

Letter from Camp

A newsletter about what God is doing at Twin Lakes Christian Center!

Twin Lakes
BIBLE CAMP
Fall 2010

SUMMER 2010 HIGHLIGHTS

We spent this summer "rooted" in the truth that God changes lives at camp! It truly was a fantastic ("exceptionally good") summer and we are thankful for this unique setting and the gifted staff that combined for very "fruitful" ministry. Here are just a few *stories* from the summer.

From Amy: "Just wanted to pass along news from my 5-year-old grandson, Andrew, that attended Day Camp in July. He had a wonderful time and at the end of the week he said, 'There was only one guy there that didn't ask Jesus in his heart....he just didn't understand yet.' That just blesses my heart! Keep up the good work! We loved your staff—you are awesome—GOD IS AWESOME!"

Jamie is a young mom who told her husband that all she wanted this year for her birthday was to attend family camp. They did, we sang "Happy Birthday" to her, and they have started a new family tradition.

One of our Jr. High campers, Malory, said that her parents couldn't afford to send her to camp and give her a birthday present, so she asked for camp as her birthday present.

From Deanna: "I knew Nick would have a great time, but I wasn't as sure about Hanna. I was so excited to hear her talk about her week at camp! She had a blast! She loved everything! And she is kinder since she has been home. I have my sweet daughter back."

From Aaron Hildreth (summer staffer): "During a good conversation with one of my high school campers, he just said, 'Now I know why they call this Impact Camp. It's because it really impacts people's lives. I know it's impacted me because I feel like a totally different person and now I know I can Impact other people!'"

From Kelly Fitzpatrick (summer staffer): "The best part about working at the zip line is watching campers (and leaders!) who are scared to go down the zip line overcome their fear and



speed down the cable. One camper was really frightened to go down the zip line. She climbed up on the platform and stood watching, not ready to make the ride down yet. She wanted to go down the zip line, but fear was getting in the way. After watching a few people take a turn she looked at me and said, "I know God is bigger than all of my fears." Then she started reciting Bible verses that she turns to when she is afraid. What faith this young girl showed in that moment. With a determined look in her eyes, the camper said, "I'll be right back" and ran



to her cabin. "I had to get some Kleenex to wipe off my sweaty hands, but now I am ready to go," she told me. We prayed together and then she stuck her foot through the loop, hung on tight, and down she went. As she turned around to walk to rope back to me she was beaming. She



did not let fear stop her from enjoying the zip line, instead with a maturity beyond her years she turned to God in her moment of fear. This camper's first time down the zip line was not her last. Immediately after going down once she ran to the line to go down again, and again, and again."

From Barb Rohlk (summer staffer): "This is about a young girl who's been raised in church, comes from a childhood with little stability and is now in a good home. She knew "Sunday school answers" for devotional questions but throughout the week she dug deeper and deeper into the word. It was to the point that she would ask if it was okay to read her Bible at night because she couldn't get enough. When I was cleaning our cabin after the campers had gone home I found a sign that she had taped to the bottom of the bunk above her. It read "Jesus Loves Me." That's the last thing she wanted to see at night and the first thing she wanted to see in the morning."



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Scott Larsen
Executive Director

AUCTION!! AUCTION!!

If you are an auction-goer, then you likely know that a NEW way of doing auctions is gaining in popularity!! It's online auctions...and they are great!! We like the idea so much that CAMP is having an online auction!!

The online auction is designed to be the re-launch of our Building on Faith capital campaign, which is raising funds to continue the improvements to our lodging. In 2006 we began the fund-raising for two new buildings. One of them, South Twin Lodge was completed in the fall of 2007 and has been very effectively utilized for the last 3 years. It was a very necessary improvement and customer satisfaction has been extremely favorable. Currently there is about \$300,000 of debt stemming from that construction and other infrastructure upgrades. By re-launching the Building on Faith campaign, we will aggressively retire that debt and then continue improving our lodging.

This NEW way to auction is really pretty impressive! You can go online to see every item being auctioned. And, you can even ADD to the action by donating items. We already have several trips and a car!

While you won't have the fun of the rambling sound of the auctioneer or the tension in the air as someone bids against you...you WILL have the ease of participating from your home. No bad weather to ruin this event! And, you can even join in the fun while you are sipping your morning coffee in your jammies!

Please check this out and support your camp in a really fun way!

