



THE MIDDLE OF AN ANSWERED PRAYER

BY TABITHA WAHLSTROM, *PRBC Camp Director*

WHAT IS IT LIKE to see dreams become a reality? It's a little like living in a dream—surreal. Walking into the new dining hall on August 9 and hearing the voices and laughter of campers and staff within those walls was—as one of our staff said this summer—“like sitting in the middle of an answered prayer.”

THIS SUMMER WAS A SERIES OF ANSWERED PRAYERS. With restrictions lifted, we were able to run three weeks of day camps in three different communities during July. God answered prayers and opened doors in our local communities for us to come in and connect with the kids.

As many of you heard, during our first week of day camps, we had a forest fire only three km away from PRBC. We were on evacuation alert for a week and fire crews set up a sprinkler system around the perimeter of the camp. God answered prayers for protection and also allowed us to continue sending our crew out to do day camps uninterrupted.





These are just a few answers to prayer from this past summer. As you can tell by the number of staff and volunteers who sent in stories, there were many more ways we saw God working this summer! I've included the short versions here, and you can find the full stories on our blog in the weeks ahead (read the full stories at: pineridgebiblecamp.ca/blog).

There was a crazy amount of work that

needed to be completed by August in order to get our kitchen and dining hall ready to hold overnight camps on site. The last week of July saw the dining hall turn into a beehive as our plumber, gasfitter, and electrician were all here making the kitchen functional. Our camp team and summer volunteers also put a lot of work into cleaning out the upper level, moving appliances into place, cleaning cupboards, installing temporary doors on the washrooms, washing dishes, installing flooring, putting in finishing touches, and so much more. We are super thankful for everyone who helped out in the mad scramble!

On August 4, the kitchen was finally functional and ready to roll—just in time to host Josiah and Alana's wedding on August 5! What a beautiful day it was and a special way to bring in the new dining hall! We pray God's blessing for this lovely couple as they share His love with others through their life together.

The summer culminated in one huge answered prayer as we saw campers here in person for our two weeks of Teen and Jr. Teen camps! What an incredible answer to prayer to see the camp once again full of campers and staff connecting and building relationships in person! What an incredible dream come to life to see the new dining hall and kitchen being used for what it was built for!



I saw God working in many different ways, which was great to see. One thing that rises above the surface for me would have to be the fact that there was this little boy (who happened to be in my cabin) who had such a passion and a desire to learn about Christ every day he was there. This boy amazed me beyond many measures. His desire to learn verses was truly remarkable and reminded me of the verse in the Bible where we, as God's children, are to come to Him with a childlike faith in all our difficulties.

MICHAEL (cabin leader)

When I think back to this summer, there are a lot of great memories that stick out to me, but one of my favourites this year was actually during day camps. For our last week of day camps, I was a team leader and my team that week was so much fun! I remember the one day in particular where my kids were super attentive during chapel. After chapel, we sat in the shade discussing what we had learned and had a great talk about the crucifixion. I don't exactly remember if they had a lot of questions, but they were all listening so well. It was a good reminder that God can use us and work in the kids' hearts and lives even when we think they might be super distracted or not super interested.

MARCIE KLASSEN

One of the ways I saw God at work this summer was through the connections He enabled. At each of the three communities where we held day camps, former PRBC campers attended. In addition to these familiar faces, we also met many new children, some of whom may not have come to a regular camp. Quite a few finished day camp eager to come to Pine Ridge itself when able. For some of the older attendees, that took place soon. Multiple day campers from each community ended up at Teen or Jr. Teen week at Pine Ridge later this summer. It was great to deepen relationships there and share more about the Lord with them in a regular camp context.

NATHAN (*program director*)

Often we don't know how much impact camp has on the kids, especially after they leave. Yet one day, we were in Buffalo Narrows (our first week of day camps), listening to the creation story. The girl beside me leaned over and whispered how different it was from what she had learned. But then, she whispered again, "The man and woman, their names were Adam and Eve. I know 'cause you gave me a Bible two years ago. I read it."

JANELLE POPE

The kids we ministered to saw us staff as united and excited, running to us every

day! This is so huge, as often the church is seen as divided and broken, and it wasn't to these children. To them, we were the only Jesus they saw, and they ran to us, like the way Jesus welcomed the children in the Gospels. This was the most meaningful experience with Jesus that I think they have ever had, and we pray that those lives were changed.

