

The Echoes

a Publication of



June 2022

The Great Adventure

*Devotional Submitted by
Pastor Daryl Olson*

Outlook, SK

May 26th is Ascension Day this year. It falls forty days after Easter Sunday and always falls on a Thursday. It used to be one of the great days of the Christian year, but now most of us never even notice it. There are two scriptures that talk about the Ascension of Jesus. Luke's Gospel ends with the Ascension of Jesus.

Luke 24:50-53 50: "And He (Jesus) led them out as far as Bethany, and

lifting up His hands He blessed them. 51 While He blessed them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, 53 and were continually in the temple blessing God. Then, Luke begins the book of Acts by retelling the story of the Ascension. **Acts 1:9-11: "And when He had said these things, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight. 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as He went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11 and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."**

Even though the ascension is often ignored, it is an important event in the life of Jesus for us to remember. The ascension completes Jesus' earthly mission and tells us clearly that He is enthroned as our heavenly king. Jesus has completed his Father's mission and He now rules with all authority and intercedes with all sympathy as our mediator and high priest.

The ascension of Jesus to the right hand of God the Father became very significant for me when my son Kenny was born. The day I was going to take him home from the hospital with his mother—I arrived at the hospital in time to see them loading him into an ambulance to take him to a neo-natal care unit in a bigger hospital because he was breathing too fast. The night before, I had just led a Bible Study on the Ascension texts. The study had emphasized that the One ruling the Universe is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ, who we know is fully God and fully human. The study emphasized that when Jesus ascended to the right hand of the Father, He took with him His human nature—his glorified resurrected human body. Do you realize the implications of that? There is a man ruling the Universe—one who has walked where we walked, stood where we stand, felt what we feel. I was incredibly comforted by that thought as I drove home from the hospital that night realizing—that Jesus Christ—the one ruling the universe knows what it is like to be me. He is ruling and reigning the universe and this world for the sake of His church as we are told in Ephesians.

I remind you of four significant truths about Jesus' ascension for our lives. First, remember that Jesus is presently reigning as king and remains active and engaged in our world and our lives. He knows exactly what is going on here in our world.

Secondly, you can live confidently, and strategically as servants of the exalted king of heaven. Know that your labours in the Lord Jesus are not in vain even though it sometimes seems like it from our human perspective (**1 Corinthians 15:58**). Think of this as you prepare for Bible Camp.

Thirdly, if you are suffering, take heart that Jesus is not indifferent to your struggle. He has endured great suffering and is thus the most merciful and sympathetic counsellor and mediator. Take your cares to your ascended Lord who hears your prayers and can respond with all Heaven's authority.

Finally, live in hope of a glorious future. Remember what the angels said to the disciples at the ascension. **"This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."** (**Acts 1:11**) The ascended Lord will return the same way as He left, and He will come this time as judge and king. He will abolish evil and put all God's enemies under his feet. He will end suffering and destroy death, and set up His kingdom of truth, righteousness and love. Best of all, all who believe and trust in Him as Lord and Saviour will be with our king forever. Know that you have a Lord and King who rules and reigns on your behalf and who is returning for you very soon.



Pastor Daryl & Sherryl Olson

In Christ,
Pastor Daryl Olson



Cabins are FULL

**Bring your Tents
and Trailers!**

All available cabin accommodations at the camp have been spoken for. If you'd like to come, please ensure that you bring a tent or trailer to stay in. Questions? Contact Grant Lee:

grlee81@yahoo.ca or (306) 222-2776



Camp Clean-up

We need your help on June 10th and 11th! It's important that we take care of our camp. Clean-up, maintenance, or new projects... it all matters! Many hands make light work! Questions? Please contact Grant Lee at (306) 222-2776.

CAMP DATES

Family Bible Camp week begins with the supper meal at 5:00 p.m. on **Saturday, July 2nd**. After supper, we will gather in the teepee for "Singing, Sharing and S'mores," like we did last year. (This replaces the traditional service, usually held in the chapel at the beginning of camp.)



Bible Camp ends with the lunch meal on **Friday, July 8th**.

We want to see you there!



Congregational Submissions



Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp (ELBC) is supported by local Christian churches, numerous members and volunteers. Throughout this newsletter, you will find summaries from four of these churches regarding their parish activities since the last edition of *The Echoes* was sent out, in March 2022.

Bethel Lutheran Church, Elbow, SK

Submitted by Ashley Stamnes, Administrative Assistant

But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” John 4:14

We are thankful for so many things at Bethel! We are thankful for God’s hand in our lives, our church family, and for all of you – our extended church family!

