

Fall 2017

Pine Valley Camp

A LEGACY OF LIFE CHANGE



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On our cover:
Light of the City choir singing at our
3rd Annual Story Harvest Event.

3 Great ways to give!



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Thank you for investing in the ministry of Pine Valley. Please consider continuing to support Pine Valley towards our summer expenses and our on going year round ministry.

For 22 summers now we have seen incredible life-change and growth in our campers and staff who serve them!



Pine Valley Camp

Helping people live better lives

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INTRODUCING JOEL - TEEN CAMP DIRECTOR

Our family story started at camp. In the summer of 2004 the Lord led both Sara and I to serve at a camp, where not only were our lives individually impacted for the Kingdom, but our relationship was as well. For both of us, our experience as camp counselors highly impacted our decisions of what majors to pursue in college and our passion for camp ministry. For me, finding a position that combined my three areas of study, Biblical Studies, Outdoor Recreation and Missions, was what I ultimately knew the Lord was calling me to, I just didn't know where.

We truly believe, and have experienced, that life begins at the edge of your comfort zone. It was during our summers at camp that we were stretched the most, grew the most in our faith and depended most on the Lord. We both love how being in God's creation and the camp experience can have a life changing impact on a child's life. We hoped that the Lord would bring us back into a ministry position and being at a camp was certainly at the top of our interest list. We never imagined that the oppor-

tunity to serve in a camp setting would arise basically in our backyard.

Being present in God's creation is often when I feel closest to Him. The Lord has placed a deep passion in me for His creation and a desire to share that with others. It is so good to be serving in a place where I have an opportunity to share this passion with campers through a variety of outdoor adventures. Spending time in God's beautiful creation is an integral part of the power of camp. Time away from their typical busy and distracting surroundings creates an opportunity for campers to see life with new perspective. Being stretched out of their comfort zone often reveals the true state of their hearts and opens the door for discipleship.

Creation declares the glory of the Lord, and it is in the presence of His glorious creation that there is opportunity to share in deep relationship. At camp, there is time to be free and have fun; time to be challenged to grow; time to be still and reflect on God's word, on who God is and who He created us to be. How good it is to be back at camp!

The Art of Presence

by Miss Elle

“Miss Elle, will you come throw the Frisbee with us again?” The simple request of a child during this past choir week-end. Yet music to the depths of my soul.

As Program Director, I spend most of my days planning and coordinating. Planning Light of the City weekends,

coordinating with staff and churches, planning the summer theme, coordinating with partner ministries, etc. And I am honored to be a part of the planning and coordinating here at Pine Valley. But at the end of the day, I often ask myself: why do I do what I do?





Every single example illustrates the art of presence, of just being WITH someone. When Jesus is in your life and you are abiding WITH Him, everything changes. In the moments when I choose being present and available over “getting things done”, I have the privilege of seeing

The answer is simple: I do it for these precious moments of relationship. Relationship with the campers. Relationship with the staff and volunteers. Relationship with Jesus. The plaque over our gazebo reads “life is relationship” and in the moments my drive to

God at work. In the lives of others, sure, but in my own life as well.

Since I cannot say it any better than Bob Goff himself, I must say that “what I learned...changed my view permanently about what it meant to have a friendship

I learned that faith isn't about knowing all of the right stuff or obeying a list of rules. It's something more, something more costly because it involves being present and making a sacrifice.

with Jesus. I learned that faith isn't about knowing all of the right stuff or obeying a list of rules. It's something more, something more costly because it

accomplish threatens to overwhelm me, I need only to look up to remember this truth.

I have read countless camper stories over the course of my time here at Pine Valley and every one echoes the importance and lasting impression of presence.

“I know my counselor loves me because she listens to me.”

“My counselor carries me on his back when I'm tired.”

“The maintenance men are cool because they play with me in the pool.”

“The kitchen girls are fun, like sisters, and will dance with me.”

involves being present and making a sacrifice. Perhaps that's why Jesus is sometimes called Immanuel--'God with us.' I think that's what God had in mind, for Jesus to be present, to just be with us. It's also what He has in mind for us when it comes to other people....What I learned...reinforced the simple truth that continues to weave itself into the tapestry of every great story: Love does.”

