



# The Park River Bible Camp Proclaimer

September 2009 - Volume 24, Issue 4

## Another Blessed Summer at PRBC

Summer at Park River Bible Camp is always an amazing time, and this year was no different. Between our Vacation Bible School programs and onsite camps, we were able to minister to nearly 1,500 people. The significant thing about that number is not simply that all those people had fun, nor is it that all those people experienced the personal care of PRBC staff. The significance is that each and every one of those people heard the compassionate and far-reaching love of God, which He has lavished on them in Jesus Christ. Whether a VBS student or an onsite camper, they all heard what God has done for them (and all of us!) in Jesus Christ. Through His crucifixion and glorious resurrection, He has cleansed our sins and brought us never-ending, abundant life! May we never consider that truth to be anything less than extraordinary!

The theme of our summer curriculum was "Claimed!" We learned that God has claimed us as His beloved children, that we might belong to Him and proclaim His greatness. Our theme verse was a verse that tells us who we are, who we belong to, and why God claimed us, 1 Peter 2:9: "You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for [God's] own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

With great activities (including the new climbing tower and disc golf course), a

## Fall Events at PRBC

With the summer camping season having come and gone, we are looking forward to many great events at camp this fall. We do a lot more than summer camps, and we hope you can join us sometime this fall.

The retreat season will kick off with a Sr. High Out-back Retreat on September 12-13. We will camp out, cook outside, and enjoy God's beautiful creation as we worship Him and study His Word. October 3 will be our first Day Camp for 1-3 grades this retreat season. On October 9-10 we will partner with area churches for a confirmation retreat. There is also a retreat for 4-6 grades on October 30-31. Then we will have a sr. high retreat December 31-January 1 to bring the New Year in right.

We also have retreats for more than just children and youth. We are excited to bring back a fall women's retreat on October 16-17. Special guest speaker Renae

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ministry of PRBC by  
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committed and caring staff, and a heavy dose of Jesus, it truly was a fantastic summer. Here are

some examples of what campers had to say:

Summer staff in the new Fireside room *(Continued on page 3)*



Dear partners in ministry;

When I think of my time at Park River Bible Camp, my mind goes back to Pastor Brooks of Hoople and Pastor Van Hunnik of Grand Forks. They were men who taught us the great blessing of spending time in the Word of God. Their desire to share that truth with us never ceased from the beginning of camp on Sunday to the Saturday morning when we went home. I know I for one could not wait until I could come back again the next year. Many friendships were made at camp, some that would last a lifetime. Most importantly I learned that I could spend time alone with my Heavenly Father, and He desired to spend time with me.

At Park River Bible Camp we desire to have people come to personally know the one who created them. We do this by teaching them to do Bible study, prayer, worship, playtime, and fellowship on their own and with others.

Park River Bible Camp is a camp that always teaches Christ is to be the center of all that happens in our life. When people learn that Christ is their Savior and Lord, they can learn to live the Christian life in a way they never before imagined. Jesus said, "I have come to bring you life and to have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

**Will you join us in partnering with Park River Bible Camp to support this ministry for the hundreds of kids each year who come to learn more about their Savior and Lord? You can do this by being a prayer warrior and/or financial supporter. We have a Century Club that is a group of people who give at least \$100 each year to camp. We also have people who leave small and large portions of their estates to the ongoing ministry of the camp. Others continue to give to the Park River Bible Camp Endowment Fund.**

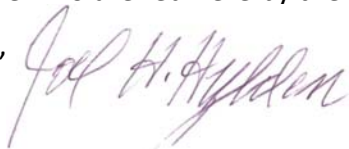
Whatever your wish, we hope you are pleased with the ongoing ministry of your camp in the lives of so many people of all ages.

Right now we are in need of about \$30,000 more than we have received in the past year. This would bring us through the end of the year. Many of our previous givers have gone on to be with their Savior face-to-face, and there are very few people jumping on board to stand in the gap. **We need your help, so we are boldly asking that you consider being a Century Club giver if you have not been one in the past. If you are currently a Century Club giver, would you consider going to the next level of \$500, \$1,000, or whatever that level may be for you?**

Your gifts in the past are a huge reason why this camp continues to grow. We are extremely thankful for all you have done in the past, and look forward to how God will lead you in the future.

Please continue to pray for Park River Bible Camp and all the people who are fed here by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,



Joel H. Hylden, Chairman of the Finance Committee

## Fall Retreats and Events

### September

- 11-12 Lefse days
- 12-13 Sr. High Outback Retreat
- 13 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic
- 17 Fall Gathering for Sr. Citizens
- 27 Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner

### October

- 3 1-3 Grade Day Camp
- 9-10 Confirmation Retreat
- 16-17 Women's Retreat
- 30-31 4-6 Grade Retreat

### November

- 7 Quilt Auction
- 13-15 Quilting Retreat
- 20-22 Scrapbooking/Stamping Retreat

### December

- 31-Jan. 1 Sr. High New Year's Retreat

*Check our website for 2010 retreats and events.*

## Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

If you have volunteered your time or talents in some way to the camp, we want you to join us for a Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on Sunday, September 13, from 5:30-7:00pm. Please RSVP to Tammy at the PRBC office by September 2. Call (701) 284-6795 or email [goprbc@polarcomm.com](mailto:goprbc@polarcomm.com).

