The Reel

Kinasao Newsletter
Fall 2026

And I will make you fishers of men

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Kinasao: A place set apart in god's creation, inviting all to experience God's love.

Choose Your Own Advent-ure

Dec 5, 1:00–5:00 pm

Christmas is a time where we focus on peace, joy and celebration. But sometimes, it is hard to create that time, as we are running everywhere, shopping, baking, attending events, cleaning, decorating, more cleaning…it definitely can feel NOT peaceful. We want to invite you to take a day out of the seasons' busyness to come to camp - to feel the presence of Emmanuel in this place set apart.

Come to camp for a Choose Your Own Advent-ure! We will have options for you - choose how you'd like to spend your time! Garry Miller will be leading a workshop on creating a tabletop decoration ($50), or a star wallhanging ($25) (pictured below). Not feeling crafty? Head out on the ski trails! Need a snack? Bake and decorate some Christmas cookies. Feeling wild? Take a ride down the toboggan hill. Need a break? Cuddle up by the Christmas tree with your favorite book or puzzle. We want this time to be an opportunity for you to prepare your heart and mind for the Advent season, however that looks for you!

If you want to extend your Advent-ure by staying overnight, contact us for options. All ages are welcome, children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

The Twinkle Tour will be opening early this night with a special drive thru supper option! Check out the lights, then pick up your supper to enjoy on the drive home.

We hope to provide an afternoon away during this season, so that love and joy can fill your soul, and you can carry a little peace of Kinasao home with you.

This is a free adventure, with charges for the crafts, supper and if you stay overnight.





To sign up, visit kinasao.ca or scan here:







What will you choose??

Christmas at Camp

November 21

Get into the Christmas spirit at Kinasao! Find unique, handmade, local gifts from 30+ vendors at the Christmas Market, catch up with friends over a soup and bun lunch, enjoy the taste of summer with your favorite Overflow drink, gather as a community for a delicious Christmas supper, enjoy candlelight worship in the chapel, and take your first lap through the Twinkle Tour! Christmas at Camp is a full day event, and you don't want to miss any of it!







A Full Day Event!

11:00–4:00 – Christmas Market

11:00–3:00 – Overflow Espresso Open

11:30–1:30 – Soup & Bun Lunch Available

3:30 – Raffle Winners Drawn

5:00 – Community Supper

6:00 – Song & Scripture Service

6:30–8:30 – Twinkle Tour Open













RSVP for supper at kinasao.ca

Kinasao's Twinkle Tour

See Upcoming Events List for Dates!

The Twinkle Tour is becoming a highly anticipated community event! It is so fun to be able to provide a joyful experience during the Christmas Season.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for community volunteers to:

Help decorate: Come out and help us put up lights!

Be a greeter: Welcome guests, pass out hot chocolate, cookies, and maps. With more greeters, the Twinkle Tour can open more nights.

Sponsor a site: A great way for your business or organization to be recognized during the Twinkle Tour and to help expand our displays.

To get involved in any of these ways, contact Sue@kinasao.ca or scan the code!







Take a drive or walk through the Kinasao Campground and enjoy the amazing christmas displays. Spread the word and invite your friends to join us!

Admission by donation

Keepin' up with Kristi

I've heard camp referred to as living in a bubble. And I understand why! It is easy to get caught up in our little world of Kinasao, and get very focused on the things that are happening there.

This past week I spent time at a gathering of the Christian Camping International - Canada - Regional Team Leads, joined by the Canada Care and Support Team (CAST) members. It's a mouth full! This was the first time I have been able to attend this event, and I wanted to share a little bit about the experience with the Kinasao community.

CCI is a worldwide organization whose mission is to "promote and support Christian camping throughout the world, as a means of serving the Church to fulfill the Great Commission of Jesus Christ." Within that, CCI Canada's mission is "to increase the ministry effectiveness of its members" (Christian camps). In Canada, each province has a Regional Team of people who love camp and want to help camps do ministry effectively. I have volunteered as the SK Regional Team Lead for the past few years. Our team is primarily responsible for hosting an annual conference, and facilitating opportunities for our Christian SK camp leaders to gather for times of support, encouragement and prayer.

