

# Letter from Camp

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

**Twin Lakes**  
BIBLE CAMP  
May-June 2010

This Letter from Camp is much more than ink and paper. It's a reflection of the ministry of Twin Lakes Christian Center. It's a summary of what God has been doing since our last letter. It's a request for your help to keep the ministry moving forward. It's a piece of paper that is valuable to me because of its significance in communication. With that said – you will understand why I'm committing so much paper space to ONE letter.

A key strength of our camp ministry is our summer staff – specifically, our counselors. Kelly Fitzpatrick served with us last summer and she had great influence on many lives. As you read her letter you will see three things:

- how greatly God provides us with quality young adults who love the Lord
- why camp is one of the most effectively life changing weeks of the summer
- why I believe we have God's favor and Hand of blessing

Kelly's Letter...

*"This (past) summer I had the privilege of working at TLCC as a counselor. I am excited to share with you bits and pieces of the summer because it was a wonderful experience and I saw God work in many lives. I love to share stories of God's work because I think it is such a simple way to glorify his name and further his kingdom on earth. Before the summer started I prayed over and over again that God would work in my life and the lives of campers and other staff, so I arrived at camp very expectant. God answered that prayer in His own surprising ways.*

*If I were to pick a theme for the summer I would choose Ephesians 4 verses 2 through 6 which says be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called—one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

*Many, many times throughout the summer I mediated on these verses. God taught me that he would work through me and His work could be done by me living out these verses. Wow! That was a challenge for me. "God how can I be patient when I have a cabin full of boy-crazy eleven year olds"? I prayed. "Lean on me Kelly and it will be okay" was the response.*

*The summer has many highlights for me like a shaving cream war with 50 high school campers and canoe-tug-of-war, playing water ballerinas in the lake, dressing up crazy with a group of campers who liked to call themselves the fro-yos, and the one day of the week when campers decide to shower. Camp is made by moments like these, but it is also made by moments where God reveals himself in whole new ways.*

*Like the moment during chapel when I stopped my singing and listened to the voices of a hundred elementary aged students worshipping, praying with campers as they recommitted their lives to Christ, praying with campers who accepted Christ as their Savior and them being so filled with the Holy Spirit that they were unable to speak through their tears, seeing a group of high school girls eyes light up as they learned about their identity in Christ and reassuring them that these are promises from God.*

*During the first week of counseling my heart was broken for the girls in my cabin. After spending a day with them I saw how lost they were. They did not know God's love for them and I was crying out to God for His precious daughters. "God how am I going to teach these girls about your love for them? I only have five days with them." A humbling lesson followed. These girls were coming to know God through me but from Him. God is not done working in the campers' lives after five days; He will continue to work in their lives every day. Yes my heart was broken for campers who did not know about the infinite love God has for them, but ultimately the breaking of my heart was done by God so I would realize the need they have and then He could use me to show them His love. First Corinthians 3 verses 7 through 9 says "So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building." God used these verses to show me that there is no limit to what He can do and as His fellow worker I can seek His plan and follow His will for every person He puts in my life.*

*Thank you for your support of Twin Lakes Christian Center. It's with a grateful heart that I look back on the summer and praise God for the work he did, and it's with an expectant heart that I offer my prayers to God. So now I would like to pray for Twin Lakes Christian Center, assured that I a planter am nothing and it is only by God that hearts will continue to be broken and lives will continue to be changed."*

Thank you Kelly for sharing such a powerful glimpse of what God did last summer and for helping every reader better understand the importance of camp ministry.

Nothing More To Say, She said it...

Scott Larsen

PS: Yes, Kelly will be back this summer and many others like her! 2010 is well staffed!

## Meet Joe!



Joe Hendrickson is our new Program Director. He has been on staff since the first of December. Joe is doing an outstanding job in his new role and we encourage you to meet him when you are on 'camp-us' this summer!

A little about Joe and his family:

Joe and Andrea met at and graduated from Moody Bible Institute.

Andrea is the youngest of 3 girls and Joe is the youngest of 4 boys.

Wesley is 2 and he is ALL 2!. He loves choo choo trains and slides.

Elijah is 8 months old and is happy just starting to cruise around. He's a giggly little boy who loves attention.

If the weather is nice you can find the Hendricksons outside because this is where they love to be. (Already the perfect camp family!)

