



# Kingswood Camp Update

## Summer 2020 Update

In many ways the word of this past summer is: Unexpected. Cancelling camps due to a pandemic was definitely unexpected. But the opportunities born out of the situation were also unexpected. The opportunity to invest time into facility projects, to run campground style rentals, and to run day camps for the first time. There were a myriad of ways that God unexpectedly provided throughout and worked through these circumstances.

God provided an incredible equipped group of staff, though only 5 staff in total, they each brought with them a skillset and passion that complimented one another and the needs of the camp. Two were skilled in carpentry and repairs and worked on numerous facility projects. There were many volunteers from our camp community that generously gave their time in completing projects or simply assisting with cleaning. We were blown away by the support of our community and the number of volunteers that came out to the camp to help.

In renting out our cabins as a campground we were able to meet and serve a wide range of people, many of whom we normally do not have an opportunity to minister to. Our small staff team alongside a number of volunteers were able to provide a place for families to get away and enjoy God's beautiful creation, to connect with one another, and to enjoy a number of camp activities together. Many families expressed their appreciation of the experience and the efforts of our staff to provide activities and a safe haven to gather together. In total there were 42 families that took part in our campground rentals in July, some of whom returned to rent a second time! We were so pleased we could meet this need for our surrounding community.

Another unexpected opportunity for ministry arose when we had the chance to partner with The Portal in a program providing youth at risk with job related experiences. These youth are often from very



## Highlights of the Summer

- Approximately 10 campers put their faith in Jesus for the first time!
- 42 families rented a campground
- 62 campers attended our week long Day Camps
- Over 30 teens came as volunteers throughout the summer



difficult life circumstances. Each week they joined a member of our staff to work on a facility project.

In August we were thrilled to offer three weeks of day camps for ages 9-13 and a teen leadership camp for ages 14-16. These camps were truly the highlight of the summer. In total we had 62 campers! In Bible study and Chapel our theme was “unexpected” as we focused in on the ways God moved unexpectedly throughout the Bible. Within small groups we were able to dive deep into matters of faith and the campers seemed to be very eager to learn about Jesus. We were privileged this summer to see a number of campers come to faith for the first time!

One major way that God was at work this summer was in the discipleship opportunity that our staff had while working with teen volunteers. Through the relationships built while serving together our staff were able to mentor these young people in their walks with Christ. It was exciting to see our growing volunteer program bring many teens once again to Kingswood Camp to become a part of a strong christian community and to have an opportunity to serve and step into leadership.

I want to say a big thank you to our supporting churches and individuals that faithfully pray and support Kingswood Camp. Some of our supporters gave financially over and above their usual to help keep our ministry afloat during this unexpected season. God is so faithful.

Yours in camping ministry,

Candice Main *Executive Director, Kingswood Camp*

## Staff Testimonies

During the week of our Teen Day Camp it was great to see how the teens came together to bond and form an uplifting community. During Bible Studies they were keen to ask questions and eager to grow. It was a privilege to be able to mentor these youth. A number of them began the week unwilling to and uncomfortable with praying out-loud. As time went on they began to step out of their comfort zones and pray out-loud very authentic prayers and it moved my heart to see such tangible hunger for the Lord.

With covid we were forced to keep the campers separated into small groups. The small numbers seemed to make the campers more comfortable to ask questions about faith and the Bible and it was really evident to me how eager they were to learn about having a relationship with God. To think that during this time most churches, youth groups, and VBS were cancelled, I was so pleased that camp was able to step in and minister to these children who are so ready to know God. Truly the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these!

## Ministry Needs

### Maintenance Volunteers

There are many on-going maintenance needs at the camp as well as renovations we hope to undertake. We are in need of volunteers to give their time and skills to assist in these projects.

### Summer 2021 Nurse Volunteers

Looking towards our 2021 camp season we are in need of volunteer camp “nurses” to serve on-site with camper medical needs.



## Become a Monthly Supporter

We are looking for monthly supporters to donate \$20 per month to help support our ministry. You can donate monthly through our website [www.kingswoodcamp.ca](http://www.kingswoodcamp.ca). Feel free to contact us!