It was good to get out of my Kinasao bubble for a time, and be reminded that there are camps just like ours (and some very different than ours!) all across the country. It was interesting talking to the Ontario Team Lead, who works at a camp with an Olympic sized hockey arena! Their ministry involves hosting hockey teams from around the world, as well as local kids who love hockey and Jesus. It was exciting talking to one of the CAST members from Manitoba, the executive director of Winkler Bible Camp, about their 2 km Twinkle Tour which sees 12,000 people come through in only 2 weeks! It was intriguing to hear about the Quebec CCI region hosting a young adults retreat and being overwhelmed by the numbers of registrations that came in. It was encouraging to discuss the fundraising banquet and capital campaign projects taking place in Halifax. It was inspiring to be staying at Covenant Bay Bible Camp in AB, in a hostel style building very similar to the one we plan on building at Kinasao (with views almost as nice as those at Kinasao!). It was sad to be missing the insights of the BC representative who wasn't able to attend, the only person in the group I knew before arrival!

Across the country, and across the world, God is using camps to reveal Himself to people. He is using the people who work at camp to fulfill the Great Commission. Whether that be through a hockey arena, a leadership development program, a Christmas light display, a horse trail ride, or the thousands of other creative ways camps are doing ministry - at the heart of it all is a deeply rooted desire to have people of all ages know and experience the love of our Saviour. It is humbling and so exciting to be inolved in such a task. I am grateful to have the opportunity to get outside of my bubble, and to hear how God is moving across this country, and around the world, through camp ministry.







Kinasao – A full circle of blessing!

I had the privilege of attending the Alumni Retreat on September long weekend with my siblings Rachel and David, and my daughters Rilla and Lydia. The opportunity to be in nature, visit with past camp connections, and worship together was totally uplifting and filled a cup I hadn't even realized needed filling. Camp is a really special place where everyone belongs and gets to feel safe, known, and feel the strong presence of God and His love for us.

I was a camper in the 90s, a SIT in high school, and had the wonderful experience of being on staff in 2004 (kitchen), 2007 (counsellor), and a volunteer (2010). Then life seemed to take over: school, marriage, moves, careers and kids, and it wasn't until 2026 that I was able to return to camp as a parent. It felt "full circle" this past summer to bring our children to their first Mini-Camp, which they loved. While I felt the first-time jitters along with my kiddos, I knew they were in safe and competent care with this year's staff. I was confident that camp would do what camp has always done: bring kids closer to God in His beautiful creation and lead them to know the complete security of God's love, all while having lots of fun and making lifelong friends.

A favourite memory of the alumni retreat was leading campfire songs with my kids, showing them my old goofy side that probably doesn't come out enough in adulthood. We also enjoyed going out on the challenge course, eating the delicious meals, cheering on the cyclists (shout out to Felix for raising over $25K!), touring the property and seeing the updates and developments, looking at old pictures and videos, connecting with many dear friends, and participating in meaningful Sunday morning worship. I was impressed by current leadership and their dreams for the camp's future, and was moved to commit to a monthly donation in support of the work taking place at Kinasao.

Another favourite moment was showing my kids the 1940 photo of their Great-Great-Grandparents (Joe and Martha Hagen), and reflecting on the legacies of the generations before us. I feel honoured to share this special place with them. There were just so many joyful and "warm fuzzy" moments at the Alumni Retreat and I'm really glad we went. I also ate far too much candy at the canteen…



Camp will always be a very special place: a place set apart. Thank you to all the past and present staff, directors & families, campers, volunteers, founders and donors, for our wonderful Camp Kinasao!

Christine Magdanz (Kopperud)





Renewal Project Update

It has been three years since our Kinasao Retreat Centre renovation was completed!
Since then, we have benefitted from a bigger, better, brighter and more efficient main building, which has helped improve our programming possibilities in all seasons.

The suites in the basement have been a blessing to summer staff members during our main program season, and a great place to stay for retreat and rental guests throughout the rest of the year. The expanded kitchen flows well and allows our chefs to produce wonderful meals with ease. The main room is larger and more versatile, the upstairs is a great for place for meetings, study, worship and recreation. Our heating, cooling and sewer systems are upgraded, our emergency generators are trustworthy, and our metal roof keeps the weather outside, where it should be.

