

December 2018

Dear Emmanuel Bible church members,

Winter came early to northern Michigan this year, hiding the brown earth and blanketing the leafless tree limbs with snow. It also hid the ruts in our dirt roads, making driving exciting. The first chapter of Romans says “the invisible things of Him (God) are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made...” I see His hand in birds’ ability to withstand winter temperatures, in the sparkle of snow in the sunshine, in the diversity of the human structure, and how we can still relate well with each other despite our many differences.

When we build a new building or upgrade areas that are used by our campers, it is immediately apparent. There is a lot that happens around camp however, that is unseen by the average visitor. In June a crew came in and buried fiber-optic cables from the road to the office.

Not much to see – wouldn’t you agree? The cables aren’t visible anymore (they’re actually red and look like a long sheet of plastic wrap), but the faster and more available internet is very noticeable.



Camp road from highway



During the summer a carpenter came and worked with a group of our high-school guys and built a carport for the vehicle we use for the daily mail/errand runs. It’s tucked back behind the office, and rarely seen by visitors, but the office staff appreciate it. I definitely

won’t miss scraping ice off the windshield before each use in the winter.

Finishing work in the bus shelter and maintenance garage, including lighting, electrical work, and the installation of a 10,000 gallon-water tank for fire department use, was performed by several volunteers working with our staff men. (They tell me that once you get it upright, it’s fairly easy to roll it into place—before you add water of course)



The invisible things that God does in the hearts of campers and staff though, is the real work of camp. God's Word is opened and taught at every event that camp holds, and just like seed buried in soil, God is at work in the lives of the hearers bringing forth fruit—immediately visible or not.

He's at work in our hearts as well. It isn't for the praise of men or the admiration of guests that we build, upgrade, or even balance checkbooks, and clean the office. Nothing is invisible to God, who knows our motives and sees the secret things in our hearts. My prayer is that everything I do, and that is done here at camp will be done with right motives—and for His glory.

Counting for Him,

Marilyn

Marilyn

On-line registrations open up on January 2nd for Summer camp, the 1st weekend winter retreat shortly after, then we're off and running for another year. Thank you for your kindness to those of us at camp. It is truly appreciated.