



## New Summer Adventures for Kids

By: Ben Kroeker, Boys' Program Coordinator



Summer Adventures Team (left to right) Nicola, Danae, Ben, Elijah, Bryn.

A little girl jumped onto the bus Saturday morning, with an arm full of colorful bracelets. "I learned a new way to make bracelets with rubber bands and I'm going to give them away to the leaders," she declared as she made her way to various people to let them choose a very finely crafted piece of jewelry from her arm. She happily told each person that she really enjoyed making them and wanted to share them with others. She made a lot of people smile that morning and God must be glad that she is using her talent to bless others. **Summer Adventures for Kids** hopes to guide children in using their talents and interests to bless others and to bring glory to God.

As a young boy held a leader's Bible in his lap, slowly flipping through the pages, he stopped and turned to the leader: "Why did you highlight this sentence?" "That word from God means a lot to me, it reminds me to trust in Him no matter what," the leader replied after reading the verse aloud to the child. "What does God do for us?" was the next question that opened new doors to a discussion that found a couple of other kids joining in to learn from one another. **Summer Adventures for Kids** also exists so that discussion about God and how to live life can happen in a small group of kids and leaders. Each weekly club meeting throughout the summer will guide the kids to grow in their faith and will help them process questions they might have about what they are learning throughout the summer.

Continued on page 4

## EXPLORE WILDERNESS ADVENTURES

By: Matthew Peters

My first wilderness canoe trip was an experience that impacted me in a profound way. I remember becoming very frustrated as I tried to keep my canoe moving straight. No matter how hard I tried, it would go more and more off course. It was our trip leader that seemed to have a never-ending supply of patience for me as we travelled on little by little. At the end of the day I remember the feeling of accomplishment when we finally reached our campsite after many hours on the water. It was that trip leader that had set the tone for me to keep trying and keep going despite failure and my patience with myself wearing thin.

Since that trip, I have grown in my ability to paddle a canoe, and organizing trips and obtaining the necessary training to be a leader in the outdoor education field has flown naturally out of this growth. My passion for canoe trips came from an experience where I could have been turned off from this adventure altogether. However, the heart of the leader guiding that trip was to show me the reward of pushing through adversity and challenge. To this day I have stayed in touch with that trip leader and he has become an important part of how the Lord has shaped my life's journey.

People who have embarked on wilderness trip programs will agree that camping, hiking, and canoeing have an impact on a young person's growth and development. It is for that reason that LBE is launching the new and exciting **Explore! Wilderness Adventures** program this summer.

Our desire is to use these nature-oriented and physical experiences to introduce youth to Christ, teach Biblical truths and put our youth in a position to succeed while facing risk and challenge. **Explore!** will provide much needed opportunities for teamwork, leadership training, and healthy exercise. This summer we will have overnight wilderness camps and week-long canoe trips. This program will continue into the fall with after-school events and adventure clubs.

In order to make this vision come alive, we are in the process of recruiting and raising up a team of volunteers to aid us in teaching and mentoring youth in these outdoor programs. We are inviting anyone who enjoys the outdoors, loves youth, and feels they have a personal mission to teach Biblical truths, to call and let us know about your passion.

For many of our youth, this summer will be the first time they will ever go on a canoe trip. For others it may be another trip to take them to the next level of leadership. We are

Continued on page 3

# EXPLORERS BIBLE CAMP



*Explorers Bible Camp Team (left to right) Amanda, Kris, Allie, and Miriam.*

This summer is full of big and exciting changes at Explorers Bible Camp. The Camp team (**Allie, Amanda, Miriam and Kris**) are working with our renovated and enhanced camp property, complete with a man-made lake that has more than doubled in size since last year. We have gravel hills, a challenge course, and new equipment such as canoes, paddles, life jackets and much more. There is also an improved layout featuring a soccer field, a new archery pitch, and a wilderness outpost.