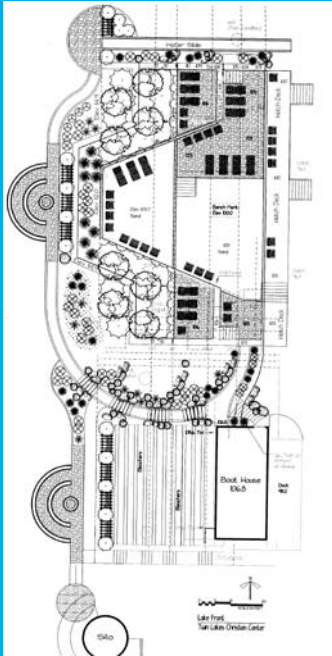


Our summer theme, "Get Rooted" comes out of the book of Colossians. The Apostle Paul wrote a letter to a small church in the Lychnus Valley to combat some bad ideas about Christ that were starting to infiltrate the group of believers at Colossae. In order to combat the heresy Paul emphasizes having a deeper understanding and knowledge of Christ and his fullness. In Chapter 2, Verses 6 and 7, Paul states, "Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving." Paul wanted the Colossians to continue on in the truth of the Gospel and he uses the term "being rooted and built up" to help the Colossians understand that they were to focus on the foundational, yet deep truths of the person of Christ. This summer we want ourselves, our summer staff, and our campers to learn how to be rooted in Christ so that they can grow despite living in a world where there are a lot of really bad ideas floating around.

# CAMP WATERFRONT

## A Makeover on the Way!

Well, it won't be one of those 7 day extreme makeovers like we see on TV, but we are **EXCITED** about the **NEW** look the waterfront will have. And, it all starts this week! Camps waterfront is one of our best assets. It has been used an effective ministry tool for over 50 years! Impressive! The time has come for some dramatic changes to make the area safer, more usable, and more attractive. Between May 2010 and October 2012 we will do the following:



- open up the beach area by terracing both sides
- replace the stairs with a gradual path
- install a cool new water slide
- remove the existing slide
- connect the beach and boathouse
- replace the aged amphitheater with terraced patios.

Yes, we are excited. To keep the cost down, we will rely on volunteer labor.

Our rough estimate to date for the total project is \$75,000. We have already received two gifts totaling \$35,000. We will keep you updated via our website. Be sure to visit there to see photos of the progress.



## Yes! Still time to register for camp!

Everything in this letter **AND SO MUCH MORE** is on our **NEW** camp website! Please visit the site often. If you have a camper, you will want to visit the site during camp as updates and photos will be posted. Get it memorized!!



[www.twinlakescc.com](http://www.twinlakescc.com) (Twin Lakes Christian Center.com)  
Again, [www.twinlakescc.com](http://www.twinlakescc.com)!!! Check it out!

## Family Camp - Growing... and we are NOT surprised!

It's heartwarming to see families choosing a summer even that has purpose and that creates such long-lasting memories and spiritual markers. This year, we have committed to **TWO** sessions of Family Camp because we feel it is **THAT IMPORTANT!** July 9-11 and July 27-29. Please join us this summer. Family camp is becoming a tradition for many young families like it was decades ago. Come and find out why! It's affordable. It's relevant. It's effective. It has purpose. You will leave with memories of great fun, shared experiences, feeding for your hearts, and our goal - closer together than when you arrived. See the camp website for full details of camp speaker, activities, and more.

For those who need just a little appetizer right now: Some highlights will include:

- Pastor Steve Jones from Des Moines, Iowa for Session 1 and Theater for the Thirsty from Minnesota for Session 2
- Our own "Minute to Win It" fun
- Junk Bingo - oh ya!
- Family devo's that could change your family
- annual Egg Drop contest
- plenty of free time
- oh so much more....

find out at [www.twinlakescc.com](http://www.twinlakescc.com)



Kids from different families making friends

# ZUCAMP

**Finally, An Answer!**  
**A Big, Great, Awesome, Exciting, Answer!**

**First, The question: How do we follow up with our campers after they leave camp?**

**Old answer: Not very well.**

**A common area of struggle for camps is in the follow up of campers.**

**New Answer: ZuCamp!!**

We are **EXCITED** (or..more than **EXCITED** but we don't know what that word would be) about our new follow up tool called ZuCamp!! ZuCamp will allow us to do so many important things to stay connected to the kids all year long! Our passion is that all children would have access to the ongoing impact of the camp community. ZuCamp is our opportunity to extend camp community into the online world giving kids access to the camping experience anytime, anywhere.

This will target our younger kids, ages 8-12. If you have a camper coming this summer, you will know all about it!!! Be ready to be impressed and to be thankful! We sure are. We know this new on-line tool will allow us to stay connected to the kids all year long. We will be able to encourage them and will be able to continue to point them to Christ.

## HELP US GROW CAMP!!

YOU know **SOMEONE** who needs to be at camp this summer.

Who is it? Is it a neighbor, a niece or nephew, a grandchild, a friend, a child at church?

We want **YOU** to invite that child, young adult, or even family to camp this summer.

We have enclosed a handy (and rather cool looking)



postcard that tells about camp. Give it to that person who popped into your mind. Thanks for helping us spread the word. This is one of the **BEST** ways you can help our camp - tell others so they can come and experience what God has for them.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer camp for youth and families  
**all summer**

Women's Retreat  
**September 17-19**  
Men's Retreat  
**October 1-3**

Camp Harvest Weekend  
**October 1-3**  
concerts, auction, corn maze, pumpkin tossing, games and activities for children of all ages

Quilting Retreats  
**October 22-24 and 29-31**  
Scrapbooking Retreats  
**November 12-14 and 19-21**