



The future of Gimli Bible Camp

by Don Roe

I awoke at 4:30 the other morning with the realization that I had been neglecting one of the most important parts of the ministry at Gimli. I need to better encourage the volunteers that give their time and love to the campers. I learned early in camp ministry that if the cabin leaders aren't meeting the children's needs then they will be unhappy or misbehave. They will also be less likely to understand the good news of God's love. But it is also true that if the cabin leaders, kitchen or maintenance helpers do not know that they are appreciated and treated well they will not grow as much spiritually or find the summer fulfilling. We have been blessed with committed and caring staff each summer. They come to camp to pour out God's love into the children. God teaches them deep spiritual lessons and they develop strong friendships with the other staff. Often when the summer is over, however, the return to the "real" world is difficult. They don't have two worship and teaching times each day, may not feel that they are being used by God, and aren't compelled to "pray without ceasing". Just as we need to have follow up with the campers so they can grow throughout the year there is a need to support our staff as well.

One of our cabin leaders has been coming to Gimli since he was 8. Every week this summer we would put him in a cabin with 3 leaders, one of whom was mature and we hoped would be a mentor, and with campers we know would be very needy. He complained every week that we didn't trust him enough and didn't



believe me when I said that he is gifted in helping the more troubled campers and that was why he was in that cabin. Towards the end of the summer he realized how God was working through him and admitted that he would never trade the kids in his cabin with any other. The exciting thing for me

was to see how much he grew. This year will be one of the cabin leaders I will have mentoring others.

Part of our five year plan is to better train and mentor the young people that serve at camp. We are planning to start a Bible study for the teens as well as have social occasions where they can enjoy their Christian friends. One goal of our follow-up with the campers is to give the staff opportunities to trust in the Lord to work through them as they build relationships and disciple the children. It will also make it easier for me to keep in touch and encourage them.

We are also expanding our Leadership Development Program to run the whole summer. Most of our future cabin leaders are former campers and have come from a variety of home situations and church backgrounds. What they have in common is that Gimli has been a place of growth and affirmation. We have found that three weeks is not enough time to pour into their lives the way we should. By mentoring them all summer we hope to give them more opportunities to see how God wants to use them for His purposes. We believe

this investment in time and resources will lead to better ministry to the campers as well. They are the future of Gimli Bible Camp.

**How can a young person stay on the path of purity?
By living according to your Word.**
Psalm 119:9

Greetings From Our Corner Of Heaven

by Charlotte Roe

“ The righteous perish, and no one ponders it in his heart; devout men are taken away, and no one understands that the righteous are taken away to be spared from evil. Those who walk uprightly enter into peace; they find rest as they lie in death.” Isaiah 57: 1-2

March 20th is the first anniversary of my fathers' passing. My family and I have had almost a full year of firsts without my dad. Sometimes the grieving was hard and sometimes there were great times of reminiscing. He was 77 years old and had bypasses, knee replacements, angioplasty, and other things I can't remember. When he died it was really hard and we grieved, but a death like his doesn't make us question God. He lived his life to the fullest and lived a lot longer than he or anybody else expected.

I am sorry to again be talking about death in my newsletter, but I find myself in deep grief again. Our little church in Gimli has had a rough time since January. God has brought home two of our pillars. Both the deaths have been very hard on us, as they were quite young. Our church rose up and fasted and prayed, believing right till the end that they were going to be healed. These are the type of deaths that make us ask God, "Why?" As I was searching the scriptures for verses on healing and long lives, I came across this one at the top of the page. Even though I still don't understand it all, it gives me great comfort. Ginny and I prayed every Saturday together for three years, I know how righteous, loving, gentle, gracious, persevering, and dedicated she was for God. She honoured and loved her husband greatly and was very involved in her daughters' lives. So believing that God took her because she was righteous is easy for me to understand.