This summer we are running three co-ed kids' camps, one all girls' camp, and one jr. teens' camp. As many of our counselors and junior leaders are teenagers, we are running a week of training before these weeks of camp begin. During this training week, we will be teaching the junior leaders how to run the skills activities, such as archery and canoeing. Our main focus is teaching the counselors about ministering to the young people. We will be discussing how to meet their emotional, physical and spiritual needs, covering subjects such as prayer and how to handle difficult behavioural situations that may arise.

We are also very excited to announce our first annual **Explorers Family Camp**. Our dream for this camp is to bring 6-10 families for 3 days and 2 nights of camp. Our family camp will have the typical camp experience for the families, with some resting and relaxing time for the parents as well as a time where families to do activities together. Our guest speaker, **Robert Wilson** (aka Christian rap artist **Fresh IE**) will be teaching on the promises of God for families, the consequences of generational sin and the blessings of God for families that honour him.

This is a big summer of firsts for the Explorers Bible Camp team, as we are introducing two brand new camps: our Leadership Training camp and our Family Camp. We are excited about the possibilities and the opportunities we are presenting to the young people and their families this summer and we are praying for God to move mightily in the lives of Winnipeg's inner-city residents.

## Construction at Camp

Longer days and great weather are helping us complete the preparation work for camp start up. Unfortunately, the mosquitoes are horrendous, but we are enduring this difficulty as it comes with the territory. We have worked to prepare the camp cabins for our June weekend camps with the teens. We are now racing against time to see our fourth duplex cabin framed and roofed for summer use. The concrete floor will be poured the last week of June and then the carpentry will begin.

Special thanks to volunteers who have been helping: **Sean Barkwell, Preston Linklater, Jack Penner, and David and Phillip Thiessen** (brothers from Hadashville). Special thanks to **Mel Taylor** who built another two picnic tables for camp. We also want to thank the **Salvage Supermarket** for truckloads of donated items of reclaimed building materials.

Workers are vital to the continuation of the construction of our Bible Camp. If you have a desire to join us for a day or more at our camp property to aid in the building process, please give **George** a call at **204-990-8667**.



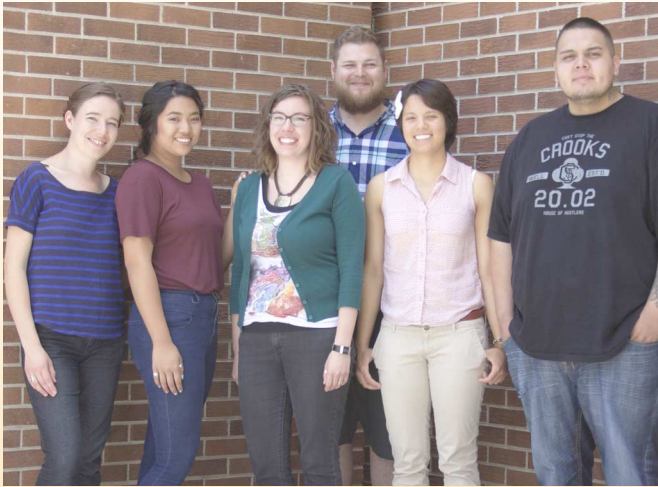
*Matt Peters on our new challenge course.*

## Frozen Meals for Camp

As we don't yet have a kitchen at our camp facility, we will again be using barbecues, the camp fire and a small stove to prepare our meals. We are seeking volunteers this year who would be willing to help us by making and freezing batches of soup, chili, stew, casseroles etc. that can be easily reheated on the barbecues.

We will be having six weeks of camp and will be feeding up to 40 people each week. If you are able to help us with preparing a meal, please contact **Diana** by calling **204-786-8667** or by emailing [diana@livingbibleexplorers.com](mailto:diana@livingbibleexplorers.com).

# Summertime Disciples



Teen Ministry Team (left to right) Judith, Nikki, Michelle, Mark, Shana, and Tony.

