

Luksha Lowdown

September 2010

Dear praying friends,

**“How great is
the love the
Father has
lavished on us,
that we should
be called
children of
God!”**

1 John 3:1 NIV

Many of us wondered if we would have Cowboy Church this year. The tent we were using was falling apart and the place we were meeting was becoming more and more inconvenient for our senior citizens because of the location on a hillside. We didn't know what God wanted us to do. We could only pray and pray and ask for more prayer from all of you as well. At our annual meeting we beseeched God for direction and waited. Have you ever noticed that when it seemed there was no time left for an answer to come, God always stretches it so there is more time? This can be quite uncomfortable at times. When we feel like we can't wait any more He says, "Be still and know that I am God". When the time is right He will answer. He did!

We received our answer when one of the men in our congregation was asked by a non-believer if we would like to put our tent on his property—a place that had just been leveled out with lots of parking space, just off the main highway. Wow!! What an answer that was from God. We knew that if He moved this person to offer us a place He would take care of the rest as well and He did. We announced the financial need and within 2 weeks time God brought in all the finances needed for a new, larger tent. What an awesome God we serve. **How great is the love the Father has lavished on us!**



Many of you have been praying for our Bible studies with unbelievers. It's wonderful seeing people begin to realize what Jesus did for them and open their hearts up to Him. A year ago after Sheri went through her heart surgery she was able to walk alongside a woman who also had to go through heart surgery. We shared Christ with her in the hospital in Missoula when both of us had follow up visits. Missoula is four hours away and only God could have put the visits together that far away at the same time when our surgeries were over a month apart. Out of this time we offered to do a Bible study with her and she said yes. Her friend and daughter, both believers, also attended the Bible Study, but she can't seem to understand what it means to accept Christ and have a relationship with Him. Pray with us that her eyes would be opened and that she would understand her need of the Savior.

Tax deductible gifts
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We continue to work on converting the barn to a church & youth center. It seems at times we are moving at a snail's pace but God is sovereign in this as well. Last summer the folks in our church determined to take one Saturday a month to work on the barn. In doing so we completed the work on one side of the barn with repairs and siding. This is a project that is completed as the Lord provides the finances and the workers.

We had a fantastic VBS. "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!" 1 John 3:1. This was the Bible theme for VBS. The Father continues to lavish His love upon us. Volunteers

came from all directions. We had couples come from Wisconsin, Idaho, another person from Massachusetts, and others from farther away in Montana. The number of people helping from here in the valley also continues to grow. It takes our breath away sometimes the way the Lord pours out His love and provisions. With Sheri's health limitations it has been hard for her not to be able to do as much as she normally would in preparation for VBS. This ministry has always had the biggest place in Sheri's heart. Not only did God bring in extra help for the week of VBS but several volunteers came various times to do some of the preliminary work. It was exciting to see how all the folks involved were excited about being able to use the gifts God has given them. Praise God for how he provided the workers and the finances for this ministry once again! Sheri was thrilled to hear all the VBS teachers and even the volunteers clearly sharing the gospel message. Families generally don't stay around for assemblies, but many unchurched and unsaved family members stayed. At the beginning of the week it was hard to see one child go hide and eat as fast as he could and as much food as he could. By the end of the week he knew that he would not be deprived food and was fed both physically and spiritually.

There is a new trend in the valley. Commitment has always been hard for people here but we are facing a new challenge. Folks go to three or four different churches at one time. They may attend our church once a month while attending the other three. Trying to help people understand commitment is a challenge. No commitment to a church means no commitment to the ministries within the body of Christ and no real spiritual growth in their lives. Pray for a work of God's Spirit.

Do you have this song book you're no longer using? We're looking for *Songs for Praise and Worship*. It's gray and put out by Word [ISBN 3-01-007136-1]. We purchased about 20 copies over a year ago but can no longer find additional ones.

Praise God for answered prayer—Tommy was accepted into the paramedic program. **Continue to pray:** (1) that God will be glorified in our lives & ministry (2) for Sheri—she still has only half her strength and can't do all she would like to do in her life and ministry (3) for our support needs (4) for our people to commit to Grace Community Fellowship & grow spiritually.

Love in Christ, Tom and Sheri

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