



# BSBC NEWS

## FALL 2014



501 McCAFFERY RD \* BIGFORK \* MT \* 59911 \* [WWW.BIGSKYBIBLECAMP.ORG](http://WWW.BIGSKYBIBLECAMP.ORG) \* 406-837-4864



by Jeff Ort  
Camp Promise  
Director

### 2014 Camp Promise Report

We are so thankful for the way the Lord once again worked during Camp Promise and blessed our efforts! As Camp Promise approached, we began to wonder if we would have enough counselors to serve our campers as we had more campers apply than we had staff for. After looking closer at the numbers I realized that most of our campers with higher physical care or behavior needs were signed up for the weeks we had more staff available to serve them. God also added an extra hand or three in the month preceding camp and we had a great group of servants to minister to our campers. We did receive a few last minute applications that were added to our waiting list, but everyone who applied on time, or shortly thereafter, was able to attend camp.

All told, we had 58 overnight campers, 4 of whom attended Camp Promise for the first time. We also had 13 day campers join us and we gave out \$2,048 in

*Continued on page 2*



### "A Promise Kept"

By now, many of you are aware of Big Sky Bible Camp's desire to expand our facility. While this facility will serve all of camp, it is geared toward Camp Promise, Big Sky's ministry to those with special needs. We presented this desire about a year ago and continue to aim for our goal of \$300,000 before we break ground. As we brainstormed potential slogans for this project, "A Promise Kept" was

suggested and immediately stuck. We liked this slogan because the idea for a facility devoted solely to Camp Promise was suggested even as far back as the early 90's. Anyone who works with special needs individuals can tell you just how special they are. For most of the Big Sky staff, the two weeks of Camp Promise are favorites and each camper is welcomed back with excitement.

Unfortunately, those with special needs are often forgotten or overlooked in the world and even in the Christian community. That is why we are trying to keep our "promise" of providing a place for those with special needs to learn from the Bible while experiencing new things, making friends and providing a much needed break for their caregivers. We are going to be highlighting this project in this newsletter and we ask you, the reader, simply to learn more about Camp Promise and what we are proposing, as well as to consider this project in your year end giving.

*Turn to page 2 for more "A Promise Kept"*



### Big Sky's Winter Retreat Line up

Big Sky is gearing up for one our best Winter Retreat Seasons ever! Winter Retreat's include tubing (depending on the snow!), ice fishing, group games, Bible teaching times, great food, ropes course and more!

#### Jr High Snow Camp

For: 6-8th Graders / Date: Jan 23 - Jan 25, 2015

#### Senior High Getaway

For: 9-12th Graders / Date: Feb 20 - Feb 22, 2015

#### March Madness

For: 3-6th Graders / Date: March 13 - March 15, 2015

All retreats begin at 6:30 PM on Friday and end at 12 PM on Sunday. Cost \$45/person. Register online at [www.bigsbybiblecamp.org](http://www.bigsbybiblecamp.org)

### Fundraiser

Join us for a great night of fun, food and fellowship as we share what the Lord is doing at Big Sky Bible Camp! The evening will include dinner, a Big Sky presentation focused on our "A Promise Kept" project and an opportunity to give to the ministry.

When: Saturday, March 7, 2015 - 6 PM

Where: Big Sky Bible Camp

Who: Anyone, but get your tickets early as space is limited!

Cost: \$25/person, \$50/couple (If you cannot afford this, come anyway and give what you can!) Call 837-4864 or go online to [www.bigsbybiblecamp.org/fundraiser](http://www.bigsbybiblecamp.org/fundraiser) to order tickets.

