

Mini Pecan Pumpkin Pies

Ingredients

For the dough:

1/4 cup pecans
1/4 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
3/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus extra for shaping dough
6 tablespoons butter, ice cold
2 to 3 tablespoons ice cold water

For the filling:

1 egg, plus 1 egg yolk
1/2 cup dark corn syrup
1 tablespoon sugar
1/2 cup canned pumpkin filling
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 cup pecans, chopped plus 24 halves for garnish

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Spray the bottoms and sides of the mini muffin tins with cooking spray.

For the dough:

In a food processor, pulse pecans with the sugar, salt, and flour, until the nuts are ground and the ingredients are combined. Add in butter and pulse until dough resembles coarse meal. Slowly pour in ice water, pulsing, until the dough comes together. Remove from processor bowl onto clean work surface sprinkled with flour.

Form dough into a ball and divide evenly into 24 pieces. Roll each piece into a ball and evenly press into each cup, until the bottom is covered. If the dough is sticky, dip your fingers in flour first.

Bake 15 to 18 minutes, until the crusts are very golden. Check periodically to make sure they don't get too brown.

For the filling:

In a medium bowl, whisk the egg and yolk with the corn syrup, sugar, pumpkin filling and vanilla. Stir in the chopped pecans.

Remove dough from oven and spoon 1 tablespoon of the filling into each cup. Top each with 1 pretty pecan half. Return the pans to the oven and continue baking, for 12 to 15 minutes more, until the pumpkin filling is set. Allow to cool before removing from the pans.



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Winter 2013/2014

Upcoming Events:

- **Christmas Retreat**
December 20—22
- **Connections Retreat**
January 11—12, 2014
- **Mission: Encounter**
January 18—20, 2014
- **Celebrate Families!**
January 25, 2014
- **Open House**
February 1, 2014

Visit our website for more information on these and many of the other programs that Cedarkirk offers.

Cedarkirk Staff:

Rev. John Reiter
Executive Director
Mark Orendorf
Assistant Director
Matt Shick
Program Director
Kevin Taylor
Facilities Director
Jackie Butler
Food Service Director
Karin Dale
Office Manager and Event Coordinator

S'mores & More

The Newsletter of the Presbyterian Camp & Conference Ministries of SW FL

The Why?

For the past year, the Cedarkirk Board of Directors has been exploring "the what, how, and why" of Cedarkirk. We understand what we do. We offer a variety of engaging, transforming, and enriching programs that bring people closer to God. We provide a ministry of hospitality as groups come on retreat and enjoy our facilities. We reach out to those in our community with mission focused events. How we do this is also an easy question to answer. Our innovative programs focus on strengthening our relationships with God and our neighbor. We welcome groups to an inviting facility with friendly staff committed to serving and sharing the love of Christ. The deeper question that we have been examining this year is "why?". Why do we do ministry here at Cedarkirk? Why do we offer programs and welcome groups on retreat? Essentially, why do we exist?

Ultimately, the answer starts in our mission statement. We are **a place apart to build up the body of Christ in love.** That means providing programs, spaces, and experiences where people connect with one another and with God in transforming ways. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we witness lives changed and hearts opened to the love and grace of God.

Over the past year, Cedarkirk served 900 children, youth, and adults in summer programs and welcomed over 15,000 people who enjoyed the facilities and beautiful grounds. Through programs focused on education, mission, and evangelism, we share the love of Christ with children of all ages. The ministry at Cedarkirk matters and makes a difference.

Throughout this special newsletter you will read about ways that you can make an impact. Your gift helps to ensure that summer campers experience God in new and profound ways. Your gift will enable us to care for and improve our facilities and grounds. Your gift strengthens this ministry's reach and impact in serving others. On the remittance form in this newsletter, you will find ways to make an impact at camp. I invite you to prayerfully consider making an end of the year gift or making a monthly pledge for 2014.

Finally, I ask for your prayers that God continue to bless this unique ministry, that Christ may be glorified in our service, and that God's children experience the love of Christ. May God continue to bless you and your family with peace and joy throughout this holiday season.

Scholarships Make a Difference!

