

Hoofbeats

GOD IS OUR PROVIDER

In James 1:17a it says, "Every good and perfect gift is from above coming down from the Father." In my time here at Dallas Valley I have learned how God is our true provider. I am so thankful for all the people who allow themselves to be used by God to make this ministry effective. Here are some ways in which God provides for Dallas Valley Ranch Camp:

1. Rental Groups. Many groups come to use the camp throughout the year, and by cooking for them, housing them, and providing them with a great atmosphere and some fun activities, we are able make up a significant part of our budget. You can help us by renting our facilities and spreading the word so that others can as well. I love to see the camp getting used as much as possible.

2. Campers. Another significant way God provides Dallas Valley is by the many parents, grandparents, guardians and others who send their kids to camp each summer. Many people give funds to help underprivileged kids come too. Full camps help to make the best use of this ministry, its facilities, and people.

3. Selling Items. Another way we generate income is by selling items. Our Riding Director, Tanis, does a good job at selling and buying horses. The camp can use the money she makes in selling horses to put back into program needs. We also sell clothing and canteen during the summer and presently we also have hay for sale.

4. Equipment and Furniture. God also provides through people giving or loaning items. This really helps the camp save thousands of dollars to complete projects. Some examples are trailers, balers, trucks, mini-hoe, zoom booms, couches, washers and dryers. The list goes on and on. So if you

Pass the word around that we have hay for sale.

have any pieces of equipment that you might think "I can't give money but I have this item—maybe the camp could use it," then give us a call. We will be honest if it's a need and greatly appreciate your help.

5. Manpower. Another significant way in which God provides is through manpower. Many people have used their gifts and talents, their hands and feet, and their time to help out the camp. We have electricians, plumbers, carpenters and cooks. Let us know if you can give of your time because every bit helps. I believe this is one of God's greatest provisions for Dallas Valley. People who come and volunteer their time and expertise helps to save the camp money. If we added up all of the volunteer hours that have been donated in a year, it would be thousands and thousands of dollars.

6. Dollars and Cents. Many have given to the camp financially. This is always a large need. Often when I go pick up the mail, it's like having Christmas during other days of the year. Surprise cheques make my day. Thank you for giving at our banquets, adult camps and Sunday morning offerings. Now it's also possible for you to make donations online. We

hope you will choose to continue being involved with Dallas Valley financially so that we can continue the work here.

7. Estates. One final way I have seen people give is through leaving part of their estate after passing away. This has made a huge difference in jump-starting a camp project that has been on hold. I would encourage you to consider including the camp in this type of giving.

In closing, thank you for helping in the past and we hope you will continue to give in the future to continue this ministry as a vibrant tool for Jesus. I look forward to more Christmas surprises throughout this year. I pray that God would give you new eyes to see how He can use you to help provide for the ministry here at Dallas Valley. We need you to get involved where God guides you and God provides for you. We trust that you will be a spokes-person on our behalf to others as well. Bring them out to see the camp, to participate in our banquets or to be a camper, so they can get excited how God is changing lives at camp!

Isaiah 45:3 says, "I will give you hidden treasures, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the Lord, the God of Israel, who summons you by name."

Art Thiessen
Executive Director



Christmas Project 2010—The campers loved the new toys! Thank you.



Breeze from

We would like to welcome 3 of our newest staff

KEON REIMER —Maintenance

In May of this year, we, Keon and Christal Reimer, joined the Dallas Valley Ranch Camp team, where Keon was hired as the full-time maintenance man. Along with us, came our four children: Madeline (13), Owen (12), Nadine (9), and Quentin (7). We are from the Steinbach, Manitoba area, where we have both grown up, and both of our families still live.

After having both been quite involved in our local church as youth, Awana, and small group leaders, and most recently with Christal on music teams, and Keon on the Elder Board, we both felt like God had something more for us to do. Although not always with great enthusiasm, we 'put ourselves out there' for God to move us out of our 'comfort zone' as He saw fit.

Having heard about DVRC from Christal's brother, who came as a speaker, we first helped out for a week in the summer of 2008 at a Western Riding week, because of Keon's love for horses. That week, Keon mentioned to Art that if there was ever an opening here, he should give Keon a call. We have come out for a week of our summer vacation each year since.

Well, Art called in the fall of 2009, and when Keon applied for the job, he did not get it, so we figured this was obviously not where God wanted us to be. A year later, when the job was available again, we both weren't sure we

wanted to apply, but felt the tug that we should. Looking back, we realize God's amazing timing, as Keon's sister passed away in January 2010, right when the job would have started the first time.

Anyway, here we are. The first couple months were tough, having to adjust to no family close by, missing friends, and jumping right in to camp. But things have gone quite well.

