



The Park River Bible Camp Proclaimer

December 2008 ~ Volume 23, Issue 2

Farewell Steve!

After 15 months of faithful service, Steve Kordahl has resigned as the Director of Ministries at Park River Bible Camp. Though his term at the camp was brief, it was not without effect. Among the things accomplished, God used him to advance the chapel project. According to Rod Quanbeck, the Director of Ministries prior to Steve, this chapel project may be the biggest project on camp since the chapel was originally built. Although we will miss Steve's sense of humor, dedication, and positive attitude, we look forward to what God will do through this camp to bless His people and glorify Jesus. Steve and Kari, may the Lord bless you richly and guide you in the paths that you should go! Thank you for your service in His Kingdom at PRBC.

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Progress Being Made on Chapel Project

A lot has happened since the Chapel was moved to its new foundation on October 8. The old foundation was broken up and hauled away, leaving a large hole in the ground. Then more excavation was done there, and a field was laid for geothermal heating and cooling. Much of the framing for the new addition has also been completed.

When the new part is completed, it will contain a new and larger Fireside Room, an adjoining hallway with men's and women's bathrooms, five new offices, a new conference room, a new staff bathroom, and more storage space.

Funding for most of the project is covered by a generous estate gift from John Paulson. The new offices and conference room are funded by support being raised from other individuals and organizations.

While many parts of the project are being contracted out, there are several things we are dependent on



Much of the framing for the addition has been completed.



The field for geothermal heating and cooling.

staff and volunteers to do, so we are very eager to have volunteers help. If you are interested in volunteering, you may do so virtually any day (weekends included), now through spring. How far we get before summer 2009 depends on volunteers. Please call ahead of time so Dennie can line up work for you to do. PRBC: (701) 284-6795 or toll-free at (800) 269-2465. Dennie: (701) 331-9612.

We look forward with great excitement to using this restored/new facility and are very thankful for the kind support of John Paulson and others. May God be glorified through this project!

Ray Bigwood Leaves Generous Gift

Last December Ray Bigwood, a long-time friend and supporter of Park River Bible Camp, passed away at the age of 79.

During his life Ray made a significant impact on the camp, serving as treasurer for 15 years and for 6 years on the Board of Directors. He was a good friend and encourager of staff. Though Ray was greatly involved with the camp, he also served in many other capacities. He served in the U.S. Army from 1951-53. Then he returned to farm in the St. Thomas area. He was a board member at St. John's Lutheran Church, taught Sunday School and confirmation for 20 years, was an active member of the Gideon's Society, and took part in Lutheran Lay Renewal meetings. His life was obviously dedicated to advancing the Kingdom of

Ray Bigwood Scholarship Awarded

The third Ray Bigwood Scholarship was awarded this summer. Family members of Ray Bigwood have given gifts in his honor to begin a scholarship for summer staff members. Ray served as treasurer at PRBC for many years, and was a regular encourager of summer staff members. His family thought a good way to honor him would be to establish a scholarship fund for summer staff members in his name.

The 2008 Scholarship recipients were Andrea Olson and Kimberly Norby. Both grew up going to Park River Bible Camp and served as Counselors in 2007 and 2008. Andrea currently attends the University of North Dakota and Kimberly attends Mayville State University. Congratulations to both of these young women!

Persons interested in donating to the Ray Bigwood Scholarship Fund may do so simply by writing a check to PRBC with a notation of the designation.

God.

In 2005 the Ray Bigwood Scholarship was started. This scholarship is given out yearly to two applicants. Those receiving the scholarship must be attending a college or university and have worked at the Bible Camp for at least two summers.

In addition to the scholarship fund, Ray left over \$61,000 to the Bible Camp from his estate. This significant gift will impact several generations to come.

Praise God for Ray's life, and may the Lord bless his memory! May his life inspire us to live faithfully, and may his gifts enable the work of God's Kingdom to continue.

PRBC Wish List

- Rubber playground balls
- Ball inflator (foot pedal type)
- Frisbee golf discs
- Rubbermaid totes (shoebox size)
- Markers (10 pack; Crayola)
- Tag board (22"x28")
- Clavinova keyboard
- Bobcat
- Portable electric router (Milwaukee; at least 1¾ hp)
- Plastic shower curtains (opaque)
- Painting tarps
- Nylon cargo straps (1" wide, 6' long)
- New stove for the kitchen in the new office building
- New refrigerator for the kitchen in the new office building
- Chest freezer (less than 5 years old)
- Flour sack dishtowels
- Full aprons
- Colored copier paper (at least 3 reams of the same color)
- White copier paper

Volunteers Needed

With the Chapel on its new foundation, there is much work to be done to get the building ready for use. To keep costs down and give you an opportunity to be a part of God's ministry here, we are seeking volunteers to help Dennie with this major project. Would you please consider joining us? You may volunteer virtually any day (weekends included), now through next spring. How far we get before summer 2009 depends on volunteers. If you are willing to volunteer, please call ahead of time so Dennie can line up work for you to do. PRBC: (701) 284-6795 or toll-free at (800) 269-2465. Dennie: (701) 331-9612.

From the Director's Chair

As I look back at this past year at PRBC, the words that come to mind are "being thankful." I am thankful for a tremendous year. We had a wonderful summer attendance at the camp and a record setting VBS attendance. We are blessed with a wonderful full time staff as well as an awesome summer staff that was dedicated to helping young people learn more about Jesus Christ and grow in their faith.

We are also blessed with many wonderful supporters who give of their time, talents, and resources to help make this ministry effective and possible. This support is very clear to see during the Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner as many come to the camp to volunteer their time, and as many come to the meal to help support the camp. The Quilt Auction was also amazing, as I see the investment and the many hours that are spent making these beautiful quilts and also the many people who come to support the camp by attending the auction.

As we look at the Chapel project underway, I'm thankful for the significant gift left to the camp by John Paulson. It is great to see the chapel in its new location and to see the addition being added on. It was a gift that will keep giving for several generations. Thank you, John Paulson!