## 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*

*(Fall Events: Continued from page 1)*

Broden will share with women on the theme "Heart to Heart: A Call to Authentic Womanhood." Renae is a counselor with Northland Christian Counseling Center in Grand Forks, ND. There is also a Quilting Retreat November 13-15 and a Scrapbooking & Stamping Retreat November 20-22.

### Fundraisers

Our two biggest fundraising events are also coming up this fall, so come see all the recent improvements at camp and support the ongoing ministry.

Sunday, September 27 is our 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner. The Bazaar/Food Sale begins at 11:00am, and serving goes from noon-6:00pm. Takeout meals are available after 11:30am. Adult tickets are \$15 and children 12 and under eat free. On the menu we have lutefisk, meatballs, potatoes, gravy, coleslaw, veggies, cranberries, lefse, rolls, dessert, and coffee. Supplemental funds are provided by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. For tickets contact Mary Weltz in Park River at (701) 284-7030 or Wayne Nygard in Edinburg at (701) 993-8580. You can also attend "Lefse Days" on September 11-12 to help prepare lefse for the event.

Then on Saturday, November 7 we will hold our 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Quilt Auction with a soup & sandwich buffet. Come see beautiful quilts and other hand-crafted items.

### Other Events

On September 13 we invite anyone who has volunteered their time or talents to join us for a Volunteer Appreciation Picnic. Please RSVP by September 2.

On September 17 we invite senior citizens to join us at 2:30pm for worship and fellowship at our Fall Gathering. Refreshments will be served afterwards, and camp tour rides will be available.

We hope you can join us this fall. May God be glorified in all that happens at PRBC.



*(Summer Review: Continued from page 1)*

"The speaker was the reason God sent me here this week. I felt like he was talking about my life."

"My counselor was great! He was very easy to talk to and very insightful on the Bible."

"My favorite thing about camp was learning about Jesus and all the new friends I made."

"My favorite Bible study was the one where our sins were washed away. It rocked."

"When I go home I want to read the whole Bible."

"When I go home I would like to tell more people about Jesus."

"Wednesday's campfire impacted me the most. I grew so much during that time. God opened me to His Word."

As we reflect on the summer, we are moved to pray for our campers and VBS students. Please join us in doing this. God worked in such marvelous ways, and we pray He would continue to strengthen His children.

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

### Chapel Update

Construction on the chapel project slowed down some during the summer months, but has started to pick up again. Most recently, exterior siding has begun to go on. Praise the Lord! We hope you can come out sometime this fall to see the progress.



# PARK RIVER · BIBLE · CAMP ·

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## Claimed!

I don't know what most siblings are like, but I assume at least some are similar to mine, because my older sister had to get her material somewhere. Now, before I say anything else, I need to clarify something: while growing up, I was twice as mean to her as she was to me, so I deserved every word she ever said. Now, I'm not adopted, but I remember her trying to insult me by saying, "You're adopted." I couldn't quite comprehend why I should find that insulting, but I figured she intended to make me feel like the weird one in the family. So being the witty young boy I was, I replied, "That's why I'm normal and all the rest of you are weird."

*I hope my family forgives me for this. And my sister is a very kind woman; we have a wonderful relationship.*

Of all the insults we swapped, I remember that one well, not because it hurt, but because it was such a peculiar thing to use as an insult. What would be so bad about being adopted? Do you know what being adopted means? It means your parent(s) really, really wanted you, made a choice to claim you, and chose to

love you unconditionally. Adoption is an incredible act of love, and a great illustration of God's love.

At camp this summer, one of our memory verses was Ephesians 1:5. It says, "[God] predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will." Do you realize what this means for you? It means God really, really wanted *you*, made a choice to claim *you*, and chose to love *you* unconditionally.

God knew exactly what He was doing when He decided this. He knew who you would be and all the things you would do. Be honest with yourself; the picture God saw of you was not a pretty one. God adopts us, not because we deserve it, but because we need it. He also knew what His plan to adopt us would entail, and the picture of His Son on the cross is not a pretty one either. But this is how God resolved to deal with our sin. He placed it on Jesus Christ so that He might carry it with Him into death, and leave it there when He rose to perfect life. Jesus was obedient to His Father in this so that we too might be sons and daughters.

*With his sister's permission, Dan Antal*