Keon is really enjoying his job, which allows him to do something different almost every day. He often tells people he is just playing most of the time (especially when he 'needs' to drive the new skid-steer). This was a great year for haying, which brought Keon back to memories of growing up on a dairy farm. It was a blessing to be able to work as a team, as Christal baled a lot of the hay. She also filled in as custodian when needed.

The children have adjusted very well. We hardly saw them during the summer. Being home-schooled, their school did not change much, just the location. They made a number of new friends, mostly staff, over the summer, and look forward to them coming back next year. Quentin wishes that we could bring Steinbach closer, or move DVRC to Manitoba



because he wants to be in both places at the same time.

Although we are still learning the ropes in some areas, we are glad to be here and call this home, until God shows us otherwise.

**Look for our booth at the
Canadian Western Agribition
November 21-26, 2011**

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CAMPER HIGHLIGHT

Thank you so much for letting us enjoy this beautiful camp. We all had a lot of fun and hope to come back next year. Just a few of the things we enjoyed were: climbing, riding and the people. This camp was a great idea and I hope it continues for a very long time.

Thanks again,

The girls of *Silver Spur* cabin
(week 3)

n the Valley



of members to the Dallas Valley full-time team!

BRENDON WOODALL —Intern for Xtreme Clubs

I have been connected to Dallas Valley for many years, but I first came here as a camper when I was in High School. I took the bus all the way from Winnipeg where I grew up to come out here for camp. It was a place that I loved to be and my faith grew and was stretched through my weeks as a camper. It is also where my excitement and passion for climbing flourished at the wall.

Now being able to share that passion and excitement, not only for climbing, but also the outdoors, paintball and God, is amazing. I hope to be able to show all those that I come in contact with what it is to follow a saviour who loved us enough to die in our place. May the Lord use me in mighty ways.

I have been climbing for years and was certified at the University of Manitoba for the safe use of their wall in 2005. More recently I obtained my Level II Challenge Course Practitioner certification. My training has provided me with a wide base of knowledge on both how to make sure we stay safe but still push our limits.



LACEY MCELVIE —Riding Instructor

I was hired this summer at Dallas Valley Ranch Camp as the new full-time riding instructor and I'm very excited about this opportunity! I felt God's hand strongly pushing me into this position, and it's exciting to see Him at work in this place!

Horses have always been my passion. I got my first pony at the age of four where I grew up on a ranch near Prince George, BC. Since that time I acquired my Equine Canada riding levels 1-4 and then went to Lakeland College in Vermilion and got my Ranch and Feedlot Rider Certificate. Since then I have worked with a variety of clinicians and trainers, including Marin Black and Clay Webster. I continue to have a deep desire to become a better horsewoman.

Teaching kids provides an entirely new opportunity, one that I've been enjoying immensely. The riding clubs and lessons are going wonderfully with 30 kids in clubs and another 19 kids in small groups and private lessons. In the clubs we have



a lot of fun learning things from horse care to horse games and work on improving riding skills for kids ages 11 to 18. We also take the opportunity to discuss God and provide a weekly challenge on how to live for Him.

SUMMER STAFF HIGHLIGHT

This summer I saw God do amazing things in the hearts of the staff and campers, and also in my own heart. I have had a difficult time trusting God in my life. I prefer to be in control—it feels safer than entrusting everything to God that I don't understand. This summer God opened the eyes of my heart and showed me that even when I am unfaithful, He is always faithful. I had a camper this summer who came to camp believing that she could choose what truth was best for her—that though Jesus Christ is true for us, He wasn't true for her. By the end of the week, God had totally transformed her heart and she surrendered her life to Him and accepted Jesus as Lord of her life. My God is powerful. He is loving and gracious and faithful even when I do not always see.

Lauren Wiebe (summer staff)

**Sign up today for one
of the year-round
CLUBS!**
dallasvalley.com

2012

CALENDAR

December 29-30	Staff Retreat (program staff)
January 29	Winter Fun Day (ages 9-11)
February 5	Winter Fun Day (ages 12-17)
February 10	Support Staff Supper
February 13	Registration Begins
March 13	Regina Banquet
March 14	Strasbourg Banquet
May 17-21	Staff Training
June 3	Open House (3-7 pm)
June 8-10	Mid-Way Get Away
June 21-23	60+ Friends Camp
	Summer Camps
	60+ Friends Camp


SUMMER DATES

Due to the many unknowns regarding the start dates for the 2012-2013 school year, we have decided not to set the camp dates for next summer quite yet. Instead they will be on the website and in our new promotional materials some time in January. Planning is in the works to add two new camp sessions in 2012. We are excited to share them with you!

Please keep your eyes on our website. We are presently revamping and tweaking. We are hoping to have most of it ready for viewing later this fall.

www.dallasvalley.com

Dallas Valley Ranch Camp

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Our Mission:

“To ignite and nourish a life transforming relationship with Jesus Christ through a dynamic camp experience”