



GREEN SPACE

- THE LATEST & GREATEST FROM CAMP EVERGREEN -
OCTOBER 2010 (VOL. II, ISSUE 3)

Summer 2010 was fun, fun, fun! Our theme for summer was Act.Love.Walk., based on Micah 6:8, which reads “He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” By listening, discussing, debating, considering and praying, we learned about what justice, mercy and walking humbly with our God looks like in our day-to-day lives.

With our Trail Blazer (grades 5-6), Ignite (grades 7-9) and Impact (grades 9-12) campers, one of the ways we addressed the Act.Love.Walk theme was through a “justice breakfast”. The justice breakfast was a tangible demonstration of the difference between justice and injustice in our world. We made sure everyone had enough to eat, but some kids ate porridge and others had bacon, eggs and hashbrowns. After breakfast, we got together in the chapel to talk about the meal. We defined justice – in the simplest terms, it's making right what is wrong. We talked about where we see justice and injustice in the world, our cities, our schools and neighborhoods (such as bullying or exclusion). We ended with the key thought: we serve a just God! True justice is found in God, what He teaches us in His word and through relationship with Him.

Our speakers were Jenny Chell (twice), Sid Koop, Michael Willems, J Janzen, Travis Padgham and Mike Pershon. Each of them shared the truth of who Jesus is and what he's done for us. In addition to speaking, Jenny and Michael were also our Assistant Program Directors. Michael's week of speaking, to Sparks & Explorers (grades 1-4), was his first ever speaking experience. We were so excited to see God work in him and through him as he focused in on how God is love, God is faithful and God is good. Jenny encouraged the kids to listen to God's voice. At the end of most chapels, she gave the kids a chance to respond, handing out papers and crayons for drawing and writing. An eight-year-old girl wrote out the following message that she heard from God:

I want you to be kind to others. I want you to know that I love you. You are my daughter. I would pay everything just to be with you. I love you so derly

Amazing, right? It's exactly what we want kids to know. God *did* pay everything just to be with us, when Jesus died and was resurrected so that we could be saved!

On the fun-and-games side of things (and fun-and-games are a critical part of any camp experience!), there was lots of laughing / running / ziplining / screeching / smiling / playing / mud-fighting / riding / joy! Much of the summer's play time took place in the imaginary land of Alethia (“alethia” means “truth” in Greek). Cabins were paired up as tribes and spent the week earning tokens for winning games or cabin clean up, and for being kind or picking up litter. We painted murals and set up a fancy pants Market in one of the meeting rooms. During Market, tribes used their tokens to buy resources – like in Settlers of Cataan – and then construct cities. The prize for the winning tribe? A late night ice cream party in the kitchen! It was lots of fun!

SUMMER 2010'S QUICK STATS!

Total campers (up 3% from last year!)	664
Total staff (including one-week volunteers)	83
First time commitments to Christ	17
Re-dedications to Christ	31
Total camp programs run across seven weeks of camp	23



Benton
PHOTOGRAPHY

STORY TELLING

Cam has been a camper here at Evergreen for the last five years. He's also now involved in the youth group at one of our Calgary MB churches. After completing ARISE, our three-week Cabin Leader Training program, Cam stuck around and worked as a support cabin leader and program support staff for the rest of the summer. Here's Cam's story.

I started coming to camp about 5 years ago. I had an understanding that there was a God, but I didn't know much about him. But as the years progressed, I have become closer and stronger in my faith for him. I had given my life to Christ, when I was a small boy. Then I rededicated my life the second year I attended Camp.

Ever since I was young I had always wanted to work at Camp Evergreen. What ended up happening was... this past summer of 2010 was my first year as Staff here on site! (WOOT!) I took part in the ARISE program, which is a 3-week journey of total companionship, leadership, and building a stronger foundation with God. I do strongly recommend the program. It was quite the experience! During ARISE, I had learned much about God, and also the memory verse this year, Micah 6:8, which states, "For He has shown You, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of You? But to Act Justly, and to Love Mercy, and to Walk Humbly, with Your God." When I first heard this verse I was like, "What does that mean?" Once again, as the weeks went on, I learned more and more about that verse, and what it means to me. Now, I am sure that I have a good understanding of the verse.

