

GBC News



Choices

by Don Roe

Summer is fast approaching and camp registrations are filling up. As we prepare for another season of ministry, both to the children and the staff, I am thinking about the difficult choices that young people have to make about their future.

An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs—how he can please the Lord. But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife—and his interests are divided. I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord. 1 Cor 11:32-35

After my first year in University I got a summer job as a laborer at a Potash mine. After being at the job for 5 weeks I was exhausted after 4 nights of heat and hard work and little sleep during the days. That morning, Friday, June 24th, I had a 2 hour nap, then went to my Little Brother's school track meet. I had been matched with Chris for 9 months and he was eager for me to watch him, especially as running was such an important part of my life. After school was over I went to his house for his 10th birthday. I was exhausted but I couldn't miss that. I finally got home for another nap from 9-11 pm before my last shift of the week. I set my clock radio loud and then slept through it as it blared on from 11 until midnight...then again from 11 to noon the next morning. I finally woke up at 3 pm after 18 hours of sleep and realized I was in BIG trouble for missing work and not even calling in. I drove out to see the boss and explained the situation and he decided to give me another chance, probably because he was impressed that



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an 18 year old would care so much for a fatherless boy, and I was able to suffer through the rest of the summer. It was the worst summer of my life. The previous 3

summers I had worked at camp and loved it. I worked all I winter so that I could volunteer my summer and share in the boys lives. Unfortunately I was a responsible young man and, not wanting to risk going into debt, decided it would be better to make money that year than invest my time with kids at camp. It was the wrong decision. After I graduated from university I was able to make and save a lot of



money during the next few years before marriage, but I will never be able to get the opportunity back for ministry that I lost that summer.

This summer we have very few male cabin leaders so far. Things haven't changed very much in 32 years! Young people are having to make the hard choice between making money and ministering. I don't know what the right choice is for each of them but I do know that I have always regretted wasting that summer. Please pray for the young people God is calling to serve at camp this summer. He will always supply but we don't want anyone to miss out on the blessings He has planned for them.

Our Faith Journey

Jake & Martha Friesen

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

Spring has come early for us this year and what beautiful weather we have been able to enjoy!

May and June are the final months of weekend retreats and from a maintenance perspective, the focus turns to summer camp preparations.

The focus of summer camps is not only to have fun and share God with the children that cross our paths, but to focus on teaching others about Christ and representing Him as we serve Him in this ministry. What we don't often think about is that even as 'mature' adults, we are the ones being taught about God's grace, God's provisions and the trust that we are reminded to put in our Lord and Savior to protect our workers, our buildings, our hearts and our lives. We are excited to see how God moves and will move in the lives of those that step into our camp for the summer of 2010.

During the months of April & May we've hosted many weekend retreats – with that comes regular wear & tear on the camp facility. We have had a major window replacement in our main building and just this past week we had one breakdown after the other. Between the big cooler and the sump pump, we have had a lot to keep us busy. We woke up to 5 inches of water in the basement on the long weekend - that required a lot of hard work during a weekend when we had a family retreat. Furniture, boxes, etc were all impacted by this standing water.

We thank the Lord for people that are willing to help no matter if long weekend or not, so we got it all cleaned up again and ready to go.

We are grateful for the longer days because we have moments where it seems there are never enough hours in the day, and summer will sneak up on us leaving many more projects and opportunities for work to be completed.

*Since my youth, O God, you have taught me,
and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.
Even when I am old and gray,
do not forsake me, O God,
till I declare your power to the next generation,
your might to all who are to come.*

Psalm 71:17-18

We have scheduled volunteer workdays on June 5th and also June 12th and we welcome any and all willing hearts to help us accomplish a regular clean up day as well as big tasks including shingling 7 cabins and new foundation work on the old chapel due to shifting.

God is good, all the time, He is always faithful!

In the personal corner of our lives, we have experienced some health issues. Our oldest grandson who has just completed his first year of Bible School has been diagnosed with a cyst on his neck. This has resulted in some discomfort on his daily ability to function normally, including his breathing. Please pray with us for Zach and for the doctors that will work on his case. He is hoping to see a specialist sooner but right now, this is scheduled for September. Jake's shoulder has also caused him some continuous and ongoing difficulties. Please pray for mobility and range of motion and strengthening.

Other prayer items include:

- ✚ Overall health improvements
- ✚ Strength for the task that lies ahead
- ✚ For volunteers to help finish projects before summer camp starts
- ✚ That God will prepare our hearts and work in amazing ways this summer.

Praise:

- ✚ For God's protection over us and our families.
- ✚ For strength and God's faithfulness to us every day
- ✚ For prayer partners, families, supporters and friends

God Bless you...until next time.