Sometimes ministry isn't glorious or even accomplishing the monumental. Sometimes ministry just means being present and available to those around you. And sometimes it looks like throwing a Frisbee. So I did.

How Do You Count? by Mr. Matt

“The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.” II Peter 3:9

The context of this verse is talking about the Lord’s promise to return to earth for His people, which will also usher in judgement for those who have rejected Christ as Lord and Savior. This promise was spoken from God through His Holy prophets and His Son, Jesus! Five years ago in November 2012, we at Pine Valley believed the Lord was calling us to make plans and replace our Dining Hall which includes four cabins. After the Dining Hall we recognized the need to also build a boys bath house, Rec shelter and office.

The Dining Hall is the heart of our camp where meals are shared, activities are held, where our Kitchen girls, Kids & Teen campers are housed and, most importantly, where relationships are nurtured. Because of the condition of this building, we definitely need to tear it down and build a new one! However, before we can do that, we must take other steps towards replacing the four cabins we will lose, which is why we have been implementing plans to build a quad-plex cabin first. Additionally, this building will serve our Light of the City Choir through-out the school year. Once the cabin is in place, we can then move on tearing down the Dining Hall.

“The Lord is not slow about His promises, as some count slowness...” How do I count? Do I count in dollars or do I count in steps? If in dollars, then it’s painfully slow. If in steps, I am encouraged! We are rich because I see the Lord in each step, each “Delay,” each period of silence. I believe in my heart of hearts that our

God is moving even when I can’t see it. While we have been waiting, we have taken care of some immediate capital

How do I count? Do I count in dollars or do I count in steps? If in dollars, then it’s painfully slow. If in steps, I am encouraged!

improvement needs. Note that the monies needed for these improvements were raised in addition to the Rebuild Campaign. These improvements include:

- New roof & addition to the Chapel
- Program Director’s apartment
- Roof & siding on the Maintenance Director’s house
- New roof & addition & refurbished pool at Camp Director’s house

Rebuild Strategy

- Step 1. Build quad-plex cabin, aka Valley View Cabin. Raise needed resources.
- Step 2. Finalize Dining Hall plans and obtain permit. Raise needed resources.
- Step 3. Tear down existing Dining Hall! Raise needed resources.
- Step 4. Start building Dining Hall & finish raising needed resources.



Progress on the Quadplex is Advancing! THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS!

Permits are in!

Thank you to all donors for your time & supplies!

Thank you A.W. Beattie Career Center!

Thank you Lowes for supplies at cost!

The goal is to have it under roof by February!

In February we will need:

Skilled carpenters, plumbers and electricians

Volunteer work groups every Saturday

Materials:

Plumbing products

Electrical products



2017 GRANT THANK YOU

Flick Financial, \$2500

The Grainger Foundation, \$5,000

American Eagle Outfitters Foundation, \$2,500

The Patterson Foundation, \$8,000

Sedwick Foundation, \$60,000 and \$50,000

Usher Foundation, \$20,000

Northwest Bank, \$7,500

A Season to Savor! by Miss Susan

I have heard it said that there are no microwaves in God's kitchen, only crockpots! This is because the Lord wants us to have a "fall-off-the-bone" kind of faith.

When a crockpot cooks, the whole house fills with a tempting aroma. Something wonderful is happening inside that pot and the wait is almost interminable. Hope and anticipation build as you wait for a taste. The first tender bite is utterly delicious. At the end of the meal, the smell lingers in the air, reminding everyone of the delight they just experienced.

There is something special about savoring that which has been long waited for and invested in. Living and working at Pine Valley has taught me something about savoring.

It is actually possible to savor something good while you wait for it. We savor in Hope and anticipation. It is life giving to savor something while you are in the midst of experiencing it. It is faith building when you can savor in hindsight and celebrate the things God has done that you never could have imagined.

The best things God has for us to savor are found in the sweetness of connections with Him and with others. The Story Harvest night provided some wonderful moments to savor.