By: Michelle MacGibbon, Teen Program Coordinator

Through a variety of activities, we're looking to help our youth grow in discipleship this summer. We will be continuing Teens' Church and will also be planning various day trips (such as to the beach), small group activities/outings, and a special art/creativity focused program

on Fridays designed to explore our identity in Christ through various art media. Before these programs begin, we have two weekend camps coming up at our new camp property in Hadashville. This is the first time we will be holding our weekend camps there, so it'll be an adventure I'm sure! The first weekend will be for the **Girls on June 20-22** followed by one for the **Guys on June 27-29**. **Sarah Klassen** will be our speaker for the girls' camp, and **Matthew Peters**, the speaker for the guys' camp. These weekends provide the opportunity to talk about issues our teens are facing in a more intimate setting. We trust and pray that the Holy Spirit will use our speakers, counselors, prayer times, and fun activities to draw the teens closer to Jesus.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we hired two young women (**Shana and Nikki**) in May who have been volunteering with the youth at Teens' Church during the school year. Recently, we completed our summer team by hiring two more staff members: **Judith Friesen and Tony Cote**. Judith is working on a degree in Music Therapy and has had experience working with children, youth, and the elderly. She is excited to be following God's guidance and also to be more involved in the community where she has been living. Tony learned about LBE through Kris, one of our Boys' Program Coordinators, and is passionate about serving in youth ministry. He came out of a difficult past and learned about Jesus Christ through an inner city youth ministry. Tony wants to share Jesus with at-risk youth in the same manner in which Jesus was shared with him. We are excited to see how God will use these new workers.

## Volunteer needs for summer

By: Diana Cuthbertson, Volunteer Coordinator

As a child, I didn't have the opportunity to attend Bible Camp in the summer like many of my friends did. I heard their accounts of summer camp and how special it was for them to return to "their camp" summer after summer; eventually becoming counselors and staff members. Camp is an experience I only took part in when I joined the staff at LBE in 2009. It was a challenge, but it was also such a joy to spend a whole week with one group of girls, encouraging them and getting to know them on a deeper level.

We didn't have our very own camp until last year so we haven't been able to build that same feeling of ownership with our counselors. We have some leaders who return to

work with us for a number of summers; but we desire to see their numbers grow as our camp continues to develop. We hope to train our children and teens to become leaders who will return year after year to invest in the lives of the next generation of LBE youth.

As we build our camp, we are continually building our volunteer base. I would like to encourage you that it is never too late to come and experience camp! We have needs for lifeguards, cooks, counselors, worship leaders, and maintenance volunteers. If you, or someone you know would like to join us for a week or more of camp this summer, please get in touch with us! You can email [lbecamps@gmail.com](mailto:lbecamps@gmail.com) or check out our website for more information about opportunities this summer.

Explore Wilderness continued from page 1

excited about the immense potential that this program will have for our kids and we need a solid team of leaders. Will you help us make it possible? You can get in touch with me, **Matt**,

by phone at **204-786-8667** or by emailing me at [matt@livingbibleexplorers.com](mailto:matt@livingbibleexplorers.com)

# Prayer & Praise Items

- 1 For safety and the Lord's protection over our summer programs. Pray for protection against serious accidents, illness and harm over our summer programs and campers.
- 2 Pray for our staff as they work hard this summer. Pray that they may be strengthened as they reach out and stretch themselves in ministry. Pray they will grow spiritually and that the Lord will give them favour in their ministry.
- 3 Pray for the Teen ministry as they begin summer programming. Their desire is to not only to see teens come to Christ this summer, but to also create disciples.
- 4 Pray for the Summer Adventure Team as they offer programs to kids in the city this summer, pray for new kids to find out about Living Bible Explorers and meet Jesus through this ministry.
- 5 Pray for Explorers Bible Camp as they take kids out to our camp property for 5 days at a time. Pray against the bad weather, mosquitoes and weariness that can often be a trial with this type of ministry.
- 6 Pray for the families who will join our first Family Camp at Explorers Bible Camp; that they would be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 7 Pray for Living Bible Explorer's finances this summer as we take on many summer staff and new building projects out at camp.