Throughout the years, Camp Evergreen has always been the place that I have felt closest to God. I say that because of how hard it is to live in our society today (like dealing with the challenges of peer pressure). We have so many distractions and things that keep us away from God. I feel closest to God at Camp, because I am with people that share my faith, 24/7! It's pretty sweet! Camp Evergreen is a good place to ask questions and discover who you are in a positive environment.

As I mentioned earlier, this was my first year counselling at Camp. In Blue Cows (morning chapel) Becca, the chapel leader told the story of the wise and foolish builders (Matthew 7:24-28) using Lego blocks as an example of solid and bad building. After chapel, I showed my Sparks campers (grades 1-2) where to find the story in their Bibles. The next week, I heard that one of my campers went home and was super excited to show his mom that the story with the sandy land was in the Bible and he knew just where to find it. I just knew from the start that it was going to be a great summer and an eventful one (which it certainly was)!

Now, one more thing, it's something that has been on my mind for quite some time, I have wondered, what I will do in my life? What purpose will I fulfill? But, at the same time, I'm not worried, because I know that God will let me know when the time is right.

"Trust in The Lord with all your heart;

do not depend on your own understanding.

Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take."

Proverbs 3:5-6



Above: Cam and Sho as members of the Lost Tribe during Ignite 1. The Lost Tribe was the big night game for our junior and senior high camps this summer – cabin groups snuck around in the dark to find and solve clues leading them to the Lost Tribe of Alethia.

Below: The parachute isn't just fun, it's a great fashion statement.



Camp Evergreen adds ... *We're always thrilled when we get to help kids be excited about their Bibles! We gave away more than 40 Bibles this summer. It's pretty cool to see how excited kids get when they realize the Bible they're being handed is theirs to keep! We pray that they continue to treasure their Bibles – and use them till they fall apart! – when they get home.*

ARISE is a fun, challenging, full-of-learning program, designed for campers going into grades 11 and 12. Led by Eric & Chelsey Schubert in summer 2010, ARISE aims to challenge high school students in their relationships with God, help them develop their leadership skills and gain practical experience as cabin leaders. Every summer, a couple of our ARISE campers stay on as support cabin leaders, like Cam did. That means they join a seasoned cabin leader for the week, having fun, sharing Jesus and taking care of six to ten campers.

VISIT OUR BLOG! WWW.CAMP-EVERGREEN.BLOGSPOT.COM

River West Missions Team at Evergreen

Edmonton's River West Christian Church sent a team to help us during our first family camp and staff training at the beginning of the summer. **Faye Hamm** compiled the following report and **Kerry Dyck** provided the photos.

River West Christian Church sent a team of 12 adults and teens to Camp Evergreen from July 1-9th. Mission 2010 was initially formed to work at a children's camp in Brazil, but due to an attack/robbery on the missionaries at the camp, our trip needed to be postponed. Due to our investment of time as a team we wanted to serve as a group and chose Camp Evergreen. We helped with Family Camp, providing the children's programme and helping with camp maintenance. During the following week of Staff Training, we worked in many different areas of the camp; assisting permanent staff in accomplishing major maintenance goals and taking over camp cleaning allowing the summer staff to be fully present for their training sessions.

Two of our teammates were also summer camp staff. They did a bit of double-duty during our mission week. **Steve Epp** writes that "volunteering at Camp Evergreen was a blast. I loved the team dynamics, and working with the Camp Evergreen staff was amazing. Probably the best memory of that week was just the fellowship with the people and, of course, Jug and Jog in the field. I loved the experience and would do it again in a heartbeat."

Erin Dyck writes that, "Camp Evergreen is such a place of fellowship. I made such good friends, and it was super to be in a place where everyone loved Jesus and wanted to serve Him. Being with others, and serving with them was a joy, and I loved it!"

Stan "Mr. Commissioner" Epp writes, "My 3 best memories were working for Dave burning old lumber and arm hair, grilling burgers while choking on smoke, eating Ken's cooking, and playing silent football with an enthusiastic group of campers. What a great place to invest time and energy."