As of November 2027, we will have enjoyed a five-year period of reasonable interest rates on our retreat centre renovation mortgage. However, as our first fixed term comes to a close, interest rates are considerably higher than they were five years ago. As it is, we owe a little more than $350,000 on our mortgage. We are very thankful for the nearly thirty families who have, for more than five years, given monthly gifts to help make our mortgage payments, and to the many Kinasao supporters who have helped with periodic gifts to help reduce our debt load.

Our general operations are in a healthy financial place right now as we bring in revenue through our rentals, leases, donations, and fundraising events such as the Tour-de-Kinasao - bringing in a record breaking $80,070 this year. We continue to do necessary maitenance around the camp, such as replacing the chapel roof, which will be completed next spring.

With a view to reducing our spending on mortgage interest, we will to try to eliminate our mortgage within the next year. How is this possible? Only with the support of our Kinasao community. In our annual appeal letter, which you can expect before Christmas, we will set out the exact details of our mortgage, our plan to retire it, and our vision for the next steps in the development of Kinasao's wonderful facilities.

Please pray, plan and encourage each other to participate as we look forward to the possibility of being debt free at Kinasao once again. Remember, all gifts to Kinasao are tax deductible, and will be used carefully by the Kinasao Leadership Team under the direction of the Kinasao Board of Directors to ensure good stewardship of the kingdom-building gifts received by Kinasao.

Will you become a monthly donor?

Contact sue@kinasao.ca to sign up for automated direct withdrawl donations.

Thank you Summer Team!

If you think back on your best memories of Kinasao, I am confident that among those of beautiful sunsets and meaningful moments in the Chapel, are memories of the absolutely amazing staff and SITs that give so much of their summers to Kinasao.

Our SITs are a very special group of young people, who choose to devote some of their precious summer to ministry. They are a special group of people who are very valued by both our campers and our staff. Camp would not run, nor be the same, without them. On behalf of all of us, thank you SITs for all that you give to Kinasao - we appreciate you greatly!

This summer, just like many summers before, we had a truly incredible staff. They are a group of selfless, hardworking, caring, and faithful young adults who give so much of their time and energy to the ministry of Kinasao. The ways in which they have impacted the lives of our campers and the Kinasao community are innumerable, and for that we could not be more grateful. You truly are some of the best humanity has to offer. Thank you so much for the invaluable work you did this summer.

The Staff Alumni retreat at the end of the summer was a great reminder of the impact the summer staff have, as our current staff welcomed back many of their favorite staff members from their time as campers. The impact of a staff member does not end when the summer does, and we at Kinasao are SO BLESSED by the generations of incredible people who have served in this place!









Want to join the team? Know these dates!

Staff Applications - Dec 1 - Jan 31

Sit Applications - Mar 1 - Apr 30

Jewels from Janaya's Journal

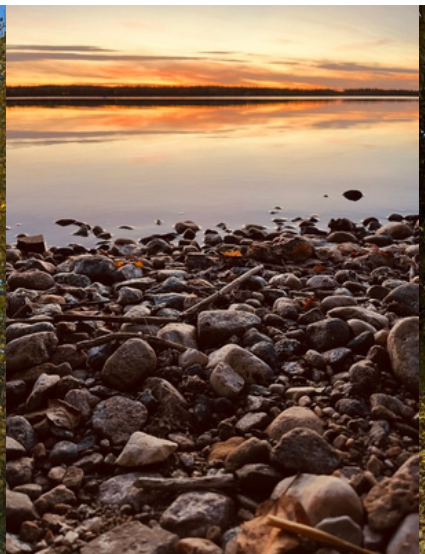
You've probably heard at some point this summer season that our 2026 theme focused on the fruit of the Spirit. I have long been fascinated by the planting and harvesting imagery in Scripture and in God's creation, so I enjoyed the opportunity to explore those ideas in various ways these past few months.