We have had some busy times in the past few months as well as coming up!

March:

- 9th Spiritual Gifts Quiz during Bible Study
- 24th There was a regular Women’s Mission Fellowship (WMF) meeting at the church.

April:

- 2nd Retirement Party for **Arlin and Ruth Olson** at Bethlehem Church in Outlook, SK. What a wonderful time of honouring this beautiful couple who spent so many years serving God and the children He loves in the mission field. There was a meal and then a time of music and sharing with videos from each of Arlin and Ruth’s children. The whole evening was a blessed time of fellowship and celebration.
- 7th There was a regular WMF meeting at the church.
- 15th What a blessing to be able to have our Good Friday pancake breakfast and service at the Civic Centre again! We are so thankful.
- 24th Adam Driscoll brought the message in Pastor Dave Hesje’s absence. It was great to have Adam back again!



May:

- 1st The WMF ladies had a plant and card for each lady in the congregation as well as several ladies in the community. This was such an encouragement to so many!
- 5th Arlin Olson brought the message in Pastor Dave's absence. We are so thankful to have Arlin as a part of our Council and congregation!
- 9th Several ladies came together to bake cookies for **The Rock Church** Summer Camp. (The Rock Church Website: <https://trcyxe.ca>) This ministry of theirs is such a blessing to the kids on the receiving end of the homemade baking!
- 15th There was a potluck following the service with a Spiritual Gift assessment to follow.
- 22nd Jay Dunbar brought the message. We enjoy when Jay and his family join us!
- 28th There will be a Ladies Spring Party at the church. It will be a fun and inspirational event based on weddings throughout the generations. The theme is Psalm 36:7a: "How precious is God's unfailing love!" We are looking forward to having Laura Buekert as our guest speaker!
- 29th Rechelle Norrish was confirmed. Also, Karen Olson shared during Sunday School and briefly during the service. It was a blessing having her with us!

On **June 12th**, we will celebrate 25 years of being in our new church building! We are excited to reminisce about all the memories made here at Bethel during that time! Thank you for keeping Bethel in your prayers. We feel so blessed to be a part of our larger church community! We look forward to seeing many of you at Bible Camp this summer!

2022 Camp Caretakers:

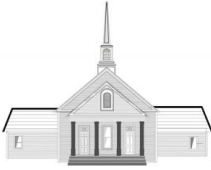
Jeff and Paula Archibald

We are excited to announce that our camp caretakers for this summer are Jeff and Paula Archibald! Most campers will already be familiar with this fun couple.

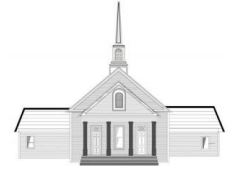
If you see them at work around camp, stop and **thank them** for the work that they're doing! Share a smile, a story... or better yet, something from the canteen with them. 😊

We're happy to have you on board!





Bethlehem Lutheran Church Hawarden, SK



Submitted by Linda Follick

***My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from Him. He alone
is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress,
I will never be shaken. Psalm 62:1-2***

Here are some highlights of what our congregation has been up to:

- Adult Sunday School and Worship services continue each Sunday. In Sunday School we are watching videos about the Holy Land, featuring Ray Vander Laan.
- Our guest Pastors continue to faithfully bring us God's Word each Sunday. Guest Pastors include Adam Driscoll, Daryl Olson, and Al Pinno.
- Our Lutheran Church Women's Group (LCW) continues to meet monthly to study "1 Timothy" – a Bible Study written by Jeanette Berntson. (Resource Website: <https://www.aflc.org/women/resources/bible-studies/>)
- Neil and Katie Haaland host a weekly Bible Study in their home as well. The study is centered around a video production featuring Ray Vander Laan.
- On **February 27th**, Bethlehem hosted an evening of worship with Trevor Baker.
- We met at the Long Term Health Center in Outlook, SK on **March 23rd** for their morning worship service.
- On **April 3rd**, we had a gospel evening with Skudesnes Harbour – Verna Urlacher, Les Langager and Marty Zdunich. Lunch and fellowship followed.
- Pastor Adam Driscoll was here for Easter Sunday – which was also the **Confirmation Service** for Tate Vermette. We had nearly a full church with the Vermette relatives and friends gathering to celebrate with Tate his confession of faith! We enjoyed an Easter breakfast before the service and cake and coffee followed.
- We have had two funerals in May as well. On **May 3rd** was the service for Lillian Trautman (Carlson) and on the **11th** for Dean Hunter (the youngest son of Alan and Betty). Our sympathies and prayers go out to these families as they mourn their loss.
- Several attended a Celebration of Music showcasing Outlook's Talent on **May 13th** at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Outlook. Donations were received for the Refugee Resettlement Project. It was an evening of piano, instrumentals, voice (both singing and voice art), plus the Hand Bells from the Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute (LCBI). It was very enjoyable!
- We are thankful for the rain showers we have received and seeding is well underway. Ranchers are also busy caring for their cattle and sheep. We pray for continued safety for all.
- Linda Lee and the Archibald family are in our continued prayers.



