

SPRINGING INTO SUMMER AFTER THE LONGEST WINTER

I heard a new word to add to our dictionary the other day: *frostage*. It's the act of being held hostage by a long Canadian winter. I think we're all ready for some green to start popping up through the blanket of white that's been laying on the ground here at Camp Evergreen since late October.

While we've immensely enjoyed our winter guest groups our current staff is ready for the arrival of spring and the new staff members that come with it. May and June are once again booked



solid with Alberta school groups coming to participate in our outdoor education programming, as well as an array of scouts, community clubs, church groups and others. We're looking forward our Senior's Day planned for May 14th as well as our annual Father & Son Retreat taking place on the weekend of June 13-15.

A huge blessing will be having all ten of our new cabins completed and in use. Our new archery range which was started and used last summer will receive it's roof and final touches this year. A new activity being added this summer is paintball, both as chosen skill and as a boys-only out-trip camp called *Charge*. Our vision for bringing the game of paintball to camp is to re-engage young men in camp ministry and find

a place where we might be able to have conversations that lead them to Christ. We are intentionally building a program that teaches themes like brotherhood, community, team work, leadership, perseverance, faith and courage in a Christ-centered way. To enhance our "across-the-creek" out-trips like *Charge* and *Trails Away* (our horse camp for girls) we are building some platform decks onto which we can erect wall tents for sleeping. We also want to build an outdoor kitchen shelter to use for during these camps. Last year an old cabin was transplanted to our tepee village used for *Roughin' It* as a cooking shed and we hope to add a covered deck to that before this summer.

Our summer camp registrations are significantly higher already that last year at this time. A few camps are already full. Many camps still have room but don't wait too long to register.

Each year we ask our supporters to consider making a donation to our campership aid program. This program enables families who don't have the financial means to pay the entire cost of a week at camp the ability to send their children to Camp Evergreen. If you are able to contribute to this it would greatly be appreciated.

Our theme verse for this summer is Hebrews 6:19, "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." Our God and His unchanging nature is the hope set before us. Pray with us that as we reach out to guest groups and campers we may be able to share this Hope through the testimony of our actions, attitudes and words.

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ROOT BEER *floats*

Thoughts from the Director's Desk

With the weather outside I'm beginning to wonder if I'll ever be able to wear my new pair of Crocs. Now if you know me at all, you would have never pegged me for a Croc type of guy. I wear runners about 95% of the time. Occasionally I'll put on my dress shoes, which for about 25 years were the ones I bought for my high school graduation. But I've discovered the joy of wearing Crocs. Every year we as a staff count down the days until the big "Evergreen Mart". The day when we go through all the lost and found from the previous year. Last year I found a pair of Crocs. I thought I would just wear them in the office because we do get our fair share of mud here at Evergreen. Well it wasn't too long till I discovered I love wearing Crocs. Crazy I know. I can hardly wait for the time I can wear them every day. This year as a treat I bought two brand new pairs of Crocs and for those of you in the know – two charms! You see Crocs have little holes and what better way to fill them than with charms!

But there is something far more important than wearing Crocs in spring. Its the season where God is literally bringing us the harvest field. May and June are almost completely full of school groups here at Evergreen and we have the opportunity to portray the love of Christ to our guests and then invite them back as campers where we can freely share the love of Christ. We've spent the winter months resting, dreaming and preparing. Its now time to get on with the work God has set before us. I would ask that you join us in prayer that the seeds we plant in spring would grow into a harvest this summer.

Our summer camp numbers continue to pleasantly surprise us. As I write this our registrations are 136 campers ahead of last year. God is blessing us with the opportunity to share His love with each of the campers this summer. As more and more campers need financial aid, one way you can very practically partner with us is by donating to our campership aid fund. We anticipate needing \$17,000 this year to ensure each camper who wants to come to camp is able.



As our Cabin Fever draws to a close we are very excited to start some new special projects. We'd like to add some horses to our aging fleet (layman's terms for the herd of horses!), and a roof to our new archery range. For anyone who has been in our lodge lately we're excited to plan for some minor renovations. We've taken out the games closet in the kitchen and will be adding some new cupboards. We would also like to renovate the lodge washrooms. The original 1960s kitchen and dining hall (re-named The Fallen Timber Landing) needs a gas fire place and some audio visual equipment to bring that renovation to completion. I'm excited to move forward each year as we strive to serve our guests and campers more efficiently.

I would like to thank our monthly donors for their faithfulness. It is truly a blessing to know that we have a regular support base coming in each month. We set a goal of fifty monthly donors last year and while we've seen an increase we still need about thirty more individuals to make this dream a reality. Consider joining us on a monthly basis.

Thanks again for your continued support as we seek to see lives transformed by the power of Christ!

Bob Kroeker



SUMMER CAMP 2014:

Our summer Camps are more than half full!
 Dates and rates are posted on our website:

www.camp-evergreen.com/drupal/summer-camps

We are still recruiting weekly volunteer adult kitchen helpers and nurses for the summer.

Call or email Courtney, our Program Director,
 for more information or to volunteer:

program@camp-evergreen.com



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 We TWITTER.
 We are TWITTERERS.

If you want to receive
 Camp Evergreen
 TWEETS and
 TWITTER



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Camp Evergreen is looking for an RV for this summer to use as extra housing for adult volunteers. If you have an RV that you are willing to lend or donate please contact executive director Bob Kroeker by phoning the camp or emailing him at director@camp-evergreen.com



We would also appreciate donations of ice skates of all sizes, as well as hockey sticks and hockey gloves which we can use during our winter season. If you love garage sales please keep us in mind next time you go!

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 14 Senior's Day

June 13-15 Father & Son Retreat

June 28 Annual General Meeting

July 6 - Aug. 22 Summer Camp

Aug. 29 - Sept. 1 Family Camp

October 3-5 RISE UP High School Retreat



What is Easter all about? It's about Jesus dying on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins - that's what we commemorate on Good Friday. It's about Jesus defeating death and rising victorious from the grave - that's what we celebrate on Resurrection Sunday!

What's your role in the Easter story? Believing that Jesus is the son of God and that He's paid the penalty for our sins so the that we can enjoy everlasting life with him in heaven. Receiving this gift of from Him, because what good is a gift if you don't receive it? Thanking Him for this wonderful gift He has so freely given us. This is good news - that's why it's called the Good News!

What's Camp Evergreen's role in the Easter story? Telling guests and campers this Good News of the Easter story, so everyone can believe and receive. That's a big job because there are so many people who need to know this Good News, don't you agree? You can help by sharing this Good news, too.



All of the letters from this Bible verse have fallen out of place. Can you place them back into their spots right above each letter? Cross out the letters as you use them.

If you need a clue there is one on the next page.

Kampers Korner

SENIOR'S DAY at Camp Evergreen

Wednesday, May 14th

11:00am to 4:30pm

Join with us as we host a day especially for you,
including:

- **Lunch**
- **Hymn sing**
- **Staff testimonies**
- **Camp update**
- **Walking tour (optional)**
- **Afternoon coffee**
- **Time to relax and visit**

There is no charge for this event although we will be receiving an offering which will go toward offsetting our summer camp expenses.

Free charter bus transportation is being offered to and from Calgary. The bus will be picking up and dropping off passengers at Dalhousie Community Church. The bus will depart Dalhousie at 9:30 am.

**Please phone or email camp to
register for our Senior's Day,
and to reserve a seat on the bus.**

A clue for kidz Korner:
You can look up this Bible
verse in John 3:16 NIV

Please visit our website **www.camp-evergreen.com**

Contact us at main@camp-evergreen.com or 403.638.4230

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