

Simonhouse Bible Camp

Evangelism ~ Discipleship ~ Leadership Training



“POINTING LIVES TO JESUS!” ...SINCE 1977

Decisions Made For Jesus!

Another summer is over! It's hard to believe that another year has gone by. This was my thirteenth summer here at Simonhouse Bible Camp and they seem to keep getting better and better! We had a great year of ministry again! We are very thankful for a fun and safe summer. I'm incredibly excited that of the 365 campers in our summer program, we prayed with 51 campers who wanted to make a first time decision to make Jesus Lord of their life! That's REALLY exciting for us as we plow forward in our mission of **“Pointing Lives To Jesus!”** Many more campers rededicated their lives to Jesus with the goal of getting to know Him more and to return to seeking after Him.

Let's Get To Work!

This spring we had a group of men from the La Salle Community Fellowship Church in La Salle, MB come up for a week to serve. On Monday morning we started two projects, installing our new playground, and building a new cabin. It was a busy morning but work progressed well throughout the week. In one week, much was accomplished and we are so thankful for this crew and what they did for us. Rumor has it that they had a good time too!

Incorporation Complete!

Last October our application to Incorporate the camp was granted. Since then there has been a lot of work getting all the details taken care of and the appropriate changes made. As an incorporated organization, we are now in need of establishing “members” of the corporation. These are mostly churches who will partner with the camp in our mission. Currently, the four northern Mennonite Brethren Churches, and The Pas Alliance Church are “members” of the corporation. We are looking for more like minded churches who are passionate about reaching people with the gospel and providing hope to those who feel they have none. It's an exciting ministry and we want you to be a part of it! What does being a “member” church mean, you might ask? Some of the benefits/responsibilities of being a “member” church include sending delegates to the AGM to review reports, assist in shaping the vision of the camp, and elect the Board of Directors; Having access to an established training program where your young people can grow their relationship with Jesus, while learning ministry and life skills such as leadership, servanthood and team building; Offering your congregation the opportunity to volunteer as counselors, nurses, cooks, maintenance, help with special projects, etc; Securing



a place where your young people can experience the opportunity of leading people to Christ in a meaningful way; Bathing the camp in regular prayer; Contributing financially in a meaningful way; Receiving regular ministry updates including good news stories of people transformations, reports on special events, information about special needs, etc.

We hope that you will be excited about partnering with us as we reach an important, and distant, area of the province with the love of Jesus! We will be contacting many churches directly with this opportunity and encourage you to talk to your leadership about having your church become a “member” church with Simonhouse. If we don't contact your church and you are interested, please be sure to contact me and let me know of your interest.

Thank You!

Once again, thank you for your prayers and support! Simonhouse remains committed to reaching children, youth, and families in northern Manitoba with the love of God and ultimately **“Pointing Lives To Jesus!”** We couldn't do it without you!!

Darrell Janzen
Executive Director

Jennifer, Caleb & Emily



Hear From Some

In July 2011 my wife, Karin, and I served at Simonhouse Bible camp for one and a half weeks. As a couple, we had always spent part of our summer serving at a camp in Ontario, on beautiful Shoal Lake. However, the camp was not going to be operating in 2011 and we knew that we wanted to serve at another camp. After spending some time in prayer about where to serve, Karin told me that she felt the Lord was directing us to Simonhouse Bible Camp. I told her I had felt the same urgings but had not yet shared my thoughts with her, and now that we were both on the same page, we called the camp and made arrangements to attend in July. When the time came we packed up the truck, loaded our two children (2 and 10 months), and hit the road for The Pas.

That was part of the appeal of Simonhouse Bible Camp for us, being in the far north where you can "get off the beaten path" and there is always an adventure to be found. When we got to camp we were certainly impressed with the facility, the cabins even had electricity, something we did not have at the other camp. We tucked ourselves in to one of the cabins and then got down to business. Camp work is always as varied as you can imagine. If it's not the chainsaw that needs fixing, then its the dock, or the four wheeler, or the lawn mower, or the cabin door, and on and on it goes! Again, that's part of the appeal of serving at camp, because you just don't know what's around the corner. While we were at camp we had a large storm come through one night with thunder and lightning, and several tree's were knocked over. So that day, instead of working on "the list", we cut tree's and shingled.