Is pre-registration for camp required this year?



Although pre-registration is not required, it would be helpful for planning the number of teachers that we need for the Pre-K to Grade 6 students. As well, it helps those who are in charge of ordering Vacation Bible School materials or craft supplies. If you do know for sure that you are coming, text or email Shannon Hundebly:

Text: (306) 867-4065 Email:
kshundebly@sasktel.net

Walk-ins are always welcome!



Hello! I'm so happy to be joining you for Elbow Family camp again this summer!

I will be set up in the chapel with Living Books for the week of camp from July 2nd - 8th. I'll have a great selection for all ages. If you want me to bring something specific to look at, here is the link to our website to view the catalogues:



<https://www.livingbooks.ca/products>

You can then contact me, and I can bring you specific items to look at. Payments at camp will be cash, e-transfer, Mastercard or Visa.

I look forward to seeing all your smiling faces!

Wendy Kasdorf
306-291-1745
wkasdorf@sasktel.net

**Skudesnes
Evangelical**



**Lutheran
Church**

Loreburn, SK

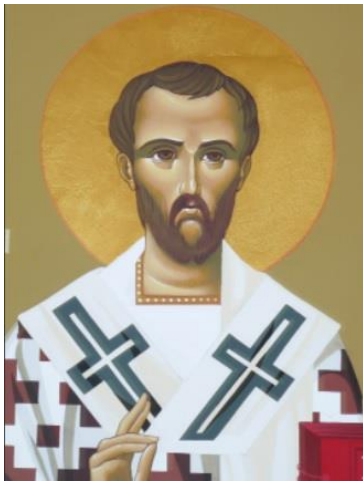
Submitted by Joan Soggie

Greetings from Skudesnes Lutheran Church!

Our Lenten season began with several members of Davidson Redeemer Lutheran Church joining us at Skudesnes on March 1st for a delicious pancake supper organized by Jody Urlacher. This was followed by Pastor Sonje Finnestad's meaningful Ash Wednesday service. The fellowship was enjoyed by all.

In spite of frequent storms, cancellations this winter were rare, as our diligent "snow angels" usually managed to keep the road and parking lot open. But March weather lived up to its reputation, and March 6th, Sunday service was cancelled by a snowstorm.

On April 14th, Maundy Thursday, a pot-luck supper was held at the church, followed by a Good Friday service. Illness prevented Pastor Sonje from coming but Maxine Follick, ably assisted by readers, led the service.



St. John Chrysostom

Website Source:
<https://i.imgur.com/sGuec0A.jpg>

On Easter Sunday, our congregation welcomed several visitors as well as the usual faithful. We were all blessed by, and invited to respond to, Pastor Sonje's rousing rendition of **John Chrysostom's** 1700-year-old sermon, "Christ is risen!" Lunch followed, featuring special treats like Gerri Vollmer's delicious pascal bread and Maxine's colourful jello-eggs.

On April 19th, a regular church council meeting was held at the church. It was agreed that we would hold joint services with Redeemer on the fifth Sunday of the month, alternating between Davidson and Skudesnes. Decisions were also made on the purchase of a new Dyson vacuum and refurbishing the communion bench and altar chair. We appreciate the fresh new look of the sanctuary, thanks to Laurice Vollmer's upholstery skill. What would we do without these generous workers?!

On Mother's Day, May 8th, the men of the congregation treated the women to lunch. Ross Reed made the soup, others helped serve, and everyone enjoyed it.

Pastor Sonje has been preaching a series of sermons on Revelations during the Easter season, enlarging our understanding and appreciation for that very difficult book of the Bible. Perhaps the best part is being reminded how much we do *not* need to understand – we can simply join with all creation in saying, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

Since the last *Echoes*, our world has changed drastically. Instead of nightly news filled with Covid statistics, we listen to reports on the devastating war in Ukraine. At times, the world has seemed almost on the brink of world war.