While most people have gone home now for the winter season and perhaps don't think as much about what is still going on at the lake, I am settling into low season routines. I'm taking care of our many rental groups and preparing for Christmas events. And I am getting back into orchestra rehearsals, teaching violin lessons, and working on pottery projects. It is no longer as warm or humid up here at this point in the season, but it is no less beautiful. The chilly weather and windy days have not yet convinced all the yellow leaves to fall, so the grounds and the trees of Kinasao are still colourful. As I have been observing their fall changes, I have been reflecting on what happens inside those beautiful trees during the winter. They are signalled by shorter hours of daylight and cooler temperatures to shift their metabolisms into a lower gear. There will still be plenty of growth and work happening inside them as it freezes for a few months, but the work is much less visible. It is fueled by the activity of the summer season and eventually they will be building up a store of energy for the reverse process in the spring. Then all they have been sitting on and developing will start bursting forth again in buds and leaves. Maybe this picture is similar in some ways to the work being done at Kinasao in its different seasons.

As we move into fall rhythms and have people on site for rentals or retreats, mainly on weekends instead of basically every day as it is in summer, there is still a lot of activity happening and work being done. We switch to 'energy-saving mode' to recover from the frenetic pace of the high season. We do projects that seemed hard to fit in during August or September. Like the leaves falling from the trees, we let go of many of the things we were managing. We focus in on the growth and the work that is much less visible to most people, even people who are deeply committed to camp and spend time up here in the summer. And we do all of this knowing that it is for a season, and by the time spring comes again, we will have built back up the energy and excitement to burst forth into a faster pace again of fresh buds and fruit.

Hosea 14:8 - "O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols? It is I who answer and look after you. I am like an evergreen cypress; from me comes your fruit."

Janaya



A new way to enter the Forest!





Our cabins got a long dreamed of facelift this summer! Each of our bunkhouse cabins are named after trees, and now, campers can more easily identify which cabin is theirs, and we can all gain a little knowledge about what these trees look like!

A huge thank you to Colby Lavigne for making this project come to life! Colby was a Kinasao camper as a kid, and now lives in PA, doing a wide variety of art projects. Her family was excited to be introduced to the camp this summer and experience it at family and day camp!

Can you name each cabin by its door? Your options are: Aspen, Birch, Balsam, Cranberry, Pincherry, Pine, Spruce, Tamarack & Willow

How many trees can you identify?

Asta's Anecdotes





Well folks, lots has happened since you last heard from me! At the end of April, I got engaged to my wonderful fiancé, Trason. If you've spent any time at Kinasao during the summer in the last five years, you have probably seen him being followed around by a gaggle of kids, or heard him playing guitar in chapel. We met at Kinasao in 2017 as campers, and have worked together on staff since the summer of 2022. Trason proposed in the gazebo by the office, (too much snow to get down to the lake like he had hoped!) and next summer we will be getting married at Kinasao, about 20 feet from where we first met. Kinasao has played such a special part in our story, and we know it always will.

We had an incredible season of camp programming this summer! We were blessed with such an amazing staff, wonderful SITs, and campers who were hungry to learn more about Jesus. The staff and campers alike all learned so much about the Fruits of the Spirit through scripture, teaching, and each other. In addition to a very fruitful summer spiritually, we also produced some epic events - mostly notably, in my opinion, Medieval Day, where I got the role of "Queen Asta".

I am currently about half way through my four month internship for my Education Degree. I am placed in Warman, so I am commuting from Saskatoon each day. Prayers for safe travels each day are always appreciated, as are prayers for cheaper gas. This season of my life is so full, and seems to be barrelling ahead at full speed, which often feels quite daunting. There are so many big life changes in my near future: a wedding, convocation, among many others. It feels daunting staring down a tunnel of huge life changes; some that I can control, some that I cannot. In this time, I find God reminding me of the promises He makes us all throughout scripture about His plans for us:

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6

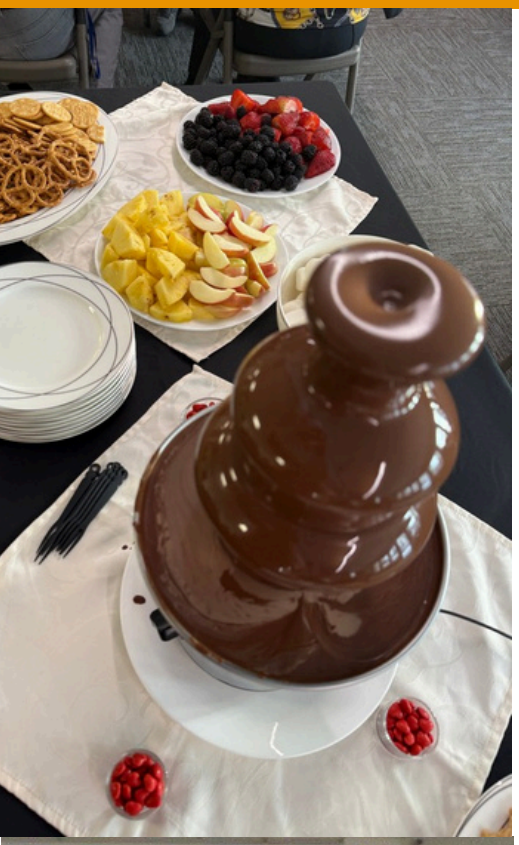
Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds!Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? Luke 12: 24-26

Even amidst a season that is wonderful yet challenging, I am so thankful for our Father who looks after our every need.

Asta

Marriage Retreat

Feb 5–7, 2027



Give your marriage the gift of time together!

Family is important to us at Kinasao, and a healthy family starts with a healthy marriage. At this retreat, we will explore the fears we have in our marriages, and how they can be invitations to discover and share our deepest longings. Past camper, staff and current board member Bryce and April MacEwen (from SoulSoothe Counselling and Wellness), will lead us through this weekend's teaching sessions. Bryce is a Registered Social Worker, and April is in the final practicum stage of her counsellor certification training.

This is not a therapy intense weekend. Rather, we will provide guided questions to explore as a couple, and then sessions led by Bryce and April to help us connect as couples. This retreat offers lots of time for couples to spend time together, both in guided conversation, as well as just time to have fun or relax together. There is also opportunity to connect with other couples, sharing life and laughter together.

And of course, you can expect a wonderful date night, because the key to a good relationship is enjoying good food! For more information, please watch our website for details.







Retreat Gift Cards make a great Christmas present!

Ski in the New Year!

Dec 31, 2026

New Years Eve Loppet & Biathlon

If the weather cooperates....
and if we have snow....
We're going skiing!

We're extending our New Years Eve gathering this year - come on out in the afternoon and enjoy the Kinasao trails one more time in 2026.

The Loppet will start at 1 pm, with red trail races and a kids scavenger hunt. After a cookie and hot chocolate break, test your speed and accuracy (with snowballs) in the Biathlon, starting at 3:00. Spectators and cheerleaders welcome!

At 5:30 we will gather in the Retreat Center for our yearly potluck - bring a sweet or savory, hot or cold item to share! The Twinkle Tour will be open to walk or drive thru from 6:30-8:30. Worship will be held at 9:00, with fireworks afterwards. Stick around for board games, visiting and snacks. If you can stay awake, ring in the new year at midnight!

FREE overnight accommodations are available for you and your family - contact kristi@kinasao.ca to book your space.







Ring in 2027 with the Kinasao Community!

Sue's Scoop

"If he sows to please his own wrong desires, he will be planting seeds of evil, and he will surely reap a harvest of spiritual decay and death; but if he plants the good things of the Spirit, he will reap the everlasting life that the Holy Spirit gives him. And let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up.
That's why, whenever we can, we should always be kind to everyone."
Galatians 6:8-10

It is Thanksgiving weekend, and I am so thankful we are all together. On the way to church yesterday our vehicle left us sitting on the side of the road, again. I knew I was faced with a choice, sowing seeds of complaint and anxiousness OR….I could live out in joy how blessed we truly are, and bring that joy of blessing to others.

