



# CHERITH® CHATTER

A PUBLICATION OF NORTH CENTRAL  
*Camp Cherith®*

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## Reflections from "Mooch"

It's been a while since returning home from camp and the last load of campfire scented laundry has been washed and put away. Returning back to life outside of camp, is always bittersweet. I call it the "post-camp blues". It's hard to adjust to not being surrounded by so many like-minded believers on a minute-by-minute basis. The worship, the edification, the laughter, singing, and campfire conversations are deeply missed. And if I'm completely honest, I miss walking into the dining hall to wonderful meals and having tubs of ice cream always on hand! :) So in the moments when I feel a little "blue", all I need to do is reflect back on God's goodness and faithfulness of the summer. In the face of an economy that is screaming decrease, our camper numbers increased to 564. I was blessed with a solid all-summer staff of 26 and the rest of our staffing needs were met by so many wonderful one and two week staffers. Safety, good weather, and lots of spiritual growth and fun memories...all echo His goodness, goodness, goodness. So if you find yourself feeling "blue" about camp being over for another year- make a s'more, sing your favorite camp song, and give God some praise for the wonderful summer He blessed us with.

Peace, Love, and S'mores,  
Sarah Ann (Mooch)  
Girls' Director

## 2009 Projects

"Project Runway" was completed this year with an awesome new building exclusively for all the camp costumes, complete with 3 way mirror and small practice stage!



"The Hideaway" - Kendra, Bill, Josiah, and Katja Mohn appreciated the new Hideaway as their home away from home this summer. Built over the summer in the woods behind the craft house, the Hideaway provides 2 separate rooms, each with 2 bunks.

"Recycled roof" - Due to alterations needed to meet the County codes at the waterfront, the year old roof on the waterfront shed was "recycled" and brought back to the archery range. There it was mounted on poles and provides a much needed shelter from the sun and an area to meet if it is raining.



**Fun Quote** - High school campers were chatting in the car on the way to mother/daughter weekend and the following was overheard by a mom – "How do you explain Camp Cherith to your friends at home?"  
**Response--** "It's a place where you are accepted, understood, and loved."

# Reflections from Rob on Boys Week 1

It was another great week for Boy's Week 1! The kids enjoyed their activities. Campers were able to get up on water-skis for the first time, developed their abilities with tools in woodworking, learned how to tie hooks on a fishing line, and the list could go on. We had very few conflicts during the week, but the ones that we did were opportunities to learn, grow, and mature. I could share many highlights, but let me mention two.

Every year we lay down a huge piece of plastic on a hill right outside the dining hall. Then we get soap and a hose. Finally, we ask boys if they would like to slide down and of course, they jump at the opportunity. The boys love to see who can go the farthest. Some love to slide into the pond at the bottom of the hill while other would prefer to avoid it - sometimes this works out and sometimes it doesn't! I love when it doesn't. It is a true joy to watch, until - they start to chant my name. I say things like, "I don't have my swimming suit with me. My wife would not like it if I ruined my shorts. I am forty years old. I went to the chiropractor 3 times before coming up to camp." The children continue to chant and so I whip off my shirt. They cheer! I begin to get a rush of adrenaline. I feel young again. I grab the soap bottle and rub the soap on. I back up for a running start. The kids move out of the way and I start running full speed toward the huge plastic slide. Soap is flying off my chest, the kids are chanting my name, and life is good. I leap on to the plastic sheet and shoot down the hill head first. When I get to the bottom of the hill the plastic stops and the grass begins. My chest rubs against the dry cutting grass until I reach the stinky leech filled pond. The water and mud splash in my face until I come to a stop. I hear the cheers at the top of the hill. I stand up unable to see with the mud in my eyes. A person at the bottom of the hill gives me a towel to wipe off my face. I can see again. I can see that I am blessed to be with a camp full of boys acting like only boys can and keeping forty year olds like me young at heart. God is good.

The second highlight is what a first time Shikari (Jr. Hi) camper said to a staff member. After the All Camp message he shared..."I like your camp. I feel Jesus here."

I guess I can't just share two highlights. Cherith is like a family to me. I love seeing the faces of counselors, support staff, and Divisional Directors that come back year after year to serve kids on behalf of Christ. I love watching the older campers step up to care for and have fun with the younger campers. I love that three past campers that went through our training joined our staff as counselors. I love that our second boys week was a smashing success. And I love that boys are learning about a God that has given them everything they need for life and godliness. So boys - don't forget - put on full armor of God and move out into that world with boldness. Ephesians 6:14 -Stand firm then with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition, to all this take up the shield of faith. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the Word of God."

Finally, parents I would encourage you to look for opportunities to create a home environment that talks about and prays to God. I recommend reading this book, "Keep the Siblings Lose the Rivalry" by Dr. Todd Cartmell For marriage I recommend "The Love List" by Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott I challenge all men in addition to reading the bible to read one book on raising children and one book on marriage every year. We need to be at the top of our game in the very challenging and rewarding place called home. May God richly bless your family this year.

Blessings,  
Rob Scott

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## **Cherith Connections –**

Lettie Elizabeth was welcomed by big sister Harper, mom Jodi "Yoda" (Cilt '95) and dad Ben "Buzz" Clair on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Lettie was soon followed by cousin Jemma Kay on Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> born to Karin "ChaChi" (Cilt'98) and John "Phoenix" Pecchia.