On a personal note, our family, like so many others, had our own world-changing experience. In mid-March, Dennis spent a few weeks in the Royal University Hospital (RUH) in Saskatoon, SK. Thanks to the excellent care he received, he is home enjoying life again. It is a different life, but we are grateful for every day we have been given.

It was a timely reminder that nothing can be taken for granted, whether it be good health or world peace. Each day is a gift from God. As Christ's servants in the world, we can, first of all, **pray!** Then - **act.** One of Skudesnes congregation's first actions after the invasion of Ukraine was to send a donation for the aid of refugees.

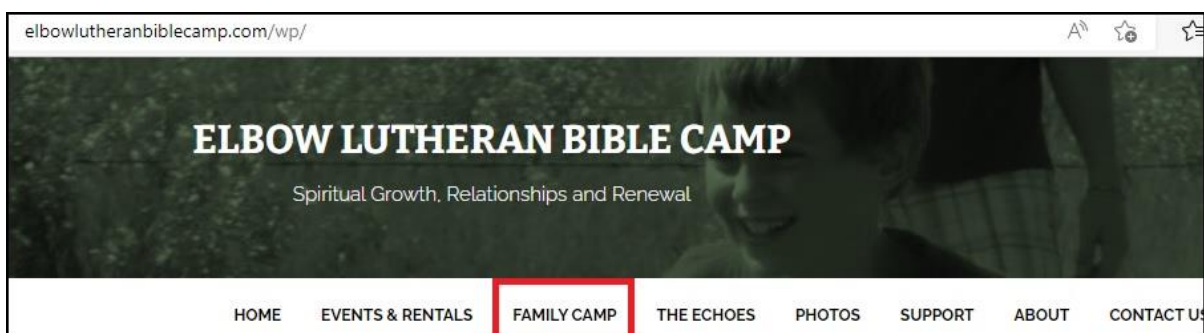
Our congregational prayer each Sunday has been and continues to be for peace in our world, in our congregations and in our hearts.

Thanks be to God!

Where can I find it??

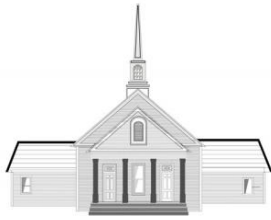
Looking for a schedule for this year's Family Bible Camp? Go to:

<http://elbowlutheranbiblecamp.com>

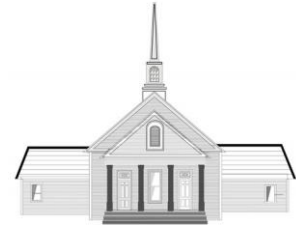


Click on the "Family Camp" heading. Then, scroll down and click on the words, "Family Camp Brochure". This will bring up a PDF brochure of camp week that you can view and print, if you wish.

Looking for the latest issue of ***The Echoes***? There's a heading for that, too! 😊



Bethlehem Lutheran Church Outlook, SK



Submitted by Shelley Luedtke

Greetings from Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Outlook!

The ladies of our congregation had a wonderful afternoon at their retreat in March. Margo Linsley was the MC; Lila de Waal, Conny Behenna and Margo led worship music; and Janet Gross provided special music. Janice Bruynooghe was the guest speaker and she focused on the theme, "I Have Called You by Name" based on a reading from Isaiah. Beautifully decorated tables greeted each of the ladies and a hostess at each one guided discussion throughout the afternoon. You know ladies are having fun when there's so much laughter in the room you can't hear what anyone is saying! Bev Berntson brought a bounty of her lovely scarves and each woman was invited to take one home. If they wanted, they could give a gift which would be sent to support the work of a local aid worker in Ukraine. More than \$800 was raised! We also took some time to honour the ladies of our church who have studied and served faithfully in ladies' ministries over many decades. They were presented with flowers and thanked for the witness they have been. Lunch and a time of visiting concluded the event.



In February, our congregation voted unanimously to work toward resettling a refugee family. A committee has been working through the requirements and paperwork needed, and we have had a big focus on raising the funds needed to proceed with the project. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our members, other Lutheran churches who are walking

alongside, and members of the community.

A pancake supper on Ash Wednesday kicked off the fundraising, along with Easter Sunday breakfasts, a garage sale, and a Celebration of Music. All of these efforts have given us a chance to not only raise money, but also let the wider community know more about what we are doing. God has blessed these efforts tremendously. Now we await the acceptance of paperwork, budgets and case narratives as we continue to pray for the family God would have us resettle.