Greetings From Our Corner of Heaven

Charlotte

My Thoughts

I don't think it matters if you have been a Christian for 60 years or if you have never been a Christian, we are all striving to love and be loved. Understanding what love is, how it works, and where it comes from is a life long battle. As Christians we do understand where love comes from, and the Bible does explain what it is, but often its difficult to apply it to our lives. For some of us who have grown up in homes where love was daily demonstrated, it makes our understanding that much more easier to except. But if you weren't raised in this idyllic home you may grow up believing there is something wrong with you and that's why you can't be loved. Of course this is wrong thinking, Wrong thinking comes from the need to understand things so much that we make things work out in our heads, if it makes sense then our lives feel secure. God wants a relationship with us, He is more concerned with our hearts then our minds. Love is simple for Him, He made us because He loves us.

I was recently at a Christian conference that talked a lot about God's love. The children's song "Jesus Loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so," is 100% true. What is also 100% true is that Jesus came to the earth to show us the way to Our Father. If we only understand love through Jesus, we view ourselves as a sinner saved by grace, but if we also understand the Fathers love for us, then we view ourselves as a son or daughter whom our Father loves and cherishes. A sinner battles with himself and it is much harder to feel loved and free. A son or daughter is focused on that, being a son or daughter. They are not so worried about their sin as they are about pleasing the Father.

This is the type of attitude we want to portray at Camp. We want the children to know that their Father loves them and cherishes them no matter what. Pray for us as we try to model this unconditional love that is so foreign to their lives.

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8: 38-39



The Family

Well I guess almost the whole world knows by now that we are going to be grandparents. Kris and Vic will be having their first little one in a few weeks from now. Kris is doing fabulous! We will be having a Nathaniel Bruce or a Natalie Rebekah. Don's parents and Aunt will be coming for a week to enjoy the occasion with us. This will be the first grandchild on both sides, and the first great-grandchild on Don's side.

Margo has moved back to the dorm. She will be doing a few more years of school yet so

has opted to get some student loans. This summer she will again be working in the Salvation Army day camp that she worked in last year. The difference will be that she is the one running it, which is exciting her. She still is enjoying her DRIME tremendously and all the friends that come with it. We are missing her greatly as this is the time she would normally come home for a visit, now we won't see her till Christmas. I think she might even be missing us.

Ian has been struggling more with his words these days. It is so hard to understand him. He gets frustrated and sometimes real mad. He is also having some anxiety. But when this isn't happening he dances, plays and watches movies. He still loves hugs. We celebrated his 20th birthday yesterday.

Bekah is finally a lifeguard! She spent the last three week-ends at the downtown Y. Being in a pool for 24 hours each weekend was hard enough, but she also struggled with the perfume and other scents that the kids were wearing. Finally the last Saturday she ended up having a bad asthma attack and had to be taken by ambulance to the hospital. But it all worked out and now she is a lifeguard. We are still celebrating that it is over. She is also taking Drivers Ed at school and is still involved in

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Looking forward to summer

Work Day June 12

Help needed to get the camp all ready for summer, inside and out!

Projects include:

- † Shingling 7 cabins
- † Repairing the foundation of the chapel
- † Removal of dead trees
- † Installing soffit and fascia on garage
- † Painting and cleaning in the lodge
- † Many more little jobs!

Needed !

- † Two 17' Kevlar canoes
- † Sidewalk blocks
- † Ground beef, cookies, and other food
- † Male cabin leaders
- † Stacking chairs (70+)

and wanted...

- † Materials to build a water / toboggan slide at the lakefront
- † Commercial floor

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

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Praise

- † For the donation of 1200 pounds of farmer sausage
- † That we serve a victorious God
- † For the car donated to the camp
- † For strong Leadership Development Program participants
- † That God will bring the volunteers He has chosen here
- † For the Godly speakers lined up for this summer

Prayer

- † For spiritual protection over everyone in the camp
- † That the work day will go well
- † For wisdom in encouraging the spiritual growth in our staff
- † For unity in the leadership
- † For the safe delivery of our first grandchild
- † For the protection and health of our supporters and prayer warriors
- † For godly witness and the unity of the churches in the interlake
- † That God would prepare the campers to meet

**End of summer
celebration banquet**
Sunday, August 29
Program starts at 3:00 pm
**Come hear of all that God
has done this summer!**

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Envirothon. This summer she will mostly be a lifeguard but also a part time dish washer, as she isn't anxious to drop that job.

The thrill of having a grandchild was dampened by the death of my father on March 20th. He was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer then died a week later. As hard as it was for us, he was ready to go and a week was plenty for him. My family and I felt so cared for and loved by our friends and churches. I want to thank everyone who sent a card or called or brought over food or prayed for us at this time. My mother is doing really well; she said the other day how blessed she felt.

With my dad's death and a new baby coming, the planning and preparing for camp has been a little later. Usually by this time I have my kitchen almost full of summer volunteers, but now I find myself quite short of helpers. The greatest need is for head cooks; as of today I am short 4 weeks. I also need cooks helpers. If you are at all interested, pray about it, and call the camp to find out what weeks are available to help. You will be appreciated!



CSSM
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