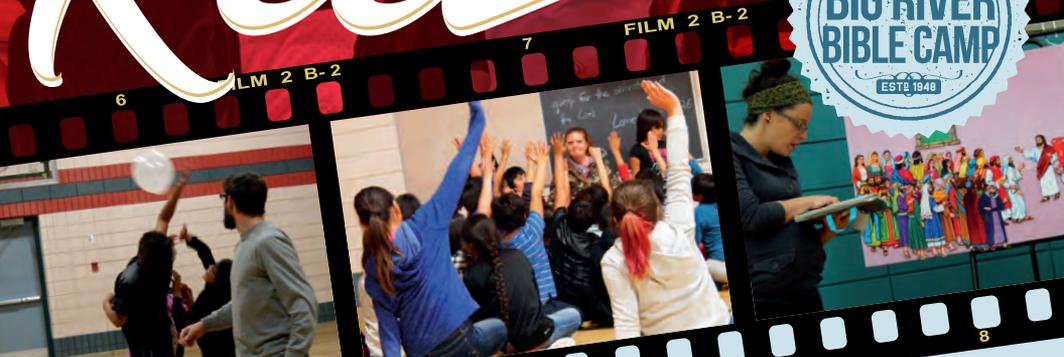


But these are written that you may believe that is the the Son of and that believing you may have life in His name

BIG RIVER Reel



DIFFERENT FOCUS, SAME GOAL

BY LAURA BLOCK

In the past months we have been attempting to keep you updated with the happenings of the camp. Now, since the summer months have gone and snow has covered the camp, the focus of the camp's ministry takes a different avenue to strive to meet the same goals.

During the "off-season" we at the camp focus a good portion of our time and efforts on follow-up with our staff and

campers. One method that we have used for this has been the AWANA program, which has allowed amazing opportunities for follow-up! We have been so blessed to be able to run two different AWANA programs in two of our local schools. Each program has allowed continued teaching and connection with many campers and staff throughout the year. We are so thankful to see numerous of the camp's

summer staff volunteering throughout the year as AWANA leaders! At both clubs many of the volunteers are teens who work at camp in the summer and attend staff retreats during the winter months.

Through weekly AWANA events of Bible stories, verse memorization, songs, games, cookies and candy, we have been thrilled to see the Gospel being taught, heard, understood and accepted by numerous clubbers. Through a chronological approach to teaching Scripture, the Gospel

is being presented through teaching the expectation for and coming of the Deliverer. Please pray that the kids and volunteers will truly understand this Good News that we are so privileged to present. Please also pray that God will continue to keep open these doors of opportunity in the schools, that the kids and the camp staff volunteers will continue coming and seeking God, and that we will clearly and accurately present the truths of God's Word each week. ♦

A MOMENT WITH STAFF

A glimpse into the ministry BRBC has into the lives of staff who come and serve here.

Q: ETHAN, when did you first come to Big River Bible Camp? **A:** When I was 7 years old. We were dropping off my older brother and I've been hooked ever since.

Q: What are some of the different jobs you've had at camp? **A:** I've been a cabin leader, a Leader in Training, worked as a LIT on the maintenance crew and of course I've been a camper. I love being a LIT on the maintenance crew. I love the jobs, and working together as a team.

Q: How has BRBC impacted your spiritual walk? **A:** It really helped me in my walk with God by giving me more of a knowledge of who God is and His Word. That is something I don't have at home. Camp is where I was introduced to the Bible.

Q: How does the camp keep in contact with you over winter? **A:** I get to come to the staff retreats; those are my favourite times over the winter. I also help out with AWANA each week on my reserve.

Q: What makes the retreats a favourite time for you? **A:** It's where I can be with my friends and we come together as a community.



Ethan Mirasty

Q: What are some of the things you do and learn at these staff retreats? **A:** Usually we hang out and learn how to fight against some of the obstacles we come across every day. Often we will help with a few jobs, like putting stuff away for winter.

Q: What do you do and why do you volunteer at AWANA? **A:** I help out with keeping the kids focused and working as a team leader. I love the people! The lessons at AWANA remind me of God's Word and to be in the Bible myself.