Looking back at this year, there are many things to be thankful for. Throughout the Proclaimer you will see many examples of our thankfulness in the articles written. Thank you to you who are reading this. We are thankful for your support, your prayers, your volunteering, and your financial support. Every gift, no matter what size, is important to the camp.

I'm also thankful for the opportunity of serving here as director for the past year. I have however, decided to move on. I feel that administration is not one of my strong points and there are others who can do a much better job in that area. Marketing and development is definitely what I'm better at and I have decided to pursue that. I am thankful for the many wonderful people that I have met this past year and will always remember the time spent here.

Thank you!

Steve Kordahl, Director of Ministries

Quilt Auction is a Huge Success!

"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs" (Psalm 100:1-2). As this Psalm continues, we are reminded that He has made us and that we are His. The Psalm proclaims, "We are His people, the sheep of His pasture." Our God is good and His love for us endures forever. He watches over us and provides all we need. For these reasons we have reason to give Him thanks and praise and to give back to Him out of what He has first given to us.

For weeks before the auction, many people brought in beautiful quilts, lovely table runners, exquisite wood works as well as hats, scarves, and various food items. We are very thankful for the items donated, as well as the many hours of work required to make them.

Then on November 1, over 150 of God's thankful people gathered together to give to God's work

through the ministry of Park River Bible Camp. They gathered first in the Dining Hall to partake of soup, sandwiches, and delicious deserts before heading over to the Retreat Center for our annual quilt auction fundraiser.

After several hours of generous bidding and rousing applause, God's thankful people returned to their homes contented – many of them laden with beautiful new items. When the day was through, \$30,017 was given to the ministry of the Lord here at Park River Bible Camp, including \$4,000 for the capital improvement fund and \$3,000 in supplemental funds from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

A huge thank you goes out to Mr. Arlyn Askim, the auctioneer, and to all others who donated their time, talents, and money. Finally, let us thank the Lord together for He is good. His steadfast love endures forever.

Maintenance Report

By Dennie Fry, Site Director

This past year many improvements have been accomplished with the help of staff and volunteers. We thank God for all of the terrific help.

This year started out with ladders being made for the upper bunks in the rooms in the Retreat Center. This has made the rooms much more usable, especially during the retreat season.

Towards the end of December 2007, a building donated by Luther Meberg, was moved into the camp with the help of Orville and Aaron Kjelland. This building was remodeled into a two-story staff lounge during the months of January and February. The staff lounge was painted and re-roofed during the early part of the summer.

Early in the spring of 2008, three new stackable washers and dryers were put into the laundry room along with a new folding counter and shelving. The summer staff was very appreciative of this improvement. Also installed was a new kitchen range, which made the meal preparation for the summer go much smoother. These were directly accomplished because of the Verna Johnson Estate gift.

A new Low Adventure Course was also added to the camp this past spring with many new elements. It was relocated to its new location for better accessibility. During the Hope Lutheran confirmation retreat the young people were able to clear the new area of brush and small trees so that it was ready for the placement of these elements. This change was also able to be accomplished because of the gift received from the Verna Johnson Estate. Also purchased with the gift from the Verna Johnson Estate was a 6-person golf cart that is being used to transport people around the camp especially during the many functions that the public attend.

During the May work weekend, we had about a dozen people come to help clear trees and brush and cut wood in preparation for the foundation of the chapel area.



We greatly appreciate the area pastors who gave of one of their mornings in May to help ready the camp for the start of the summer camping season. Each year pastors come to the camp and work in flower beds, place picnic tables around the camp and do many other miscellaneous jobs. Thank you, Pastors!

Two assistants were hired to help Dennie this summer. Josiah Hylden and Jesse

Kallender were hired to help with the many projects and preparation work for the chapel renovation. One of the projects that the assistants helped accomplish was the shingling of the dining hall and one of the staff housing buildings. The ten weeks that these two were here this summer, was greatly appreciated. They helped accomplish many things that otherwise could not have been done.



Josiah Hylden, Jesse Kallender, and Tim Ostberg are helping to secure the trusses of the new storage shed.



A retaining wall was constructed at the end of the summer with the help of staff and volunteers. It is at the east end of the new office wing. Pictured above: Lars Peterson, Justin Hylden, and Jesse Kallender.



Assembled in front of the new storage shed are some of the work crew who helped make this building happen. L to R: Chelsey Lewis, Roberta Stover, Melody Rauhauser, Phil Bumgardner, Ben Antal, Jeremy Bahr, Lars Peterson, Josiah Hylden, Jesse Kallender, and Dennie Fry. A big "Thank you" to Cody Waslaski's dad for the use of his bobcat and for Cody's digging of the post holes and to Harold Flom for leveling gravel around the outside of the new shed. Without the generosity of these people this job would have been extremely difficult.



The Zion cabin was moved from its previous location of northeast of the chapel, onto a new foundation just south of Bethel. This was to facilitate the chapel move. The new foundation for this cabin was also accomplished with the help of the summer staff and volunteers.

We are greatly appreciative of all the volunteers, the summer and year-round staff and others who helped us accomplish so much this year. It could not have been done without you.

A new amphitheater was constructed northeast of the current campfire. The site was prepped last year by Harold Flom and was constructed this year with the help of summer staff and volunteers. Some of those who helped: Alex Amiot, Jeremy Bahr, Cody Waslaski, Josiah Hylden, Seth Morken, Thomas Hensrud, Tim Johnson, Jesse Kallender, Lars Peterson, Roberta Stover, Kim Norby, Andrea Olson, and Doug Sahr.



Yearend Giving Needs

Thank you to all of you who have given to Park River Bible Camp ministry in the past. We very much appreciate your support. As this year comes to a close, we want to invite you to help us meet our yearend financial needs with a yearend gift.