# **"A Promise Kept"**

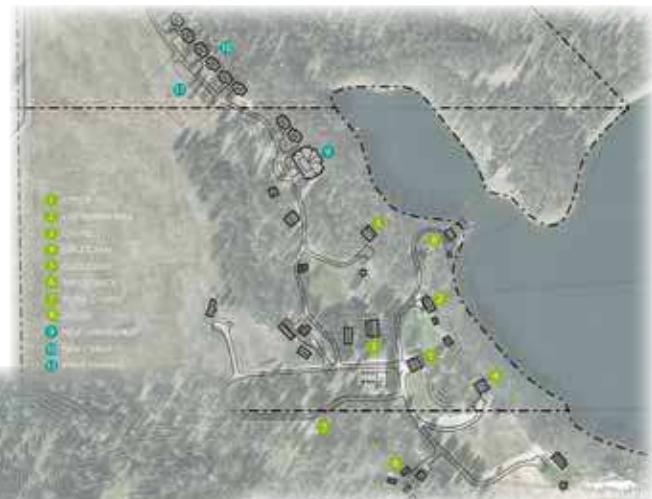
## **Quick Facts:**

-The dorms will consist of 8 housing units with two rooms in each unit. The total housing capacity will be approximately 100 individuals.

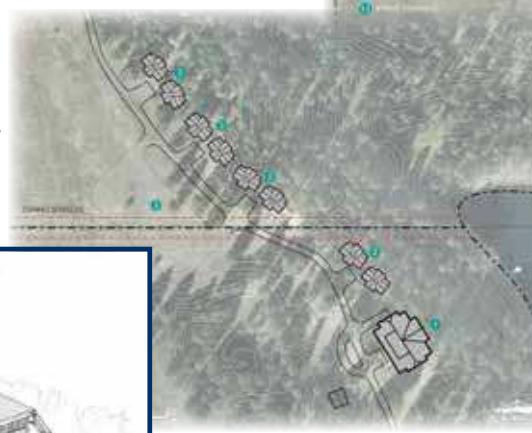
-The central dining hall will have a 250 person capacity. All camps will eat at this dining hall. The old dining hall may become a snack shop, but will remain available as a kitchen/dining hall for guest groups.

-The dining hall will also include a meeting room, lounge and full commercial kitchen.

-A rough estimate of the project is 1.8 Million, but to begin breaking ground we will need \$300,000.

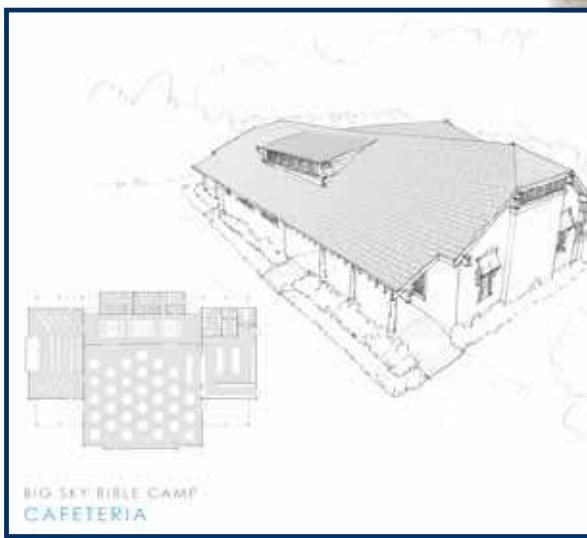


*An aerial map of camp, showing the location of the new facility*

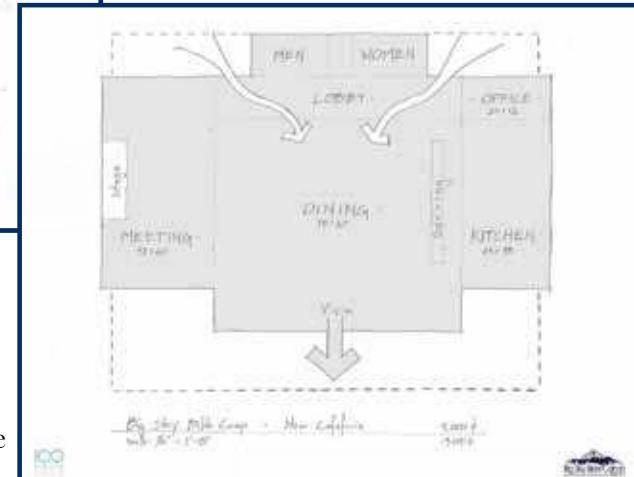


*A close up view of the facility*

For more information and to donate online, go to [www.bigsbybiblecamp.org/apromisekept](http://www.bigsbybiblecamp.org/apromisekept)