Mikhayla Almeida, writes that she did "all sorts of things, including horseback riding, wall climbing, dishes, sweeping, vacuuming, cooking, cleaning the toilets, and washing mirrors. All sorts of fun stuff! My utmost favourite was riding the horses, going to the tipis for some devo time, and spending time with the kids at Family Camp! The kids were so fun and well behaved, they were easy to get along with. I really enjoyed the devos, bonding with God is an important factor in my life, and it was amazing going out to the tipis to chill and hang out. I loved meeting all of the new people, and making great new friends. All in all I think that Mission 2010 was a success, and I so look forward to working with my mates again, perhaps even new companions for the long road ahead. Praise God for all the work he has done through us and will do through us. Amen."

Pastor Merlin Enns writes: "While I did not get a chance to go with the team to serve, I found that it was great to be able to work with the Camp Evergreen team, planning our trip. They did a great job of not only accommodating our team due to the displacement from Brazil but in providing our River West Christian Church family and team with a great place and time to serve. It was an honour to be able to help out at Evergreen and we are considering how we will serve there again with another team."



The River West 2010 Mission Team all decked out in their Camp Evergreen apparel!

Camp Evergreen adds ... From our perspective, the River West Missions Team was amazing and truly helpful. We missed them when they left! Thank you all!

We were surprised by just how much of a difference it made to have support during staff training – it allowed our seasonal staff to participate more fully in training sessions while preserving their energy for the first week with campers.

We also hope this will be the beginning of a great way to get church families more involved in life at Evergreen! For your church, it's a great opportunity to be involved in local missions – reaching out to kids and families who live in our own backyard here in Alberta! We would love to have a church team with us for each of the eight weeks from staff training through to teen week. We can use you in cabins, on custodial duties, running activities, in the kitchen or at the barn. In January, we'll release more information about church team volunteering.

If you already know that you're interested in coming to camp as part of a church team in 2011, start talking with your small group and then let Kerry know. Her email address is director@camp-evergreen.com.



Melanie, Mikhayla, Faye, Sandy and Nadia helping Ken in kitchen.

COMING UP AT EVERGREEN!

There's always a lot going on out here! You can keep your eyes tuned to our website – the “Retreats and Events” tab has a calendar events with links to more information about each event as it approaches.

calling all agents!

**CAMP
EVERGREEN**
dinner
& auction



camp evergreen
dessert night & silent auction



October 29, 2010, 7PM

Where: River West Christian Church
19815 – 45 Avenue, Edmonton

Tickets are \$5 and they're available through your church office or by contacting Camp Evergreen at 403.638.4230 or director@camp-evergreen.com.

Entertainment will include tales from summer 2010, a death defying aerial performance by Kim Precht, musical acts to be announced and more!

When: October 22, 2010, 6PM

Where: Highland MB Church
4018 Centre B St. NW, Calgary

Tickets: \$25/person or \$200/table of eight (Tax receipts will be issued for \$15 on each ticket.)

RSVP: director@camp-evergreen.com
403.638.4230

Please RSVP by Monday, October 18. To gain entry to this event, you'll need the password. Tickets will not be available at the door.

RETREATS

The Uprising (College & Careers)

November 12-14, 2010

For a mere \$75, enjoy a weekend of God times, good times and maybe, if you're lucky, you'll meet your future spouse. (We might not be kidding, even though speed dating won't be one of the activities.)

Rise 'N Shine (Junior High)

January 21-23, 2011 OR

February 4-6, 2011

That's right: we're running TWO junior high retreats this year! That's how popular they are! Pick the weekend that works best for your youth group, then join us for a wild weekend of ... Games! Snow! Sweet chapel times! Tasty food! Spiritual growth! Worship through music!

For more information on any of our retreats, check the website or contact Becca at 403.638.4230 or apd@camp-evergreen.com.

OUR PEOPLE

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Colleen Reimer
Office Manager

Courtney Armstrong
Program Director

Dave Reimer
Site Manager

Jon Friebel
Head Wrangler

Ken Underwood
Food Services Manager

Kerry Precht
Executive Director

Peter Janzen, Treasurer
(Coaldale)

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Our second annual Pond Hockey Tournament is coming up on

January 15, 2011.

The deadline to register your team is December 15, 2010. Last year, we hosted six teams and raised \$11,000 toward our operating budget. We're aiming to double the participating teams (two rinks this year!) and the amount of money raised.

The Pond Hockey Tournament is a full day of family fun ... don't miss it!