Many of you know Burke had an accident over summer, resulting in his fingertip being cut off. As we were driving to the hospital, one tire of our vehicle also came off…an extra complication. It was a traumatic time for all of us, one that has taken time to heal from. When I had to write in my gratitude journal about that day, it was hard. I remember when all my boys were born, how we counted their fingers and toes, and thanked God for their perfectness. And now that is forever gone. I mourned the loss, Burke would never be the same. I recently re-read that day in my journal, and while it brought me to tears, I am amazed at how differently I feel about it now. When I look at Burke's imperfect but perfectly healed finger now, ALL I see are the blessings. There are so many people who responded when we asked for prayer, who said yes when we asked for help, who reached out and made our way clear in healthcare and when we asked if Burke could attend camp 2 days after his injury. So many people, some family, some friends, some we don't know well, some we didn't know at all, truly showed us the love and care of our Good Father. They all were His hands and feet to us. We truly have a community and family that planted into us good things of the Spirit, and we harvested the blessing of that faithfulness.

And so, I encourage and challenge you this Thanksgiving. Who do you know around you that is carrying heavy, heavy burdens? Who is struggling, mourning, sick, poor or needy? Those you may know, and maybe ones you don't. Let us count our blessings, and then look around to see who we can bless, because when we have the Lord, the very Jesus Christ who came to save us and give us new life, while we were still sinners, how can we not be His hands and feet to our neighbors, our friends, our family? We are called to sow kindness, love and good things into the lives of others. Let us be the salt and light wherever God has put us, no matter the season we are in. Because it matters. Those small acts of kindness are huge blessings to others who are hurting. Our family has been a recipient of this harvest of blessing, how can we not sow the same?







Sue

Prayer Retreat

Through the eyes of a participant!

It is always a blessing to spend time surrounded by the beauty of God's creation at Kinasao. Our retreat began with an evening of worship and fellowship. We were a group of fifteen participants gathered together with a common purpose: to seek God and deepen our prayer lives.

The theme of the retreat was fear. Under the leadership of Sue, we reflected on how often fear is addressed in Scripture and how God continually calls us to trust Him. We spent time meditating on passages such as 1 John 4:18, John 14:27, and teachings from the Gospel of Matthew.

In addition to enjoying wonderful meals, we had the opportunity to learn about and practice different approaches to prayer. Each morning began with Lectio Divina in kayaks on the lake. Since these sessions took place very early, I did not participate, but I found my own quiet place by the fireplace to begin the day. There, I spent time pondering God's Word, listening in prayer, quieting my heart and mind, and seeking to understand what God wanted to reveal to me. It was a time of recognizing the narrow gate and embracing God's invitation with a joyful heart.

The teaching sessions drew from Jamie Winship's writings and challenged us to examine our hearts more deeply. We were encouraged to confess false beliefs and allow God to replace them with His truth. Together, we reflected on important questions: How do we approach God? Who am I? Who is God?

As the retreat came to a close, I returned to my everyday life with a grateful heart and a renewed conviction in God's promises. The words of Jeremiah 29:11 became especially meaningful to me: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." I made these words my own.

As a single parent raising a child with special needs, there are times when the challenges I face can blur my understanding of God's perfect plan for my life. This retreat reminded me of His faithfulness. It renewed my hope, reassured me of my Father's love, and strengthened my confidence that He truly has a future filled with hope for me.

One of the most meaningful moments came on Sunday as we prayed for one another. Through one of the participants, God spoke a message that deeply touched my heart: "Blessed are you among women." Those words immediately reminded me of Elizabeth's greeting to Mary. That beautiful prayer remained with me long after the retreat, helping me see my son not as a burden, but as a blessing. It was a precious and transformative moment, it was a weekend of ephiphany for me.

I encourage you to consider attending the next prayer retreat. You never know what God has in store for you when you set aside time to be with Him. Allow Him to speak to you in a place set apart, where you can listen, reflect, and experience His presence in a deeper way.









The next Prayer Retreat will be Apr 30-May 2

Weekend Retreats

Come away for a weekend at Kinasao!

