

October 2023

DLBC CAMP NEWS



Aqua-Man Mike

The Need:

Dickey Lake Bible Camp is a place where young people are cared for, developed, and experience the love of God. It is a bustle of noise and fun all summer long. Mike Turner was volunteering when he was struck by the rough state of the camp truck. Before making a garbage run, he was told not to worry, someone would come for him if the camp truck broke down! Mike saw the need for camp to have a reliable vehicle in NW Montana.

The Plan:

Mike wanted to help. After a series of medical ailments that didn't allow him to run, Mike began Aqua Jogging (water running with floats). While spending hours in the water he began to think of ways to use the activity to raise awareness. His gung-ho attitude and large personality said it would have to be something big! Mike decided to aqua jog the length of Hungry Horse Reservoir near Columbia Falls, raising funds for the camp to purchase a truck. The route across the reservoir is 40 miles and Mike completed his goal with a small team of dedicated friends. To date, he has raised over \$13K of his \$30K goal for a new camp truck. The undertaking was huge. The man is kind of crazy. His heart is golden. This article was taken from Mike's gofundme page. If you'd like to see more or donate, go to <https://gofund.me/eb46c21e> or mail a check designated "Camp Truck Fundraiser" to DLBC.



Development Update:

An engineering firm from Kalispell is in the process of providing a feasibility report for our development plans. The shop is nearly complete (pictured) and our next big goal is a new chapel.

Knowing Christ and growing in Him— is our primary focus at camp. This happens most powerfully during the chapel services we have twice a day during camp. Yes, the lake is gorgeous and we have lots of fun— but the reason we exist is to make followers of Jesus Christ.

Currently, we are limited by our chapel size. We can fit about 150 campers in our cafeteria and cabins, but the chapel is full at about 100. This is a problem because our camps keep growing and we don't want to turn kids away. The new chapel would be multi-use and good year round. The current chapel is pretty old but we have good ideas for repurposing it. Please pray for God's guidance and blessing as we move forward!



Scholarship Blessings!

If you have ever received a scholarship, you understand how important they can be! Seventy-one campers/families received scholarships to attend camp in 2023. The scholarships were available for all the camps (kids, young adults, family camp, and men's/women's retreats).

Some needed just a little help and others needed the full amount. Due to a generous outpouring of love from individuals and churches, we were able to help everyone who applied. We are able to provide scholarships, discounts, and coupons because of the wonderful donations we receive. Discounts apply when campers are registered during the "early bird" time. Coupons are applied for the children of supporting pastors (churches) at no charge to them. A scholarship is given to families in need, for the amount requested (as we are able). Altogether a total of \$16K was awarded this year with \$8,770 of that being scholarships. What a blessing it is to open a door for someone, young or old, to hear about the great God who loves them beyond all measure and encourages them to follow Him in their day-to-day lives.

Scholarships will be offered in the 2024 camp season. Please contact the camp if you can help provide funding to meet the needs. And don't hesitate to request a scholarship if you have a need.

Camp Wishlist

DLBC now has an Amazon wishlist! Head over to the homepage of our website at dickeylakebiblecamp.org and follow the link from there. Thank you to all who donated to the camp either by purchasing from our wishlists or by monetary donations. We could not run 5 weeks of camp without you. Your donation, of any kind, matters and helps to change the lives of these kids. Below are a few things we are in need of.

- Slip-resistant mats or surfaces for outdoor play area
- Paddle Boat
- Canoe (2)
- Paddleboard paddles
- Ping Pong table
- Compression mats for kitchen
- Adult size lifejackets
- Large Box Fans
- Ball shed
- Outdoor sports equipment
 - Basketballs
 - Tetherball
 - Volleyballs
 - Soccer balls
 - Kickballs
 - Pickleball paddles
 - Football
 - Frisbees
- Gift cards for paint
- Interior doors for Quonset dorms

Summer Camp & Retreats Recap

Each September we host a women's and men's retreat. These allow for a gathering of like-minded people to worship, fellowship, and grow together in Christ. Our Women's Retreat may have been the biggest ever and was a really sweet time of connection. The men enjoyed their time as well but would love for more guys to come!

The retreats also took offerings to help missionary friends from the area: Cassandra House, Indonesia; Bethany (David) Thomas, Thailand; Payton Fisher, Envision Twin Cities. We raised \$1,333 for the missionaries and another \$982 for a new ice machine that the camp desperately needs!

Our **5 weeks** of student camps were packed with campers and blessings! **422 campers, 176 volunteers** (*several were counted more than once if they served at multiple camps*), **29 baptisms**, over **500 hrs of fun** and more spiritual impact than we could keep track of (*read Anna's story on the next page for one example*).

Additionally, Family Camp and Young Adults Weekend included wonderful ministry, fun and 7 more baptisms.

"The LORD has done great things for us and we are filled with joy" Psalm 126:3.

"When I think about this past summer at DLBC, the phrase that keeps coming to my mind is "in awe" of how God was at work in the lives of so many campers. At JH girls' camp, I really saw the camper's hunger for God and their desire to be 'all in' for him!

One moment that sticks out in my mind so clearly from that week was when my friend Tricia came and shared her testimony. This included a time for the girls to respond to the gospel by literally standing up amongst their peers.

As Tricia was explaining what this response time would look like, a girl stood up while she was speaking. When Tricia asked, "Why are you standing?", the girl responded, "You said to stand if I wanted to commit my life to Jesus for the first time, so I'm standing right now." Tricia (and I'm sure every other person in the room), was so blown away by this camper's boldness.

When it came time for the whole group to respond, there were over 15+ girls that stood up! Praise God that his message is so powerful that those who believe it can't help but respond!"

-Anna Fenlason (DLBC Board member, 2023 JH Girls speaker & HS Counselor)