We are ending 2008 with much excitement. Our summer camp attendance was high, and our VBS attendance was record breaking. We praise God for the many opportunities to provide Bible Study, worship, drama, music, recreation, and a lot of good clean fun. We have been blessed with awesome Christian staff members who lead the youth in great camp and retreat experiences.

The Proclaimer is sent out during the year to keep you informed on what is happening at the camp. Please note, that as of November 20, **we are still in need of \$45,625** before the end of the year. If you feel led to help us fill this need, we would be very grateful!! Please pray that we would meet this goal.

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, your gift this year could be worth 150% of what you give to PRBC. Yes, that's a match of fifty cents on every dollar up to \$600.00.

This year would you prayerfully consider increasing your giving to the next level? As an example, if you are presently giving \$50 a year to the camp, would you consider increasing your gift to \$100 and becoming a Century Club Giver? If you are presently a Century Club Giver, would you consider increasing your gift to become a Century Club Partner? Please refer to the list below to see the Century Club giving levels.

Your prayers and any size gift, is appreciated here at PRBC.

We thank God for you and your partnership with PRBC. We hope that this Christmas season is filled with wonderful blessings for you and your family.

Thanks for all your help,

Steve Kordahl, Director of Ministries

Thrivent Financial Will Match Your Gifts

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, we beg you to take advantage of the Giving-Plus® program and maximize your gifts. For every \$2 you contribute, Thrivent Financial will supplement \$1 (up to \$300).

If you have given already, or if you will be giving before December 31, all you need to do is complete the form on the next page and send it to PRBC by January 7. Gifts you have already given this year may be matched unless they were given with a dinner or quilt auction purchase. Please help us by taking advantage of this tremendous program. The supplemental funds are only available if you complete the form each year.

For more information about the program, visit www.thrivent.com/fraternal/churchcommunity/givingplus.

Annual Meeting

The annual corporate assembly of the Park River Lutheran Bible Camp will be held at the Bible Camp on Monday, January 26, 2009 at 7:00pm .

Century Club Giving Levels

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Annual Giving Level</u>
Century Club Giver	\$100-499
Century Club Partner	\$500-999
Century Club Pacesetter	\$1,000-2,499
Century Club Anchor	\$2,500-4,999
Century Club Cornerstone	\$5,000-9,999
Century Club Visionary	\$10,000-24,999
Century Club Dreamgiver	\$25,000 or more

Building on the Rock of Jesus Christ since 1936

GivingPlus® Gift Form

Send this completed form, along with your gift, to the eligible Lutheran organization of your choice. The check must be made payable to the enrolled organization. Note: A congregation is not an eligible recipient for this program. List only one donor and one organization per form. Your unique secure identifier is required for the gift to be processed.

Donor Information

First five characters of last name

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First and last name

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Address

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City

State

Zip

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Home phone number

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Note:

Your unique secure ID consists of the first 5 letters of your last name and the last 4 digits of your social security number.

Use black ink.
 Use block letters
 (e.g. A, B, C).

Last four digits of your social security number

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Gift Information

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Volunteer hour information

Mark this oval if you have contributed 25 or more hours of volunteer service to this organization during the current calendar year.

Name of institution or organization receiving gift

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City

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State

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I certify that I am an individual 16 years of age or older who is either a benefit member of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, or who owns a Thrivent Mutual Funds account and/or Thrivent Life Insurance Company product. I am making this gift under the guidelines of the GivingPlus program. I understand this program is not a guaranteed contractual benefit. I understand the budget for this program is established annually and therefore all eligible gifts may not be supplemented. Finally, I understand that contributions by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Thrivent Asset Management and Thrivent Life Insurance Company are subject to the guidelines of the GivingPlus® Program.

Signature of member

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For Use by Recipient Organization

I certify that the stated gift has been received and satisfies the requirements of the Thrivent Financial GivingPlus® Program.

Signature of program coordinator

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Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Organization ID

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Summer in Review: “The Christ Life”

By Dan Antal, Program Director

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.” – Ephesians 1:3.

This was our theme verse for the summer of 2008. Every camper memorized this verse, as well as two to five other verses, depending on how long they were at camp.

The theme was about life with and in Jesus Christ. We called it “The Christ Life.” The Christ Life is about *more* than knowing Christ. It is about *more* than just calling Jesus our friend. It is about actually being part of who He is. It is about actually being united with Him so that He is in us and we are in Him. All that is ours is His, but more significantly, all that is His is ours. All that He has accomplished is for us!

Most importantly, we are united with Him in His death and resurrection. In His death our old sinful self is put to death. In His resurrection our new self, created in Jesus’ perfect righteousness, is brought to life. This is what Paul talks about in Galatians 2:20: “I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” Through His Word, God causes this to happen, and He creates faith so we may believe it.

In our Bible studies we taught five “in Christ” phrases. We have *Redemption in Christ*, we have *New Life in Christ*, we are *United in Christ* to other believers, and as Christians we *Abide in Christ* and we *Walk in Christ*.

This summer we had a total of 768 onsite campers. We also provided Vacation Bible School programs to 27 churches, with a total attendance of 939. That brings our combined attendance to 1,707. It is humbling that God uses us to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to so many people.

This was certainly a summer in which I saw God’s hand at work. I had so many concerns and worries during the summer and leading up to the summer, but God always proved His faithfulness. For example, some

of you may remember that we had a difficult time finding our staff for the summer. To operate effectively, we needed to increase from 7 year-round employees, to about 50 summer staff. We needed counselors, cooks, nurses, office personnel, and maintenance personnel. We began our recruiting and hiring process at the beginning of February and hoped to be at least close to finished by the middle of April. We did the same things we had been doing for years of recruiting staff, but, the month of May rolled around and we were not even close to half-way full. Staff training was only a couple weeks away and we did not know what would happen. I was concerned, *very, very* concerned. I thought we needed to invent a new way to do camp, a way to do it with half as many counselors and half as many cooks. But God provided for the ministry in what I consider to be a miraculous way. Throughout that month of May, God brought to us dozens of people who were answering His call to spread the Gospel.