Karin served in the kitchen and did her best to look after two very busy little children. I would come to the dining hall a bit before meal time to watch the children while last minute meal preparation was done. We very blessed to see that Darrell and Jenn also had two young children at camp and the four of them could play together in the dining hall for hours on end. That was just another example for us of how the Lord works things out in ways we could not imagine and has our best interests in mind.

Our time at Simonhouse Bible Camp was a real blessing. Not only did we see God's hand on the camp, we also saw his hand on our life. I'm not saying this to be selfish, but a person is always so blessed when they obey the Lord and serve him. Period! We made some great new friend's, Darrell and Jenn being two of them, and Darlene who kept the kitchen (the heart of the operation) running smoothly. We were encouraged by others who were also serving at the camp and enjoyed going to the different churches in The Pas and Flin Flon. Karin and I had a hard time packing up the truck to leave for home, because in such a short time, we felt so "at home" at Simonhouse.

While remembering our time at Simonhouse Bible Camp I was also reminded that the world is a dark place and does not want anything to do with the light (truth of the gospel). That is especially true of the north, however; that is where the words of Matt. 5:14 and 16 come to mind; "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden." and "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven." To have Simonhouse Bible Camp as a light in the north is certainly a true blessing.

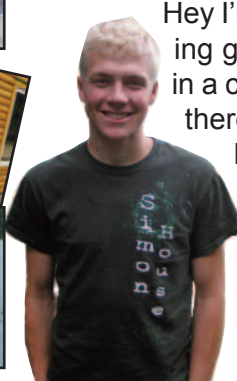
~ Darrell & Karin Fehr (Natalie, Carson), Morden, MB ~

WANTED
~Food Services Coordinator
~Maintenance Coordinator
For our summer programs
July to mid-August (or even earlier)
Might be ideal for a retired couple wanting
to serve or for any one who is able to
give time in the summer

Hey I'm Jon Neudorf, I was a Counselor this year at Simonhouse Bible Camp. It was an amazing growing experience for lots of young children and for me! The first week I found myself in a cabin feeling so inadequate, but as that week went on I learned to know that God put me there for a reason; I was able to plant seeds in the hearts of the guys that were in my cabin!

I remember on the last night of camp I found myself with an opportunity to talk to one of these young men about the issues in his life and I was able to tell him the simple gospel. You know, he didn't make a decision to become a Christian at that time, but I felt God reassure me that a seed had been planted. I may never see the fruit here, but that young man is Gods' and he will care for that seed!

~ Jon Neudorf, Winnipeg, MB ~



Volunteers & Staff!



Simonhouse has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. During many of my childhood summers, my family made the 9-hour drive north to spend a week or two helping at camp. In high school, I spent two summers as a CIT and then one as a counselor. These weeks at camp were not only highlights of my teenage years, they were incredibly influential in my spiritual life. If you've ever counseled at a camp you know that, while it is a ton of fun, it is also extremely exhausting and I learned about relying on God daily for patience, wisdom and strength just to make it through the day.

It had been 11 years since I had last been to Simonhouse when I felt God nudging me to give up some of my summer for Him. So this past July, my family spent a week at camp. While I was the camp nurse, my husband developed some new handyman skills helping to build a new cabin and our one-year-old son just had a blast playing with the other

kids. It was exciting to finally show my husband the camp that had so influenced my life.

One of the biggest things that stood out to us was the relaxed, laid-back attitude of the people of the north. We noticed this immediately with the camp staff, the people at church, and even the parents of the campers with medical conditions that I interacted with. It was very refreshing.

The camp is just as dedicated as ever to bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to campers in a fun, exciting way. The highlight of my week was sneaking in the back door of the chapel to watch Singspiration. At the beginning of the week, there was the typical back row of boys that refused to stand up during the songs, trying their best to look bored, but actually looking on in confusion as they watched their counselors jump and dance as they sang praises to God. By the end of the week, every single camper was standing, if not jumping and doing the actions too. What a blessing to see these counselors and CIT's sacrificing their summer vacations to jump and dance, to teach and guide, even to become exhausted, while sharing the love of our Lord with these kids – many of whom would otherwise never hear about it.

How about you? If Simonhouse Bible Camp has made an impact in your life in the past, is now the time for you to give back? Is it time for you to introduce your family to a ministry that helped to shape who you are today? If you don't know where to start - just ask God. He will guide you.