Stephanie "Penny" Nauman married Trevor Thurling on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at a beautiful wedding given by parents Board president Debbie and John Nauman

## **2009 Cilts/Built –**

Mallory "Putzie" Precht and Hannah "Pickles" Taylor  
Tim "Tiny Tim" Pilquist, Adam "Biggie" Urick and  
Jesse "Chief" McLaren

## **Growth Continues –**

North Central Camp Cherith camper numbers grew to 564!  
26 all summer staff combined with 114 other short term staff and weekly volunteers to provide another "Life.....Christ in Every Phase" experience for each camper.  
Newly added Boys Week 2 was a hit with 78 campers in attendance.

## Reflections from Hey-U on Boys Week 2

Huge Success! It was a suspenseful summer . . . how many would enlist for the maiden voyage of boy's week #2? We started with registrations in the mid-40's in June, then watched our numbers slowly climb as July wore on. The result? 78 young men signed up and showed up on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. But what was the most essential result? A week packed with energetic worship, smoky cook-outs, adrenaline-pumping competitions, exceptional food, and even the whirring of the Batmobile cruising through Cherith. Our prayer is for our 78 boys to carry unforgettable memories of this week from the summer of '09—a week packed with fun, encouragement, inspiration, and the challenge to live for Jesus.

While I love watching boys learn and grow, my greatest joy came from watching our staff rise to the challenge. Our counselors, support staff, divisional directors all joined forces to plan, pray, lead, teach, and work together. I was emboldened by their commitment, enlivened by their energy, and encouraged by their companionship. There's nothing more satisfying than watching men and women pour their faith into the lives of these young men who will grow to become our future leaders.

My deepest thanks and appreciation for the prayer, support, and encouragement offered by the entire Cherith community. For me, you've created an unforgettable memory for the summer of '09.

Kevin Thomas (Hey-U)  
Boy's Week #2 Director

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### **Mom – Daughter Weekend: Warm Weather, Record Attendance**

Nearly 140 moms, daughters, sisters, aunts, nieces, and grandmothers filled Camp Cherith for “*A Weekend Escape to the Simple Life*” in September. This year's Mom-Daughter Weekend featured unseasonably warm weather, making outdoor activities such as swimming, boating, archery, wagon trail rides, and riflery among the most popular free time choices. Craft tables were also a constant hub of activity as campers created everything from duct tape turtles to flowered fingernails to beaded bracelets.

Moms and prospective summer campers got a sampling of the summer camp experience at Cherith, including silly songfests, Morning Watch devotions, campfires, and an outdoor chapel service. Featured speaker Alicia Graf, a member of the camp's board of directors, challenged participants to pursue simple connections, simple faith, and simple worship, despite the complex world we live in. It all made for a fun and full weekend, but the best part, according to most of the campers, was quality time spent with their mom or daughter.

### **Lund Scholarship Fund/Annual Fund**

Each year there are many children who hope to attend Camp Cherith, but their family financial situation makes it impossible. This past summer partial scholarships helped several campers who could not have attended camp otherwise. Where does that money come from? Generous friends like you. If you would like specifically to help out these families, designate your gift to the Lund Scholarship Fund.

Did you know that the camper fee covers only 60% of the actual cost to provide a week of camp? Our Annual fund drive and your donations help subsidize the rest of those operating costs.

Donations can be sent to:  
Mike Bischof 17585 Illinois Ct., Lakeville, MN 55044

### **Easy fundraising**

- Don't forget you can help raise funds for Camp Cherith by using [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) as your search engine. Just indicate North Central Camp Cherith as your charity. NCCC received over \$150 for your searching/surfing last fall.
- **Shop online** at [www.schoolpop.com](http://www.schoolpop.com) by registering using 130529 and a percentage will be donated to North Central Camp Cherith.
- **Matching gifts**—Check with your employer and see if your donation can be doubled with a matching gift. Many employers just have a form that you can send us to fill out and increase your donation power.
- Thanks to those of you who are already donating through the **United Way!** Next time the United Way campaign rolls around at work in your community, just write North Central Camp Cherith as your choice on the list.

# Wish List

2 AEDs (Automated External Defibrillator)  
Washing machine in good condition  
Golf cart  
Blazer/small SUV vehicle  
Sturdy wagons  
Park benches  
electric power washer  
Newer TV with AV outputs  
large area rugs  
box fans  
Batteries--Size AAA, C, and D  
Construction paper  
Butcher paper for posters  
Colored Poster board for song cards  
Tempra paint  
Clear bins (all sizes larger than shoe boxes)



3M employees—we can still really use lots of masking and duct tape. Band-aids come in handy too.

## ***Nature Hut items***

Binoculars  
Lots of field nets and water nets to catch fun stuff  
Bull or Milk snake to use for the summer

## ***Free time items***

fun self-directed activities for outside  
like sling catch type games  
juggling rings  
luna stix  
diabolos, etc.

If you can help out with any of these items, contact Becky Nelson @ 952-884-1451 or [bonccc@aol.com](mailto:bonccc@aol.com)

*Financial donations can be sent to Mike Bischof, 17585 Illinois Court, Lakeville, MN 55044*

***North Central***

**CAMP CHERITH®**

*Affiliated with Pioneer Clubs®*

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