

GBC News



We were made to love God and enjoy Him forever

"They want to kneel on the floor and pray to Allah, what should we do?" "You can tell them that when they are in the mosque they pray to Allah but this is God's camp and here we pray to Jesus." It was a learning experience to welcome fifteen boys from Iran, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan and Egypt to our camp. It was a challenge for the cabin leaders to explain why they need to give their lives to Jesus. And it was all joy when four of them made that decision!

It was also very gratifying to have two reserves send us their children even though there are camps much closer to them. The kids from one are raised to believe that "all white men are evil". Happily, half way through the week they admitted we were "different" and 2 of the boys went home as believers.

Korean children who know almost no English performing at the talent show, blown away with how refugees from Africa arguing which boy is cutest, kids from the North End making new friends with others from Stonewall. All of them praising God in the chapel and learning that they are made in God's image and that He has a purpose for their lives.

We want to thank you for your ongoing prayers. It has been a fruitful and rewarding summer and I am very disap-

pointed it is over so soon. I miss the children and their excitement and it is far too long to wait until they are back.

Every year brings new challenges but the one He is working on most in my life is teamwork and looking to others' needs before my own. Far too frequently I get "tunnel-vision" and I forget that Jesus always had time for people—that was His agenda. As I look back the most rewarding times this summer were with those I drove to the hospital. There were no distractions so I got to really know them.



My sheep listen to my voice. I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life and they will never die. No one can steal them out of my hand. *John 10:27-28*

The week I was anticipating most was our Single Moms' week. It was a wonderful opportunity for the moms to spend quality time with their kids and be pampered a bit. We were happily surprised that they appreciated the chapel times as much as their children and we were tiring pre-schoolers can be! But what mattered was pouring love into the kids' lives. We had less than 20 children that week but the opportunities for ministry were great. Thank you for helping us live our dreams. I can't think of anything I'd rather be doing with my life and I know that our prayer partners are behind every good thing that happens here.



Because kids are worth it

Don

Greetings From Our Corner Of Heaven

by Charlotte Roe

Wow! We are nothing but God is everything! We have come through our 4th summer at Gimli Bible camp. The first three summers were times of learning about ourselves and our capabilities. We also learned to trust God through all our circumstances. We definitely gained experience and knowledge, and felt proud of ourselves at times for what we and God were doing. Just watching Don dealing with hurting and angry children was inspiring, as I love seeing his gifts flowing out of him. Even seeing some of the changes that Don and I have added since we have been here being followed and, because of that, the camp running a lot more smoothly, puts thoughts of happiness in us. Good for us! So we were ready for summer number four, or so we thought.



“But let him who boasts boast in the Lord. For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends. 2 Cor 10:17,18

When you start putting faith in your own capabilities you will eventually get burned out. The only one to put faith in is God alone. He never gets exhausted, discouraged, or disappointed. It is a good lesson to learn

This summer was totally different from the other summers. The children were well behaved and we did not have many angry or violent issues to deal with. We hardly sent anyone home because, I think, the children were for the most part feeling loved and secure and having a great time. Our staff did an awesome job this summer making the kids feel special.

Where we did struggle was in the staff area. The enemy couldn't get at the kids so he attacked the staff. Every week there were issues to deal with, some pretty severe, like deaths in the family. There were staff having to leave for emotional reasons and some that just dropped out of the program because they were overwhelmed. We also had a lot of sickness. Don and I felt totally



out of our league most of the time, because we were. We realized how little we knew about dealing with people's hearts which is in fact God's territory. He does a much better job than we do. He is totally in charge of this camp and we do not want to take credit for anything, because the stuff happening here is heart stuff. If Don and I weren't here God would still be working on hearts. God does give us gifts and talents but only for His purposes, not ours. Everything is to enhance His Kingdom. We are nothing but God is everything!

The Family

Don and I are thanking God for both of our fathers. In our last newsletter we talked about Don's dad's bypass surgery. He is recovering well from it but then my father had a mild stroke in August. The doctor

said he will make a full recovery. He now has a pacemaker as the stroke damaged part of his heart, and they cleaned out the arteries on his neck. He is doing really good and is back to his jovial self. Praise God for families! I love mine to pieces!

Margo finished working at a Salvation Army day camp in Vancouver, which she enjoyed, and is back in Pacific Life Bible College for her 2nd year. She is also still involved in her DRIME street ministry. She loves her life. Pray for her as financial issues are a huge problem for her. It is

very hard to be at Bible college and work at the same time. She also has to find some way to pay her rent for the year. Last year some of her DRIME friends pooled their money to help. That was such a blessing to her.

Kris and Vic are still happily married and enjoying their little apartment. Kris cooked us up a yummy supper yesterday. It was nice to see her doing domestic things on her own, without being forced to, and she even enjoys it. She is still working

with an autistic boy every Saturday. Pray for direction in her life, right now being married and having a Saturday job is enough, but she knows it won't be for long.

