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# THE PARK RIVER BIBLE CAMP *Proclaimer*

March 2013 - Volume 29, Issue 1



*(Pancake Dinner on Sunday, April 28 @ PRBC)*

## Pancake Dinner

Park River Bible Camp's annual Pancake and Sausage Dinner will be held **April 28th**. Serving begins at 10:30 AM and will end at 1:30 PM. A free will offering will get you all you can eat! All proceeds go to the ministry of Park River Bible Camp. Additional funding provided by the Walsh County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

## Words From A PRBC Alum

*By Pastor Troy Troftgruben*

Hi, my name is Troy Troftgruben. I am a native of Park River, a graduate of Luther Seminary and Princeton Seminary, a Lutheran (E.L.C.A.) pastor in Grand Forks, and a product of Park River Bible Camp. At PRBC I first learned how to lead worship, how to play the guitar, how to pray with others, and how to talk openly about God. In various ways, God used PRBC to inspire faith within me when I most needed it.

I attended Park River Bible Camp as a child, spent regular time at the camp during high school, and worked several summers there during college and seminary (as a VBS teacher, camp counselor,

and assistant program director). But it was during my high school years that PRBC was there for me most especially. At that time I was searching for meaning; I knew about faith, but it was not yet a driving force in my life. As I explored, PRBC was a social hub for young people in the area excited about following Jesus. Through PRBC I met other young people who loved God—and were not weird! PRBC provided me with an active source of fellowship during the most formative years of my adult faith, helping Christ to be more fully “formed” in me (Gal 4:19).

I am forever indebted to Park



*(Pastor Troy Troftgruben)*

River Bible Camp for inspiring my faith in Christ and shaping me into the man I am today. Many church communities and schools have aided my faith formation, but Park River Bible Camp fanned the flames of that faith during its earliest stages. Twenty years ago the camp's contagious atmosphere of vibrant faith infected me, and it hasn't worn off yet. May God continue to bless PRBC's ministry to do the same for others!

# Summer Adventure at PRBC!

By Luke Berntson

Summer 2013 is going to be another great summer at Park River Bible Camp! We have a strong core of fun and exciting staff members. Our summer curriculum is Christ centered and cross focused. We have a host of fun and exciting activities planned for you.

Camp is a wonderful experience with our fantastic staff and a variety of games. These range from traditional sports to camp games such as “gaga” and “four square” to group games such as “Capture the Flag.” Campers enjoy doing a variety of activities with other kids in their cabin. These include

campfires, Bible studies, visiting our camp store, eating with friends, swimming in our swimming pool, exploring our beautiful 120 acres of land and singing camp songs. Campers old enough to spend a week may enjoy “tie dying.” Putting a “cabin-mate” request on your registration form helps guarantee that you can be in a cabin with your friends. Campers having completed 5th grade on up may participate in our 35’ climbing tower. Campers having completed 7th-12th grades may participate in our high ropes course and they may also play paintball. All of our campers can rest assured that our

cook’s goal is to make them as much delicious food as he can. At camp you will hear the Good News of what God has done for you in Christ Jesus. Through His sinless life and blameless death Jesus has won forgiveness of sin, life and salvation for you. He delivers these great gifts to us today through the waters of Baptism, through His body and blood and through His Word which says, “I forgive you.”

Whether you have been to PRBC 20 times before (many of our campers have), or plan on coming for the first time, you can have a summer adventure and learn about Jesus at PRBC.

## Spring Calendar of Events

<b>March</b>	
15-17	Scrapbooking/Stamping Retreat
<b>April</b>	
5-6	Spring Bash (4th-6th Grade)
19-20	Spring Surge (7th-9th Grade)
28	Pancake Dinner
30	Senior Citizen Spring Gathering
<b>May</b>	
7	Jubilee Spring Gathering
11	Lil’ Sprouts Retreat (1st-3rd Grade)
19	Summer Staff Arrival!