~ Julia (Thiessen) Polinsky (Ryan & Thalo), Steinbach, MB ~

For more information, pictures, videos, to donate online, register online, or to sign up for our monthly E-Newsletter, please visit our website:

www.simonhouse.ca

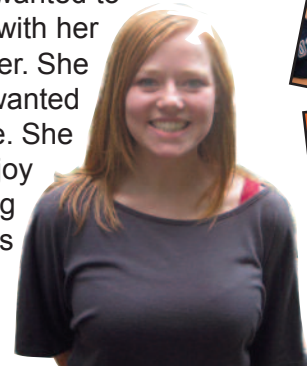
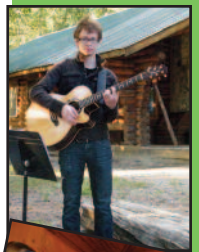
For Junior 1 camp I had the honor of having a young girl who had Down Syndrome in my cabin. Because this girl had Down Syndrome you would figure that she would have come with an aid, but to our surprise she didn't have one with her. At first I remember being so scared and I had no idea what was going to happen that week to come. This girl was a bit stubborn and when she wanted to do something there was no changing her mind. I remember being so frustrated with her and wanting to give up at times. By the end of the week I had fallen in love with her. She was one of the best parts of my week. One thing with her was that she always wanted to go swimming! When she was in the water it was pure joy that I saw on her face. She taught me something that was a really amazing tool. This girl lives everyday with joy and we all need to as well! As a Christian I should be praising the Lord and serving him everyday and in everything that I do. We could all use a lesson from this camper.

~ Kari Storey, Flin Flou, MB ~



CAMP NEEDS:

- NEWER LONG-BOX, EXTENDED CAB TRUCK
- STAGE LIGHTING
- WORK CREWS FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS
- LOG-SPLITTER
- STUMP GRINDER
- SOFAS, COUCHES, CHAIRS



Making Cents of it All!



I hope you can feel the excitement here at Simonhouse! Exciting things are happening and we want to do even more! As we move forward we see doing more with year round follow-up of campers. This may be going to the many towns in the north and doing Bible studies, discipleship, etc. We also want to continue building on the relationships we are establishing in the more remote Aboriginal communities and reserves. This may mean some strips on the winter roads to meet the leadership of these communities and share with them the programs that we have and hear from them what needs exist that we may be able to help fill. As it is, we have had many faithful people pray for us and give financially to our ministries. We have been able to pay our bills each year and have kept the camp maintained with some improvements. About six years ago we built our new Dining Hall/Office facility which was a huge feat and a real blessings as we consider the future! In order to make a jump to more year round

discipleship/follow up and to reach more communities it is going to take an increase in staff and finances as we may need to secure housing options. We are praying as to how the Lord wants us to proceed and are excited about what is next! **Currently we just have one year-round staff person.** To make the next step we need to increase our funding. I would ask you to prayerfully consider what the Lord is laying on your heart, and challenge you to give generously!

Some specific projects we are currently fundraising for include a **new truck** (we have \$12,500 raised with a target of \$15,000 -\$20,000 needed), and to build a **new veranda** (to keep kids dry in the rain) on the Camp Centre next summer after we finish off the new cabin that was mostly completed this summer. Due to having a couple of the largest storms I've seen up here the camp has sustained some damage. The damaged facilities have been repaired, but our **beach area has a lot of washout damage and our road is going to need some work to repair it.** Of course there are also many operational expenses that we have that are often hard to raise funds for such as toilet paper, groceries, diesel, oil, etc. We take your donations seriously and work diligently to get the best bang for your buck. Thanks so much for your generosity!!



REMEMBER: To receive a tax-deductible receipt for 2011, all donations must be received or post-marked by December 31, 2011.

How to Donate!

- 1. Cheque/Money Order** - please make payable to "Simonhouse Bible Camp"
- 2. Credit Card** - one time or scheduled monthly giving by going to our website www.simonhouse.ca and clicking the "Donate Now" button.

All donations are greatly appreciated and well used!

An envelope and response card is enclosed for your convenience.



Spending of funds is confined to programs and projects approved by the Board of Simonhouse Bible Camp. Donations designated towards such an approved program or project will be used as designated with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met, or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the organization, the remaining restricted contributions will be used where needed most.



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