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Camp Connection

the official newsletter of Pioneer Bible Camp

April 2021

Greetings to all in the name of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

As the months have flown by it has been almost a year since we have sent out our last newsletter. The world around us continues to change and the uncertainties don't seem to let up. But with Easter around the corner we have the opportunity to celebrate the one thing that is certain, Christ died on the cross and on the third day was raised up and now sits at the right hand of God. So by the shed blood on the cross we could be saved and have everlasting life, Amen.



So at PBC we have been working through the highs and lows of Covid-19's summer camp of 2020. We all watched the shape up videos that Greg and Cameron compiled and the bloopers in doing so, as well as the chapel and lesson that our speakers did. It was a real learning curve and a lot of work for Greg and Cameron to transition from a normal summer program to a full online camp. In review of last summer we are not going to do an online camp again. We are planning on opening camp again this summer but watching what the province's rules will be. We will be opening registration on line shortly and we encourage all campers to pre-register. If by May 4, 2021 the rules of overnight camps haven't been lifted we will transition what camp looks like into a 5 day club format, meeting in local area parks.



This spring we have a lot of work to finish before we can be ready for a summer program to run at camp. Last year with the camp being empty we started a lot of large projects that need to be finished. We need to construct two new boys cabins, finish the construction of the new play ground, construct the low ropes course, complete the bouldering cabin, soccer field landscaping, interior/exterior of the new camp store, as well as all the usual spring tasks of cutting trees, clearing trails, chopping fire wood, painting, cleaning, and opening camp up from winter shut down. To complete this large list of tasks we are going to open camp every weekend starting from the May long weekend till July long weekend, for work bees. If you are available to help on any weekend, I would ask that you contact me by email at

petersilvius@yahoo.com or by phone/text at 780-915-0562. This way we will know who is coming out and we will have a task list of what needs doing, from large tasks to small, light duty tasks. We would also ask that you bring your own bagged lunch and beverage, for the day. Hope to see many of you out there.



Every spring I always look forward to the spring banquet where I get to see all the diverse range of people that Pioneer has touched over the 71 years of ministry. This year we were again unable to hold our spring fundraising banquet. This is our only fundraiser and our largest source of income. Last year we did not run any camps, or host any rental groups for income, but we still paid insurance, utilities, and our two camp staff for their work on the online program. We had our maintenance man working on roof repairs, and camp upkeep to keep the camp in good repair as well as the new projects we are undertaking. This is only able to continue with the support of those who donate to it. Pioneer has touched many lives over the years from the kids that came, to the families they returned to, and the staff that lead them. This Ministry can only continue if we, as friends of PBC, donate. We accept one time donations through E-transfers or cheques or, if it is easier, we can do monthly withdrawals through our EFT setup. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.



So, as we trust in God for our direction and rely on his leading, continue to pray for PBC, its board, and director Greg. As His purpose and plans remain firm and His love endures forever.

In His service,
Peter Silvius, Board Chairman

Hello Pioneer Family,

It's been a while since we've been in touch. I hope all the campers out there enjoyed the Christmas packages Mrs. Dion put together, as we have missed you dearly, and my hope is that we will be able to see each other again soon.

With that said, we will soon be opening registration for overnight camps this summer! Of course, in these uncertain times we will not be requiring payment until we are more certain of our government's restrictions, but in the meantime, it will help us prepare staff and organize the program. I would encourage you all to register as early as possible and let's hope and pray together that camp will be able to go forward this summer. As our plan B we will be working on a "5 Day Club" style in-community day camp form as well. If you or anyone you know is interested in serving at camp or for our plan B community day camps, send me an email at director@pioneerbiblecamp.com. May God bless you and keep you safe and at peace.



In His service,
Gregory Dion
Director

Our Planned Summer Program

Teen Camp	Ages 13-17	Sunday, July 11th – Friday, July 16th	\$350
Junior Camp	Ages 10-12	Sunday, July 18th – Friday, July 23rd	\$325
Kid's Camp	Ages 7-9	Sunday, July 25th – Thursday, July 29th	\$300

Thoughts from the Board

As the weather warms up it leads my thoughts and prayers to focus more on camp. It has been a hard, to say the least, with Covid and with camp sitting empty last summer. My days were filled with “Oh, at camp right now it would be _____ activity,” but in reality it was empty of the usual sounds of camp. As we look forward we know this is temporary and we will have camp again.

As I was in prayerful thought I was thinking about where we came from and the history of the Kushneriks and their call to the missions field of Smoky Lake, AB. I still remember Mrs K. telling us in a chapel meeting that she answered the call to go to the mission field and was ready to go to Africa but Lord dropped her in Smoky Lake, Alberta.

As a board and futures committee we are looking for guidance to have an all season campus and a fulltime director. I thought of the service Dave and Andrea Armbruster put in as a director team and their dynamic of being a teacher all year, transitioning to camp director for the summer months and then back to teaching and the limited break that gave them.

So I thought of a youth pastor whose season winds down and the summer is open, and can have that follow up after camp with campers but the same thought as a teacher comes to mind. Then the thought of “Go back to your roots” came to me and the Lord gave me the vision of a Missionary. Someone called to serve the Lord in missions in North central Alberta, to lead the PBC summer program and summer follow up, but more than that - to serve the local churches much like John and Lucille did as a Pastor and church planter. As PBC is non-denominational we currently work with, and are supported by, many local area churches. Many of the local area churches would welcome someone to help pulpit fill, lead worship, and an added prayer partner as they are single staff churches with only a senior pastor or part time senior pastor. How this would look and work are still unclear and there is no time line in place but I would ask you to pray and continue to trust in the Lord to lead and guide us and that, if this is our future, to pray for our future missionary and the ministry of PBC.

Pioneer Bible Camp Board of Directors 2020-2021

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Bev Jarema - Vice Chairperson
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If you want to start or stop receiving camp correspondence, or change the way that you receive it (mail or email) then please contact us at: secretary@pioneerbiblecamp.com