

Dear Friends and Family,

Doesn't it seem like we have been in winter forever? Well, at least for those of us in the Heartland. With more than the usual amount of snow and cold weather, it's hard to imagine that shorts and t-shirt weather will ever come again, but before we know it, Arrowhead will be buzzing with campers again! For now, we're enjoying the chance to catch up a little. There are still some upcoming winter retreats, but it's not as busy this winter as last year was. We ask you to continue to pray for camp in light of the economy—specifically that parents will not be forced to cut this valuable camp experience from their family budget. We're praising God that despite the national financial trend, our needs are still being met through faithful supporters. We know this is a sacrifice for many.

This winter, Phil is still hoping to get a bunch of new bunk beds built for the lodge with the help of some volunteers who are coming for a work weekend. He's also working on some of the indoor painting. He was able to use some of his vacation time while the boys were home on Christmas break and they enjoyed sledding and cross-country skiing together. The guys love the tubing hill and groomed trails at camp. Austin is finished with basketball for this season, so we have a little break from activity until spring. Dallas is a driver now, which helps us a lot with his ability to be independent and participate in activities at school. They are both in pep band and FFA, and Dallas is in forensics as well.

We wanted to tell you a short story of how God continues to meet our needs in unexpected ways. Just before Christmas, a check for \$125 arrived from one of our supporting churches with a note that it was a gift to be used for personal needs. That check was still sitting on our dining room table with the opened mail when the blower went out on our wood pellet stove days later. We ordered the part from a friend. Can you guess the total cost for that part? \$125. The need was met before we even knew we had a need!

Do you have your own story of how God's meeting your needs? We'd love to hear it! Just drop us an e-mail at phil@abcamp.org. If you give permission, we'll share your story in upcoming newsletters.

Blessings,
**Phil and Michelle
& Dallas and Austin**

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

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



New Years Breakfast at the Rayburn's

We hosted the Arrowhead annual New Years party at our house this year. It's basically a reunion for past summer staff and counselors. We had somewhere between 40-50 people staying at our house and we're so glad for the space our big living room and "chapel" provide.

Updates:

- § Phil will be meeting with the building committee at the beginning of February to discuss the new cabins. Please pray for insight for the team in making the right decisions about when to build and the other details of the project.
- § Reeve church is working on tearing down a house and loading the building supplies into a semi to be brought to camp. A family from that church donated the house to camp for building supplies.
- § Phil and Michelle are cabinet members for Wisconsin Christian Camp and Conference Association. The annual conference is in mid-March and we are in the final planning stages. The cabinet plans the conference and facilitates seminars and other behind the scenes activities while the conference is in session. Michelle will be leading several seminars for ministry women and camp wives.



What is Michelle doing since graduating?

Michelle has been writing more. She had an article in the November issue of *Focus on the Family* for couples. She still writes a monthly column in *Wisconsin Christian News* and she has written a few radio scripts for *The Heartbeat of the Home*. Among some of her recent projects, she will have a Bible study for church leaders coming out sometime in 2009 with *Christianity Today*. It will be downloadable for purchase from www.christianbiblestudies.com. She will be leading worship and doing some classes at the Arrowhead crafting retreat in February and visiting her sister in California in February, teaching at a writer's conference in Iowa in March and accompanying Solo and Ensemble students in March as well. She still teaches piano lessons and she has 9 students. She helps with directing the music ministry at church and she's the women's ministry events coordinator. In other words, she stays very busy!

Upcoming Arrowhead Retreats

April 17-19 **Spring Scrap & Stamp**—a relaxing getaway with the girls and a chance to catch up on those stamping and photo album projects.

May 1-3 **Sportsman's Weekend**— It's all about archery, fishing, and outdoor time with the guys. A great father-son opportunity.

May 22-25 **Memorial Day Work & Play**— come work on projects, camp with the family, and enjoy the outdoors.

See the website for registration information

How You Can Pray:

- § Please pray for wisdom with seeking future health insurance options for our family.
- § Pray for what God will do this coming summer at Arrowhead through staff that is yet to be hired.
- § Praise God that we were able to refinance our home at a significant savings!
- § Pray that God would show us opportunities to share the gospel with the people right around us, including our own neighbors.