

A Climate of Growth

A few meals with me at the dinner table will reveal that I am not the biggest fan of vegetables. That's probably why I don't take much of an interest in gardening either. Who wants to work so hard for something that you don't enjoy to begin with? That is just plain silly.

On the other hand, one of my staff couples set out this summer to build raised gardens with frames that work like a green house when clear plastic is stretched over them. Tim and Rachel had to put in a lot of effort to establish their garden because it's almost impossible to grow anything in our area. This is what our retired county extension specialist, Cheryl Moore-Gough, has to say. "IT'S NOT EASY TO GROW TOMATOES IN MONTANA. Extremes in temperature, dry climates, poor soil quality, water shortages and short growing seasons make the production of fine tomato fruit difficult. But therein lies the challenge, and there are plenty of things you can do to improve your chances of producing bushels of vine-ripened fruit."

While I'll never be a fan of Brussels sprouts and it's a safe bet that I will never plant my own garden, watching the Cannings prepare theirs got me thinking about how much I love to be a part of people's growth process.

At the very heart of YAA's programs is

the clear emphasis on growth as we strive to "direct people to Jesus Christ and DEVELOP them to reflect His character." That's it. The clear and concise objective of all that we are about is to come alongside people and as Webster's dictionary states, "cause them to grow gradually in [the character of Christ]; to cause them to become gradually fuller, larger or better."

Regardless of my dislike for vegetables, I see that the metaphor of a gardener aptly describes what I am striving to accomplish as I am charged with growing the ministries of YAA. It is exciting to recognize names of families and individuals who have participated in camp and personally benefited even in small ways, and who now extend to states all across the country. As it pertains to building a non-profit camp ministry, I'm impressed with Cheryl's courageous outlook as I paraphrase her statement above. "It's not easy to grow [a camp] in Montana..... but therein lies the challenge, and there are plenty of things we can do



to improve our chances of producing bushels of [camp-ripened people]."

Reading this newsletter you will discover many climate challenges that we encounter and the strategies we are implementing to ensure we continue to produce well. Our efforts alone, however, are not enough to combat all of the challenges we face. Thankfully, many people are already involved with us as part of our "camp

greenhouse." This extra support helps us extend our growing season, and protects us from the proverbial animals, extreme temperatures, dry climates, poor soil, and water shortages that we face.

If you recognize the value of our programs but are not yet involved with us, I ask that you consider what resources you have available and could offer to help us continue developing a long and steady growing season that will produce bushels of vine-ripened fruit. Take a look at the chart below for how you can help us establish a climate of growth.

JIM HAWTHORNE • Director

Get Involved

Help YAA establish a long and steady growing season.

Gardening Challenges

- Extreme Temperatures
- Dry Climate
- Poor Soil Quality
- Water Shortages
- Short Growing Seasons

Camp Climate Challenges

- High costs of business
- Need for Christ to be known
- Strengthen program areas
- Limited full-time staff
- Year-round facilities

Establishing a Camp Greenhouse

- Become a monthly financial donor
- Commit to pray for and support full-time staff
- Participate in an advisory team / board member
- Enlist as a regular volunteer
- Contribute to our Capital Development plan

Contact us by phone at 406-763-4727, email office@yaacamp.org
or visit our website www.yaacamp.org to make a donation or volunteer.

from the CampMom

Favorite sights, sounds, smells and musings from the Camp Mom

- ★ The pounding of feet and excited voices as campers race down our hills
- ★ Campers standing attentively as the flag is raised and lowered each day
- ★ Enthusiastic singing that lifts the roof with, "Our God is greater, our God is stronger, God you are higher than any other!"
- ★ Cheers, squeals, and shouts during field games of "Killer or Medic ball"
- ★ The clang of the bell atop the climbing wall as campers reach the top and recite "Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord...he who has clean hands and a pure heart."

- ★ The buzz of the zip line and accompanying hoots and hollers as camper after camper whizzes down the mountain
- ★ The long winding line of chattering campers telling their families all about their incredible week of camp as they await the Friday afternoon barbeque
- ★ The always popular smell of burgers grilling outside – BAR-B-CUE !!!
- ★ A counselor sitting with a camper in a quiet conversation talking about life and Jesus
- ★ Whole families eating, playing, worshipping, relaxing together during family camp
- ★ Clean staff laundry flapping in the breeze on the clothesline (yes, I am a Mom!)
- ★ Laughter and conversation coming from the shower house as our Service Team builds friendships while scrubbing it clean.
- ★ Expressions of gratitude, "THANK YOU to all of your amazing staff for giving my child a week he/she will never forget!"