(Swimming at PRBC on a summer day)



(Fellowship on the courts)

## Summer of 2013 Camp Schedule

<b>June:</b>	
21-22	Sr. High Tent-Out (9-12 Grade)
23-26	Wilderness Camp (7-9 Grade)
23-25	Mini Camp #1 (3-4 Grade)
26	Day Camp #1 (1-2 Grade)
30-July 3	Jubilee Camp
<b>July:</b>	
7-12	Sr. High Camp (9-12 Grade)
14-19	Sports Camp (6-8 Grade)
14-16	Mini Camp #2 (3-4 Grade)
17	Day Camp #2 (1-2 Grade)
18	Day Camp #3 (1-2 Grade)
21-26	Adventure Camp #1 (4-6 Grade)
22	Day Camp #4 (1-2 Grade)
28-Aug 2	Jr. High Classic (7-9 Grade)
<b>August:</b>	
4-9	Adventure Camp #2 (4-6 Grade)
9-10	Sr. High “Lock-In” (9-12 Grade)

## Designating Thrivent Choice Dollars

The Thrivent Choice Dollars program has been an incredible blessing to Park River Bible Camp because many eligible members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and supporters of PRBC have chosen to designate funds to this ministry. If you are one of those, thank you!

Thrivent Choice Dollars are designated based on insurance premiums, contract values, and Thrivent Financial volunteer

leadership. Choice Dollars can be directed to Lutheran organizations nationwide. If you are eligible to direct Choice Dollars to one of the enrolled organizations, Thrivent will notify you. Please consider designating some or all of your Choice Dollars to Park River Bible Camp. Call (800) 847-4836 or go online to [www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice), click on the red "Get Started" button, and enter "Park River Lutheran Bible Camp" as the organization name.



*(Staff training on the Low Adventure Course)*

## Simply Giving

The Simply Giving Program, offered by Thrivent Financial Bank, allows you to make automatic donations to Park River Bible Camp through your checking or savings account. It is a great way to give regularly and consistently. Starting the program is easy. Simply go to <http://www.parkriverbiblecamp.org> click on the "Support the Ministry" link then select "Simply Giving" and follow the directions to find the enrollment form. The form only takes a few minutes to complete and minimal information is needed.

## PRBC eProclaimer

The Proclaimer has been a staple to sharing the information about Park River Bible Camp with our constituents. In the future, we will only be mailing out the March & November Proclaimer to help cut expenses at PRBC. Thanks to technology, we are able to still send out the June and September editions via email and will post them online. If you would like to receive the Proclaimer electronically or have any questions, please call the office 701.284.6795, email Tammy at [info@parkriverbiblecamp.org](mailto:info@parkriverbiblecamp.org) or go to our website to get signed up.



*(Campers enjoying an outdoor game)*

## Website Spotlight!

There have been a couple important updates to our website recently. First, the 2012 annual report of the Park River Lutheran Bible Camp Corporation are available for viewing along with other important documents. To find it, visit the "Forms and Resources" tab on our website.

The second major addition to our website is online registration for all our summer camps. To register online, visit [www.parkriverbiblecamp.org](http://www.parkriverbiblecamp.org) and click on the "Programs" tab and then "2013 Summer Camps" in the dropdown menu.

## November Correction

There is a correction from the November 2012 Proclaimer that needs to be corrected. In the past issue, a donation was marked as a "memorial" to Rev. Harold Vold from Joyce & Steven Miller rather than "in honor" of him. We apologize for the mistake and thank you for helping us make it right.

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## From the Director's Desk By Sean Barnhart, Director of Ministries

after he and Eve rebelled against God and on this day we were reminded that as children of Adam and Eve we are owed the same condemnation.

Ash Wednesday is a sobering reminder of our mortality. Despite all of our medical and technical advances the death rate in the world remains one to one – one death for every life. But the smudge made upon our foreheads on that day wasn't just any smudge. The ashes put upon our foreheads were given in the sign of the cross drawing us back to our baptism, where we were joined with Christ in his death, made victors with

him in his resurrection and named children of God.

So while death is still our reality on this earth, the calendar continues to march quietly towards Easter Sunday when churches everywhere shall sing amidst refrains of Alleluia, "Jesus Christ is ris'n today / Our triumphant holy day / Who did once upon the cross / Suffer to redeem our loss."



On February 13th, churches around the world began the long journey to the cross and Easter Sunday, with Ash Wednesday. On this day, people of all ages were smudged with ashes on their foreheads and the words "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return" were spoken over them. They were the same words God spoke over Adam