But, what about **Psalm 91: 14-16?** **“Because he loves me,” says the Lord, “I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation.”** Why did God not do this for Ginny? Ginny certainly loved the Lord deeply and was obedient to His call on her life. There were enough of us praying, and our faith was strong. Pondering and meditating on these verses brought me closer to God. It may not have answered all my questions, but just being with Him refreshed me. I believe that God is a personal God. He loves us very much and we are all

unique to Him, so He deals with us as individuals. In John 21, after Jesus told Peter about the type of death Peter was going to have, Peter asked Him what was going to happen with John. **Jesus replied, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me” John 21:22**

So what better command is there, but to follow our God no matter what? A God that loves, adores, treasures, protects, rescues, honors, and delivers us. The grieving is strong right now and very painful, but when I think of where Ginny and my dad and all the others are, I can hardly contain my joy for them. We will be seeing them again, but for now we have work to do down here.

Bekah's Thoughts

Hi, Bekah here. Though my family's life has been turned upside down right now, I find that I am still quite happy. I have a job life guarding, and even though all I do is sit and watch people flounder about in the water, I am still enjoying it a lot. I am doing the lighting in my school drama production, and enjoying it, even though the play is Dracula. Next



weekend I will be going to a Bible college recruitment weekend with my friends and we are very excited about it. My friend Christine will be celebrating her 18th birthday while we are there.

My Grad is coming up...shiver... I am very nervous about it. There is so much change in a grad, plus I am wearing a dress and that makes me uncomfortable. But my grandparents and my mama are so excited that I am dressing up so it's worth it.

One of my next adventures will be getting my instructors certificate in swimming, so I will be able to teach swimming lessons. My volunteering for Special Olympics swimming is going awesome, and I'm taking my athletes to a competition soon.

God and I have been talking about me growing up and moving out. He is being very comforting, plus He is even making me go on a missions trip sometime this September, probably. I am so scared, but I'm doing it because it's good for me. Please pray that I will have courage enough to do it.

Anything else?... Oh yeah, I love my nephew!



Senior's Camp

August 28 – September 1, 2011

Camp opens for Registration
 Sunday at 1:00 pm
 Summer Celebration program
 Starts at 3:00 pm

Activities

Special outings, 5 pin bowling, lawn bowling, shuffleboard, jigsaw puzzles, crokinole, camp fire, horseshoes
 Orchestra (bring your instrument)
 Choir (male, female, mixed)
 Tuck Shop (ice cream, snacks)

Mail registration to:
 Gimli Bible Camp
 Box 1579
 Gimli, MB R0C 1B0

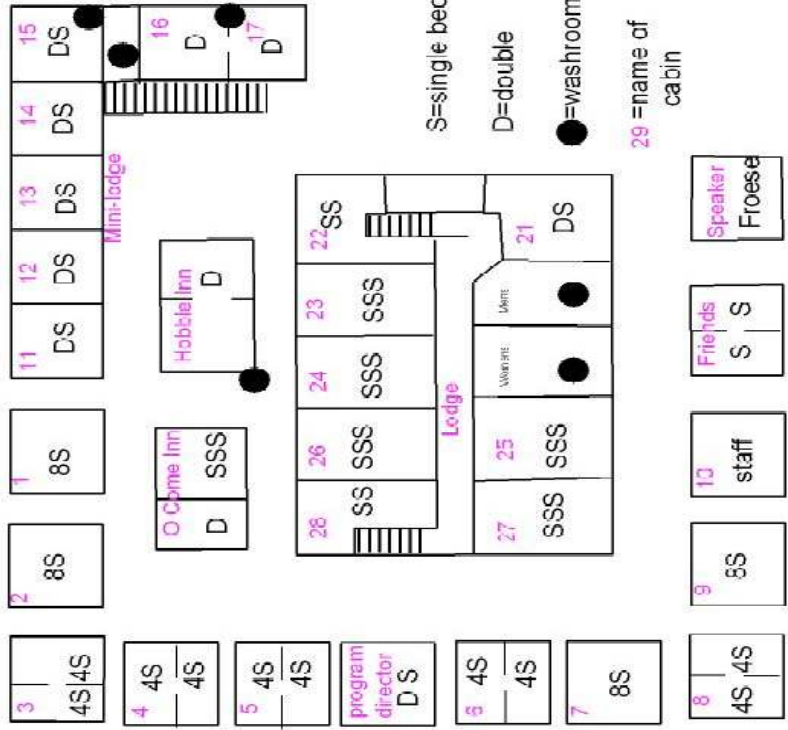
Offerings will be taken for the camp Sunday and Wednesday

Accommodations will be first-come, first served but we will work to ensure that everyone's physical needs are met.

