

# CHURCH OF CHRIST

# CHRONICLE

... pursuing the God life

Spring 2014

## “ARTicipation”

By Jim Biggs  
Creative Arts

Maybe something happened in April to make it memorable for you, but probably not. In Grande Prairie, April is quickly forgotten, for good reason. It's not our best month.

One thing you should not forget about last month happened on April 12 at the Church of Christ. We had an art festival here and it was very good. It should not be so quickly dismissed.

How good was it? Consider the facts:

- There were forty-two visual art contributors
- There were four different music presenters
- There was a wide variety of art, from painting to sculpture, jewelry to quilts, music instruments to motorbikes, and much more.
- The food was an art form in itself, and it was free.
- There were just short of 200

attendees, including folks from the neighbourhood, the Saturday night supper, and others.

Nobody paid much attention to the theme, which was “Jesus in Everything”. On the other hand, is it possible to do art and NOT think of the Creator? Whether conscious or not, theology happened.

- It took days to set up but only an hour to clean up.
- In our habitual discarding of April, we should at least take a moment to remember that event. It really was pretty fine.

Looking forward, we're going to have a fall event on September 6. We used to call it Kick Off but some people are tired of that name so we'll call it something else now. Leading up to that, we're thinking about theology as it relates to another art form: movement and dance. If you've never thought much about that subject, don't worry. Not very many people do. But we're going to give it a shot.

Saturday, September Six, 4:00 pm, Highland Park. Let us know if you have ideas. ■

“...is it possible to do art and NOT think of the Creator?”

# "SUMMER VACATION" AT GLORY GARDEN

# GLORY GARDEN



We like to go for walks



Learning about farm animals is fun!



Playing doctor

Glory Garden is gearing up for their summer program! From 7:30am-5:30pm, Monday through Friday, between July 7 and August 29, Glory Garden kids will continue to receive quality care and experience the love of Jesus.

The "Summer Vacation" theme lets kids look at different ways

people spend their summer vacation while learning Bible stories and enjoying activities, craft projects and wacky science experiments. Many field trips are planned and include Muskoseepi park, Second Street Theater, HJ's Bowling and putting on a play for the seniors at Wild Rose Manor.

Help in providing healthy snacks of fresh fruit and vegetables is always needed and appreciated, especially during the summer program.

If you are able to help out by shopping for produce, and / or preparing fruit or veggie trays and dropping them off to Parkside school, please let us know: Karen at [mcburns@hotmail.com](mailto:mcburns@hotmail.com) or Janet at 780-532-7429 extension 1413. ■



Some of our gardening projects from this spring!

*"Quality,  
Affordable  
Out-of-school  
care, sharing  
the love of  
Jesus."*

# SUMMER FUN TO CHECK OUT

## BALL HOCKEY

**ALL SUMMER LONG:**  
Ignite youth are planning to host pick-up ball hockey at the Swanavon outdoor rink every Saturday from 10am-Noon.  
All teenagers and adults are welcome to join the fun. Extra sticks will be available, but please bring your own goalie gear (if you want to play goal), and water (we don't want anyone getting dehydrated).  
Call Ezra Wood, or Jaron at the office for more info.

**PINERIDGE**  
Adventure Camp  
A Ministry of the Grande Prairie Church of Christ

**Summer 2014**

**Kidz: July 13 – 18**  
**DVBS: July 21 - 25**

**Rookie: July 25 – 27**  
**Teen: July 27 – Aug.1**



**[www.gopineridge.com](http://www.gopineridge.com)**

# IF TOMORROW NEVER COMES

A poem by our very own Johnny Van!

By John VanVolkingburgh

Personal Reflection

## *If Tomorrow Never Comes*

If I knew it would be the last time  
that I'd see you fall asleep,

I would tuck you in more tightly  
and pray the Lord, your soul to keep.

If I knew it would be the last time  
that I'd see you walk out the door,

I would give you a hug and a kiss  
and call you back for more.

If I knew it would be the last time  
I'd hear your voice lifted up in praise,

I would video tape each action  
and word,

so I could play them back day  
after day.

If I knew it would be the last  
time, I would spare an extra minute  
or two

To stop and say "I love you",  
instead of assuming you would  
KNOW I do.

If I knew it would be that last  
time I would be there to share your  
day,

Well, I'm sure you'll have so many  
more, so I can just let this one slip  
away.



For surely there's always tomorrow  
to make up for an oversight,

And we always get a second  
chance to make everything right.

There will always be another day  
to say our "I love you's",

And certainly there's another  
chance to say our "Anything I can  
do's".