ERIN (*day camp skill leader*)



I felt like I really grew in my faith—being pushed out of my shell, serving in the kitchen, and participating in drama. I had times where I knew without a doubt that through my own strength, it wasn't possible, but through God's power, it was not only possible but also enjoyable. It was also amazing to see so many different people and different ages coming from different areas and just serving together. Everyone was using their specific gifts and talents and just making everything work as a functional body serving the children—it was really cool to see.

KAYELIN (*kitchen help*)

One area I clearly saw God working was the ability to have overnight camps again. With so many obstacles the last while and not knowing how to plan, it was amazing to see camp running again and having complete freedom in teaching the truth from God's Word and telling campers that salvation is available and free. And



we know that His Word will not return void, so praise the Lord for allowing this to happen! In the world we live in, it is so amazing that we can gather at a camp like Pine Ridge and know that God is allowing this. We know that as much as the devil would like to see this work not happen, God is in control, and His plan is perfect.

DAVID (*camp speaker*)

My favourite memory this last year at camp was seeing all the campers form bonds that may last to future years of camp! It is so special to see how God, in even a week, can use friendships and worship to help these kids!

MARITA (*cabin leader*)

A lot has happened this summer, but one of my favourite memories was being able to go to Pine Ridge and spend some time there and see everyone again.

I'm glad to have gone back, and I'm happy that God has given us the opportunity to have camp. Something I've noticed that God has shown me in my personal life while I was at camp and at home is that stress and anxiety are things I need to work on

a lot more. I hope that He will continue to give me the strength and encouragement to work on these things—along with anything else I should be working on that I currently don't know about.

ARIANNA (*day camp staff / kitchen help*)

This year, a highlight for me was getting to see how God works by bringing people together to serve His purpose. A camper in our cabin had some questions about the Bible and how it was different from religions like Islam. One of my co-cabin leaders was a Christian who grew up in Iraq, so he was very familiar with Islam and answered the questions better than I could have! I was so thrilled

to see how God worked to bring two people from entirely different countries and backgrounds to a little cabin at PRBC, knowing that these questions would be discussed!

KEVIN (*cabin leader*)

There were times during our week of “Day Camp” at Buffalo Narrows early in July when it seemed like many things were working against us. . . . But there were also things that made us realize God was at work orchestrating things as only He can do! For instance, months prior to camp, our friend happened to be on the phone with Canadian LifeLight Ministries and then handed me the phone. The next thing I knew, we were being sent three boxes of New Testaments to give away. Some of these we distributed through the Day Camp at Buffalo Narrows. These particular New Testaments include colour photos and testimonies of several First Nations followers of Christ—one of whom is Gilbert Bekkatla, who grew up in the Buffalo Narrows area.

ROLLIE & DENISE (*day camp speakers*)

I came for the first week of day camps in Buffalo Narrows and was a group leader. Everything was a bit different and new for all of us, but it was great fun. My group was on the younger end of the age group. As I got to know the kids in my group through the week, I

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COMING UP ON OUR NEW DINING HALL

SAVE THE DATE

Barring any unforeseen circumstances, we invite you to join us for a **GRAND OPENING** of our New Dining Hall/Chapel and PRBC'S 50-YEAR CELEBRATION (51 years by then) on **SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022!** Stay tuned for more details.

DESPITE OUR PROGRESS, there is still a lot of work that needs to be completed in our new building—in both the upper and lower levels!

UPPER LEVEL: baseboards, doors, caulking, some cabinet work, some electrical, painting outside doors, walk-in fridge and freezer, fireplace, kitchen washer/dryer, etc.

OUTSIDE: stucco or parging, decks and stairs, installing a second propane tank, building a retaining wall, etc.

LOWER LEVEL (immediate priority before winter): framing, electrical, plumbing, ductwork, drywall, and installing the furnaces.

Our goal is to get the lower level to a place where furnaces can be installed before winter. Our building could then be better used for winter events (right now a temporary propane heater keeps it from freezing.)

There is a lot that needs to happen yet to meet this goal, and we very much appreciate the ongoing prayers and financial gifts for completing this project.

If you are skilled in boarding, painting, flooring, etc. and would like to help out—give us a shout, we'd love to hear from you!

