



September 2009

A Clydehurst Christian  
Ranch Newsletter

Jesus told the people another story:

What will a woman do if she has ten silver coins and loses one of them? Won't she light a lamp, sweep the floor, and look carefully until she finds it? Then she will call in her friends and neighbors and say, "Let's celebrate! I've found the coin I lost."

Jesus said, "In the same way God's angels are happy when even one person turns to him."  
*Luke 15:8-10 (CEV)*

*Where did the summer go?* As usual, the summer camping season began with much anticipation and excitement with the arrival of our staff on June 10th. Although our season is ten weeks long, the summer blew by and before we realized, August 15th sneaked up and we had to say good-bye to our amazing staff. It seemed that the summer was too short, but what a wonderful summer we had nonetheless!

When the economy took a turn for the worse, we wondered how that would affect Clydehurst. Initially, when we started to accept registrations in January, it seemed that the economy would have no real bearing on us. However, it was not until later in the spring did we see more of an effect as registrations were being cancelled. Overall, our attendance for both youth and family camps were down, but we were still blessed to have the opportunity to serve 513 kids for youth camp and 135 families!



Miraculously, among these kids that came to Clydehurst, 88 kids accepted Christ as their personal Lord and Savior and 54 made the decision to recommit their faith in Jesus Christ! Jesus states in the verse above that "God's angels are happy when even one person turns to him." We, too, believe that the summer would be well worth the effort if even only one came to know Christ. How much more in awe we are to see how God uses Clydehurst to win more souls for His Kingdom! Along with these decisions, we were also privileged to witness 6 baptisms, ages ranging from grade school to adult!



*(continued)*

Our staff this summer turned out to be one of the best staff Clydehurst has ever had. We always pray for God's wisdom in hiring the right people, but it seems like this summer, God put together a truly amazing staff. We had the perfect combination of people to handle the many obstacles that we faced this summer.

Each summer brings its own challenges, but with the decisions made, the amazing staff, the cooler and wetter summer, and all the other accomplishments, you can see why it was such a wonderful summer. With a summer like this, we wait in anticipation for 2010!

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***Financial Report*** As mentioned above in the summer wrap-up, the poor economy has affected us much like it has affected you. We had about 25 youth camp cancellations and 31 families cancelled their registrations leading up to family camps. Fortunately, we were able to fill many of the holes created by the family camp cancellations. All of the family camps, except the last week were full. However, we did not recover from the youth cancellations. In addition, we received more scholarships for youth camps than ever before. We believe that a youth camper coming to know Christ or to learn more about Him is priceless and so we do not turn any youth away because of financial burdens. We are glad to allow these campers attend, but it is an additional factor to our financial situation.

Along with these cancelled registrations, we are also recognizing a decline in offerings and donations. Compared to last year, we are about \$33,000 behind in donations. As you know, donations and offerings are vital to any kind of ministry. Thankfully, we are still in the black. We have no debt and by God's grace, we are NOT going to be in the red! What makes the shortfall in our income worse, is that our expenses increased! Prices have gone up and we had many unexpected expenses with repairs of buildings, vehicles, equipment, etc. Overall, with the rise of expenses and the shortfall in income and donations, we are approximately \$46,000 behind where we were in 2008.

This report may sound like we are in a tight spot, but we are trusting that the Lord will provide for our needs. We are sticking to our budget and are cutting back on certain repairs and improvements until we have the funds. The news is reporting that the recession is "very likely over," but we all know that it will be a long, tough road for all of us to get back to "normal." We ask you to pray that the Lord will continue to provide and bless the camp as He always does and that you consider giving to our general fund so that Clydehurst can continue to make improvements and repair vehicles and building so they are in safe and good working order.

On a different note, we are pleased to announce that early in August, we were officially granted the status of a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization! This is a huge answer to prayer since a lot of work went into the process of getting this non-profit status. You should not see a difference in how Clydehurst operates, but you can rejoice along with us as we praise the Lord for His goodness. You may be asking yourself if donations prior to this were tax deductible and the answer is yes. The IRS allows a certain period during the application process for all gifts and donations to be retroactively tax deductible.

Currently in the works is a grant application with Murdock Charitable Trust that will hopefully allow us to start building a new chapel and conference center. As many of you know, we are in need of a bigger chapel, so be praying that we are given this grant. Prayerfully consider how you can contribute to this project so that we can break ground soon!



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***Volunteer Days*** We are beginning our weekly volunteer trips to Clydehurst and we invite you to come along! This past Thursday, a small group of volunteers went with us to assess the current needs of camp. There is plenty to do, such as painting, plumbing, roofing, electrical, etc., and we need your help! We usually go up on Thursdays, so contact us if you are interested or to see what other volunteer days are planned. Looking ahead, we are planning to shut off water and winterize the camp Thursday, October 1st. We would love to have you come along. No special skills required, we just need your serving heart!

***Fall Season*** Our summer camping season is over, but we are still open for retreats, reunions or conferences. If you are thinking about a weekend church group gathering or a conference, consider Clydehurst as the perfect place for a peaceful get-away in the mountains. We are even capable of having retreats on into the winter. Give us a call or visit us online at [www.clydehurst.com](http://www.clydehurst.com) for more information.



***Looking Back***  
*(Accomplishments)*

- Laundry facility remodeled
- 5-plex completely renovated after flooding incident
- New wood and hay shed built
- Northwest end of Lodge was reroofed
- Dining Hall was given a makeover inside
- Shops in barn built
- Received 501(c)(3) non-profit status

***Looking Ahead***  
*(Things to do/Needs)*

- Add doors to shops inside barn
- Add more inside lights and outlets in barn
- Plumbing of a vital water line that was temporarily fixed
- Complete the remodel of Program Shop
- Build new chapel
- Complete renovations of shooting range
- Many vehicle repairs: pickup trucks, 15-passenger vans, and bus that tipped over
- New roofs for many of our buildings and cabins
- Gates for wood and hay shed to keep horses out
- Expand coin-op laundry mat

***www.clydehurst.com*** Be sure to check in periodically for news and updates to our website. Hopefully soon we will have picture updates and starting in November and December, we will have our updated applications and 2010 brochure and registrations posted.



***On behalf of all of us here at Clydehurst, thanks for a wonderful summer and for all your prayers! See you all next year!***

***Wayne and Curtis***

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