometown. They decided to take the reins at Faith Ranch, a camp they started in 1974. That meant I was left to run Marmon Valley Farm.

Since then, it seems like there hasn't been much time for the dust to collect on my hat. I've been taking it one day, one week, one month and one year at a time, focused on making sure the Farm is a place where kids, adults and families can connect with God's creation, each other, and Jesus. I didn't prioritize staying in touch with all of you...or giving you the opportunity to stay connected to the friends and memories you made at the Farm.

I hope it's not too late.



Jane, Matt, Uncle Bill, Aunt Phyllis

As some of you know, Dad went to be with the Lord in 2015 and Mom joined him last year.

But their legacy is alive and well. Along with my wife Kathy, our five kids and six grandkids; my sister Jane and her husband, Steve Olsen, and their two sons, we continue the legacy.

Mom and Dad started with just 75 acres when they offered the first week of camp in July of 1964. Having just purchased in January the 103-acre farm next door, Marmon Valley Farm is now more than 600 acres, with new land for kids to explore, horses to graze, riders to blaze new trails.

As we move forward, we decided it was time to reach back to the past, to people like you, who have some history with us. We hope and pray you will reconnect with the Farm, maybe come back and help us blaze those new trails. Or share with us, and others, your memories of time on the Farm: at camp, a retreat, taking riding lessons, or attending an event, like Summer Fun Days or Country Christmas.

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The easiest way to reconnect is to visit the Alumni page on our website at:

www.marmonvalley.com/alumni. To join the Alumni group, click on the Register Now link toward the bottom of the page and we'll keep you updated on future Alumni activities and other events at the Farm.

If you want to reconnect with other Alumni, check out our Marmon Valley Summer Camp Alumni page on Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/498563066992392">https://www.facebook.com/groups/498563066992392</a>. While you're there, share a memory and a few photos from your time at camp.

If you'd like to come back to the Farm, go to <a href="www.marmonvalley.com">www.marmonvalley.com</a> where you can schedule a trail ride, a whole day of activities or even an overnight stay.

If nothing else, send me an email letting me know how you're doing. I'd love to hear from you! My email is: mwiley@marmonvalley.com

In Him,

Wrangler Matt Wiley

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Marmon Valley Alumni page