

OFFERTORY SCRIPT

READERS: Cheryl Doss & Emmett Durnan

CHERYL:

Since Whispering Winds was established in 1978, God has used our community as the driving force behind building, growing and sharing the gift of our camp. We have some special representatives from our community who will be bringing meaningful gifts to the altar as a sign of our gratitude for these past 45 years.

EMMETT:

(Group – Cursillo - Cyndi Sapper & Vicki Youngers - bring up baloney name tags)

Representing the Cursillo movement today is Cyndi Sapper – the current lay director – and Vicki Youngers.

This year, Cursillo is celebrating its 75th anniversary as an international ministry. Cursillo is a lay movement within the Catholic Church committed to inviting Christian leaders to encounter Christ in a deeper way through a loving method of spirituality. Cursillo has not only called Whispering Winds home for its annual retreats, it also has served as a foundation through their volunteer work and faithful financial support & leadership of the camp.

CHERYL:

(Group – Diocese - Wendy Baez – diocesan flag)

We are happy to have our San Diego diocese represented today by Wendy Baez, from the Office for Family Life and Spirituality.

Since the beginning of Whispering Winds, the camp has always had a strong relationship with our local diocese. All of the Catholic High Schools in San Diego have held their retreats on our holy ground and many diocesan programs have enjoy our sacred space, such as Camp Emmaus, the Young Adult Retreat and numerous confirmation retreats. We are grateful that most parishes in our diocese are actively involved in Whispering Winds. We thank God we have been able to collaborate in ministry with our diocese, increasing the faith of many with our efforts.

EMMETT:

(Group – Cedar Fire Recovery - Dave Halverson - burnt wood Mary statue)

We are beyond grateful for our recovery from the Cedar Fire, which we have represented next.

Twenty years ago, San Diego suffered deeply from the devastating Cedar Fire. More than 85% of the camp was burned. The courageous firefighters put their lives on the line to save many lives. We are grateful we endured no loss of life. The firefighters did all they could to preserve several buildings on site. One of the firefighters on the scene here at camp was Dave Halverson, who is bringing up one of the prize items pulled from the rubble. Whispering Winds transformed profoundly following the fire and we have the Caster Family to thank for much of the rebuild. We are beyond grateful to God for using our faithful community to bring beauty from ashes at Whispering Winds.

CHERYL:

(Group – Whispering Winds Women’s Auxiliary – Andi Finch & Angela Varela – WWWA scripture and #35)

Today we are grateful to have the Whispering Winds Women’s Auxiliary represented by Andi Finch and Angela Varela, the current Auxiliary president and vice president.

In the camp’s early years, a strong group of women stepped forward to help fuel the growth of Whispering Winds. Over the past 35 years, these ladies of our community have raised money for camperships, volunteered countless hours at Family Camp and our Gala and offered spiritual enrichment through retreats, brunches and evenings of reflection. Andi is carrying the Auxiliary’s theme scripture: Romans 8:28: “We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

EMMETT:

(Group – Family Camp – Frank & Bernice Mascari – memory book, 30 year t-shirt)

We are happy to have our Family Camp program represented next.

The motivation for starting Whispering Winds came from a group of families who experienced Family Camp in San Bernadino. These families were passionate about starting a Catholic Family Camp in San Diego. Trailblazers Frank & Bernice Mascari led the efforts, formulating the program and working with many others to make it a reality. Today we are blessed to celebrate 30 years of our Family Camp ministry. Frank & Bernice are carrying our anniversary memory book & t-shirt, which reflect the many themes and spiritual topics which have

helped families grow closer to each other and God over the years. Like our first Family Camp theme – Making Memories – we continue to relish in special memory making at our beloved camp.

CHERYL:

(Group – Board of Directors – Tim Cusick – old & new site maps plus framed pic of God touching camp)

We are grateful to have our Board of Directors represented today by Tim Cusick, our current board chair.

The Board of Directors at Whispering Winds is comprised of influential business men and women who understand the unique balance between business, non-profits and most importantly, our faith mission. For these last 45 years, countless leaders in our community have served on our Board and have helped Whispering Winds navigate through major events, including the most recent pandemic.

After serving his first term, Tim Cusick stood before the board at a retreat and shook his head as he marveled at how God Moves on this Mountain. He referred to the frescos commissioned on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel – the image of the creation of Adam, with God pointing down to touch the first man. Tim continued, by saying, “in the same fashion, God has pointed down on Whispering Winds – this is Holy Ground.”

Tim is carrying a similar fresco picture as well as the first site map of the camp and our newest map – showing the incredible growth God has orchestrated through the Board of Directors and our community.

EMMETT:

(Group – Founders – Anne & Mo – bread & wine & picture of Don & Jerry)

Our final offertory gifts brings us back to the beginning of camp...our founders – Mo & Don Kojis and Jerry & Anne-Tisi Denbow

We thank God immensely for the vision, persistence and faith of our founders. Because of their trust in God, what seemed impossible has become a 161-acre camp that serves over 11,000 people a year and growing. People of all ages and stages have come to experience Jesus on the mountain. Families have been strengthened, teens have gained purpose and those unchurched have witnessed the touch of God through His creation.

We are so blessed to have Mo and Anne with us today. Along with the picture of Don & Jerry, they carry the gifts of bread and wine. These simple elements

represent the simple faith with which the Kojis and Tisi families entered this adventure. And the supernatural gift with which the bread and wine will become represents the transforming place Whispering Winds is today.

Thank you God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit for being faithful, blessing our land and using us to spread your love to all at Whispering Winds.