Our church was the venue for a Ukrainian humanitarian aid fundraiser. We host English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at our church and individuals in those classes from Ukraine were eager to do something to help the efforts of those in their homeland. They prepared a bountiful Ukrainian meal which was followed by a program. Ladies in our church made "Stand with Ukraine" ribbons that were given out to everyone in attendance. We pray for Ukraine, Afghanistan, Ethiopia and all places experiencing war, conflict, and violence.

Ephesians 4:14: "For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility."

We have been blessed to have speakers come and join us over the last couple of months sharing about their work. **A LAMP (Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots)** representative, a lady who recently returned from working with refugees in Albania, workers who serve in Cameroon that our Sunday School supports, and a global worker who shared updates of the work being done in a very troubled part of the world. God is at work! We continue to pray for the spread of the Gospel.



Website:
<https://www.lampministry.org/>

We were thrilled to host a retirement celebration for Arlin and Ruth Olson. An authentic Afghan meal kicked off the evening, followed by presentations and a program. It was a wonderful night honouring an amazing couple for their years of work and witness.

We give thanks for the life of Olga Moore who passed away in April just prior to her 104th birthday. The mention of her name brings a rush of memories and we know a lot of those memories are of her lovely singing voice. What a gift! We extend our love and sympathies to the extended family.

Our Sunday School hosted, "Journey to the Cross" that took us through the events of Holy Week. It was a powerful depiction of what Christ did for us. A soup and bun supper gave people a chance to visit and share their reflections.

Our pastors attended the Canadian Rockies Theological Conference in Alberta in April, followed by the NALC (North American Lutheran Church) Convocation. It is so good these events are in person once again.



It was a day of celebration on May 17th when Syttende Mai, or Constitution Day in Norway, was recognized. The morning started with the mission prayer breakfast and it was Norwegian favourites on the menu. The party continued through coffee time when more delicacies arrived and were thoroughly enjoyed by the large group that gathered for coffee. There were Norwegian sweaters, hats, jewellery and more on display throughout the morning. What a fun time!

With the arrival of June come changes to the activity level around the church as Sunday School and Bible studies wrap up for a few weeks. But plans are already being put in place for programming in the fall and a return to a full schedule again. We thank God for all He is doing in our midst.

Several of our young people will be working at Bible camps this summer and you can sense the excitement they have! We pray for our camp ministries and all those who serve so faithfully in all capacities. May God bless the work and witness that happens this summer.



Speaker Profiles



We are excited to announce our speakers / leaders for Camp 2022!

Evening Speaker / Morning Bible Class Teacher: Pastor Bob Schultz

Hey, I'm Bob Schultz, graduate of Lutheran Brethren Seminary in 2018. I've been in full and part time ministry for nearly 22 years, married to my wonderful wife of 26 years, and have 3 children (now blessed to be a grandpa as well). I have a heart to see people come to peace with God and grow in their faith. I'd like to share a little bit about what I feel God is doing in my life.

After moving back to Regina in the summer of 2020, I rejoined my family business in Saskatchewan. I thought I might be done with ministry, at least for a time. A knee injury forced me to quit that business in December, and I was floundering on what I should do next. My family had attended a number of great churches in Regina and I was considering what my job options were. Over the next few months of fasting, praying, and asking the Lord for direction, He placed in my heart a desire to start a new work in Regina and develop, what Tim Keller writes about in Center Church, a Theological Vision for a ministry plant.



So, with encouragement and support from our denomination, Isaiah Fellowship (Website: <https://isaiahfellowship.com>) started as a ministry dedicated to fellowship of Word, Worship, Food, and Recreation with a focus on young adults and young(ish) families. I look forward (with a little fear and trembling) to being one of your speakers this year. Blessings!



Morning Bible Class Teacher: Pastor Kevin Langager

I grew up in Elbow, and attended Elbow Bible Camp regularly as a child and teenager. It was at camp that I received the assurance of my salvation, and acknowledged the call to pastoral ministry.



I served as Pastor of Bardo Lutheran Church in Tofield, AB for 38 years, retiring one year ago, though I still preach about once a month and assist with other ministries in the church and community. My wife, Lynne, and I still live in Tofield. We have 3 unmarried daughters who live in Edmonton, and a 4th married daughter in Calgary. We are

looking forward to welcoming our first grandchild in the early fall.

