



The Park River Bible Camp Proclaimer

January 2010 - Volume 25, Issue 1

From the Director's Desk

By Sean Barnhart

I needed an internship to finish my Masters of Divinity degree from Fuller Theological Seminary. So in the spring of 2009 my wife, baby boy, and I moved from Pasadena, California to my wife's family farm in Northwood, ND. From there I commuted to Grand Forks where I worked as a chaplain intern at Altru Hospital.

During my time at Altru I was challenged to attend to several families and individuals who were suffering through the tough unknowns of life caused by accidents, heart failures, and cancer. Here I was fresh out of three and a half years of intense theological training, and I was still stonewalled by life's most difficult questions. I found myself asking what the purpose of all that schooling was if I still

couldn't minister to people in their most difficult times.

Eventually I discovered that the best way to ease

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Summer Staff Search

According to our mission statement, "Park River Bible Camp is a camp and retreat ministry for all ages that encourages a faith relationship with Jesus Christ through Bible study, worship, music, and fellowship." Our God wants people to know him, to trust him, and to have life through His Son Jesus.

When Jesus began his public ministry, one of the first things He did was to call other people to follow Him and to become disciples. After Jesus' death and resurrection, Jesus sent out these same people (along with others) to make more disciples by baptizing and teaching. In this way, Jesus has been saving sinners, making disciples, and building His Church.

God is still about the work of saving sinners, making disciples, and building His Church. God is still using people to do it. So we are looking for men and women to join us in God's mission. We are looking for people to

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You can receive *The Proclaimer* by email. Call or email to signup.

1-800-269-2465

or

goprbc@polarcomm.com

Change of address? Call or email to let us know.

You can support the ministry of PRBC by giving online. Visit www.ParkRiverBibleCamp.org



Sean Barnhart, Director of Ministries with his wife, Anne, and son, Jude.

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PRBC Annual Meeting

The Park River Lutheran Bible Camp, Inc. Corporate Assembly is to be held at 7pm on Monday, January 25th in the (well-heated) Fireside Room. All are welcome to attend, though only representatives from current member churches and their pastors have voting privileges.

President André Golike of the C.A.R. to Visit

On Thursday, February 11th Rev. André Golike, president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic, will be speaking at PRBC. The event will be in the Fireside Room and begins at 7pm. It is free and open to the public. Come hear news from our sister church in the Central African Republic.

More Youth Retreats Are Around the Corner

There are always exciting things coming up at camp, and the New Year is no exception. By the time you are receiving this newsletter, we should have just finished our Sr. High New Year's Retreat, and there is much more to come. For all children and youth in 1st-12th grade, we have retreats coming soon. These retreats are great opportunities to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, meet new friends, and have a lot of fun.

For elementary kids we have a 1-3 Grade Day Camp on Saturday, January 9 and a 4-6 Grade Retreat January 22-23 (Friday-Saturday). The theme for these two retreats is "Winter Fun: Life in the Son." Jesus cast out demons and proved that He has power over all the forces of evil. He also rose from the dead and proved that He has power over death. Now He reveals Himself to us in His Scriptures so that we will know that He is able to deliver us from all evil, and will raise us to eternal life. We will have a blast at these retreats with skits, exciting Bible studies, great music, crafts, snacks, and fun games both indoors and out.

Then on February 5-7 (Friday-Sunday) we will have a Ski & Snowboard Retreat for junior and senior high youth. In addition to spending Saturday on the slopes of Frost Fire Ski & Snowboard Area, we will have great worship times, campfires, games, and activities back at camp.

For more information or to register for one of these retreats, visit our website, www.parkriverbiblecamp.org, or call us at (701) 284-6795 or (800) 269-2465.

"Quilts of Our Lives" Quilt Retreat

We also have retreats for more than just youth. Our next Quilt Retreat is January 15-17. Six different quilting classes will be offered for you to hone your skills. You can also spend time working on your own projects, sharing tips and tricks, and fellowshiping with fellow quilters. Check out the brochure on our website.

