



# RHUBARB FESTIVAL

*"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. Rhubarb Festival is one of regular gatherings that hundreds of people enjoy.*

# CHURCH OF CHRIST CHRONICLE

*... pursuing the God life*

Summer 2014

## View From The Kitchen - Then and Now at Church of Christ Camps -

**By Sharon Kuykendall**  
*Highland Park site*

1952 was the beginning of a joyous, life long, event in my life - CAMP!! Our church first held it's camps on the shores of Bear Lake. Swimming every day, playing ball and chasing the boys however indiscretly are some of my fond memories. As I recall these events I know the importance of hearing God's word and experiencing His love on a daily basis. Back then we were in 2 - 3 Bible classes each day of camp with an exam at the end and rewards - a camera or any coveted, desirable item - were given out! My Mom and eventually my Mother-in-law were the cooks at many of these camps. Perhaps the "cooking," opportunity was instilled in me at that time.

In the early '60s our church established a camp property of our very own - Pineridge. Following my mother's footsteps, I cooked at camp, and brought my children and grandchildren to experience special summers there year after year. Through my many years of camp involvement I have seen the results of God's word and love being sown. The introduction to God's Word and love is powerful. I have had the privlidge to see many kids, as adults, return to God with their

families.

This past camp year was simply fantastic. The leadership was outstanding- thanks to all of you - Jeremy, Mavis, Jaron & Nolan to only name a few of many. The campers were joyous and fun, giving the cooks interesting things to talk about (e.g. a boy eating 9 buns at one meal!). And speaking of the cooks- how much I appreciated the excellent help in the kitchen: Pat, Nancy, Carla & Naomi, oh yes- and Dave Friesen... the best pancake flipper! There were many times I thought "thank

you" Amanda Hentges and her team for our beautiful, useable, wonderful (I could go on!) facility - "your blessings will be great!" The camp committee has really accomplished amazing things over the last few years.

I feel so blessed to be a part of this work. May I encourage everyone to be part of this great ministry in some way... whether in prep or prayer for the camps, working with campers, or even washing dishes after a meal!

What will next year bring? - even more OPPORTUNITIES!!!



*Our camp ministry continues throughout the year at "Heroes Academy" - a weekly gathering for kids grade 6 and under.*

# SCENES FROM "CHURCH AT CAMP" SUNDAY



Reading scripture and singing together in God's creation.

Lord's Supper - Camp style

Hearing the Good News of God's love, and learning a bit about the mission of Young Life.

Ring the dinner bell for a delicious Father's Day brunch.

Enjoying each other's company, and trying out the new Octoball pit!

# 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

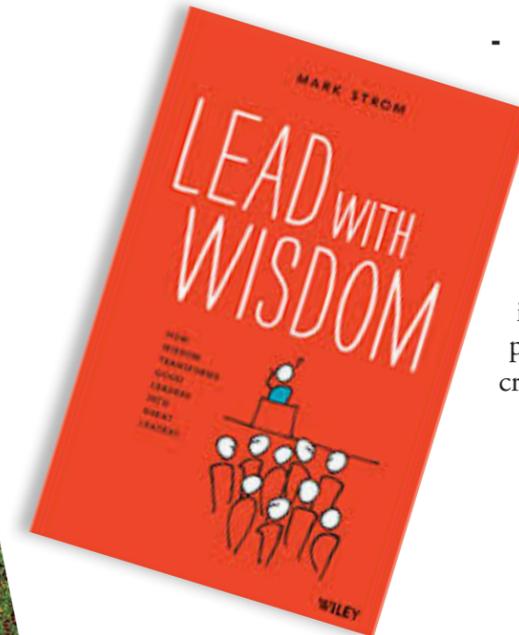
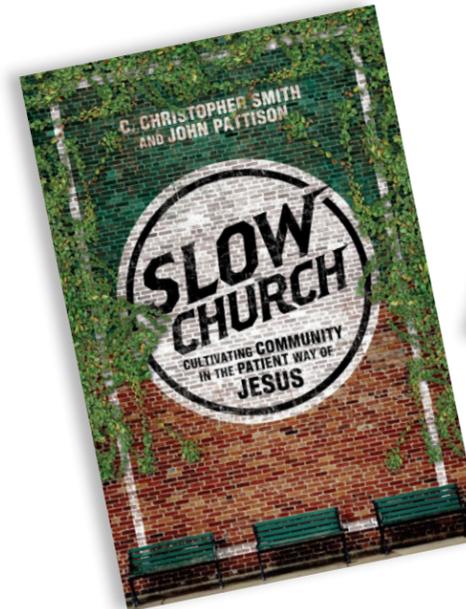
Check out