This year Bekah will be attending school in the morning and will be home in the afternoon to do correspondence courses and gym so that her body would only be fighting the perfume and other scents for half a day rather than a full day. She went back to school quite joyfully as she loves being involved in her friends' lives. Ian, on the other hand, was not very impressed as school interferes with his sleeping! That's our boy.



We are planning to do a family mission trip during Christmas this year. At this point we don't know when or where we are going, but we feel God has been giving us the nudges. Please pray with us about it. Also Don and I have realized how important spending time with each other is, especially after camp so we are looking at attending a retreat place geared for missionaries or pastors, mostly to recharge them at work and in their marriage. It is called Kerith Creek and it is near Calgary. Pray that the finances might come for that.



Thank-you

I had such a great time at the seniors retreat this summer. Not having to work in the kitchen or office or anywhere totally freed me up to visit, and to rest up from the summer. Just having some of you come up to me and say that you have been praying for us this year is very encouraging. Also, hearing some of your stories of overcoming obstacles was very inspiring and eye opening. Gimli Bible Camp is rich because God has been pouring blessings into this camp for 81 years. All of you are blessings to me and Don and we want to thank you for your love and support. We covet your prayers this winter as we work to become the couple, parents, friends, and camp directors that God wants us to be. We so want to do all this on His strength and not our own. Thanks again for everything!

2009 Seniors Camp

Charlotte

God blessed us with the nicest weather of the summer for this year's Seniors camp; it was hard to keep the ladies out of the lake! The fellowship was wonderful and the meals were fantastic, thank you Katherine and Martha! The morning devotions inspired us and Orval Janz challenged us in our Christian walk as he filled in at the last minute to replace Jake Froese as speaker. We were blessed that



Albert Karlenzig was able to lead chapel times again the praise times were, as always, the highlight of the week. We were encouraged to see several first time campers. And we are just grateful that God has blessed so many of us with good health so that we could enjoy the week with our friends. God is good.

Our Faith Journey

Jake & Martha Friesen

Praise

- ✦ For the many souls added to the Kingdom this summer.
- ✦ For the dedicated summer missionaries that lived out love before the campers
- ✦ For the generous donation in the memory of Fred Lawrynuik who faced discrimination as a new immigrant but experienced unconditional love at camp and gave his life to God in 1934
- ✦ For the donation in the memory of Anna (Toews) Braun, a camper in 1943. "A child saved is a soul saved, but also a life from sin"
- ✦ That God is still working in children's' lives.
- ✦ That over \$7000 was donated during Seniors' camp. Enough to re-shingle all 10 cabins that desperately need it.

Prayer

- ✦ For volunteers to finish up our projects before the snow flies
- ✦ For the ongoing spiritual battle that is taking place in the lives of the campers and staff
- ✦ For more Christians to recognize the need and support the camp with prayer and time

Needed

- ✦ Two 17' Kevlar canoes
 - ✦ A commercial cheese grater
- and wanted...**
- ✦ Materials for a water / toboggan slide at the lakefront

Greetings in the name of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

Our goal is what God requires of us, to abandon our own agenda and accept His agenda for our life. God is good, God is good all the time. It was our first summer being full time on staff, we are so grateful to the Lord for the all the blessings we received, for health & strength for everyday. Just to see the work of God in the lives of those precious souls, transforming them to His likeness, from wanting nothing to do or hear from Jesus to a loving relationship with Jesus, O what a blessing. Yes, our summer was very busy with the maintenance part. The Lord blessed me with some young maintenance helpers. Thank the Lord for these young men. Without them I wouldn't be able to keep up with all the maintenance requests. These young men also needed a lot of my time & supervision but I'm thankful to the Lord for bringing them into my life, may the Lord bless them for their willingness to serve. We had tractor breakdowns & a leak in the main pressure tank. We had to

We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.
Philippians 4: 13

fix it on Saturday because the water needed to be shut off for the whole camp. And with all the rain we received this summer, some our cabins could not keep the rain out any more so a quick fix of tarring and repairing needed to be done. Coming up this fall all of our 10 cabins need a roof replacement with new shingles. Lord willing on September 19th we are planning another workday at GBC to do the finishing touches on the house and maintenance shed.

Martha was also very busy this summer, doing all the lost & found laundry every week what the kids leave behind, cleaning all the bathrooms & showers everyday sometimes twice a day, also cleaning out some of our old cabins and turn them into a cozy room for the seniors to stay, and for Seniors camp she was working in the kitchen preparing meals, working together with other excellent

kitchen staff, Which the Lord so faithfully provided, we are so grateful to the Lord for his faithfulness. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

Want to receive the newsletter by email? Corrections or changes? Please tell us, we want to keep in touch!

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are worth it!**



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