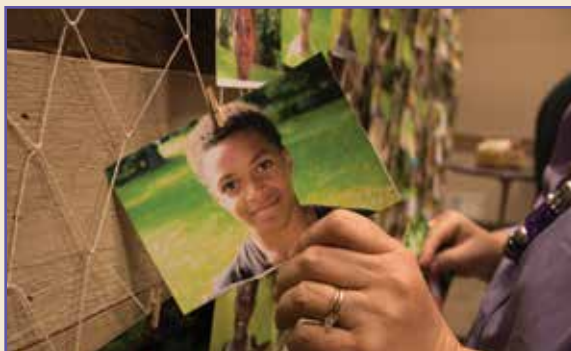
I savored watching our campers make connections around the table with some supporters, business leaders, and prayer warriors that we have known for years and some we just met.

I savored the connections the staff is making with the Lord Jesus, as they love and serve the kids.



There is something special about savoring that Living and working at Pine Valley has taught

I savored the sincere praises coming from a choir of children, some of whom have every reason to resist praise.



I savored counselors, who were once campers, and the miracle of how God narrates our stories together.



I savored the connections we have with like-minded ministries with whom we share a deep love for the kids and respect for one another.

Once in a while I am tempted to sit by the crockpot waiting and wondering but, if I do that, I would miss so many wonderful connections. Patience requires that we continue to do what God has called us to while we wait and trust Him for the results. Once in a while the Lord lifts the lid on the crockpot or opens the oven door and gives us a sample taste of all that He intended and I am convinced that whatever we are anticipating is always worth the wait. I am learning that anticipating what God is yet to do is possibly the best kind of savoring of all.

In the meantime, I am simply savoring God's faithfulness and the connections I have in my heart with my Lord who is never "slow" in keeping His promises, as some think of slowness.

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me something about savoring.*

Thank You to all who joined us at our 3rd Annual Story Harvest Celebration!

Special Thanks to our Event Donors:

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Humble and Kind

by Matto

When I think of Mr. Tim, these are the words that come to mind, humble and kind.

I think humble because Tim quietly and faithfully serves others wherever he goes. Tim's responsibilities at Pine Valley required him to work on jobs that were mundane, undesirable and often unseen. Being a facilities guy is kind of like being a lineman in football, no one calls your name or acknowledges your presence until something goes wrong, and at a big old camp, there is always something going wrong. Needless to say, Mr. Tim's name was tirelessly called upon despite the endless list of things needing fixed that were written on "the hot sheet". Even with all that, and the countless mini crisis with frozen pipes or broke down equipment, Mr. Tim always responded swiftly and calmly, ready to rescue and eager to serve.

Kind

Tim loves to be with people, staff, volunteers, and campers. He also loves to be present in the moment and engaged in community. Two places I saw Tim's kind nature on display was with difficult people and with small children. When it came to difficult people, be it strong leaders, knuckleheaded teens, or challenging guests, Tim was always kind and composed. When it



comes to children, the little ones love Mr. Tim. I saw this first hand with my own six kids. Mr. Tim would play football and wrestle with my rowdy boys, but he is also the kind of man that would have a tea party with my little girls.

Finally, Tim is a man of the Word. Psalm 119 calls believers to live according to the Word of God, and Tim is a man filled with the Word and it overflows into all he does. Tim Loves our Lord and Savior and I know God is going to continue to bless others through him everywhere he goes. Thank you Tim for your years of humble, kind service. We are excited for your next season and what God will do. You are a humble and kind servant and forever a part of the Pine Valley Family. God bless you brother!



Help!

Pine Valley Needs Passenger Vans! We transport over 70% of our campers for all of our ministries. We need reliable passenger vans to get kids to camp. We need working vans and/or \$18,000 for 2018's growing transportation needs. *Thank you!*



Pine Valley Camp

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"The Nehemiah Project at Pine Valley Bible Camp"

save the date

Light of the City

January 20-21

February 17-18

March 17-18

April 21-22

Locations to be announced, call the office for info.

**5th Annual Benefit
Motorcycle Ride**

May 19



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