Please choose our cabin (1-9) accommodations if you are physically able.

The mini lodge (11-17) has a ramp and an outside washroom. Please save these rooms for those who physically require them and can no longer climb stairs.

The lodge rooms (21-28) are above the main meeting and dining area and have indoor washrooms. Pray that the health of our friends will remain strong so that we will all be able to meet again this year.



Camper Name(s)

Address

City

Postal Code

Phone

Cell Phone

Email Address

Room number:

Bringing own trailer:

Any Special needs?

Enclose Deposit
\$25.00 per person
or full amount
\$95.00 per person

Work day May 14th

Cut down trees, shingle a cabin, construct our new play structure, replace the archery net and lots more!

Prayer

- ✠ For all those who are dealing with death of their loved ones
- ✠ Jake's injured shoulder

Praise

- ✠ For the donation of chairs, canoe and welding unit
- ✠ Fully booked with rental groups

Needed

- ✠ Prayer that God would lead those He would have serve here

and wanted...

- ✠ Solid wood screen doors for cabins.
- ✠ Materials to expand our play structure. We are going for a ship theme.
- ✠ Materials for a water / toboggan slide at the lakefront
- ✠ Commercial floor cleaner/ polisher

Want to receive the newsletter by email? Corrections or changes? Please tell us, we want to keep in touch!

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***Because kids
are worth it!***

Our Faith Journey

Jake & Martha Friesen

Greetings in the name of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

Our hearts feel such warmth when we think of the wonderful memories and blessings this past Christmas holiday season brought. We truly enjoyed precious time and laughter with our family where everyone came together to build lasting memories.

So far, our winter months have been very busy with hosting retreats every weekend. With the significant snowfall this year, removing snow from the parking lot and pathways for weekend retreaters has become a full time job.

The camp looks so beautiful with the blankets of snow laying softly on the cabin rooftops. Throughout the camp, the snow wraps our cabins with love and anticipation for the coming 2011 summer season. For now, it is quiet and peaceful, may that peace and quietness enter each of our hearts and lives as we study and meditate on God's holy word.

Taking a moment to reflect on a touching moment for our hearts... this past summer a gentleman came by the camp one day. Jake greeted him and was asked the question of whether the camp was still in operation and working with children. When Jake responded that yes, it was absolutely still in children's ministry, the gentleman said "well, then I am at the right place!". He proceeded to share with Jake that his Dad was 80 years old and went to be with Jesus recently. One of his requests to his son was to see if Gimli Bible Camp was still doing children's ministry. If it was, he wanted his son to give some of the inheritance from his dad to the camp. He went on to tell Jake that his dad memorized Bible verses to be able to come to the camp for a week and that it was here at Gimli

Bible Camp that he came to know Jesus. With tear stained eyes, this gentleman gave his financial gift from his dad to Jake, allowing us to continue on with the ministries of youth and children. What absolute joy and encouragement it gave us... that God is still in the business of saving souls. We are His hands and feet to help reach out to those young and old. Psalm 107:1-8 Oh that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!

Our home church in Niverville had their ministerial retreat at Gimli Bible Camp in February – it was good to have them close by to fellowship with and to see their friendly faces! Our youth group from our home church is scheduled to attend in April and we look forward to having them as well. Our retreat center is nearly booked up until the end of June...and before you know it, we will be prepping for summer camps to start in July.

Thank you for your prayers – we know that prayer is so important. We ask for your continued prayers as we seek to serve God with all our hearts, minds and our souls. May God bless each one of you as you labour for Him.



*Herein is love, not
that we loved God,
but that he loved us,
and sent his Son.*

CSSM
ministries