

# CAMP BETHEL NEWSLETTER SPRING 2017

## NEW BEGINNINGS

Newsletter Date: 04/18/17

### NEW CAMPING SEASON BEGINS

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST :

- > 11 retreats & 5 workdays since Jan 1st
- > Summer staffing completed
- > Raised \$286,000 for dining hall project
- > Prayers requested
- > New beginnings for the Allen Family

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It's been a busy year already. We've had 11 retreats plus 5 workdays since January 1st.

Summer staffing positions have been filled and preparations for staff training week are almost complete.

We believe so much in the power of prayer, that we would like to ask you to be praying for the following:

1. Our staff would clearly share the gospel to each camper
2. Safety for staff and campers
3. The camp speakers would clearly present God's word
4. Campers' hearts would be receptive
5. Safety for parents/guardians as they drop off & pick up campers

The dining hall renovation and expansion project is moving along and racing to get the kitchen and the old part of the dining hall

completed by May 20th.

The new addition will follow within a few weeks afterwards, Lord willing.

It's been amazing to watch God through His church and people supply for the much needed renovation.

To date, God has provided \$286,000 of the \$406,000 needed. That means we only need another \$120,000 (plus any overages) to complete the funding for the project!!!

I am humble by the generosity of so many churches and individuals in giving to support the ministry here at Camp Bethel. I can't begin to express my gratitude. Thank you.

We are planning a Grand Opening to celebrate God's provisions for the new dining hall, Saturday, August 19th. So, mark your calendar for this awesome event. Come and see the newly renovated dining hall. We would love to see you! Watch our

Facebook page for more details on this upcoming celebration.

If additional funds are still needed to pay off the building, the Grand Opening celebration will also be a fundraiser to help complete the needed funding.

If you would like to give towards this building project, you can go to [www.mountaintopexperience.org](http://www.mountaintopexperience.org) to make a donation, or you can make a check payable to, "Camp Bethel" and mail to: Camp Bethel, PO BOX 70, Dayton, WY 82836.

Thank you for your prayers and support over this last camping season and we ask that you please continue to pray for us as we share the good news with all who enter our gates in this new camping season.

Written by:  
Tim Huff

### FINAL CAMP ARTICLE - NEW MINISTRY LAYS AHEAD

It is with deepest gratitude I write my final article for Camp Bethel. I would first like to thank the board for the opportunity given to Mary and me over three

years ago to become just a small part of the legacy that is Camp Bethel. We appreciate the opportunity to have served the Lord, the

Huffs, the board and the staff and campers through the ministry at camp. God has done a good work here and will continue that good work as many others seek

**FINAL CAMP ARTICLE - NEW MINISTRY LAYS AHEAD  
- CONTINUED**



**“We will miss running from moose...”**

**“It is this very passion that has given us the desire to use our gifts and talents within a local body ...”**



**“We found peace and comfort here...”**

to serve Him through their work at Camp Bethel.

We have seen some amazing things happen here over the last three and a half years through summer camps, Winterama and even rental retreats. Camp Bethel has been a special place for many and I trust will continue to be just that. It is a place of solitude and yet great spiritual renewal. It has been those very things to us as well. We found peace and comfort here. We found a renewed passion to serve the Lord and help others deepen their walk with Him whether as staff or campers. It is this very passion that has given us the desire to use our gifts and talents within a local body as we move from camp.

It has also been a time of relational renewal for Mary and me. We are accustomed to me working very long hours and not having a great deal of time to spend with each other. Here at Camp Bethel, God granted us a great deal of time together as we served daily side-by-side in His work. What a blessing that has been to us. It will be missed greatly.

We will miss the comradery that has developed with Tim and Charmaine as well as the amazing staff God has brought here during our time at camp. I will especially miss the time spent with some pret-

ty special young men with whom I have been able to serve on our maintenance staff over the past three summers. I only pray that God has changed your lives for the better as much as mine through you guys. It has been a special time indeed.

We will miss running from moose and watching out for the occasional bear. We won't miss watching for mice and smelling their little decaying bodies in the cabin, but that is all part of it, isn't it. We will miss seeing God's marvelous painting showing off his beauty in the trees, streams and all the amazing scenery we have woken to just outside our door. We will miss, as we have called it, the most beautiful driveway in the world as we come and go from the towns around us. We will miss all of this, but not nearly as much as we will miss the people God has placed in our lives through camp.

We will miss our only neighbors here. We will miss, as I have mentioned, the incredible staff God has brought here during our time at camp. We will miss all those who return time and time again to camps and retreats both kid and bigger kids (adults). We will miss seeing the board throughout the year as they have encouraged us in the ministry at camp. In short, we will miss the people the

most.