Why did I doubt Him? Did the camp belong to Steve, Dennie, Jackie, and I? Were the campers ours too? Or is it God’s camp? Indeed it is God’s camp! The campers and staff are His children, and the Word we bring is His Word. Why would He not be faithful to what is His? Of course He would be faithful. He certainly was, He certainly is, and He certainly will be.

To God alone be all the glory for the marvelous things He has done!



We had 60 crazy campers for Senior High Power Surge .



I enjoyed the waterslide, Extreme Capture the Flag, the carnival, the campfire and s'mores, the treasure hunt, and meeting new friends.
See you again next summer!
- Paige, Adventure Camp



I just can't wait to go back this summer and see what Senior High Camp is like.
- Trisha, Junior High Primetime
P.S. I'm really excited for the New Year's Eve Retreat!!!!



I would have to say that I like everything about PRBC. There probably is only one thing that I like more than all, which is learning more about God every time I go there. I also enjoy meeting new people, having fun games to play, the awesome counselors there, and anyone/everyone on the staff. The afternoon activities and Bible studies are really fun and a good time to just think on some stuff.
- Shirley, Junior High Primetime



Memorials Received from 11/21/2007 through 11/17/2008

Key to listing:

Person(s) being remembered: Giver(s) of memorial gift

Liz Aasand: John & Sharyl Lindell, Amos & Darlene Flaten

Earl Anderson: James Hanse & Jolene Knudson Hanse, Gladys Bjerneby, Thomas & Dianne Clemens, Gora Halliday, Paul Nilson, Hellen Laaveg, Hamilton & Marian Hurtt, David & Karen Lee, Richard & Ruth Clemenson, Joel & Kristin Sobolik, Bill & Jody Tibert, Artha Travers, Ione Anderson, Ron & Jennifer Thompson, Ione Anderson, Jay & Carol Lewis

Elvon "Buzz" Anderson: Duane & Gloria Johnson

Eugene Anderson: Jon & Jennifer Dryburgh

Thelma Anderson: Odell & LaVonne Berg, Arlen & Ann Anderson

Bob Arnold: Richard & Ruth Clemenson, Duane & Gloria Johnson, Hamilton & Marian Hurtt

Luann Ashpole: Jeff & Deb McKay

Donna Berg: Howard & Marion Hove, Leroy & Louise Pederson

Omar Berg: Duane & Gloria Johnson

Ted Berger: Floyd & Irma Gemmill

Ray Bigwood: Allen & Lisa Tucker, Richard & Ruth Clemenson, Blaine & Trina Papenfuss, Robert & Linda Tonolli, Dennis & Kay Barker, John & Joyce Lee, Carole & Carr Coler, Alan & Susan Bigwood, Donald & Lynne Bigwood, Myles Robinson, Donald & Lucille Young, Lyle & Audrey Bigwood, Roy & Karen Bigwood, Paul & Pam Berntson, Richard & Susan Bigwood, Doris Robinson, Ken & Beatrice Johnson, Rod & Cryss Quanbeck

Agnes Bjerke: Ron & Harriet Samuelson, Rev. Orville & H. Marjorie Sunde, Hamilton & Marian Hurtt, Lillian Clemens

Don Bjornstad: Shirley Christian, Howard & Marion Hove, Lucille Heck, Nathan & Jodi Houge

Art Borgeson: Bradley & Darlene Hendrickson, Dennis Grove, Gordon & Norma Berntson, Harold & Helen Sundvor, Linda Larson, Robert & Lois Lundquist, Lois Winther, Arthur & Eunice Borgeson, Vernon & Dorothy Russum

JoAnne Burger: Jennifer Contreras, Alice Eide

Boyd Busse: Dennis Grove

Claire Busse: Donna Erovick

Ron Capp: Rod & Cryss Quanbeck

Delores "Tootsie" Carlson: Marvin & Jeannette Lundebly, Nancy Seim, Everett (L.E.) & Mary Seim, Rodney & Janice Nygard

Morris Dahl: Orville & Sheryl Kjelland

Pernell Dahlen: Rennae Millette

Merle Daley: Ron & Harriet Samuelson, Gail E. Meberg, Dennis Grove, Phyllis Koppang, Myron Hylden, Mr. & Mrs. Lennert Almen

Adrian Denault: Barbara Nelson, Dennis Grove

Irene Dencker: Orville & Sheryl Kjelland, Roger & Janice Lee, Ralph & Helen Noeske, Peder & Julianne Flaten, Rod & Cryss Quanbeck, Wayne & Virginia Meyer, Mr. & Mrs. Lennert Almen

Norman DeSautel: Hamilton & Marian Hurtt, JoAnn & Glen Gorder

Jessica Diaz: John & Sharyl Lindell

Ann Egeland: Reuben & Blanche Espelien, Sylvester & Joyce Miller, Glen & JoAnn Gorder

Hazel Ellertson: Bruce & Joann Conroy, C. William & Joyce Kingsbury

Leo Eppler: Shirley Christian

Rose Ann Erickson: Bradley & Darlene Hendrickson

Elvina Fagerholt: Joel & Amy Fedje, Norris & Lorna Haug, Michael & Bette Nelson, Delpha Berg, Warren & Marilyn Hall, Jean & Craig Hollenbeck, Rev. Harold & Eunice Vold, H. Eulalie Smestad

Janice Fedje: Clarence & Gladys Brendeson

Evelyn Flaten: Nels & Sonia Midgarden

Nicole Flaten: Corrine Ramsey

Howard Florence: Hamilton & Marian Hurtt, Mrs. Donna Devine, Mitzi & Gary Flatau, Rev. Orville & Marjorie Sunde

Nora Florence: Rev. Orville & H. Marjorie Sunde

Ed Gaarder: Claude & Darla Sheldon, Gary & Laurel Thompson, Rodney & Janice Nygard, Mr. & Mrs. Lennert Almen