Q: Is there anything you would like to tell people reading this interview? **A:** I just want people to know that the camp is a great place to be and I think they should come out and visit sometime. ♦



WEEKEND INVESTMENTS

BY SHERRY IRON

Our family has had the tremendous privilege of working at Big River Bible Camp for the last four summers. Each of us in different roles and for different lengths of time during the summer. We have developed some very sweet friendships along the way. This past winter, 2018, I (Sherry) got to teach at a winter staff retreat. It was the first time to teach and interact this way with the youth that we have been getting to know over the years. What a delightful group of young people!

Then we were invited to speak at teen camp 2018. I was scared to bits because I had never taught at a teen camp before! However, Bobby and I both knew that the Lord wanted us to say yes, so we ventured in! We came away from that week so encouraged.

Many of these teen campers stayed on as staff in the cabins, on the kitchen and cleaning crew and on maintenance. The Lord impressed our hearts that these young people need so much more than just the summer of Christian fellowship and the occasional winter retreat. Jason and Anita have always had that heart for the staff God sends their way, and have been investing in young lives year round while serving at BRBC.

For that purpose, we have embarked on the journey of helping out at monthly, weekend staff retreats. We hope to help make a place for regular reconnection with friends, a safe place to talk out issues they are facing, and continued teaching from God's Word. ♦



BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

BY DARREN MILLAR

I grew up on a farm near a small town in Saskatchewan. My family's farm was located close to First Nations people and I remember many First Nations individuals attending the same school I did.

It seems however, that over time there has been a separation of attendance and that the First Nation children are schooled mostly on their home reserves and so there is less opportunity for all peoples to come together in one building.

When the opportunity presented itself to help with the AWANA program at the Whitefish school I felt I needed to get involved to help reconnect relationships with First Nations people through sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Christ's example of selfless love is something that we need to share with others and AWANA is a great tool to do just that. Satan is so deceitful and is always at work trying to destroy relationships, so it is very important that we come together in love and unity to "be the hands and feet of Jesus."

It has been a great experience to see how the children have changed over the course of the time that I have been volunteering at Whitefish. In the beginning, the children would have a look on their faces as if asking, "Who are you?" and "What are you doing here?" Now, months later we are interacting through conversation and games — the barriers have dropped! The children are very excited each week and it is evident that they are enjoying our weekly visit.

It is my hope to see these kids outside the AWANA program in a setting whereupon we both recognize each other and are able to sit and have a conversation. I would like to think that they would consider me a friend or a mentor and that I am playing a part in helping to eliminate the separation between our people groups.

I am thankful for the opportunity to love and serve in this ministry and I look forward to seeing these children accept the love of our Savior and live a life following Him. ♦

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for safety for all the travel in the unpredictable weather this Christmas season as we visit churches, families and loved ones.
- Please pray for the staff to remain strong in their faith as they come against new opposition and temptations over the school break and holidays.
- Please pray that the staff weekends are a valuable time for encouragement and strengthening faith.
- Please pray for the Awana programs that we do as it is a valuable way to connect with staff and campers.
- Pray that we will be able to finish the project of installing a new cabin and acquiring and installing a chair lift for the new dining hall.
- Please pray for God to bring the needed staff and people to help this ministry better honour and glorify Him.



PARTNER WITH US IN MINISTRY!

- I would love to hear what's going on at Big River Bible Camp! Please add me to your mailing list.
- I am giving a one-time gift of \$_____.
- I intend to give a monthly donation of:
 - \$_____ \$25 \$50 \$100 \$1000
- I would like to participate in supporting a current camp project with a donation of \$_____ toward:
 - New laptop Small tractor Future staff housing

ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS (including online, electronic funds transfer and email transfer) are available at www.ncem.ca/donate/ways-to-give or by calling the NCEM office, 306-764-3388.

Name _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ Prov/State _____

Postal/Zip Code _____ Email _____

Phone _____

Please indicate if you would like a yearly receipt.