Ten percent of every donation received goes to scholarships.

We at Cedarkirk are busy preparing for another summer of transformative camp programs. Children, youth, families, and developmentally disabled adults experience the love of God and life in a Christian community during our residential camp programs. In fact, we believe so strongly in the value of camp ministry that we fund a scholarship program to ensure that any camper who wants to attend camp can, regardless of their financial circumstances. Cedarkirk offers thousands of dollars in scholarship assistance each summer so that every

young person can have an opportunity to experience God at camp. Our scholarships are funded by the donations of generous people who continue to support Cedarkirk and believe wholeheartedly in the kind of life-changing ministry that takes place here each summer.

A week spent at camp can have unbelievable impact on a young life. Trust, achievement, courage, decision-making skills, cooperation, a sense of wonder, and a deeper understanding of God are gained through time spent outdoors and the intentional community found at camp.

Cedarkirk has been a place of incredible spiritual and emotional growth for so many people and many of those people are committed to providing the same opportunities for others by supporting our scholarship program.

As you finalize your charitable donations for the end of the year, please consider giving to Cedarkirk's scholarship fund. Giving a young person the gift of camp is more than providing them with a week of fun; it is giving them the opportunity to build skills for a lifetime of faith and character.

Annual Giving Opportunity

My one time gift to the ministry of Cedarkirk is:

\$50 \$75 \$100 \$150 \$200 Other: \$_____

My monthly pledge to the ministry of Cedarkirk will be:

\$5 \$10 \$25 \$100 \$200 Other: \$_____

Please designate my gift as follows:

The Friends of Cedarkirk Fund: \$ _____
 Camp Program Scholarships: \$ _____
 The New Retreat Cottage \$ _____
 Undesignated \$ _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

Please mail this Pledge/Donation form to Cedarkirk, 1920 Streetman DR, Lithia, FL.

Checks should be made payable to PCCM/Cedarkirk.

Donations can also be made online by visiting <http://cedarkirk.org/support/>.

An International Presence At Cedarkirk



A Holiday of Friendship with International Students

We are excited to be hosting international college students through the Christmas International House program.

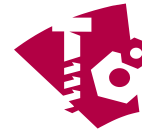
This year we are hosting 13 students from China, Japan, Iran, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, and Taiwan. Our guests from around the world will be staying with us from December 16th to January 2nd. From December 22nd to 26th, our guests will be staying with volunteer host families. This combination allows the students to enjoy getting to know others from around the world and experience the Christmas holiday in a family setting. In addition to providing hospitality, this great program provides an element of peace-making.

Students from around the globe live in community and experience our shared similarities and desire for peace and harmony.

While the students are at Cedarkirk, we provide their meals and lodging free of charge. We welcome any financial support to assist with their stay here at the camp.

Host families are still needed. Please contact Mark Orendorf at 813.685.4224 or mark@cedarkirk.org for more details on how you can help in this ministry of hospitality and peace-making.

Nuts and Bolts



Donations come in many shapes and sizes. This fall, Cedarkirk was given a 15 passenger van courtesy of Hyde Park Presbyterian Church. We are very grateful to the church for their generosity in helping us provide more transportation for our guests.

This winter, we will be working on upgrades to the Cedar Lodge upstairs dining area including new flooring, lights and stained glass windows. These improvements are made possible by a generous donation from Mary Aucremann in loving memory of her husband, Bob. Check our website for more ways you can help.

Board Member Corner—Childs Family

Our family has been a part of Cedarkirk for a very long time, and we are so blessed to have participated in this important ministry. From Summer Camp, Christmas International House, the Board of Directors, and countless weekend retreats, Cedarkirk has nurtured our family to be what it is today. It is in response to this blessing that we give back to Cedarkirk each year, through Friends offerings, caring for students in CIH, hosting weekend groups, and even driving vans to the canoe launch. Especially in this season of hope, joy,

peace, and love, we encourage you to remember your Camp and Conference Ministry; the many years of memories and generations past, and the many years to come for new generations. Take Care, The Childs Family

**Saturday,
February 1, 2014
1:00 PM—5:00 PM**

