

Greetings and Happy Easter!

I would love to take time to write about some of the capital improvement projects we've undertaken recently. This past year has been an exciting season of growth, progress, and continued ministry through the improvements made to our facilities and programs. Each of these developments has enhanced our ability to serve campers, staff, and guests with excellence - and none of it would have been possible without your partnership, prayers, and support.

Fiber-Optic Internet

Much like a growing number of rural Minnesotan properties, Lake Beauty Bible Camp connected fiber-optic internet for the first time this past summer. Before this, LBBC looked for internet options which were fast, reliable, and affordable. Given our location, our options seemed to rotate between two of those three characteristics. With fiber, we now are able to get lightning-fast and consistent internet, at less than a tenth of the cost of our previous provider. We also used this transition as an opportunity to enhance our entire internet infrastructure, by connecting more buildings to the internet and boosting the wifi capacity in many of our spaces. The most incredible part of this job is that all of the fiber optic materials we used to connect buildings around camp



were completely donated to LBBC, as well as the expert labor needed to install it. God is so good! Rest be assured, even with top-notch internet, camp will continue to be a spot where campers and guests can “unplug” from the world. Faster speeds and reliable networks means camp staff and group leaders can facilitate the camping experience better, and the dramatic cost savings will lead to funds being allocated to different areas of our ministry.

Heating and Cooling Improvements

Camp is one of the most ideal places for people to step outdoors and take in nature with all five senses. But when guests step inside, there is an underlying hope that the feelings of outside will not be joining them indoors. For most of its existence, the Chapel has been without air conditioning. Some may remember that during those days, the only form of cooling available was a makeshift fan or the Lord's gift of a cool breeze sent through an open window. As HVAC technologies have improved, so have the expectations of people who step inside buildings; while AC was once seen as luxury, the lack thereof can quickly become a distraction if not available. A year ago, we set out to ensure that our Chapel can remain cool with our largest groups and during the hottest days. What was installed did not disappoint, as campers can leave behind their makeshift fans, and the presence of the Lord can be sought after in more ways than just a cool breeze.



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In addition to the chapel, the ongoing heating renovations in our cabins had seen a big improvement this past month with the installation of a new furnace in our double-sided Speaker Cabin. This lodging area, used year-round by camp speakers and retreat guests, is now being heated by a more efficient furnace.

Dish Room Remodel

Any person who has worked in a summer camp setting will know that washing dishes is just as much a part of the staff experience as campfires and swimming. Thinking about my own LBBC summer staff experience a decade ago, some of my favorite memories from working at camp were jamming to music with my friends in the dishroom as we tackled the seemingly endless load of dishware. While working alongside friends can make just about any task fun to do, we still ran into issues which delayed the job, such as limited hot water supply and an undersized dishwasher load capacity. This past fall, we took on the job of remodeling the dish room, which involved upgrading



the walls, flooring, plumbing, electrical, and dishmachine. This project, which couldn't have been completed without the expertise of volunteers and the patience of guests who temporarily minded paper plates, drastically improved our ability to serve every guest who dines with us. With the upgraded dish room, dishwashing is now four times faster than before, and the depletion of hot water is a thing of the past. It seemed the game has changed when it comes to washing dishes, where using the old dishwasher (affectionately named "Hobart" by staff, but sometimes called "Slow-bart") the washing team would have to wait for the machine - but with this new unit (aptly named "Giga-bart"), the team is the one challenged to keep up. Fun dish room memories will still be made with these upgrades, but we are also excited about staff spending more time building relationships with campers and less time waiting on Slow-bart.

2019 Hurricane Deck Boat

After looking through camper evaluations from previous summers, we found that alongside Chapels and night games, the activity which was most cited as a camper favorite was water tubing behind the speed boat. Our previous speed boat had seen over a decade of use, and has faithfully served the camp well. With the hopes to make one of the most popular activities at camp even better, we went looking for a new boat which could reliably allow every camper who desires to go tubing an opportunity to do so. Thanks to the generous grants offered by Hallberg Family Foundation working through Hallberg Marine in Wyoming, MN, our newly purchased 2019 Hurricane deck boat had no issues towing hundreds of campers on our inflatable banana boat with its 200 horse power motor. Driving the boat myself throughout the summer, I can attest that the joy campers felt while braving the waves helped leave lasting memories to the fun activities and impactful messages they experienced here at LBBC.



All of these projects and purchases could only have been possible through the hard work of volunteers and the generous donations to LBBC's Capital Improvements Fund. On behalf of all staff at Lake Beauty Bible Camp, we feel truly blessed by your continual support and cannot thank you enough for all that you do. Please join us in prayer as we trust God to continually bless us with the resources and guidance needed to see His camp flourish.

In Christ,

Grant Wennerberg

Camp Director