Fill Your Freezer Retreat: Mar 19-21

Food - it's a big part of our lives! This retreat gives you an opportunity to stock your freezer with homemade meals and relieve some of the stress of grocery shopping, prepping, and cleaning up at mealtime. Order the type and size of meals you want, prepare them together as a group, and go home with meals to enjoy with your family, or to pass along to someone else! Check out the meal options for the next retreat at kinasao.ca



Men's Retreat: March 12-14 & Women's Retreat: April 16-18

These two retreats offer an opportunity to have a change of pace from the daily routines of life. Come away for a weekend of teaching, connection and fellowship with others. You will experience a time of rest, recreation, learning, fellowship, laughter and delicious food in a place set apart! Find a sibling, parent, friend, coworker or neighbor to come along with you, or come on your own and meet new friends! The speaker and topic of each retreat will be announced at kinasao.ca in the new year.









From the Board Table

I experienced Kinasao in new and exciting ways this year!

I went to camp for a variety of different experiences in 2026. In June I took my Grade 7 class from Christopher Lake Public School to Kinasao's outdoor education program for our year-end trip. We were at camp from 10 am Monday until 1 pm Tuesday and packed a ton of fun into our time together with the outstanding Kinasao summer staff. After playing volleyball, canoeing together, playing a hilarious camp Olympics, and enjoying the amazing food, I had some Kinasao first-time visitors who were eager to come back again in the future.



Next, I returned to camp with my wife for Family Camp over the August long weekend. I have been to many Family Camps as a camp staff person but this was a new experience to be a camper. As a childless couple, my wife and I were unusual at Family Camp, but we instantly felt great joy to be sharing our faith with Christians our own age. The Bible Studies spoke to us, we enjoyed the beach, cheered the Riders on to victory at the campground shelter, and had fun visiting with old and new friends.



A week after Family Camp, I was back for a full week in August. My best friend was leading Volleyball Camp as part of Skills Week, a youth program that offers several different specialty areas. My best friend and I worked at camp together many years ago when we were younger, but have lived on different continents for much of the time since. This was a chance to reconnect with someone who feels like a brother, while sharing what we know about our favourite sport with the next generation. This was a humbling privilege.



I encourage you to find your way or ways to be involved at the camp. Our Board of Directors is looking for non-Board members to join our Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is a group of Kinasao stakeholders that identify potential Board members and ask them about their interest in serving. The Board is a strong team and we would love to have your talent and wisdom to enhance the camp's ministry. For more information about being on the Nominating Committee, contact me at directors@kinasao.ca.

Dave



We are thankful for our Board of Directors Team! Dave Bragg, Sharon Hopkins, Nathan Hind, Bryce MacEwen, Natasha Carter, Paul Tastad, Kyle Halstead, Cheryl Bauer Hyde, Pastor Mac De Waal, Bishop Sid Haugen, Pastor Sheldon Gattinger

Summer 2027

A few changes to note!

Tour-de-Kinasao

The Tour will take place in Prince Albert on May 29. The rotary trail is a great route for kids or those who want to enjoy the scenery. If you want to go fast and furious, head out on the highway!





Family Camp

Family Camps continue to grow! This summer we will run 3, 3-night Family Camps. If you need a cabin, sign up early!

S'more Camp

Are you an adult who would like some more time at camp? This is your opportunity! Join us at the end of June for 3 nights of camp fun - worship, play, learn, and connect in God's Creation.



A full listing of 2027 Summer Program dates will be available at kinasao.ca on Dec 1 - Registration opens Jan 15!

Darin's Digest

At the end of the summer of 2025, my family and I took a trip, more of a pilgrimage really, to all the places where our children's great-grandparents came from. Ireland, Scotland and England were beautiful, historic and welcoming, but being at the homestead in northern Sweden, which sits right beside the mountain stream (Fjällström) from which we get our family name, was truly special. It was wonderful to connect close relatives with stories of the past and a place we held in common. To laugh with my second-cousin at the time my grandfather nearly accidentally killed his grandfather when they were boys bonded us together over generations.