Grace Geick: Bradley & Darlene Hendrickson

Jay Dale Gemmill: Edith Drevecky, Gilbert & Judy Jenson, Harvey & Claire Offerdahl, Anna Windingland, Wayne & Virginia Meyer, Lois Winther

Leona Gemmill: Randell & Jane Riesberg, Alfred & Carrie Byron, Jon & Kathleen Bloom, Gilbert & Judy Jenson, John N. & Maxine Sveen, Lyle & Bonnie Amundrud, Wayne & Virginia Meyer, Leroy & Louise Pederson, Harold & Helen Sundvor, Larry & Carol Pewe, Daniel & Tammy Olson, Hilma Streich, Harvey & Clarice Offerdahl, Rodney & Janice Nygard, Rev. Ernest & Lilly Stadum, Bradley & Darlene Hendrickson

Lillian Gibney: Marlene Arneson

Frances Gonitzke: Paul & Lola Hagen

Wayne Grinde: Steve & Mary Langerud, Arthur Flaten, Doris Cudmore, Marvin & Lila Mielke, Orville & Sheryl Kjelland, Hamilton & Marian Hurtt, Rossford & Marilyn Johnson, Lois Penas, Erma Brevik

Glen Gronhøvd: Lucille Heck, Joyce Skjerveheim, Alan & Phyllis Blomquist

Helen Haas: Corrine Ramsey

Lloyd Haas: Everett (L.E.) & Mary Seim, Lois Winther, Rev. Elmo & Norma Anderson, Hazel Lien, Dorothy Gillespie, Rev. Orville & H. Marjorie Sunde

Memorials continued, 11/21/2007 through 11/17, 2008

Alyce Hall: Barbara Nelson, Wayne & Virginia Meyer, Noel & Loretta Moe, Rev. Orville & H. Marjorie Sunde, Nancy Seim, John N. & Maxine Sveen, Bradley & Darlene Hendrickson

Wanda Hall: Wayne & Virginia Meyer, Bruce & Susan Fagerholt, Hamilton & Marian Hurtt, Duane & Gloria Johnson, Rod & Joan Schanilec, Joal & Amy Fedje

Ethel Halstenson: Harvey & Clarice Offerdahl, JoAnn & Glen Gorder, Larry & Rachelle Schuster, Jack & Gloria Halstenson, John & Susan Steinke

Elmer Hammer: Lucille Heck, Alvin & Shirley French

Ardel Hartje: Steve & Mary Langerud

Mark Hartje: Steve & Mary Langerud,

Darrin G. Herbel: Gilbert & Elna Herbel

Richard Herrmann: Jim & Marcy Halstenson

Helen Heuchert: Rod & Cryss Quanbeck

Myrtle Hogfoss: Ed & Sharon Loraas, Adeline Hurtt

Carole Hollin: Dennis Grove

Gudrun Holm: Bernice Flanagan, Rod & Cryss Quanbeck, Alfred & Carrie Byron, Everett (L.E.) & Mary Seim, Steve & Mary Langerud, Irene Seim, Donald & Muriel Folson, Gena Seim, John N. & Maxine Sveen, Hamilton & Marian Hurtt

Mona Holm: Rev. Elmo & Norma Anderson

Eric Hovet: Rod & Cryss Quanbeck

Ardella Inesdal: Barb Inesdal

Patrich Irwin: Oscar & Cynthia Lundquist

Gerda Iverson: Shirley Christian

Jeremiah Jelinek: Ruth Jelinek

Lloyd Johnson: Corrine Ramsey, David & Geri Beckman

Mabel Johnson: Gladys Bjerneby, Mabel Johnson, Hamilton & Marian Hurtt, Allan & Orla Lindell, J.A. & Linda Gillespie, Richard & Ruth Clemenson

Travis Johnson: Barbara Nelson

Verna Johnson: Rod & Cryss Quanbeck

Nico Jonk: Donald & Sherry Greicar, Rod & Cryss Quanbeck

Agnes Kalvik: Big Pembina Lutheran WELCA, Beverly Peterson, Mrs. Donna Devine, Lyle & Rena Overby

Maxine Kassing: Dorothy Gillespie

Andy Kirsch: Oscar & Cynthia Lundquist

Vincent Kjelaas: Gordon & Norma Berntson, Dennis Grove

Frances Kjelland: Donald & Clarice Miller, Niel & Doris Larson, Luther & Cheri Anderson, Scott & Rachel Dymoke, John & Leah Lenarz, Marvin & Marilyn Collins, Leslie & Lori Wagner, Ray & Laura Alkofer, James & Judith Bradshaw, Peder & Julianna Flaten, Jeff & Tami Daley, Marie Foster, Arthur Flaten, Ander & Betty Flaten, Richard & Arlene Froiland, Al Vanderwaal, Craig & Michelle Dahl, Arthur Haas, Tim & Tressa Gire, Dorothy Gillespie, Guy & Kari Phelps, Avis Froiland, Harrit Fingarson, Curt & Kristi Swartz, Jim & Stella Shirek, Evelyn Johnson, Akken & Betty Peterson, Mary Rita Swartz, Eva Nottestad, AC & Barbara Haas, Marty & Margie Miner, Marvel Setness, Holly Wiesen, Dale & Shelly Sondeland, Ellie Stabo, Bruce & Anne Vold, Rev. Orville & H. Marjorie Sunde, Allen & Judy Sorbo, Terry & Lou Ann Thorvilson, Peter & Julie Sondeland, Marinanne Gustafson, Claude & Darla Sheldon, Ronald & Debbie Setness, Nancy Seim, Everett (L.E.) & Mary Seim, Earl & Marcella Weisz, Sheldon & Mary Weltz, James & Doris Haug, Paula & Lola Hagen, Ordean & Carol Oen, Gay Midgarden, Jay & Carol Lewis, Luther & Linda Meberg, Lillian Heine, Linda Larson, Larry & Jean Lindgren, Laurie & Dick Larson, Ye Olde Medicine Center, Arnold & Sharon Pasche, Steve & Mary Langerud, Glenn & Lynette Langerud, Helen Laaveg, Terry & Janet Jacobson, Maren Heaney, Jacqueline & Timothy Zikmund, June Almen, J.A. & Elsie Gillespie, Terril & Elsie Borgeson, David & Geri Beckman, Randy & Janet Johansen, Rod & Cryss Quanbeck, Eugene & Dainne Bossert, Dennis & Lorraine Johnson, Mark & Esther

