

Chapel House News

Summer Edition: August 2011



From Arrowhead Director of Maintenance, Phil Rayburn

Dear family and friends,

The summer theme at Arrowhead this year was "The Path" so we thought we would share a photo of the path to our front door in the header of this issue of the newsletter. Friends and family are always welcome in our home. This summer is flying by and it seems like the to-do list is always longer than the have-done list. But when we look back, we can always see how God works in and through all things. Here's a little update on how God has blessed our path this summer.

Phil spent a lot of his time in the spring prepping for the auction which really helped clear out some space in the shed. Despite the weather, that was a great day. This has been a rainy, humid summer and we have our Wisconsin version of the Amazon jungle. Okay. That's a little extreme. But, lately the grass needs mowing every 6 days. Fortunately, Phil has several maintenance helpers this year and a brand new mower courtesy of a generous donor and this has made it easier to keep up with the grass.

With the help of volunteers, Phil has worked on building more new bunk beds to replace the old Army cots and the shop has looked like a carpenter's workshop most of the summer with the sawing, assembling, and varnishing. Right now, he's working on putting some stone landscaping steps down to the lakefront level of one of the



cabins so that guests can get down to the meeting room easier. We're counting down to family camp in just a few weeks.

Phil was one of the Arrowhead adventure trip leaders again this year, which gave him a little break from maintenance work. He and Jim McDowell took a small group of boys up to the Minnesota Boundary Waters Area and came back with their typical collection of adventure stories.

As in other summers, Michelle met with our new volunteer nurse each Sunday for check-in to do an orientation and make sure the nurses' station is clean and stocked. She was also the speaker for the 3rd and 4th grade camp over the 4th of July. It was a small camp, which allowed for much more bonding time with campers.

Michelle has 13 piano students who come to our home for lessons. Since most of them are home schooled and take lessons during the school day, so she has her evenings free to be with family.

She has a busy fall season of speaking coming up and in a few weeks she'll be speaking at a writer's conference in southern Wisconsin. In the next month she will be canning applesauce and tomatoes for our pantry shelves. She made a bunch of jam earlier this summer and she keeps the 3 guys stocked with homemade bread every week.



Dallas has entered the world of decisions and responsibility. He started working this spring at the gas station right by our house, so he can walk to work. After the summer, they will keep him on as occasional weekend and holiday help, so he can make money on his college breaks. The job fits his personality and he has some entertaining stories to tell about the regulars who come into the store. Dallas graduated from New Auburn High



School in May and he will be attending UW-Eau Claire this fall, living on campus. He received several very helpful scholarships and we're so grateful. He hasn't started packing for college yet, so we know what he will be doing in the next couple of weeks! As much as he wanted to go to Bolivia again this summer, it didn't work out for him to be able to go because of his work schedule.

Austin will be a junior this fall. He hasn't been home very much this summer! He spent two weeks with the Arrowhead Kinetic team in Bolivia in July and that was a great experience for him. He talked about the joy the kids at the orphanages have despite their circumstance. And he was impressed by the simplicity of the church he attended.

The day after he got home from Bolivia, he headed out on the Adventure trip to the Boundary Waters. He's been working too! In the spring, he did some raking for a retired couple who have a cabin in our area and that turned into a weekly mowing job. The boys also share another mowing job. And by God's provision he ended up with a job working for the contractor who did most of the roofs at camp this summer (insurance covered the hail



Austin is on the left

damage). When a worker quit, Austin filled in and then ended up getting more hours with other projects.

He's worked long hours in a summer of record heat. But, the money has helped him buy his own motorcycle, insure it, and pay for a motorcycle safety course so that he can get his license by the end of August. He will also appreciate having money in his "ski fund" come winter.



Dallas helping with a painting project.

We want to thank you for praying for us and generously supporting us. This fall, we'll be going through some changes and making adjustments. First, it will be different having one son in college! Please pray for the adjustment for Dallas as well as for the rest of us at home. Also, we're undergoing some big changes with health insurance. Phil, Dallas and Michelle are no longer eligible for BadgerCare and like many of you, we've struggled to find affordable coverage. Dallas will be able to purchase his own health insurance through the university and Phil and Michelle have enrolled in a high-deductible plan beginning in September. Arrowhead will be increasing our salary in order to help us cover that additional expense and we're so appreciative of that increase.

For quite some time, we've considered creating an e-mail newsletter in addition to our quarterly mailed newsletter and we've finally come up with a good option!

See the insert in this newsletter.

Phil, Michelle, Dallas and Austin Rayburn

If you would rather be removed from our mailing list, we understand. Please send an e-mail to and we'll gladly comply with your request.

Our home address:
11510 County Highway M
New Auburn, WI 54757
Phone: 715-967-2920

E-mail: phil@abcamp.org
or rayburn@citizens-tel.net

NEW BLOG: www.philrayburn.blogspot.com

Arrowhead Bible Camp address:
30765 117th Avenue
New Auburn, WI 54757
www.abcamp.org

arrowhead **bible** camp

Please Note: All checks for support must be written to Arrowhead Bible Camp in order to receive a receipt and tax credit for the donation.