These make up the experiences that generate the encouraging reports we so love to hear like, "Oh, YAA! Yes, my friend just told me about that camp. Her daughter went there and had an incredible time. I am going to sign my kids up for next summer."

Interestingly, as I reminisce over the years, I realize how inexperienced we were in our early days. We lead with the confidence and exuberance of youth. Today there is a bit more trepidation that washes over me as we care for hundreds of campers and families. Now I sense the fears Moses had as he led the nation of Israel and I echo his declaration as he told the Lord, "Remember these are your people. If your presence does not go with us, please don't send us out from here." Thankfully, the Lord's promise to Moses extends to us as well, "My presence will go with you and I will give you rest." I am profoundly grateful that God allows us to be a part of ministry life at YAA.

ANDREA HAWTHORNE • Camp Mom



Thank you for the WORK you do to bring God into the lives and hearts of children and families. We have been listening to our son rave about the activities, counselors, missionaries, fireside, friendships.... My heart is light and I want you to know at least for one child there are fruits from your labor. I am teary and my heart is full! Thank you and Praise God for bringing the perfect handpicked people into his life at this precise time. This is one of the BEST days of my life! —A peaceful mama, Kelly

Strengthening our Program Climate

Summer Camp Stats

2012 Enrollment Summary reveals another year of steady growth at 9% and we identified 230 first time campers. 13 campers accepted Christ for the first time, 184 indicated that they wanted to continue to grow spiritually, and 3 campers said that they sensed a calling to pursue missions.

The Upper Room: A place apart to be restored

We are now providing a comfy, fully furnished one room efficiency apartment for people in full-time ministry. We invite you to come and spend two nights with us. We will provide a quiet room to read, study, pray, reflect, write or enjoy a much needed nap. We also welcome you to recreate on our grounds in ways that revitalize you. Email us at retreats@yaacamp.org for more information.

12 Month Practicum for college age adults

Stay tuned for a developing initiative that we are looking to launch in the fall of 2013. Our desire is to take our summer-only Joshua Project discipleship program and extend it into a year-round leadership development program. We are seeking wisdom and direction on the best way to create the right climate to come alongside young adults in order to help ready and establish them as they move into adulthood.

Capital Improvements to our Facilities

Additional full-time staff growth has thrust us forward in adding to one of our homes. The ultimate outcome of this project will provide increased living space for one of our families and a standalone second story apartment for seasonal staff or camp guests. Thanks to a tremendous outpouring of volunteers the entire shell has been framed and dried in for only the cost of materials! We currently need an additional \$25,000 to complete this project.

The new lodge for which we have been raising funds over the past several years is fully underway. In fact, we are over ¾ of the way complete, with it dried in and painted on the inside. We hope to get our occupancy permit before the end of the year, which will allow us to begin utilizing this building even though it will be unfinished in many ways. Our goal is to build this building completely debt free. So we will only complete additional stages as new funds come in. If you would like to know how you could cover one of the lingering projects, please give Jim Hawthorne a call @ 406-763-4727 and find out the associated costs. Some of the projects we still have to pay for include siding, flooring, interior doors, light fixtures, final road preparation and, of course, all of the furnishings.



Joshua Staff Reflections

God has really been working in my life back home, and he's helping me make the "camp Bryan" the "Bryan back at home". And you were right! People have noticed a change in me! And I am thankful to say it has been a positive change! Thank you again Jim for everything and for pushing me this summer to mature into someone that I wouldn't have even imagined becoming!
—Bryan: University of Georgia

Servant-leadership is something I saw present at camp, and an area I hope to continue to grow in.
—Kyler: Lee University, Tennessee

The Lord is giving me so much grace to get things done and continue to rely on Him for every bit of the strength that I need. Although I wish I had more time to sit and recharge right now, it is really cool to be challenged to truly NEED God for energy and

stamina of each day, knowing so fully that I just can't muster it up from myself.
—Aimee: University of Georgia

This summer, especially, I really wanted to be used completely for God's will. That is something that I fall short of daily but is a desire that I have. After this summer I've really felt that I have a better understanding of what it means to serve and love God's people, which is something that I have felt called to do in my everyday life.

