



The Park River Bible Camp Proclaimer

March 2011 - Volume 26, Issue 1

Also in this issue

Page 2: Spring Retreats & Events

Page 3: Hensrud Hired

Page 3: Thrivent Choice

Page 4: From the Director

Look for the next issue of *The Proclaimer* in June. Visit our website to sign up for email delivery.

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Looking for retreat or summer registration forms, applications for summer employment, or just general information about camp? Find it all on our freshly remodeled website.

worship of idols. Spiritual darkness was spreading through the land. The neighboring nations were rattling their sabers, and a great, growing threat was looming in the east. The joy of the people shriveled as the voice of the prophet Isaiah boomed, "Into exile you will go on account of your vile sins." The people became a nation dwelling in a land of deep darkness. The yoke of other nations was encroaching upon them. Warfare and misery was soon to be theirs.

And to these people God promised that His light would penetrate their darkness. Their joy would increase. The yokes of their oppressors would be lifted, the curse of war removed. How? He would do it through a child, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given!" (Isaiah 9:6)

The child, this Son, given to them, and to us, is the

(Continued on page 3)

Greetings,
In this issue of *The Proclaimer* you'll find a number of items including a "Director's Desk," retreat and summer camp schedules, and details about the Pancake Dinner and Easter Cantata.

You'll also find Program Director Luke's article about our 2011 summer camp theme, "*Immanuel: God with us.*" His article serves as a theological preview to who our summer and mission is all about. In it Luke hints at the drama that surrounded this summer's theme verse when Isaiah initially delivered it, and betrays how Isaiah's words bring hope to us in the present.

Be sure to read Andrea Hensrud's testi-

Immanuel: God with Us

By Luke Berntson, Program Director

It was a time of utter chaos. The Holy One of Israel was being scorned. The worship of God was being replaced with the

Reflecting on Junior High

By Andrea Hensrud

Junior High can be a difficult time in a girl's life. It is during this time when a girl starts to find who she is, what she believes in, and what makes her happy. Junior High may consist of fashion, friends, boys, makeup, Facebook, and fitting in. It is a time that, if one doesn't know her own way, it's easier to conform to what others believe.

Junior High is when camp impacted my life the most. Between the boy/girl parties I wasn't invited to and the makeup that I didn't wear, I never found my niche or where I belonged. I found camp allowed me to grow into myself. It was an environment that helped me find who I am and what I believe.

I remember going to split campfire one evening at camp. The girls attended campfire at one place, and the boys at another. I was introduced to Psalm 139. We

(Continued on page 4)



Spring Retreats

Cabin Fever Reliever Quilt Retreat – March 12-14

Are you a quilter who is suffering from cabin fever? Join us for the Cabin Fever Reliever Quilt Retreat! Arrival time is 4:00-6:30pm on Friday, March 12. The cost is \$90 for the weekend.

Scraping and Stamping Retreat – March 19-21

Just a time to scrap and stamp and enjoy being with new friends and old! Come on Friday around 3:00pm to start your weekend of creativity, fun, and laughter. The cost is \$110 for the weekend.

Women's Retreat – March 25-26

Get your running shoes on ladies, we've got a race to run; no spandex shorts or stretching necessary. This is the spiritual race of a lifetime. Come kick-start your

March

- 11-13 Quilt Retreat
- 18-20 Scrapbooking/Stamping Retreat
- 25-26 Women's Retreat

April

- 2 1st-3rd Grade Spring Day Retreat
- 15-16 4th-6th Grade Spring Retreat
- 17 Easter Cantata: 3:00pm

May

- 1 Pancake Dinner: 10:30am-1:30pm

run with Jesus! We'll have fun, massages (for an extra cost), relaxation, Bible study, and a time to grow in your faith. The cost is \$52 for adults and \$45 for college students. Registration is from 5:00-6:00pm on Friday.

1st-3rd Grade Day Retreat – April 2

Come and join us for a great day of playing, meeting new friends, having adventures, eating snacks, praising

God, having Bible studies, and standing strong with Jesus! Check-in time is 9:30-10:00am. This day retreat costs \$20 if registered before March 25 and \$25 after.

4th-6th Grade Retreat – April 15-16

Come join the fun as we play games, worship God, and hang out with cool counselors! Check-in for the retreat is 7:00-7:45pm on Friday. The cost is \$30 if registered before March 20 and \$35 after.

Easter Cantata

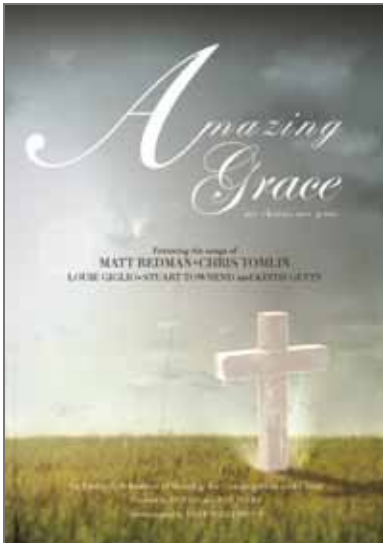
The Fireside Room at PRBC is alive with music on Sunday evenings. Area vocalists who share the love of Jesus, music, and PRBC have begun rehearsals. They are preparing to perform a cantata titled *Amazing Grace: My Chains Are Gone*. The performance will be on Palm Sunday, April 17 at 3:00pm in the PRBC chapel. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the ministry of

PRBC.

The cantata is a collection of songs that will inspire worship from the choir and congregation. Traditional hymns along with contemporary worship songs are used to remind us of the power of the freedom we have in Christ through His amazing grace and to celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death.