But, God has other plans for both camp and the Allens so it is with both gratitude and sadness we say goodbye. We say goodbye to an important part of our life and look forward to where God will have us serve next. God is so good isn't He?

Our prayer as we leave this inspiring place is that God would continue his good work here. We pray that the board, the Huffs, whomever will fill our position and all those to come will continue to seek the Lord in all the plans and daily adventures that go along with the ministry of Camp Bethel. I write this fully convinced that this is exactly what will happen. I trust the Lord to guide you daily as you lead this important ministry God has not only created, but has sustained and grown for 73 plus years. May God bless you all as you serve Him at Camp Bethel.

With deepest appreciation,

Written by:  
Jon Allen

**WOW, GOD! JUST WOW!**

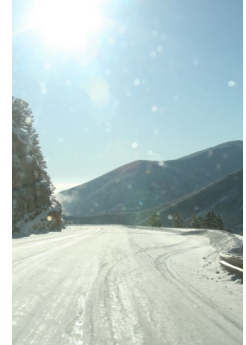
Headed down the mountain this morning, I was wondering about the timing of my departure and whether I would catch the sunrise. As I took the final bend before the descent all I could think was "Wow, God! Just wow!" I had been blessed by many beautiful sunrises coming off the mountain, but this one was very unique, very spectacular. It was breathtaking. It was a taste of God's glory revealed through His creation. So much more than I had hoped for.

But that's how God is. He delights in doing things above and beyond all that we can ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). That sunrise made me mindful to reflect on things happening within our own family. He has answered prayers above and beyond what we asked for or imagined could happen.

As thoughts turn to summer camps and the completion of the dining hall project, I'm excited to see what God will do. Join us in praying for a safe and

timely completion of the dining hall, for the salvation of many kids, for the spiritual growth in our staff and campers and then watch... believing that our mighty God will answer above and beyond what we can ask or imagine.

Written by:  
Mary Allen



**"Headed down the mountain this morning"**

*A Note on Thankfulness from the Kitchen*

As our winter groups of men, women, youth and children walk through the food serving line at Camp Bethel, we hear many saying, "Thank-you" as each portion of the meal is placed on their plate. After enjoying the meal, there are several who specifically return to say an additional thank-you for the meal and may even mention an appreciation for the time and effort involved in the preparation.

This reminded me of the different degrees we show our thankfulness to God. We are generally thankful for all His blessings and daily care over us. Yet when we have enjoyed time in His presence, being fed by His Word, we

are reminded again of his deep love and faithful work in each of our lives. This causes us to return to Him with a deeper sense of appreciation and thankfulness flowing from our hearts.

May we each overflow with thankful joy as we continue being a witness and servant for Him. Isaiah 43:10, "You are my witnesses, declares the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe Me and understand that I am He. Before Me no god was formed, not will there be one after Me."

Written by:  
Charmaine Huff

**"May we each overflow with thankful joy as we continue being a witness and servant for Him."**



## CAMP BETHEL

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The Mountain Top  
Experience

**Camp Bethel** is a cozy, tucked away camp that is perfect for separating yourself from a busy schedule. The warm log cabins and refreshing forest smells of the Bighorn Mountains create an incredible atmosphere to refocus on our Creator. Between 15 buildings we can provide lodging for 135 guests and include fresh cooked meals.

After more than 70 years Camp Bethel is still a thriving Christ-centered place to learn, grow, and have fun! Between summer camps, church retreats, and events there is a place for any age to spend time relaxing and enjoying camp in the beautiful Bighorn Mountains.

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**Interested in booking a retreat? Check out our rates at:**  
**[www.mountaintopexperience.org/rentals](http://www.mountaintopexperience.org/rentals)**

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## A NOTE OF THANKS



**Romans 1:20 (NASB)**  
**For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.**

Time doesn't seem to stop for anyone. It just keeps moving on. Because of this, things come, and things have gone over the years.

This has caused me to stop and reflect on the people who have come here to serve over the last 73 years. Some have only been here for 6 months, while others have stayed for many years.

Each have come, being called to serve by God for their anointed time. Each have had a season to invest and make a difference in lives.

The Allens have been here

3 1/2 years and will be missed when they move on to another ministry opportunity.

I will testify, they have made a difference like those who came before them. They have invested their time into running the camp, but most importantly, invested their time into people's lives.

Charmaine and I will miss working with them, eating together, exploring the mountain together, but most of all, we'll miss their friendship.

We know their hearts are back in the body of Christ, the church. We know they

will continue to invest in lives wherever God places them. For that, we're excited to see where God sends them to serve. We do know, wherever that may be, the people around them will be blessed.

May God bless you both as you move into a new ministry off the mountain.

Your friends, Tim & Charmaine Huff.

PS Be sure to bring the dog when you visit because we'll miss him as well !