

Bulletin One-Liners:

STATEMENT #1

Help the Jo-Ota Methodist Association (JMA) raise \$150K to reopen a site where faith has begun and been enriched! www.campjo-ota.org

STATEMENT #2

Jesus said, “Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matt. 11:28). Camp is one of the places we meet Jesus and find rest. You can help provide sacred space by supporting the Jo-Ota Methodist Association! www.campjo-ota.org

STATEMENT #3

You are significant. Your life matters. You can make a difference. Ministry is about embracing these statements and empowering them with the spirit of Christ to fulfill the mission of Christ. We do this in big and small ways all the time. But we never do it alone. God created us to be in partnership with one another. You can partner with the Jo-Ota Methodist Association by donating and/or volunteering. Your donations are used to support operating expenses of the ministry and your volunteer hours help us bless people with the powerful presence of Christ that is in you. Check out www.campjo-ota.org for more information about this ministry.

News Letter Paragraphs

ARTICLE #1

The Jo-Ota Methodist Association exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ through camping and retreat ministries in Northeast Missouri. We are in the process of obtaining ownership of Camp Jo-Ota (Clarence, MO) from the Missouri Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. In order to begin ministry again on this sacred site we must raise \$150,000. This is very possible with the generosity of the people and churches of NEMO. We are asking our area churches for 3 things. 1.) \$50 pledged at the time of endorsing the Association (seed money for legal costs) 2.) A donation toward the \$150k goal to be sent in ASAP so that we can begin ministry sooner! 3.) Include JMA in your 2016 budget for missional giving. Once we are up and running this support will be a vital part of keeping the ministry going! Donations can be sent to Palmyra UMC, C/O Rev. Eric Anderson, JMA Treasurer, PO Box 646, Palmyra, MO 63461. Further information on our ministry can be found at www.campjo-ota.org.

ARTICLE #2

Mrs.W.W. (Ota) Barrows was fond of quoting James 4:2, "Ye have not because ye ask not."Camp Jo-Ota was donated and founded by William and Ota Barrow along with the encouragement of Rev. Floyd Rigg and his wife Johanna. The camp received its name from Johanna and Ota and opened in 1953 as Camp Jo-Ota.

Many years of donated time, money, and labor have helped to develop the camp into a place of great spiritual value. It has become a place of heritage in North Missouri of bring numerous people , young and old to Christ. In the fall of 2014 The Camping and Retreat Ministries Board of the Missouri Annual Conference made the decision to discontinue residential camping on sites they own. Camp Jo-Ota was one of these sites.The Board recommended that property be sold and camping and retreat ministries be handled in a whole new way. With much thought, prayer, and guidance from God a group of area people worked towards a solution to keep Jo-Ota as a resident Methodist Camp. In April around 50 people met and agreed to form the Jo-Ota Methodist Association. A board of directors was appointed and with the support of 49 area Churches and a pledge of \$50.00 seed money an aggressive plan was formed to petition Missouri Annual Conference to purchase the camp for \$1 . With the power of prayer and God's blessing on the project , it was agreed at conference vote to sell it to Jo-Ota Methodist Association (JMA) for \$1 per year for the first three years, and \$30,000.00 per year the following four years.

JMA believes that GREAT THINGS are in the future for working to glorify God. We feel that there is a place for residential camping as well as mobile camping. Our plan is to be open year around for functions and Retreats as well as summer camping.

Startup money is critical for the success of Camp Jo-Ota. JMA has determined that \$150,000.00 is needed to cover overhead costs and getting this ministry started on the right foot. Further information on our ministry can be found at www.campjo-ota.org.

ARTICLE #3

Every time God heals, forgives, befriends, or calls someone it is for the sake of strengthening the greater community. God is meeting you in the reading of these words and stirring in your soul to make a difference with your life. Ephesians 4:1 encourages us, "live a life worthy of the call you have received." Each calling

is different but has the common thread of coming from God and leading to the Kingdom of God becoming a reality around us. One powerful way God's calling is lived out and that heaven is made real on earth is through camp. The Jo-Ota Methodist Association exists in order to provide a sacred space for encounters with Christ and the strengthening of Christian Community. You can live out your calling through partnering with us. Find out more about this ministry by visiting our website at www.campjo-ota.org. Here are some of the ways you can ensure this camp continues: pray, donate, volunteer for a work weekend, become a member of the board or work team, attend a retreat, lead an event, remember JMA in your estate plan, invite others to join you for renewal in the outdoors, tell your story of how God has blessed you, etc.