



MERRY CHRISTMAS

The Christmas account as recorded in Luke chapter 2 tells us that Mary "treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." It is significant that Luke chose to tell us that, because he was not an eye witness to the birth of Christ. But his source was reliable – the mom! Mary rode the donkey. Mary smelled the stable. Mary held the baby Jesus. She shared with her friend Luke the amazing miracle that surrounded the birth of her first child. She remembered every precious detail! Mary allowed her mind to dwell on what God had done over the past days, weeks, and months. What an incredible journey! As it says in John 1:14, "the Word became flesh" and we beheld His glory!

I like the way Luke uses the words "treasure" and "ponder." Often I refer to camp as a treasure because God chooses to use the ministry of camp to change so many lives. Kids, of all ages, come to camp for a variety of reasons, some wanting to grow in their faith and some just wanting to have fun with their friends. Somewhere during the week of camp, God steps in. The speaker's message, the lyrics to a praise song, a counselor's gentle nudge, the campfire flames, the time alone with God...I don't know where or how...I just know that God steps in! And when He does, something amazing happens! The miracle that Mary treasured is the same miracle that we treasure – God stepping into our life!

Now I want you to ponder something. Think about all the people who have given of their time, talents and treasures over the past 55 years to make Twin Lakes Bible Camp the special place that it is. And consider how you can be a part of investing in the future of Camp. We have seen good growth in many key areas and we have a solid foundation on which to build. Cash flow is the ongoing struggle. Please give as you are able.

The letters we have chosen to share in this Christmas newsletter are from a couple of our counselors to their campers. It sounds like the Apostle Paul writing to his churches. There are some sweet treasures that they have been pondering - real stories of God stepping into a life.

I am so thankful for your support of this ministry. Have a great Christmas season!

Scott
Scott Larsen

SNOVERNIGHT(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.

SNOWBLAST (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.

712.297.7714

www.twinlakescc.com

January 7-9: Snovernight weekend retreat for grades 4-6

January 14-16: Full Service/No Instructor Project Weekend

This weekend is set aside for all the quilters and scrappers that have more to get done than they have time to do it - we are making the days and nights longer, keeping you fed and caffeinated - so you can finish the unfinished.

January 16th: Winter Wonder Day Spend a Sunday afternoon and evening

with your family playing on the ice, zipping down the toboggan chute, eating supper, and sticking around for an old fashioned Sundaynight service in the historic Swede Bend Church. \$5 per person includes all the fun and a meal!

Call the office at 712-297-7714 or email us at info@twinlakescc.com

February 4-6: Snowblast (grades 7 & 8) & Wintertainment (grades 9-12)

February 18-20: Winter Scrapbooking Retreat

March 25-27: Spring Quilting Retreat #1

April 1-3: Spring Quilting Retreat #2

GREETINGS TO THE CAMPERS FROM COUNSELORS HEIDI OSTERMANN AND KAITLIN LASSEN

Hello to all the TLCC summer campers of 2010!!! What a joy it is for me to write to you! I pray that you are growing in your relationship with Christ, and that you have been able to spread that joy to the people around you! I know that after camp, reality checks in, things get busy, and responsibilities sky rocket. You now have to get your own breakfast fixed! It's not sitting around in hot trays for you. Most of you can't just escape to the lake in your backyard to go waterskiing, and mom says that turning the sandbox into a mudpit for you and your friends is not an option. Let's admit it, life just got a lot tougher. So how are you doing? In the midst of the harsh realities of life, is your life in Christ growing and developing? Or has that once again become the optional part at the bottom of your "to do" list? I just want to remind you of our summer theme verse, Colossians 2:6-7 "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving." I know some of you made new decisions to follow Christ this year, some of you re-dedicated your lives to following Him, and some of you maybe still aren't sure where you're at with Jesus. I want to encourage and challenge all of you (and myself) to GET UP and DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. If you have dedicated your life to Christ, then strive to follow through with that. It may require some sacrifice, and it is not easy. But would urge all of us to make time for Christ, and do it because He gave up his time and his LIFE for YOU and ME. Do it with thanksgiving for what He has done. And for those of you who still don't know where you're at, there is no time like the present to figure it out. Take a little time to look around you, dig in God's word, and ask yourselves "Is this true? Could I possibly have a Creator and Savior who loves ME?" I am praying for you all, and hope to see you again soon!
In Christ alone,

Heidi Ostermann



Hey there campers! I continually give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you. With the bitter winds and coming winter, the work that God did in our hearts over the summer may seem distant. It's not uncommon to feel like God has become silent or maybe even abandoned you in your struggles. Yet with the winter comes the delightful season of Christmas. Though Christmas has become commercialized and clichéd to an extent, we as Christians have the joy of remembering the real story of Christmas: the Almighty God of the universe, the Alpha and Omega, the Great I AM, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, came to a sinful, depraved world in the form of a vulnerable child...for us. He traded heaven for earth in order to someday rescue the people who put him on a cross. How can we look at this overwhelming sacrifice and claim we've been abandoned? Do not be discouraged, Beloved! Our Great God reigns! Both in heaven and on earth, and during both the summer and the winter! Keep looking unto Jesus, and He will give you the strength to keep reading His word and obeying. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Merry Christmas!

Kaitlin Lassen



Parents... you can see why the kids love camp and why 2010 was such an excellent summer. Heidi and Kaitlin are just 2 of our more than 40 summer staffers who are committed to giving the kids the best week of the summer. We hire well! God brings us good people...and yes, Heidi and Kaitlin will both be back in 2011!

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