We, as Christians, are called to love and invest into people's lives and the job of a counselor this summer really put me in a position to do what God has called me to do. Being in a [college] dorm for a second year and coming back with the knowledge that I learned this summer has been really good. There are hurting people everywhere, not just camp, and I want to continue to love and serve God's people in every part of life.
—Haley: Seattle Pacific University

Staff Update

Thanks to the extensive network of camp staff and friends, when it came time to hire another staff member we had many people looking out for YAA. Even though his placement was right in the nick-of-time, (less than a week before summer staff arrived), it didn't take us long to land another great Program Director.

Tim Canning and his wife Rachel joined us at the end of May right after completing his graduate studies at Covenant Theological Seminary. With multiple years of leadership experience at Deerfoot Lodge as well as being a high school teacher and serving for a year with Samaritan's Purse in Africa, Tim arrived fully equipped to step into the all important responsibility of leading our summer staff and expanding our program ministries.



On January 1, 2013 we will be bolstering our staff team with the addition of two new positions. Dave and Lisa Beedy will be taking on the roles of our Guest Services Director and our Director of Administration respectively.

Dave and Lisa have been in full-time ministry for most of their 27 years of marriage. Many of those years were spent in camping. From 1997-2007, Dave and Lisa served at Big Sky Bible Camp, Dave as Program Director and Lisa in administration and eventually serving as Camp Director. In 2007, the Lord led them to serve at Canon Beach Christian Conference Center in Oregon and now we will have the privilege of them joining us at YAA.

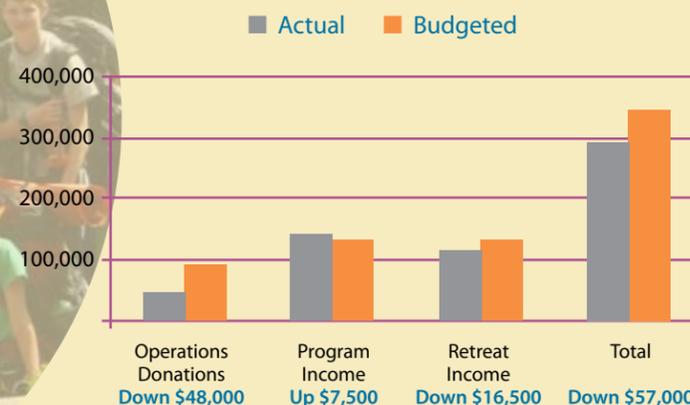
Along with their technical skills, Dave and Lisa are passionate about loving, mentoring and helping people walk in victory. They know

how powerful camping ministry is and they have seen lives transformed because of it. We are thrilled to have the Beedys, who share the same ministry philosophy as YAA.



Income vs Budget

We need your help to meet our 2012 budget goals. The graph below shows the strength of our program growth but also reveals significant challenges. We need your help as we seek to make up a \$57,000 shortfall. Please make a donation before the end of the year so we can meet our budget and move ahead with our two capital projects.



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2013 Camp Dates

Residential Camps

3rd – 4th Grade Camp	Sunday June 16 – Friday June 21
Day Camp 1	Monday June 17 – Friday June 21
5th – 6th Grade Camp	Sunday June 23 – Friday June 28
Day Camp 2	Monday June 24 – Friday June 28
7th – 9th Grade Camp	Sunday June 30 – Friday July 5
9th – 12th Grade Camp	Tuesday July 9 – Saturday July 13
3rd – 5th Grade Camp	Sunday July 14 – Friday July 19
6th – 8th Grade Camp	Sunday July 21 – Friday July 26

Leadership Programs

Joshua Project	Tuesday May 28 – Monday July 29
Timothy Program	Thursday June 13 – Saturday July 27

Wilderness Camping and Backpacking

Wilderness Adventures Camp (6th-8th Grade)	Sunday June 30 – Friday July 5
Wilderness Backpacking Camp (9th-12th Grade)	Sunday July 14 – Friday July 19

Family Camps

Family Camp 1	Friday July 5 – Monday July 8
Family Camp 2	Friday August 30 – Monday Sept 2