Cheques should be made payable to NCEM and mailed with this slip to NCEM, PO Box 3030, Prince Albert, SK S6V 7V4. Tax-deductible receipts will be issued.



BIG RIVER BIBLE CAMP is a ministry of
NORTHERN CANADA EVANGELICAL MISSION



ncem



- Please pray for the weather to cooperate for the progress of the projects needing to get finished this winter.
- Pray for strength against the spiritual attacks of the enemy.
- That the staff who go home to families who don't share their faith would be able to stay

strong and be a witness and example.

- Pray for unity among our team.

PRAISE

- Thank God for the wonderful CCI conference that we could attend. It was a time of renewal and brought us closer as a team.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **January 16-23, 2019**
Camp Hosts Nipawin Bible College Freshman Ministry Practicum
- **January 18-20**
Staff Retreat
- **February 3-12**
NCEM Executive Training ♦



DISCIPLESHIP

BY JASON BOUCHER, DIRECTOR

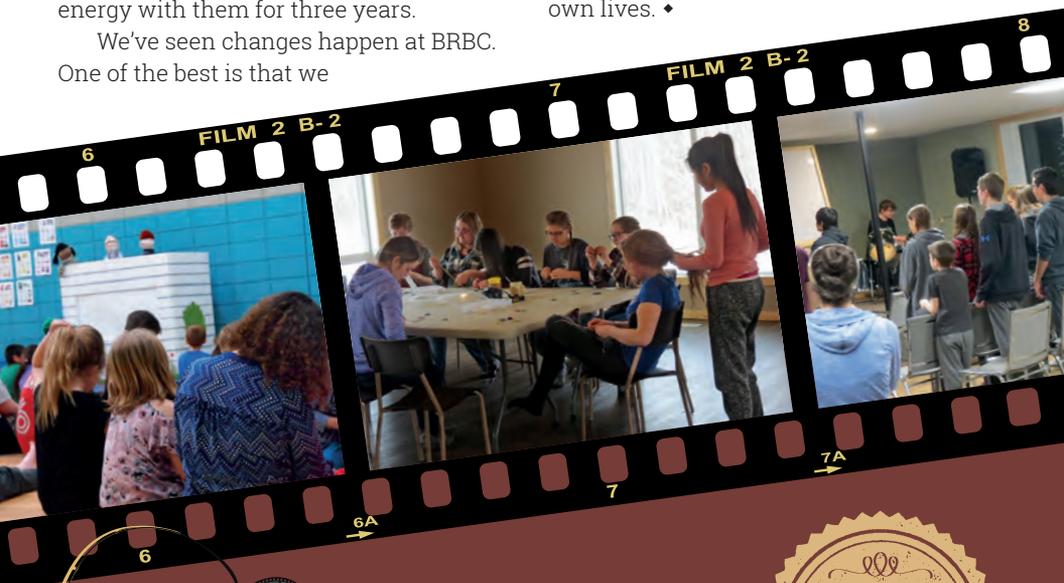
Here at Big River Bible Camp our purpose statement is **"To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and disciple youth to live for the Glory of God."**

Our heart is to disciple youth. What does discipleship look like? Discipleship as I see it, takes time and energy. Results don't happen overnight. Look at Jesus – He spent three years with twelve men. One betrayed Him, one denied Him and they all deserted Him when it mattered most. Jesus knew all of that was going to take place before He chose His disciples BUT He still invested all of His time and energy with them for three years.

We've seen changes happen at BRBC. One of the best is that we

now have many home-grown staff. When I say home-grown, I mean, they've come to camp as a camper, got saved at camp, and now serve at camp. We try to invest in our staff throughout the year. One of the ways is by hosting periodic staff retreats. We invite the staff for a weekend of teaching, fun, work and of course food. We are so thankful for our new building that allows us to host these retreats in the winter.

Continue to pray for us as we look for ways to improve our discipleship efforts. We want to love our staff well so they in turn will love the campers well which will then make the campers want to become staff. We desire to see our staff living their lives to bring God glory, wherever they are living or whatever they are doing. It's something we also desire in our own lives. ♦



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ONE NAME. ONE PURSUIT.

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