Hylden, Nathan Kjelland & Britt Jacobson, Randy & Jeanette Bjornstad, Gerald & Jacquelyn Lindsay, Kim Kalgard, Dennie & Sheila Fry, Richard & Marilyn Wentzel, Lowell & Brenda Watt, Lillian Clemens, Doris Cudmore, Darryl & Vicky Hell, James & Doris Haug, Paula & Lola Hagen, Mr. & Mrs. Lennert Almen

Mavi Kjelland: Peder & Julianne Flaten, Gary & Judy Hove, Adeline Hurtt, Linda Larson, Phyllis Koppang

Julia "Judy" Klindt: Alfred & Carrie Byron

Agnes Krile: Ross & Marilyn Johnson

Art Larson: Jim & Marcy Halstenson

Michael Lee: Anna Windingland, Noel & Loretta Moe

Bob Lewis: Myron Hylden

Jay A. Lewis: Marianne Gustafson, Nels & Sonia Midgarden, Richard & Ruth Clemenson, Bethel Cudmore, Gay Midgarden, Joyce Lowe, Henry & Verna Delle Skorheim

Robert L. Lewis: Lorene Larson

Ernest Lien: Dorothy Gillespie, Gaylin & Sandy Moe

Tom Lindell: Dayton & Kelly Larson

Effie Lindgren: J.A. & Linda Gillespie, Dorothy Gillespie, Richard & Ruth Clemenson, Betty Jo Fagerholt

Allen Lerud: Hamilton & Marian Hurtt, Wayne & Virginia Meyer

Loved ones & Family: Lynn & Linda Paulson

Maxine Mauritson: Alice L. Olson

Roma McFarmland: Clive & Jacky Jones

Lois McLean: Bradley & Darlene Hendrickson

Floyd McMillan: John & Sharyl Lindell

Marcella Melstad: Marian Hurtt, Steve & Mary Langerud, Rev. Orville & H. Marjorie Sunde, Nels & Sonia Midgarden

Ian Miller: Paul & Lola Hagen, Ron & Jennifer Thompson, Dorothy Gillespie, Harvey & Clarice Offerdahl, Kevin & Jean Jiskra, Barbara Nelson

continued on page 14

Fall Retreats in Review

By Luke Berntson, Associate Program Director

On September 27, 41 children joined us for a fun-filled retreat with Bible studies, games, crafts, puppet shows, singing, and adventure. Our theme verse was Isaiah 43:11: "I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no Savior."

In our recent election season we heard endless promises from politician after politician that they would stop corruption, solve our problems, and lead us into the future. In ancient days the people of Israel were offered many promises from the "gods" of the nations, and many of the people put their trust in them. Yet our greatest problem (the same as theirs) is a problem that no politician or national "god" can solve. Our greatest problem is the corruption of our own hearts, and the only one who can save us from our sinful condition is the Lord God Almighty. The Good News is that He has sent His Son Jesus to take away our sin and bring us home to the eternal dwellings He is preparing for us. Politicians promise solutions to our worldly problems, but thanks be to God who has solved our greatest problem. He has turned us to Jesus.

4-6 Grade Retreat

Then on October 3-4, 26 upper elementary students came to the Bible Camp for an awesome retreat. Along with games, puppet shows, Bible studies, and crafts, we also had an historic campfire together on the cement slab that had served as the foundation for the old fireside room of the chapel. The building was demolished that morning, but the fireplace itself had not yet been taken down.

One of the Scriptures we read at this retreat was the story of Paul. As a young man he burned with passion to destroy the Church. He thought he was serving God. Then one day Jesus Himself spoke to Paul on the road to the city of Damascus. In that one conversation with Paul, Jesus tore down Paul's old worldview. From that point on Paul was on fire for Jesus! Please join us in praying that many others, like Paul, would meet the Lord, and be turned to Jesus.

2009 Summer Camps

1-2 Grade Day Camps

July 8, July 9, August 10, August 11

3rd Grade Mini Camps

July 5-7 & August 9-11

4-6 Grade Adventure Camps

June 21-26, July 26-31, August 2-7

Jr. High Primetime

July 5-10 & July 19-24

Sr. High Power Surge

July 12-17

Retreats & Events 2008-2009

We're more than a summer camp!

September

27: 1-3 Grade Retreat

October

3-4: 4-6 Grade Retreat

5: "The Rock" for Sr. High

17-18: 7-9 Grade Retreat

November

1: Quilt Auction/Soup & Sandwich

2: "The Rock" for Sr. High

7-9: Quilt Retreat

15: 1-3 Grade Retreat

21-23: Scrapping/Stamping Retreat

December

5-6: 4-6 Grade Retreat

7: "The Rock" for Sr. High

31-Jan. 1: Sr. High New Years Retreat

January

17 ~ 1-3 Grade Retreat

18 ~ "The Rock" for Sr. High

23-25 ~ Quilt Retreat

30-Feb. 1 ~ Sr. High Ski Retreat

February

15: "The Rock" for Sr. High

20-22: 7-9 Grade Ski Retreat

March

13-15: Quilt Retreat

15: "The Rock" for Sr. High

27-28: 4-6 Grade Retreat

April

18: 1-3 Grade Retreat

19: "The Rock" for Sr. High

The Rock

Sr. high schoolers! Join us for the Rock! In 2009 we'll be having it at camp the 3rd Sunday of every month. We'll look into God's Word, worship together, hang out, and have great snacks.