Directing the cantata is Lorrie Hylden, and instrument-

talists include Darla Sheldon, piano; Sean Barnhart, guitar; Tynan Nelson, bass; and Todd Kjelland, drums. Come and share in this worship and proclamation of the gospel message through the power of song!



Pancake Dinner

Come to Park River Bible Camp on Sunday, May 1 to fellowship with friends and fellow supporters of Park River Bible Camp from around the area over a hot plate of sausage and pancakes. The meal will be served from 10:30am to 1:30pm. A free will offering will be accepted at the door.



(Immanuel: Continued from page 1)

light of the world. His joy is our strength. His work sets us free. It breaks the bonds of sin. His life brings us peace. This Son, Jesus, bears his people up, and His name is, "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace." The increase of his Kingdom has no end, and through the grace of God, it extends even unto us.

His importance cannot be overstated, for through His Son, Jesus Christ, God has brought us out of darkness and into His glorious light. He has conquered death and raised us to newness of life. You are invited to join us this summer as we further explore the truth that in the Son, Jesus, God truly is, "Immanuel: God with us."

7th – 9th Grade Wilderness Camp!

This summer campers having finished 7th-9th grades can spend three nights in God's great outdoors. You'll have the opportunity to cook outdoors, conquer the Climbing Tower, go fishing and canoeing at Homme Dam, swim in our heated pool, hike the woodlands of PRBC, have campfires, do Bible studies, and more! This camp session runs from June 26-29 and costs \$110 if registered by May 1st and \$120 if registered after May 1st. *(Please note that the date given for this camp in the summer brochure is incorrect.)*

New Summer Choices for 4th Graders!

This summer we have decided to give those who finished 4th grade some new options. In the past 4th graders were only invited to attend our week-long Adventure Week camps, but five nights away from home can be too long for some 4th graders. Now students who

finished 4th grade can choose to attend 3rd & 4th grade Mini Camp (which lasts only two nights) as well as our 4th-6th Grade Adventure Week.

2011 Summer Camps

1-2 Grade Day Camps

July 13, July 14, August 3, August 4

3 & 4 Grade Mini Camps

July 10-12 & July 31-August 2

4-6 Grade Adventure Camps

June 26-July 1, July 24-29, August 7-12

Jr. High Primetime

July 10-15 & July 31-Aug. 5

7-9 Grade Wilderness Camp

June 26-29

Sr. High Power Surge

July 17-22

Mark Hensrud Joins PRBC Staff

Recently, the PRBC Board of Directors felt financial donors to Park River Bible Camp were not receiving the attention they deserve as valued co-workers and partners in this ministry. Therefore, in January, 2011 the Board decided to create a position for a Director of Development and the position was approved at the Annual



Meeting through the approval of the 2011 budget. The Director of Development's ministry is to visit face to face with those who support the camp through financial means, giving them the personal time and information about the ministry of PRBC they deserve.

In February 2011, Mark Hensrud was called to Park River Bible Camp as our new Director of Development. Mark is originally from Hoople, ND and has been a part of the PRBC family as a summer counselor during past summers (2003-2005, 2007). Those who know Mark understand that he has a passion for this ministry that is exceeded by few. Feel free to stop in and introduce yourself to Mark and visit the PRBC staff anytime.

Designating Thrivent Choice Dollars

Eligible members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans are now designated Choice Dollars, based on insurance premiums, contract values, and Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership. Choice Dollars can be directed to Lutheran organizations you prefer nationwide. If you are eligible to direct Choice Dollars to one of the enrolled organizations, you should have been notified by Thrivent. 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, click on the red "Get Started" button, and enter "Park River Lutheran Bible Camp" as the organization name.



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WORDPRESS

Can't get enough of Sean and Luke's ramblings? Read more at parkriverbiblecamp.wordpress.com

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From the Director's Desk

By Sean Barnhart, Director of Ministries

On February 5th, my wife gave birth to the most beautiful of little girls. Julia Paige was born 8 lbs., 21 inches long, and perfectly healthy. It is impossible not to be amazed by little infants. She is so small and delicate, yet she is a complete human being. But what really amazes me is how absolutely helpless she is. Her survival and well-being are completely dependent on her mother and me.

Of course Julia knows this, at least subconsciously she does. This is why she cries when she needs something. Because she can't feed, dress, or change herself, she cries out for help with blind trust.

We see this act of crying out for help and deliverance a lot in the Scriptures, especially in the poetically written books like Job, the prophets, or Psalms. However, in the Scriptures, crying out to God isn't usually done with the same sort of blind hope that Julia exhibits. When the psalmists and the prophets cried out to God it was because they expected God to act as they had known him to act in the past. Their cries are based on who

they know God to be based on God's interaction with human history.

This month I would like to pose an open-ended question to you; something you can mull over. How does what you know of God's interaction with human history, as evidenced in Scripture, inform your prayer life (whether it is in crying out, praising God, or giving thanks)?

(Reflecting on Jr. High: Continued from page 1)

talked about how wonderfully and fearfully we were made. We talked for hours about how God doesn't screw up, how he made us unique. That was when I started to love who I am in Christ, it helped me aim to follow his will. Junior High wasn't an easy time for me, but PRBC encouraged me to make it a memorable climb in my life. Camp is where I found who I was; I learned to take refuge in my Bible and in God.

I encourage all people from all walks of life to come to camp. If you give it a chance, it will change your life. Some of my best friends are those I have met at camp. They too, love who they are in Christ.