my top two recent reads and feel free to contact me at the church office sometime if you want to talk about them.

to build a church that is deep and wide. At least that is what I have gotten from my conversations with Jen :)

• **Lead With Wisdom: How Wisdom Transforms Good Leaders into Great Leaders** by Mark Strom

- Lead with wisdom is an excellent book because it turns conventional leadership on its head. Mark argues for the priority of persons over performance or program and that spending time in conversation with no predetermined outcome can create lasting change. ■



Suggest a book!

• **Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient way of Jesus** by C. Christopher Smith and John Pattison

- I bought slow church for my wife, Jen, and she has really enjoyed it. It is about the need to take the time for personal relationships and how this is the most effective way



Send me an e-mail: ryan@gpchurchofchrist.com, contact me at the church office during the week, or flag me down on a Sunday morning - I'd love to talk with you!

Ryan Duford works at the church as our director of Young Adult and Men's ministries. He coordinates weekly Bible studies, men's small groups and large group events.

## “LOVED” A PERSONAL REFLECTION - CONTINUED from pg. 3

You picked the perfect parents  
to show me true love  
and I thank you Jesus!

Jesus, you sent me a Pastor -  
his name you already know  
because you hand picked him  
specifically for me  
because of your great love.

When my burdens had become so  
heavy  
I didn't even know how to walk  
anymore,  
your light shone through him  
and made my soul come alive -  
He would fill me back up  
with fire and passion for you,  
Jesus!

You sent me a Pastor  
who would never give up on me,  
and show me love like no other -  
A humble man who has your  
heart.

Lord, all along you have shown me  
your love  
and have never given up on me!

Then, at night, when I prayed in  
secret  
and cried myself to sleep  
praying for a friend  
who loved you dearly,  
who would share in the joy of The  
Lord with me  
with passion and fire,  
you sent someone.

You knew the storms would be  
coming  
and you didn't save me from  
going through them  
but sent someone to encourage  
me daily,  
to shine your light,  
show me what a real friend is,  
to make me smile,  
and love me unconditionally!

Lord, there is one specific person  
that started this chain of loving  
events  
and I thank you for her.

Many years ago you started a plan  
to show me what love is,

what it means and how to accept  
it.

She listened to me when lost and  
confused,  
I stumbled into Glory Garden,  
desperate for help,  
lonely, and scared to escape an  
abusive marriage  
and to find worth in myself  
somewhere!

She opened her arms and  
welcomed me  
into the Glory Garden family  
as well as my children!  
She told me that day,  
“you are worthy to be loved.”  
“Everything is going to be ok.”  
She introduced me to everyone  
and I had a family  
and didn't even know it.

Jesus, I have now been shown  
true love, real love,  
all because you loved me  
enough to never give up on me.  
Thank you Father God!

JR



By Joannie Rosevear  
*Personal Reflection*

Jesus, the love you have shown me!

The love you have shown me  
through the love of a husband,  
through the love of an adopted  
mother and father,  
through the love of a pastor,  
through the love of a best friend  
and through the love of a friend  
and mentor!

You created this amazing  
masterpiece in my life  
and while it is still being painted  
the part about love is now  
complete.

So many times in my life I have  
felt lost,  
lonely, confused, worthless  
and unloved!