Winter & Spring Retreats & Events

January

- 9 1-3 Grade Day Camp
- 15-17 "Quilts of Our Lives" Quilt Retreat
- 22-23 4-6 Grade Retreat
- 25 Annual Meeting, 7pm

February

- 5-7 Jr. & Sr. High Ski Retreat
- 11 President André Golike, 7pm

March

- 6 VBS Coordinators Meeting
- 12-14 Quilting Retreat
- 19-21 Scrapbooking/Stamping Retreat

April

- 10 1-3 Grade Day Camp
- 16-17 4-6 Grade Retreat

Check our website for more info or to register.

2010 Summer Camps

- 1-2 Grade Day Camps
June 24, June 25, August 16, August 17
- 3rd Grade Mini Camps
July 14-16 & August 15-17
- 4-6 Grade Adventure Camps
June 27-July 2, August 1-6, August 8-13
- Jr. High Primetime
July 11-16 & July 25-30
- Sr. High Power Surge
July 18-23

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serve as onsite counselors, VBS counselors, office personnel, maintenance personnel, nurses, medics, lifeguards, challenge course facilitators, and cooks. God uses people in each of these positions to further His Kingdom.

Are you interested in joining our staff? Please, let us know. Do you know someone who might be interested? Please encourage them to apply. Application material is available on our website, and we can mail you a paper copy as well. Finally, please pray with us that God would guide the right staff to serve at Bible Camp, and that He would guide the process of selecting the people He has called to serve here this summer.

Volunteers This Fall

We are so thankful for our volunteers! Recently we have had John Johnson, Lindy Johnson, Dale Luhman, Jim Wilhelm, Warren Wenzel, Gerard Larson, Lloyd Thompson, Dale Hammerlund, and Marvin Hedlund. These volunteers come from the Langdon, Park River, Grafton, Alvarado, and Oslo areas. They have sheet rocked in the office wing, hung some blinds and doors, and installed an electric screen in the fireside room. Each time they and others come to help, we are so blessed by their presence.

Top Left: The conference room in the new office wing. All the sheet rock in the building has now been hung.

Top Right: The view in the entry way of the new offices. Pine siding is on the ceiling. Notice the log overhang outside.

Bottom Left: The new Fireside Room. It was wonderful to be able to use it this summer, and the new screen will make it even better.

Bottom Right: The PRBC Chapel in December. We installed the new cross-shaped window this fall.

Volunteers Still Needed

We are very thankful for the many volunteers who have donated their time the last year and a half to help us with the chapel project. So much has been accomplished by your help!

To continue to keep our costs down and give you an opportunity to partner in God's ministry here, we are still seeking volunteers to help with this major project. Would you please consider joining us? You may volunteer virtually any day, now through spring.

Current tasks include working on siding inside the chapel, varnishing, and clean-up tasks. We hope painting will begin soon as well.

If you would like to volunteer, please call ahead of time so Dennie can line up work for you.

PRBC: (701) 284-6795 or toll-free (800) 269-2465.
Dennie: (701) 331-9612.



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the troubled minds of patients and families was to simply pray and name aloud their fears. But before we could address their fears, we had to address the One to whom we were praying.

I often found myself entering into prayer by calling out to our "Good and Gracious God." Time and time again, as I spoke those words they turned from being a simple way to address God, into a confession of who God is. "Good and Gracious God," I would say, "We confess that You are good and gracious, though it may be hard to see how that is so at this moment." Entering into the pain of those hospital rooms, I felt an overwhelmingly powerful need to make that confession on a daily basis. Eventually the confession became a way of

fighting back the despair of so many situations. I needed to make that confession.

But now as the Director of Ministries at PRBC, I am reminded every day of God's goodness and graciousness. I am reminded through people like you who have found the ministry of Park River Bible Camp to be a worthy ministry to partner with, whether it's through your donations of time or money. My confession of God's goodness and graciousness is no longer a confession of necessity, but rather one of proclamation. Thank you, and may we join together in proclaiming that God is good and gracious.

PRBC Year-Round Staff

Sean Barnhart
Director of Ministries
Dan Antal
Program Director
Luke Berntson
Associate Program Director
Dennie Fry
Site Director
Sheila Fry
Kitchen Manager
Tammy Olson
Office Manager
Pam Berntson
Treasurer
Rodney Collins
Maintenance
Richard Kavli
Maintenance
Jen Charbauski
Maintenance