But, just in case I might be  
wrong, and today is all I get,

I'd like to say how much I love  
you and I hope we never forget,

Tomorrow is not promised to  
anyone, young or old alike,

And today may be the last chance  
you get to hold your loved one tight.

So, if you're waiting for  
tomorrow, why not make it today?

For if tomorrow never comes,  
you'll surely regret the day,

That you didn't take the extra  
time for a smile, a hug or a kiss

And you were too busy to grant  
someone,

what turned out to be thier one  
last wish.

So hold your loved ones close  
today, whisper in their ear,

Tell them how much you love  
them and that you'll always hold  
them dear,

Take time to say "I'm sorry",  
"Please forgive me", "Thank you",  
or "It's okay",

And if tomorrow never comes,  
you'll have no regrets about today.

JV



# RYAN'S READS



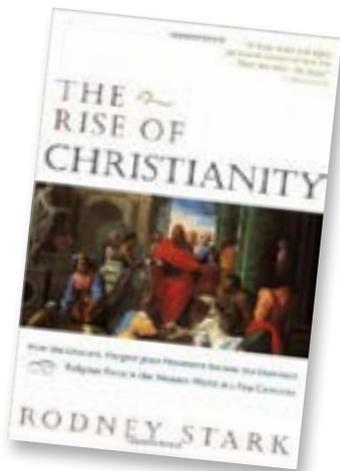
Ryan loves reading books and quotes and sharing his discoveries with others. Check out our church library and look for Ryan's recommendations there.

By Ryan Duford  
Highland Park

Here's my top two recent reads! Check them out and feel free to contact me at the church office sometime if you want to talk about them.

- **The Rise of Christianity: How the Obscure, Marginal Jesus Movement became the dominant religious force in the western world in a few centuries** by Rodney Stark

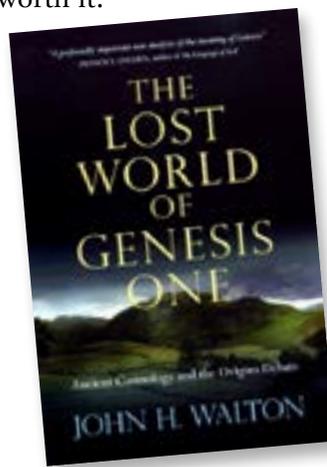
- I love this book because it explains how at one time Christians were known for turning the world upside down. Is it possible that we could be known for the same thing today?



"What Christianity gave to its converts was nothing less than their humanity." p.215

- **The Lost World of Genesis One: Ancient Cosmology and the Origins Debate** by John H Watson

- This book is written by one of the leading Genesis scholars in our day. He suggests that we may have missed the point of the first chapter of Genesis. I'll be honest, this can be a challenging read, but it's worth it.



"Among the many things that the image of God may signify and imply, one of them, and probably the main one, is that people are delegated a god-like role (function) in the world where he places them." p. 68

I think this N.T. Wright quote bridges these two books:

"The Gospel is not meant to make people odd or less than fully human; it is meant to renew them in their genuine, image-bearing humanness."

QUOTE FOR DISCUSSION:

"To the Jewish mind, the understanding of God is not achieved by referring in a Greek way to timeless qualities of a Supreme Being, to ideas of goodness or perfection, but rather by sensing the living acts of His concern, to His dynamic attentiveness to man. We speak not of His goodness in general, but of His compassion for the individual man in a particular situation. God's goodness is not a cosmic force but a specific act of compassion. We do not know it as it is but as it happens."

- Abraham Joshua Heschel

Come talk to me if you want to know from my perspective why this quote changes how I do evangelism.

Suggest a book! Email me at:  
ryan@gpchurchofchrist.com ■

Last year we held four seasonal Festivals to build love and equip us to tell the stories of our life in Jesus. These are a safe venue to invite friends without the 'pressure of church'. Between 125 to 250 people usually come to taste 12 seasonal dishes and share their stories of love and forgiveness. Seasonal play is enjoyed with everything from boating to skidooring. If children attend most of these in their growing years they will have



# COMMUNITY FESTIVALS



experienced more than 60 festivals of love-building and excitement in God's love words to us as the trails they run and play on are decked out with a hundred of these. Each festival is themed to give easy entry for mini-mentoring. The last one was "How do you devote yourself to one another in love?" and the next one is coming up on June 22 - "Rhubarb Festival". We will ask each other "What is your love doing?" "...because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who was given to us." - Romans 5:5b

Watch for more festivals and opportunities to encourage one-another in the coming year!



*"To help each other to be excellent in loving and forgiving." Community Festivals bring our sites together for words of encouragement, a variety of activities and numerous tasty dishes which are enjoyed by all ages. 2 km of trails are lined with verses that have spoken into people's lives.*