

Blessed, Blessed, Blessed!

As we reflect back on the summer, we see the hand of God in everything! With a college graduation, a high school graduation, a wedding, and summer camp, we needed lots of grace and lots of money and lots of help...and God provided in every way! He is a good, good Father who knows how to bless His children!

Graduations



After four years of study, Ellie was graduated from Maranatha Baptist University in May with a Bachelor of Arts in English Education. The whole family attended the ceremony in WI, which allowed a visit with extended family there too! We are so pleased with Ellie's diligence at college and so thankful for God's faithfulness to her.



Ike, our "baby," finished high school at the end of May and had the privilege of graduating with his class at Pinedale High. His four years included homeschool classes, public school classes, sports teams, and jobs. He was a busy guy, but he finished well, and we're proud of his accomplishments!

Wedding



Since their engagement in December, Ellie and Micaiah had been planning their special day. Together they created a Christ-honoring celebration of marriage which occurred on June 30. The gathering of family and friends, the presentation of the Gospel, the servant spirit of so many in decorating, playing music, taking pictures, the giving and receiving of vows, etc., all combined to make a sweet day to be remembered forever! Praise God!

Summer Camp

Though less of a scramble than last year by far, getting ready for campers took many hours of preparation, planning, and training. With the Lodge project well underway by June, both of us (Dean and Lorie) were on sight to aid the workers and to prepare for the arrival of the staff. We love the weeks of training the program team members, the counselors, the support staff, and the SALTs (leadership campers). It's delightful to see the team come together, observe them use the tools they've been given, and watch them reach campers with life-giving Truth!



While only one of the volunteer head cooks could help in the kitchen tent this summer during regular weeks, God empowered Lorie to train young staff and other volunteers to assist her and to even head cook many of the meals. Along with Wixi's head cooking the supper meals, the food service not only survived but thrived. To God be the glory!

Overseeing the building of a new camp hub, the Lodge, has required many "extra duties" for Dean. Thankfully, he has been able to draw upon the expertise of many friends and co-workers for decisions left to him. Over and over he'll say, "Listen to what God just did," in reference to some aspect of the project. We are thankful to see all that God is doing and to be a part of this amazing time in the Camp's history!

Anniversary

Last summer (2017) marked the 25th year of Dean's directorship at Red Cliff. This summer (2018) the Board of Directors initiated an opportunity to give gifts to us in honor of our service. What a blessing it is to have been shown love and recognized in such a way! To those who participated in this, thanks again! It's truly a privilege to serve at Red Cliff.



Home Front

Since Ellie vacated her place at home, only Gan and Ike were left to hold down the fort. Their 10 hour days working for the county left them little time to play, but they enjoyed the summer any way! Lorie's parents stayed for some weeks after the wedding helping with laundry, cooking, and various small projects.

With college costs calling his name, Gannett worked two jobs all summer resulting in his returning to school with the first semester paid! He also juggled the opportunity to co-teach the First Aid classes at camp! Now a pre-med in his junior year at Bob Jones University, he's back in the college schedule of classes, discipleship, and dorm life.



After working for Weed and Pest all summer, and counseling one junior week at Red Cliff, Ike arrived at Ironwood Christian Camp in late August to attend the Institute of Ministry. Though not accustomed to the heat in the CA desert, he is working on the maintenance crew along with taking block classes. He's enjoying the friendships and mentorship there.

Empty nesting seems to have crept up on us. Suddenly the house is quiet (no loud singing in the shower), the grocery bill is minimal, going to bed early is a possibility, but the fact is – We miss our kids! However, our married children live nearby (so cool), and we (Dean and Lorie) like each other, so we'll figure it out and live happily ever after. 😊



Praises

- The gift of Micaiah to our family
- The out pouring of love to our children and to us
- A fruitful summer at Red Cliff
- Good jobs for Gannett and Isaac this summer

Prayer Requests

- Steadfastness to see the building project through to completion
- Strength and wisdom in fall travel (recruiting staff for next summer)