We hope to see you there!

Whom Shall I Send?

Since 1936, hundreds of young people have rolled into Park River Bible Camp every summer to hear God's Word, grow in faith, and experience Christian fellowship. And in between summers God has always worked to prepare the hearts and minds of the staff that will help proclaim His Word to these campers.

Although summer 2009 may seem like a long way off to some, it will come rapidly, and so our recruiting efforts have begun. As we visit area colleges to find those whose hearts the Lord is moving to serve Him with us this summer, please pray that many would respond to God's calling. Please ask the Lord of the Harvest to send out workers into the harvest so that those who roll into camp this summer may hear God's Word, believe in Him, and be saved.

Luke Berntson Joins Full-Time Staff

Park River Bible Camp is thrilled to announce Luke Berntson as the newest member of its year-round staff. Luke brings to PRBC a great love for the Lord, a passion for youth and camping ministry, a strong knowledge of the Scriptures, and a wealth of camp and youth ministry experience.

Luke has been involved with the PRBC ministry for many years. He initially began ministry with the camp in 2001, serving as a counselor through the summer of 2006. During those years, Luke consistently returned to camp to counsel weekend retreats, displaying his passion for that part of the camp's program as well as summer camps. Even after Luke graduated seminary in 2007, he and his wife Jeanette often returned for weekend retreats. Luke says, "I first came to PRBC out of a strong desire to make Christ known to young people and to encourage faith in Him. Since that point God's calling on my life to proclaim His Word and to love God's people has continually grown."

Luke is no stranger to the area surrounding the camp. As a child, Luke lived in Mountain, ND for a few years while his father Steve was a pastor

there. He also has many relatives from the Adams area, as his family has strong roots there. So Luke considers the area near the camp to be his home, and PRBC is certainly happy to have Luke home again!

Luke graduated high school in Jamestown, ND and earned his bachelor's degree from Jamestown College. He then attended the Lutheran Brethren Seminary in Fergus Falls and received his Master's of Divinity. While there he met his wife Jeanette and they were married in September of 2007.

While in seminary, Luke served for two years as the Youth Director at Grace Lutheran Church in Erhard, MN, and upon graduating seminary, he served for one year as Associate Pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Bottineau, ND.

Then in July, Luke was hired full-time as the Associate Program Director at PRBC. It is a position that Luke is well qualified for and very passionate about. In looking towards the future, Luke says, "My desire is to continue making Christ known and to encourage faith in Him through Bible study, prayer, worship and fellowship here at PRBC."

Luke is excited to be back. He says the reason for that is because "The ministry of PRBC is a ministry that has always been focused on the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. God works mightily here bringing many to salvation and strengthening the faith of His people."

Dan Antal (Program Director) is excited to have Luke back at camp. He says, "We have been close friends for many years and I have always known Luke to possess an exceedingly great passion for proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

It is rare to find a person with such a love for the Lord and His children. Having Luke on staff allows us to expand our programs and enhance the ones we already have. I look forward to what will hopefully be many years of fruitful ministry."

Welcome home Luke and Jeanette!



Luke and Jeanette Berntson.

Memorials continued, 11/21/2007 through 11/17, 2008

Julie (Langerud) Mittet: Jayse & Beth Wharam, Judie L. Lundgren, Jennifer & David Betz, Arlen & Ann Jackson, Bradley & Stacy Dahl, Laurie Foseide, Bradley & Darlene Hendrickson

Ingi Mullen: Noel & Loretta Moe, Wayne & Virginia Meyer

Ken Moen: Joel & Kristin

Edward Novak: Harvey & Clarice Offerdahl, Dorothy Gillespie, J.A. & Linda Gillespie

Dolores Nyberg: Dean & Erna Meberg, Richard & Ruth Clemenson

Kate Odegard: JoAnn & Glen Gorder

Netti Offerdahl: Lyle Offerdahl Family,

Bjorn Olgeirson: Rod & Cryss Quanbeck

Bill Paulson: Hamilton & Marian Hurtt

Harlon Paulson: Steve & Mary Langerud, Frances Bjerneby Kraemer, Steven & Cheri Stabo, Barry & Sharon Branvold, Richard & Lorna Holland, Ronald & Jeanette Gemmill, Pride & Romona Colton, Chris & Julie Byron, Hamilton & Marian Hurtt, Lindsey & Lori Fingarson, Arlen & Ann Jackson, Donald Puppe, Glenn & Lynette Langerud, Dave & Jane Horns, Mark & Sandra Drevecky, Jeff & Deb McKay, Earl & Marsha Axvig, Bradley & Darlene Hendrickson, Bob Kertz, Jon & Barb Forsgren, Rev. Orville & H. Marjorie Sunde, First United Bank, Laurie Foseide, Bradley & Marcia Paulson, Wayne & Barb Branvold

Lorraine Papenfuss: Jeanette Clemens, Hamilton & Marian Hurtt, Orville & Sheryl Kjelland

Lorraine Pederson: Orville & Sheryl Kjelland

Dan Penas: Orville & Sheryl Kjelland

Anna Irene Peterson: Dorothy Gillespie

Ruby Pewe: Wayne & Virginia Meyer

Vardon Quanbeck: Rod & Cryss Quanbeck

Irma Robb: Alvin & Shirley French

Avis Rosevold: Phyllis Koppang

Clem Rude: Ole & Marjorie Olson

Marvin Sandvig: Hamilton & Marian Hurtt

Rev. Marvin Scherbenske: Floyd & Irma Gemmill

Earl Schuster: Rev. Orville & H. Marjorie Sunde

Verda Setness: Orville & Sheryl Kjelland, Helen Laaveg, Lois Winther

Eileen Shawnz: Marian Hurtt

Margrete Skjerven: Myron Hylden

Shelby Smith: Wayne & Virginia Meyer

Belle Sobolik: JoAnn Gorder, Adeline Hurtt

Lon Stenerson: Alice L. Olson, Duane & Gloria Johnson, State Bank & Trust, Adeline Hurtt, Fern & Curtis Rustan, Gilbert & Judy Jenson, Bradley & Darlene Hendrickson