Online Auction
www.biddingforgood/twinlakes

Financial and Estate Planning Seminar

Twin Lakes Christian Center is sponsoring an estate planning seminar to be held 3:30-5:30 PM Thursday, November 4th. Supper will be provided. The seminar is open to the public, free of charge as a public service to the community. Topics to be covered include:

- Is your will up-to-date? Is a will really necessary?
- Understanding the role of Probate
- What is a trust? Pro's and Con's of trusts.
- Leaving a legacy while providing for family
- Health care and financial powers of attorney

Presenter will be Lavern Holdeman, Estate Planning Officer with Covenant Estate Planning Services of Chicago. Free helpful materials and personal assistance will be available.

Waterfront Project update

Our waterfront makeover is underway!!

Digging, clearing and new retaining walls have started the project. The next, and most expensive part, concrete steps and sidewalks, will begin soon. This next major phase will cost about \$30,000. A generous donation of over \$10,000 got us started and gave us the 'green light' to move forward. It will still take significant donations in order for us to accomplish this project with quality and speed. Please consider a partnering with us in the waterfront project this month so that we can get the concrete work done this fall. All donations, as always, are tax deductible.

The benefit of a new waterfront is big. It will be safer and will be able to be used



by more people. We anticipate decades of use by thousands of guests!



Our waterfront gets a lot of use! Boating, fishing, sliding, water games, sinking canoes (on purpose!), boat races, skiing, chapel, beach fun...it's top priority. On behalf of the 1000's of kids who will use it for years to come, we say thank you!

Triathlon Update



We are getting quite a reputation for having a top-quality triathlon, a premier area event that serves as a fund raiser for the camp. This was the 4th year for the Annual Half Olympic Distance Triathlon. Our final total for participants was 139 (91 individuals and 16 teams). The overall male winner was Tyler Wallace, 24 (Des Moines) in time of 1:06:12 and the overall female winner was Wendy Slaughter, 35 (Cherokee) in time of 1:17:41. Overall team winner was Team Zak (Zack Crane, Krister Anderson, and Alec Crane from Des Moines) in time of 1:22:31.

The event brought in \$4000.00 this year. Please learn more about the Tri and next year's dates and information at www.twinlakestri.com.

SNOWVERNITE

(grades 4-6) January 7-9, 2011

Do you miss camp? We miss you!! We are gearing up for all the fun that can only happen in the winter at Twin Lakes. Tobogganing like a thousand miles an hour, skating semi-gracefully around the oval, and then drinking hot chocolate like it's a meal. And don't forget about some Go Fish songs and Bible teaching that makes the lessons stick. Sign up now and bring some friends!



SNOW BLAST &

(grades 6-9)

WINTERTAINMENT

(grades 9-12)

February 4-6, 2011

Jesus Christ did and said some pretty radical, counter-cultural things. As we learn about that, we are also going to be doing some pretty radical things ourselves. Come experience the Tower of Doom (the toboggan silo run), the 2nd annual polar plunge, a huge bonfire on the lake, broom-ball, and much more. Our speaker is Kevin Walker, who is coming all the way from Boston Massachusetts to bring us RE-Verse: Counter-cultural sayings of Jesus from the Gospel of Mark. It is going to be great, so reserve your spot early! (Did we goof? No! Two winter camps with the same dates? YES!! While our Jr. & Sr. High camps are SEPARATE in lodging & MOST activities, they will be combined for chapel because our speaker is just THAT GOOD!!!) YES! 6th graders you get to CHOOSE from either Snovernight or Snowblast...OR...better yet...BOTH! If you come to both, you get a discount on the 2nd one!

SAVE THE DATE

Announcing Summer Camp Dates!

More information headed your way in 2011 or check the website before!

- June 20-24 Day Camp 1
- June 26-July 1 Adventure Camp (4-6)
- July 6-8 Explorer (2-3)
- July 10-15 Challenge (6-8)
- July 15-17 Family Camp 1
- July 18-22 Day Camp 2
- July 24-29 Impact (9-12)
- August 2-4 Family Camp 2

UPCOMING EVENTS:

OCTOBER 22-24 AND 29-31

Quilting Retreats

NOVEMBER 12-14 AND 19-21

Scrapbooking Retreats

JANUARY 7-9

Snovernight (4-6 grade)

JANUARY 14-16

Full-service, no instructor, craft and hobby weekend

JANUARY 16

Winter wonder day - fun family activities

Sunday afternoon ending with a meal and a worship service in historic Swede Bend

FEBRUARY 4-6

Snowblast (6-8) and Wintertainment (9-12)

FEBRUARY 18-20

Winter Scrapbooking

MARCH 25-27

Spring Quilt 1

APRIL 1-3

Spring Quilt 2

Save the Date!!

August 6th is the 5th Annual Triathlon

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