Something of the same feeling came over me on the long weekend in September at Kinasao. As former staff members and their families gathered at the first "alumni weekend" we have had in a long time, the generations melted into one through silly campfire songs, fellowship over food, worshipping together, and in lots and lots of reminiscing about the good old days at camp. It was especially meaningful to me to have former Kinasao directors Felix Tillmans, Kari Alford and Harold Hesje at the weekend. All of us know that we have been truly blessed to be part of the ministry at Kinasao. While I am still in the midst of my time on the leadership team at camp, it was great to experience the passion that former directors still have for the place we all hold in common.

It was inspiring to see Felix do his leg of the Tour-de-Kinasao, beginning early Saturday morning of the weekend. He set an ambitious goal of raising $25,000 for the ministry of Kinasao, and peddling over 120 kilometres from Kinasao to Waskesiu and back (yes, Felix is now in his seventies!). By God's grace and with the help of our Kinasao community, he achieved both goals in style.

Felix helped our Kinasao community to realize, once again, that God blesses us when we set lofty goals and work hard to achieve them as a community for the good of the camp and the ministry that happens there. Felix's sermon at our Sunday worship beautifully and touchingly reminded us that God uses many people, in many positions, over many generations, to build a place like Kinasao.

My seventh summer as executive director of Kinasao involved my whole family: Elsa, now 18 and in her first year of education at the U of S, worked as a counsellor; Trygve, now 16 and in grade eleven at BJM, Saskatoon, was a SIT; Stefan, now 13 and in grade eight, was a camper twice; and, Anna, now just as young as ever, continued her volunteer mission to serve Kinasao good coffee through Overflow espresso. We are all deeply involved in camp and deeply blessed by being a part of a place set apart.

I am truly for grateful Kinasao - a place where God provides generations of people and meaningful ministry opportunities to serve Him and each other together.

Darin









Gifts In Memory & Honour

Lane Sorenson
Jamie Babbings

Crystalle Ebbinga
Ken & Betty Haugen

Nolan Haugen
Hans & Sylvia Graupe
Ken & Betty Haugen
Brad Surjik & Tara Haugen
Kai Graupe

Colleen Mang
Bruce & June Anonson
Viktor & Margaret Fast
Obert & Connie Friggstad
Harvey & Sylvia Haugen
Gerald & Linda Jendrasheske
Todd & Juanita Upton

Carroll Birkland
Wanda LaRose

Marlene Wichert
Jim & Karen Hopkins

Knut & Inga Graupe
Hans & Sylvia Graupe

Larry Guenter
Edith Froese

Beverly Guenter
Edith Froese

Joan Ondrusek
Stewart & Louise Adams
Paul & Phyllis Deason
Verna Deason
Lorna Gjesdal
Alf & Nancy Guebert
Alice Haldorson
Henry & Lois Hanson
Gordon Hasick
Dan & Bev Haugen
Harvey & Sylvia Haugen
Maureen Kral
John Ondrusek
Adrian & Deborah Quayle
Daniel Sollid
Murray & Ramona Swenson
Marion Cottrell
Yvonne Lundeen
Denis & Elaine Serfas

In Honour of...

Darin & Anna Felstrom's 25th Anniversary
Dorothy Cooke

Viktor & Margaret Fast's 60th Anniversary
Margaret Hall

Upcoming Events

2026

Nov 21: Christmas at Camp
Nov 21-22: Twinkle Tour
Nov 28-29: Twinkle Tour
Dec 4: Twinkle Tour
Dec 5: Advent Mini Retreat & Twinkle Tour
Dec 11-12: Twinkle Tour
Dec 19-20: Twinkle Tour
Dec 31: New Years Eve Ski & Celebration, Twinkle Tour

2027

Jan 6: Seasonal Campsite Applications Open
Jan 15: Daily Campground Reservations Open
Feb 5-7: Marriage Retreat
Mar 12-13: Men's Retreat
Mar 19-21: Fill Your Freezer Retreat
April 16-18: Women's Retreat
Apr 30-May 2: Prayer Retreat
May 22: May Days Volunteer Work Bee
May 29: Tour-de-Kinasao

Need a Christmas Gift?

We've got you covered! Kinasao registration gift cards make the perfect gift - for a summer camp program or weekend retreat - there's something for all ages! Contact kristi@kinasao.ca to order



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