

## Prayer Requests/Praises

Our youth – they would be drawn to the Lord and that He would use us in our community to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

Our marriage – keeping God first and putting each other above ourselves in everything and leaning into one another through life's struggles

Thank you to God for providing for us through new and existing supporters through their giving of finances and other resources!

Mike – new position of Camp Director; learning the position and keeping priorities straight during this transitional time

Hiring of a new Camp Manager

Camp Horse program – purchase new horses for camp

We would be an example and light for Christ to our unsaved friends

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*"When I saw their fear, I rose and spoke to the nobles, the officials, and the rest of the people: "Do not be afraid of them; remember the Lord who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives and your houses." When our enemies heard that it was known to us, and that God had frustrated their plan, then all of us returned to the wall, each one to his work.'" - Nehemiah*

## In the Ministry...

Even though many of us have been at camp a number of years there are always new things to learn. This year we learned that it can be difficult to find staff and campers but God came through for us by providing everyone we needed. This summer we had a number of students who accepted Christ as their Savior. Seeing those young people give their heart to the Lord makes all the long hours and difficult situations worth it! Sometimes I don't know if these young people can truly wrap their mind around the fact that this is the biggest decision they will ever make. Please pray with me that God would continue working in their hearts and that He would put key people in their lives to continue encouraging the relationship with God that the campers began at camp.

As I reflect back on the camps we have had so far, I see two needs that we have. One would be for a camp manager – someone to oversee grounds and maintenance, projects and upkeep. This person wouldn't need to be year round, but available from the beginning of April to the end of August and now and then during the winter season. The other need we have is for well broke kids horses. When all the dust settles at the end of the summer we will only have two horses on the place. We are in need of eight more to add to our herd. With the fall horse camp coming up at the end of September, this is an urgent need.

Even though our Youth Challenge summer camps are done with, we still have several more events at Camp Machasay. The Hispanic churches of Imperial and Holyoke will be here this week. I will also be attending the annual horse trip with a local group of men up to Poudre Canyon in August. Also on the books for the fall is our Fall Horse Camp (Sept 22-24), Guys Only Weekend (Nov 17-18) and Halloween Alternative (Oct 28) at camp. Please be in prayer as these events approach – that we would be prepared and have all the help and resources required to facilitate them, but most importantly, that God would be preparing the hearts and minds of those people who would attend them.

As camp activities wind down from a busy summer, things in town during the school year get rolling. This year, as the newly appointed Camp Director, I will be traveling to different towns to visit with pastors and youth workers, raising awareness of Youth Challenge and the different things this small ministry offers. I will also be driving a school bus for Holyoke part-time, running a Bible quiz team based in Holyoke, and helping with the local FCA chapter. Please keep us in prayer as both Micaila and myself are involved in church activities, Youth Challenge activities, and other local ministry activities.

## On a Personal Note...

### From Mike's Viewpoint –

I have heard it said that delegation is the sign of a good leader. I'm not sure if that is true or not yet, but I have been trying it out. Last month I asked you to pray that I would be able to multiply myself, therefore allowing myself to have more time during camps to look after new responsibilities. With the assistance of some great help out in the barn, I was able to see all the other sides of camp that I hadn't had the opportunity to in years past, due to working with the horse program. Some of my new duties during camp include seeing that every activity is adequately staffed and is operating safely. Checking in on the health and well-being of my volunteers, and jumping in whenever things go awry. Success that I felt I had this summer is due primarily to the Lord and also to four people - my wife, for her love and support; my father-in-law Rick, being the voice of experience; the summer program director Zac, for being my brother-in-arms and for working through things together; and last but not least, my new friend Tom, for taking over the horses and making sure all the students and animals were safe.

### From Micaila's Viewpoint –

My summer has consisted of doctoring animals, fighting weeds, keeping up on the lawn, orchard and flowers, working full-time at the Peerless, helping with a wedding, helping family, cooking and helping with the climbing wall at camp, singing on the church worship team, and taking care of the home while Mike is busy at camp. We have been like ships passing in the night for the last eight weeks. We will be taking a vacation the beginning of August. Please pray that we would use this time to focus on restoring the intimacy and closeness that has been "collecting dust" during this busy time of year.