Contact Tabitha at info@pineridgebiblecamp.ca if you would like to volunteer. 🍁

For past and current info, follow the building progress on our Facebook page (PRBCDiningHall.NCEM), our blog (www.pineridgebiblecamp.ca/blog), or sign up for our bi-weekly email updates by emailing info@pineridgebiblecamp.ca



WAYS to be **INVOLVED**

PRAY!

- For continued wisdom and provision in finishing the New Dining Hall / Chapel.
- For the ability to continue hosting in-person events for campers and staff in order to stay connected through the year.
- For good communication and connection as a team.

VOLUNTEER!

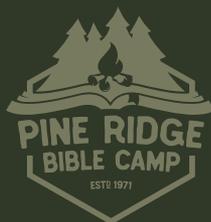
There are many projects on the go, and we would love to have volunteers! If you would like to come help out with finishing the new building or with various projects through the fall or winter, we would love to hear from you!

GIVE!

- Towards the New Dining Hall / Chapel building project.
- Towards our General Fund.

CONTACT US!

(info listed on
back of Plank)





- I would love to keep up with PRBC news! Please add me to your biweekly email update list.***

(Please print email clearly _____)

or email us at ***info@pineridgebiblecamp.ca***)

- I am giving a one-time gift of \$ _____.***
- I intend to give a monthly donation of \$ _____.***
- I would like to be a part of the New Dining Hall / Chapel Building Project by giving a donation of \$ _____ or a monthly pledge of \$ _____.***

ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS (including online, electronic funds transfer and email transfer) are available at **www.ncem.ca/donate/ways-to-give** or call the NCEM office, 1-833-751-1215 (*toll-free*).

Name _____

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- Please indicate if you would prefer a yearly receipt.

Cheques should be made payable to NCEM and mailed with this slip to:
NCEM, PO Box 3030 Prince Albert SK S6V 7V4.

In the USA please make all checks payable to: Northern Canada Evangelical Mission (NCEM),
and send to: 9169 W. State St., Suite 500, Boise ID 83714.

Tax-deductible receipts will be issued.

If more funds come in than are needed for designated projects, the extra funds will be used for other PRBC needs.

PINE RIDGE BIBLE CAMP is a ministry of
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saw their faces light up when they got to do things that they enjoyed or when they finally got the tomahawk to stick in the wood. We played a game of bucket ball, and it was so much fun to see how the campers went from not understanding how to play to having so much fun that you could see it written all over them as plain as day!

NAOMI (day camp team leader)



It was great to see God work in many different ways this summer. One that stands out to me is the completion of the dining hall construction before Aug. 5, when we had a wedding scheduled at the camp and the dining hall was to be used for the reception.

It was July 27, and we still needed the plumber, gasfitter, fire suppression, and

our general contractor to complete work to have a functional kitchen by Aug. 5. I had been involved with enough construction projects to know that something usually causes delays, and this project was on a tight timeline. All the contractors had to show up when scheduled to make it work.

The plumber arrived and got us running water in our kitchen by the end of July. The gasfitters were on schedule and completed their work by the end of July. However, our general contractor was tied up on another project, and as much as he tried, he couldn't make it up before Aug. 5. We had the flooring to install in the dining room and doors to hang on the bathrooms. With much help

from volunteers, we completed the flooring and baseboards by Aug. 3, and our fire suppression was completed on Aug. 4. We praise God for freeing up all the contractors and volunteers to complete the construction on time. It was only because of His goodness that we could hold a wedding reception on Aug. 5.

It was a true blessing to see campers and staff file into the new dining hall to eat their meals during the next two weeks of camp. Praise God, for He is truly a good God, and we can rely on Him in our hour of need. 🌿

BRUCE McCASKELL

PINE RIDGE PLANK is the newsletter of Pine Ridge Bible Camp, a ministry of NORTHERN CANADA EVANGELICAL MISSION.

PineRidgeBibleCamp.ca   

Please send all correspondence to:
Pine Ridge Bible Camp
PO Box 160
Beauval, SK S0M 0G0
info@pineridgebiblecamp.ca

Donations should be sent to:
NCEM
PO Box 3030
Prince Albert, SK S6V 7V4
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IN HIS NAME. BY HIS POWER. FOR HIS GLORY



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