Lilian Sundby: Clive & Jacky Jones

Gerald Svir: Rod & Cryss Quanbeck

Jim Talley: JoAnn & Glen Gorder

Sonia Thompson: Shirley Christian

Effie Ulberg: Noel & Loretta Moe, Bruce & Anne Vold

Ramon (Niemann) Unke: Adeline Hurtt, Marilyn & Bill Ginder, David & Carol Hensrud, Alva & Richard Brown, Arlen & Ann Jackson, Paul & Lola Hagen, Floyd & Irma Gemmill

Lucille Van Hunnik: Gena Seim

Carl "Bud" Verke: Alvin & Shirley French

Carol Wang: Doris Skavhaug

Gilbert Wang: Dorothy Gillespie, Charles & Shirley Lindell, Allan & Orla Lindell

Phillip Waslaski: John & Colleen Kram

Leon Weberg: E. Wayne & Idell Flom, Alvin & Shirley French, Dorothy Gillespie, John & Colleen Kram, Walter Gronhovd, Adeline Hurtt, Howard & Marion Hove, Harvey & Clarice Offerdahl, Lillian Clemens, Lucille Heck, Corrine Weberg, Paul & Pam Berntson

Paul Wellman: Paul & Lola Hagen, Wayne & Virginia Meyer

Mel Whippler: Linda Larson, Myron Hylden

Jack Wharam: Joel & Kristin Sobolik

Mervin Wibe: Hamilton & Marian Hurtt

Clifford Wyhe: Bradley & Darlene Hendrickson

Find Us Faithful

By Jon Mohr

We're pilgrims on the journey of the narrow road
And those who've gone before us line the way
Cheering on the faithful, encouraging the weary
Their lives a stirring testament to God's sustaining grace

Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful

May the fire of our devotion light their way

May the footprints that we leave lead them to believe

And the lives we live inspire them to obey

Oh may all who come behind us find us faithful

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses

Let us run the race not only for the prize
But as those who've gone before us, let us leave to those behind us

The heritage of faithfulness passed on through godly lives

After all our hopes and dreams have come and gone

And our children sift through all we've left behind

May the clues that they discover and the memories they uncover

Become the light that leads them to the road we each must find

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Honorariums Received from 11/21/2007 through 11/17/2008

Key to listing: Person(s) being honored: Giver(s) of honorarium gift

Elaine Babcock Birthday: Marlene Arneson	Leroy & Carol Monson's 50th Anniversary: Alvin & Shirley French
Joe & Irene Espelien's 65th Anniversary: Ione Ford, Lorelei Clemetson	Honor Sunday School Teachers: Rennae Millette
Joe Espelien Birthday: Ione Ford	Artha Travers' Birthday: Marvin & Ardelle Nordbo
Lucille Heck's 80th Birthday: Alvin & Shirley French	Troy Troftgruben's Ordination: Lorelei Clemetson
Steve Kordahl as the new Dir. of Ministries: Rod & Cryss Quanbeck	Virginia Waith's 90th Birthday: Edith Froiland
Inez Midboe's Birthday: Glenn & Lynette Langerud	Connie Weberg's 80th Birthday: Alvin & Shirley French
Ian R. Miller Birthday: Joel & Kristin Sobolik, JoAnn & Glen Gorder	Bud & Jeannette Wedwick's 50th Anniversary: Lorene Dahl

Thank you for remembering friends and loved ones with your gifts to Park River Bible Camp!

God With Us

Christmas is coming, and in all our holiday bustle, how often do we stop to consider what it means? There are a lot of different ideas about what Christmas means. As a child I knew that I would get presents, hopefully Legos, or a remote control car, or some other exciting toys. I usually got something like this but I also got socks and a rock collecting kit. One Christmas, an aunt sent me a personalized lunch bag. It was bright blue with "Danny's Lunch" embroidered on the front. I knew this would earn me a heckling at school (fortunately my mom loves me enough that she did not make me use it). Whenever I grumbled about gifts, my parents told me that Christmas is not about getting presents. They were right.

So if Christmas is not about getting presents, what is it about? Perhaps it is about being with family. A good thought, but not the best answer. We have all heard the saying, "It is better to give than to receive." Perhaps Christmas is about giving? No, Christmas may be about a gift; but it is a gift we cannot give.

Christmas can be told in three simple words: "God with us." Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was born into the world to save sinful people like you and me. Christmas is about *God with us*.

We are currently in the middle of the Advent season. Advent means *coming*, that is, the coming of Jesus Christ into the world. It means that God became

human. Over two thousand years ago in a place on the other side of the world, the Son of God came as a tiny baby, born to a virgin in a stable. Mary wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger. By the way, a manger is a feeding trough for livestock, and here we find the Son of God, the King of the Universe! He deserved the finest palace, the finest baby clothes, and the finest medical care. But God chose a dirty, humiliating place. This was no place for a child to be born, especially not the Son of God. But here, according to God's purpose, we find Christ the Lord, born for you and for me.

Over 2,000 years ago Jesus came to a filthy stable, and today He comes in the same sort of way. As He comes to us through the Word and Sacraments, He does not seek to find pure and holy people (He would find no one like that!). Jesus says, "I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners." As He comes to us, He expects to find us just as we are, weak, filthy, broken, and filled with sin. He finds us in our worst state. He claims us as His own. He forgives us of our sins. He cleanses us. Here we find the beauty of Christmas: *God with us*.

So on behalf of all of us at PRBC, "Merry Christmas, and may you experience the blessedness of Christ's forgiveness!" - *Dan Antal*

"*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased.*" - *Luke 2:14.*



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