

Maple Springs Bible Camp

Spring Newsletter - 2021



Mark Wilson - Camp Director

Ministry Updated - Spring and Summer

Dear Camp Friends!

Just two weeks ago I was hanging around the campfire with some wonderful kids, and I had pink eyebrows...

It has always been a fun thing for our campers to realize that I have white eyebrows. It has come up many times at camp, so I finally caved and allowed 3 wonderful young ladies to fill in my missing eyebrows with pink marker. This is not the strangest thing that has happened to me at camp by a long shot.



We were SO excited to have 30 campers at camp this Spring Break. Even though this was much less than our usual size, it felt like a big group! We had safe, small groups, wore masks inside, and ate restaurant style in two different shifts. It was great to see campers sitting with a leader chatting while their food was brought to them. We did an Amazing Canadian Race, where groups showed how Canadian they could be by drinking maple syrup or a strange version of ice fishing. My highlight was outdoor campfires. We sang songs, did funny stunts, met a strange guy named Verse-Man, and heard a great speaker share about God's great love and His plan for us. Spring Break Camp was amazing!

I am even more excited for camp this summer! We have already put most of our camp info up for registration on our website. Currently we are planning for day-camps due to covid, but we are working on plans for an Leader In Training program, and plans to switch to overnight camp if possible!

Have you seen The Greatest Showman? The main character is a dreamer, who is always optimistic despite a lot of challenges and setbacks. The other amazing part of the movie is that unique people who maybe didn't fit other places come together and create a place where everyone is loved, accepted and celebrated! This reminds me of camp, being a place where everyone is welcomed, and of what the Church should be. God's plan is for people to come together, encourage each other and to know Him. God made each of us uniquely! Plus, who doesn't love the circus!? That is why this summer we are going to be having a Carnival Circus theme! Campers will be enjoying tons of games like Circus Animal Safari, a brand new carnival night, talent shows and some big, bouncy attractions!

New Missionaries! - Program Director

Hey everyone,

My name is Scott and this is Stacey. We are moving to camp and are super excited to meet each and every one of you! We are from Kamloops initially, but most recently Langley, and we have never lived near Peachland before. We are looking forward to building up leaders, hanging out with kids and sharing the love of Jesus.

Some of our favorite hobbies: games, walking and hiking in nature and riding our motorcycle.

That's basically us, so if you want to know more you will simply have to come visit us at camp!

- Scott Turner



Building Project and Future Dreams

When you come to camp this summer, you will drive past a duplex under construction! Already we have foundation walls poured and work going ahead every day on this important project. To make camp great for our amazing campers it takes a whole team of people. All of our year round staff such as Ducky, Drill, Thing 1, Wrench, Branch, Raven, Penguin and even our new couple, raise our own pay through people who support us as missionaries. This is part of how we serve camp, and invite others in our life to join us.



Raising support can be challenging, but having a place to live provided by Maple Springs makes it possible! This Duplex will provide for great staff to serve at camp year-round for many decades to come. It will mean more weeks of camp, more unique camps like Fall Mini camp and our new Wilderness camp. It will mean camp is safe and well maintained and able to serve our kids and our community!

I am so thankful for our staff team, and that this essential project is going ahead. We are also dreaming for the future, what can we do to "build relationships and change lives" in the Okanagan? We are looking for your feedback and ideas! In the near future we are planning for a small gym for indoor activities and chapel space. (Spring Break is so cold, and we don't all fit in the dining hall!) As well as a few items like a pool heater! We are also acquiring some BIG items that will make camp way more fun, and allow us to connect with schools, churches and kids groups!

How Can You Join In?

Maple Springs can only exist because of a ton of generous supporters and partners. One of our biggest of course is our camper families. We so appreciate you Moms, Dads and caregivers who send your kids to camp. Because we keep our fees as low as possible, over half of our whole budget is provided by individuals who donate to camp. We are so thankful to our awesome camper families, and to our amazing donors who together keep camp going!



This has been a crazy few years for camp. Even with Covid seeming to shut things down we have been busier than ever trying to serve within restrictions and planning for the future of camp. A few years ago

Maple Springs was able to purchase our land and ensure that camp could stay open! Now our staff duplex, and a few other urgent needs and projects mean that camp has a bigger financial need than we ever have, even in a time when our camper numbers are limited. Amazingly we have another huge opportunity. We have been approached by a foundation that wants to encourage donors and strengthen camps. That means that this year any new donors to Maple Springs or any returning donors who haven't been able to give in the past 2 years will have their donation matched by the Foundation! We are hoping to raise \$20,000 this year - that will be matched to become \$40,000! - to keep camp operating, to sponsor campers who can't afford to come to camp, and to meet some urgent project needs.



ways
to get
involved...

- If you appreciate Maple Springs, but have not been able to donate in the past, would you consider donating this summer to help camp run?
- Would you pray for lots of space for campers, and the opportunity to do overnight camps?
- If you support Maple Springs, would you share about us with someone else? We have a booklet all about us on our website maplesprings.ca
- Are you signed up for camp, or do you know someone who should be? This year if your camper brings a new friend, you both get a free T-shirt!

Register for Summer Camps! | www.maplesprings.ca



Did you Know?

- Maple Springs has camper sponsorships available! If you know a child or family who would love a week at camp but cannot afford it, no problem! Get in touch with us!
- Our Staff Duplex is our biggest project ever, and is almost funded! We are hoping to be finished by December of this year!
- Camp is open for guest groups! We have hosted birthday parties, youth groups, church and board retreats and lots more. We can cook, or just let you use the facility. Camp is here for our whole community to use, so we make our costs as low as possible, we just want you to be here!

Day of Prayer for Camp!

Did you know that there are more than 400 faith-based camps across the country?! We are a part of this amazing mission field!



Please pray for us! Our mission is part of a huge event, to simply pray for camp. Camp ministry and experiencing the outdoors has been life changing for so many people! We believe in prayer at camp. **Would you check out prayforcamp.ca and pray for Maple Springs on May 30.** Thank you!

If you have any questions or would like to know more, lets connect

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