*Architectural Sketch of the dining hall (top) and layout (right)*



## **How it will be used:**

-The priority will be for Camp Promise usage in the summer, but there will be availability outside that time for additional Big Sky programs or outside groups.

-With Camp Promise at the new facility, this will open up two additional weeks for traditional camp.

-All meals will be served at the central dining hall during the entire summer. Even now, we are regularly feeding 120-150 in a dining hall meant for 50-60.

-This facility will significantly increase our guest group/conference options. We will be able to host two smaller groups simultaneously or one large group (up to 250). We will also offer the option for groups to cook for themselves in the old kitchen or have meals served in the new.



*Architectural Sketch of a dorm unit*

scholarships to 9 different campers. Each family that received a scholarship expressed their great appreciation that their child could attend camp, regardless of their ability to pay. One of our new girls didn't show up at first because her father lost his job and her family could no longer afford to pay for camp. When I called to let her know that we had scholarship money available and she could still attend camp she was more than happy and had a tremendous week. Her constant smile and many "thank you's" were an ongoing encouragement to me and others.

Another encouraging experience was seeing our campers coming alongside and encourage one another. Matt (not his real name) is an adult with Downs Syndrome who was heartbroken about how another camper, Julie (not her real name), treated her counselors and other campers. Her disability manifests itself in defiant behavior and angry outbursts with profanity. Matt came to me in tears one night after chapel because he didn't think Julie was a Christian. It started a conversation about all his family members who don't know Christ. We prayed together for Julie and Matt's family and I was able to commend him for his heart for others. He continued to watch over Julie and smiled whenever she answered review questions that showed she was listening in chapel. It is always good to see God work in and through our campers, as he does also with our counselors and all our staff. He is good and I praise him for all he accomplished at Camp Promise this summer.

As you may know, a large portion of Big Sky Bible Camp's budget comes from donations each year. That's the only way we can keep camp prices affordable! Would you consider giving to one of these projects?

## Project 1

Will you help us break ground?

Please consider helping us "keep our promise" by donating towards our goal for breaking ground. While \$300,000 seems like a lot, we believe in a big God and every gift moves us closer towards that goal.

\$300,000 goal

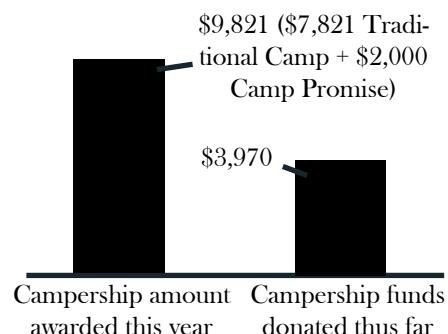


Toilets for 2015!

If you have stayed at Big Sky Bible Camp recently, you may have realized that the toilets need replacing! We would like to replace around 18 toilets/urinals for 2015. Each toilet costs approximately \$200, so we are trying to raise \$3,600. Would you consider helping with this necessary investment?

## Project 3

We are still significantly behind in our campership fund for 2014. Would you help us help kids come to camp?



Big Sky Bible Camp  
501 McCaffery Rd  
Bigfork MT 59911  
406.837.4864  
[www.bigsbybiblecamp.org](http://www.bigsbybiblecamp.org)  
[info@bigsbybiblecamp.org](mailto:info@bigsbybiblecamp.org)

## I want to help!

I would like to help Big Sky Bible Camp keep its promise to those with special needs.