The enclosed picture is of my mother, Margaret Langager, and Lynne and I. Many of you will know my Mom. She suffers from dementia and is in a care home in Wetaskiwin, AB close to where my sister, Dalyce, lives. It's only about an hour from Tofield, so I am able to visit her twice a week.

At camp this summer I plan to teach on Philippians 4:4-9, covering the following themes:

The Lord is near.
Rejoice in the Lord always.
Let your gentleness be evident to all.
Pray with thanksgiving.
Think about these things ... and do them.

I encourage you to read Paul's Letter to the Philippians and to reflect on it before coming to camp.

I ask your prayers for our time together.

Pastor Kevin Langager



Youth Leader: Mackenzie Wahl

Hello! I grew up in on a farm outside of Hay Lakes, Alberta and then moved into Camrose at age 7. After graduating high school, I attended CLBI (Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute) for a couple of years. I then participated in an internship between Resurrection Church in Camrose and Spoken Word Ministries in Saskatoon. For the last two years, I've worked at Resurrection as one of the youth directors, and at CLBI as the program assistant. I am currently finishing my CLBI degree and intend to start seminary in the fall.

I enjoy mountain biking, hiking, camping, and pretty much anything else outdoors. I have a passion for sharing God's Word and working with youth. I'm looking forward to being back at Elbow, as I've been out there twice on the CLBI summer teams.

God bless!
Mackenzie



Campfire Update



Please note that there will be two campfire times again this year:

6:30 p.m. – Family Campfire

9:15 p.m. – Teen Campfire

Volunteers are needed to run both campfires, please! Thank you!

Kitchen Announcement



Thank you, ladies, for your tireless service over the years. We appreciate you!

Treasurer's Report

Thank you for your continued support to our camp – especially for the memorials we have received in honour of:

May Sather
Ron Rowley
Blair Flaterud

Ruth Knutson
Dean Hunter

Our Bible Camp has always run on free will donations. Donations are gratefully accepted in two ways:

By mail, to:

Elbow Lutheran Bible Camp
c/o Linda Follick
Box 776
Outlook, SK
S0L 2N0

Through the Bible Camp website:

Click on "Support" --> *then*

Click on the blue, "Donate Now through Canada Helps.org" button and follow the prompts.

Last year, **Marcelle Savidan** sent in this note, along with the song below. She shared, "I was going through some of my mom's (Ruby Chrestensen) old papers and I found this song from 1995 with words written by Pastor Ken Finnestad." Thank you, Marcelle. These are inspiring words, then and now!



Build Our Camp!

In honor of Elbow Bible Camp's Fiftieth Anniversary 1995

(Tune: Joyful, Joyful)

1 Heavenly Father, you have brought us, once again, to this dear place,
 2 "Build our camp!" was their decision, in those distant, early years.
 3 Jesus, now we seek your leading, as to us the torch they throw.

Where your servants long have taught us, from your Word, your love and grace.
 Steadfastly they held their vision, fraught with toil and hope and fears.
 Help us heed your Spirit's pleading. We shall reap if we will sow.

Free our minds and set them winging, through the mists of time and space,
 For their constancy we hail them, for their faith and for their love.
 Time is short, our Lord is warning: soon before the throne we'll stand.

Memories of old friends bringing, who now see you face to face.
 Never did their master fail them, sending strength from up above.
 Till that resurrection morning, guide us with your nail-pierced hand!

Words by Ken Finnestad July 1995

In memory of Sydney and Louise Olson and Stanley Olson





We do not have a Bible School ministry team this year!

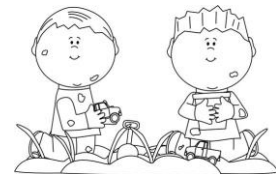
Here are some areas where we need **YOUR** help:

We are looking for young adults willing to be dorm counsellors for the teens – both guys' and girls' dorms. Even if you could spare a night or two and share the week with someone else, it would be greatly appreciated!



We need teachers and assistants for our **VBS classes** this year! Would you be willing to teach (or help assist) the Pre-K to Grade 6 kids in their morning sessions? We need lots of hands, and this is such an important ministry!

We are looking for volunteers for one session each morning for age 3 and under at the sandbox. Crafts, play dough and bubbles, etc. will be provided. Are any young parents with kids that age interested in volunteering their time? How about a Grandma or Grandpa? Two helpers would be beneficial.



We VERY much appreciate all the campers, and are so thankful for everyone's help! If YOU are willing to help in any way this year, please contact **Shannon Hundebly:**

Phone: (306) 867-4065 or (306) 854-2007
Email: kshundebly@sasktel.net