*New Summer continued from page 1*

Twenty Clubs will be formed this summer around interests such as Drama, Photography, Cooking, Dance, Nature, Sports, Music, Art, Crafting, etc. Each club of 10 kids will meet regularly on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday throughout the summer to improve skills and learn new things. As the club learns together and spends time together, trust can be formed so that learning about God throughout the day can reach the heart of each child.

Members of the Summer Adventure team bring their talents and gifts to passionately lead and teach their clubs and share the testimony of what God has done in their lives. **Nicola Plett, Danae Hoehne** and **Bryn Vargas** are joined by our newest staff member, **Elijah Jonas**. Elijah volunteered throughout the school year with our Kids' Church ministry. Elijah's passion for the Lord, and love for playing soccer are great assets to the team this year as an entire week will be devoted to a soccer camp for our kids.

Summer Adventures for Kids is working with **Mission Baptist Church** and their staff to run the clubs and host the majority of them in their church building. **Gracepoint Church** and **Portage Avenue Church** will also host two clubs.

In addition to running weekly clubs, Summer Adventures for Kids is partnering with **Athletes in Action** and **Calvary Temple** to run a soccer skills day camp during the second week of July. A Family Event will also be held on four Fridays throughout the summer so that kids and parents can hear about Jesus together and also enjoy a good meal at **Gwen and Norm Neufeld's Farm** and swimming at Bird's Hill Beach. LBE's commitment to visiting each child's family on a weekly basis will continue throughout the summer as the Summer Adventures team visits homes and checks in with kids each Monday.

There is a lot going on in Summer Adventures for Kids; but the point remains to teach each child so that his/her gifts and talents can grow, and more importantly, that their faith will grow as they become more in love with Jesus.



The Living Bible Explorers newsletter is published every six weeks by Living Bible Explorers, west end Winnipeg's inner-city youth outreach ministry. LBE walks with inner-city youth to encourage positive growth in their lives. We work to establish a healthy presence in their community, and direct children, teens, and their families towards a positive future. By partnering with concerned individuals, and groups, we put God's love into action. For more information go to our website at [LivingBibleExplorers.com](http://LivingBibleExplorers.com).

**Yes!** I am interested in becoming involved!

## Kneel Time Missionary

- I WILL PRAY FOR LBE     Please send me a newsletter (see options)

## Volunteer Part-time Missionary

- Baking/Cooking     Weekly Clubs     Teen Programs     Teen Lunch Drop In  
 Boys/Girls Programs     Weekend Camps (Sept-June)  
 Week-long Summer Camps (July-Aug)     Day Camps (July-Aug)  
 Board of Directors     Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Financial Gift

- I want to send \_\_\_\_\_ children to camp  
 Week-long /\$150 x \_\_\_\_\_     Weekend/ \$75x \_\_\_\_\_  
 I want to pledge  
 Monthly \$ \_\_\_\_\_     Quarterly \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Yearly \$ \_\_\_\_\_     One Time \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing a cheque for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (see other Options)

## Gifts in Kind (Tax deductible)

- Building materials     Tools     Office Equipment     Desks  
 Chairs     Tables     Food     Sports Equipment     Craft Supplies  
 Camping Gear     Bible and Books     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Prayer Requests:

## Newsletter Options

- Send my newsletter by traditional mail  
 Send my newsletter by email

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

## Preauthorization Option

I hereby authorize LBE to debit \$ \_\_\_\_\_/month from my bank account on the  1st or  16th of each month commencing in \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (month/year).

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*With this authorization and your **ENCLOSED VOIDED CHEQUE** LBE will process your pledge. No further cheques are required.*

## Credit Card Option

Master Card     American Express     Visa  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Online Option

Go to [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org). In the 'I want to donate to' box type *Living Bible Explorers*.

Spending of funds is confined to board approved programs and purchases. Each gift designated toward an approved program will be used as designated with the understanding that when any given need is met, designated gifts will be used where needed most. Gifts are acknowledged and receipted with an official receipt for income tax purposes.

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