I understand what love is now  
because of the the love you have  
shown me  
through these people -

Your blessings in disguise.

Your blessings were always  
planned for me  
at just the right time.  
Your timing is unbelievable -  
impeccable!

My life has had many twists and  
turns  
and Jesus, through all the abuse I  
have endured  
through previous husbands, you  
blessed me  
with one I feel I don't even  
deserve.

He has shown me love,  
he has stood beside me,  
and has never given up on me  
even through all the pushing  
and countless times I wanted to  
runaway  
because I was very afraid  
to love him and get hurt!

He has wiped away so many of  
my tears,  
he has calmed so many of my

fears.

He has taught me to love myself,  
and he has shown me true love  
day after day.

When I lost my mother -  
and had a father who has never  
been proud of me,  
who abused me throughout my  
life  
even into adult hood -  
you didn't just send me a  
mother,  
but also a father!

They have loved me  
unconditionally;  
they have never given up on me  
even through the storms;  
they have showed me your love  
by accepting me,  
my husband and my children  
as their own.

This couple has been the blessing  
God already had in place  
when I secretly prayed  
night after night  
for a family to love me.

Continued on pg. 6

# Snapshots Special: on SUMMER CAMP

Pineridge Adventure Camp - our camp ministry - provides many opportunities for young people to "explore the God life". Campfires, chapel time, wide games, delicious meals and snacks, awesome leaders... and the fun captured in these photos!

Fun, competitive games of disc golf and octoball were played.



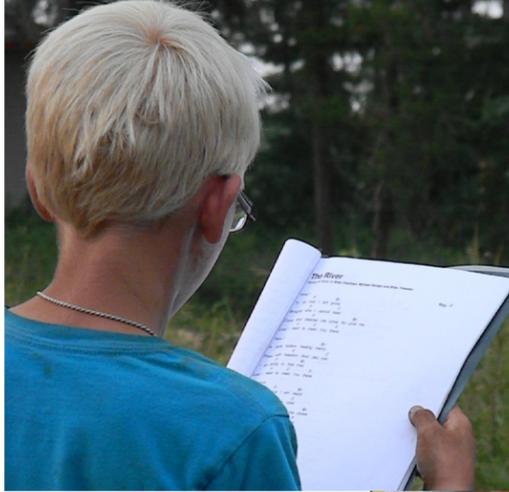
Pineridge's professionally-designed disc golf course and low ropes course provide fall-ages fun around our camp property. Dirt boarding, archery and the slip n' slide are other outdoor adventures to try at camp.



The low ropes course is great for learning to work together!



Trying to fin balance - much harder than it looks.



Cruising down Grande Prairie's longest slip n' slide

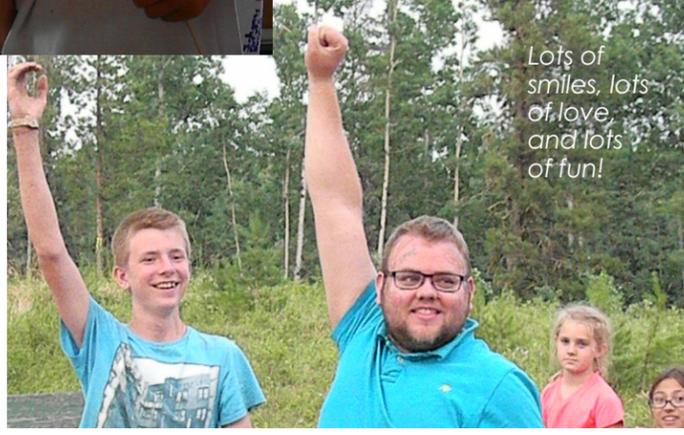
Making crafts while making friends!



Fun = dirt boarding, giant Dutch Blitz, octoball, crafts, games, singing, archery, learning about God, and making new friends!



Monopoly games that went on for days



Lots of smiles, lots of love, and lots of fun!