I would like to donate:

- A monthly gift of \_\_\_\_ \$200 \_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_ \$20 \_\_\_\_ Other  
 A one-time gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_

I would rather donate to another project at Big Sky Bible Camp:

- Campership Fund \_\_\_\_ \$200 \_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_ \$20 \_\_\_\_ Other  
 Toilets: \_\_\_\_ 1 Toilet (\$200) \_\_\_\_ 1/2 Toilet (\$100) \_\_\_\_ Other  
 I would like Big Sky to use my donation in the area of greatest need \_\_\_\_ Amount

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## From the director



If you have read any of this newsletter, you have hopefully learned a little bit about what our “dream” is at this point in time. The “A Promise Kept” project is very exciting for all of us here at Big Sky and yet we realize just how much has to happen before it becomes a reality. However, we believe in a big God and we believe in a God that has big plans for Big Sky. We trust that this project is within His will and we have seriously devoted it to prayer. I share this with you that you may know we do not take it lightly to ask for donations for this project. We want you to know that we believe this is where the Lord is leading Big Sky! I am often asked about the progress of this project and how individuals can help, and I usually respond to the first part of that question by telling the truth - that progress is slow. While that is normal for this kind of project, it would speed up very quickly if we reached our \$300,000 ground-breaking goal!

My answer to the second question(how you can help) that I am often asked is to suggest that you “beat the bushes” and help us find individuals, organizations, businesses, foundations, etc. that might be interested in this project. I find that it is much easier for a 3rd party to promote a cause such as this to an individual or business (especially if it is a friend or acquaintance) than for us to try to do it ourselves. So, will you help us? Will you help us achieve our “dream” of being able to expand our Camp Promise program as well as all of our other programs? We have recently published a video explaining this project and sharing our vision for what this facility will be. This video is available on Big Sky’s You Tube channel. A simple way to help us out with this project is to show someone you think may be interested in this project our video. Big Sky’s website also has a lot of information on it.

Big Sky Bible Camp is a small camp and does not have a large support base, making this project a major step of faith. However, God often works in ways that we don’t expect and sometimes through people that we don’t expect! If you are able, would you consider donating a tax deductible gift toward this project? Would you also join us in prayer that God would provide and allow us to begin building our dream?

### Bible Clubs in your area!

Many of the Big Sky Bible Camp staff and Missionaries are leading Bible clubs at various public schools throughout Kalispell and Missoula. If your children attend any of these schools, we encourage you to have them join one of the Bible clubs, it is a great opportunity to learn more about the Bible and grow in their faith!

#### Kalispell

Helena Flats  
Cayuse Prairie  
Ruder

Smith Valley  
Bissell  
Fair-Mont-Egan

Edgerton  
West Valley

#### Missoula

Good Shepherd Pre-school  
Hellgate Elementary  
Franklin

Clinton  
DeSmet  
Target Range Elementary

[www.bigsbybiblecamp.org](http://www.bigsbybiblecamp.org)

Winter Retreat  
Information

Report  
2014 Camp Promise

Sketches and more!  
Facility - Information,  
Big Sky's dream of a new

“A Promise Kept”

Inside:

 **Find us on**  
**Facebook**

See you there!

For more information, go to [www.bigsbybiblecamp.org/fundraiser](http://www.bigsbybiblecamp.org/fundraiser)  
Where: Big Sky Bible Camp

When: Saturday, March 7, 2015 6 p.m.  
What: Big Sky's Annual Fundraiser  
Mark your calendar!!!

Non-Profit Org.  
Postage Paid  
Bigfork, Montana  
Permit No. 219

[www.bigsbybiblecamp.org](http://www.bigsbybiblecamp.org)

P.O. 4062374864

Bigfork MT 59821

FORT NICOLLETIAN Road

Box 199

