

Dear Fellow Laborers at Sandy Creek,

Another summer has passed and we can praise the Lord for the work He has done here at Sandy Creek Bible Camp. This summer we hosted 412 campers, 40 professed to come to know the Lord, many gained an understanding and security of their salvation experience and many had the opportunity to serve the Lord and be a part of the ministry here at Sandy Creek. All this was done while having a great time, experiencing activities such as rock wall climbing, archery, swimming, organized games, crafts, great food, etc. all under the care of loving program directors and counselors. I love that camping has so many ministry opportunities. Whether we serve with our hands, our prayers or our purses, we are a part of building the kingdom of God.

When I returned from a trip late Friday May 27th, the day after the big flood hit, I would have to say I was a bit overwhelmed. Two cabins and a house were flooded, the rec room had a limb through the roof, there were several trees down in bad areas, and most of what was below the chapel was washed away. The bridge, the new human foosball court, the archery range and rifle range were pretty much gone. The zip line was pushed over 30 degrees, low ropes elements washed away, our ropes shed was destroyed and the contents scattered through the woods. The climbing wall had 4-5 feet of erosion all the way around the main structure and part of the wall had been swept off. There was so much work to do to get ready for summer which was scheduled to start in one week. It was a severe reminder of who was really in control. This is the Lord's work, He causes the rain to fall and the best news, He is LOVE. The thought of a sovereign, loving God brings peace to those who embrace this truth.

We then went five days, until Wednesday June 1st without running water. We had to use buckets of rain water, of which we had plenty, to take care of our needs. We were forced to push back our staff training to start on Monday the 6th of June. At the same time, Keith Munsterman started to prepare for a work day on Saturday the 11th of June. So after our training week, we had our work day on Saturday the 11th.

At this point in our story I need to explain to you the very difficult nature of a work day. Most will see the outcome and praise the Lord, and this is the point, to praise Him for what he was able to do through the help of many. What most don't know is the amount of preparation that goes into a work day and the amount of thought and energy that has to be poured out to get to and then through the day. A work group of 20 takes two days of preparation and a day of running around like a chicken with your head cut off. A 105 person work group, which is what we had, takes a lot more. Keith and Callie Munsterman have achieved super hero status for taking this on and I want to personally thank them for heading up this huge task. The outcome was truly a work of God. 105 people showed up, all of whom deserve thanks, to build, rebuild and do what we could not to get camp ready to open the next day.

That's right, the next day we had a group of 150 campers and support staff ready to go for a week of camping. The reaction of the people with the guest group was incredible; they could not believe the great state that the camp was in! I heard time and time again the amazement of people as they told me camp looked better than it ever had, that they were expecting a disaster area. It was amazing what the Lord had been able to do through His people.

The summer then raced by as if there was never a problem. Children of all ages enjoyed Sandy Creek Bible Camp because of your ministry. Thank you so much for making Christian camping happen here at Sandy Creek.

Seriously Sincerely,

Larry Roskow