

The Holt Family Newsletter-March/April 2023

Red Cliff Bible Camp

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It's hard to believe that we are currently only a few weeks away from the beginning of our summer camp season! While our focus has switched from winter retreats to summer preparations, it's good to look back at what God has done in during the last two retreats and during our spring "down time." So, let's back up to the beginning of March. Snow Blowout, our teen retreat, took place during the first weekend of March. Although I had to be very careful while traveling on the snowmobile, and my serving opportunities were limited by the injured disc in my back, I was able to be at camp! Our speaker, Jason Ehmann, presented the Word of God to a packed-out camp, and we praise God for allowing the roads to reopen in time to allow the campers and volunteers to make it into camp for the weekend. The teens enjoyed the winter activities, including winter zip lining, snowshoeing, winter games, and night snow tubing, as well as an indoor "snowball" fight.

Heritage Quest took place the following weekend. We were excited to see this camp happen, as it is the first Father-Son retreat that we have been able to have in a while. The speaker, Dave Olson, has a heart for



helping fathers to connect and build better relationships with their sons, especially during their teen years. He encouraged the fathers to be the leaders in their homes and relationships and to have the hard, yet needed conversations with their sons, encouraging them to become men of God. One highlight of the weekend was a blacksmithing workshop. During the weekend, the father/son teams were able to craft and take home a meat hook to use when grilling. The fathers and sons were also able to make memories and shared experiences while snowshoeing, going snow tubing, and making a custom, leather-bound journal.

Once the retreats were over, our family began to come down with one illness after another, which is pretty unusual for us. We had colds, coughs, sore throats, pink eye, and fevers, one right after another for about 6 weeks straight! We are thankful that besides the brush with RSV, none of the other illnesses have been serious, and we're finally healthy again! We are just about finished with the school year, only Taylee and Sierra have a few courses left to complete, and they are hoping to be done in about a week. During the last week of April, we took a week off school and work to recharge and reconnect as a family before jumping back into final preparations for the summer. We took the family hiking, went to the local rec center to go swimming, then drove to Salt Lake City to enjoy mini-golfing, laser tag, and go-karts. It was so fun just to relax and play together, and we appreciate a supporting family that welcomed us into their home for the weekend!

At one point during that week off, Vanessa managed to hyperextend her left leg. At first, we thought it was just a knee sprain, but once the swelling subsided, we took her to an orthopedic specialist to make sure there was no tear or more serious damage. After a round of x-rays, the doctor found a fracture in her femur, just above her left knee. Because of its proximity to the growth plates in her knee, she also had a CT scan, and we are so thankful that the growth plates appear to be completely unaffected. Vanessa will be in a cast (removable!) for about 4 more weeks, but full healing is expected. She has no pain as long as she doesn't put weight on it, and she is maneuvering her crutches like a pro! We are so thankful that God worked out all the details in that situation.



As far as camp preparations go, Keith is currently updating the staff training manual, finalizing schedules, coordinating travel plans with summer staff, working on skits and games, writing the camper journals, managing registrations, and preparing teaching materials for the summer, among other things. I'm working coordinating special music and service music for the summer, ordering inventory for the camp stores, and figuring out what needs done before we move our family to camp in less than a month. The girls are looking forward to the summer and enjoying the (finally) warm weather outside, and Ty is simply getting into everything in the house that he possibly can. He is cruising around the furniture, trying to reach the knobs on the oven, and speed crawling to the bathroom to try to play with the toilet brush every chance he gets!

- Praise: Red Cliff was able to run all 4 winter retreats this year!
- Praise: The \$200,000 matching fund for the Lodge building has been met!
- Prayer/Praise: Complete healing for Vanessa's leg, and praise that the growth plates are fine.
- Prayer: Red Cliff's summer season begins on June 7th. Pray for the staff, speakers, and campers!
- Prayer: We need one more guy counselor to have a full counseling staff.
- Prayer: Our 16 year old refrigerator is having trouble keeping its temperature cold enough. Pray for wisdom to know what to do with the fridge and/or for finances if we need to replace it.

Serving in Wyoming,
Keith, Stacy,
Taylee, Sierra, Elayna,
Savannah, Vanessa, and Ty Holt

If God is leading you to support us on a monthly basis or with a one-time gift as we minister at Red Cliff Bible Camp, you can donate directly to the camp by mailing a check to Red Cliff Bible Camp, PO Box 846, Pinedale, WY 82941. You can designate it "For Holt's Support", and the camp will make sure it gets to us. (It is tax deductible!) Our PayPal account is now set up on our Staff page at redcliffcamp.org. Please note that PayPal does take a percentage of each donation we receive as their service fee.