



**"We thank God for all He is doing."**

## WINTER CAMP

**Winter has been long, but it has never left us short of things to do!**

Winter Camp welcomed 69 different kids, whether for a single day or the whole week. We were blessed with 10-15 volunteers, many of them former campers now growing into the counselors God is shaping them to be. It is one of our greatest joys to watch them step into leadership and share the love of Jesus Christ with the next generation. Throughout the week, we looked at the similarities between David and Jesus, and we memorized:



**Psalm 56:3-4:**

***"When I am afraid,  
I put my trust in you.***

***In God, whose word I praise,  
in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.  
What can flesh do to me?"***



Leading into summer programming we have talked often about choosing faith over fear something every one of us faces in different seasons. Fear can show up as anxiety, worry, insecurity, fear of the future, fear of the past, or fear of the unknown. But we rest in knowing that God is still on His throne, even when life doesn't look the way we imagined. Several of our staff watched the David movie on Christmas, and one line continues to echo in our hearts. When David believes he might die, he says:



***"The only thing that I want  
is to dwell with the Lord.  
If we don't win today,  
He is still my reward."***



That truth has stayed with us. In ministry, it is easy to measure success or failure through numbers or outcomes. But the real reward, the one who never changes, is Jesus Himself. We rejoice in what God has done, and what He will continue to do, through every child, family, volunteer, and supporter we encounter. We share these updates not to boast, but to celebrate His work, and to thank you for being part of it.

**As we head into summer, we want to keep you more connected than ever. Scan the QR code to join our Signal group for updates, stories, and praise reports along the way!**



# WHAT'S GOING ON NOW

## Programs & Ministries

### Latte & Play

This weekly Tuesday gathering continues to grow.

This morning, we welcomed **19 kids and 9 moms**. We provide snacks for the kids, much-needed coffee for the moms, and a place to come just as you are, to connect, breathe, and encourage one another.

### Kids Club

Kids Club is for **3rd–6th graders** and runs on the **first Friday** of each month from **5:30–7:30 PM**. Around **30 kids** attend regularly some from churches and some who have never been to a church before. We host this to stay connected with campers throughout the year and continue sharing Christ's love.

### Youth Group

**Elim Grace Youth Group** runs every Wednesday for **7th-12<sup>th</sup> graders** (which meets at our facility) has become a great next step.

## Facilities

Besides staff, we are currently providing housing for **3 young men, 1 older homeless man, 1 elderly female, 2 different single parents with their kids and we have another family** moving in at the end of the month. We are so thankful that the building can be used in such a variety of ways. We are finishing converting 2 rooms into a small apartment to help accommodate the housing needs in the area.

## Service Projects

Our goal is to be of service in a variety of different ways. Currently, one of our staff members is helping 2 days a week with a church expansion project in the community. Other staff have been anywhere from helping people move, the elderly with tasks they are unable to do, or putting flooring down for someone in need.

## Bible Studies

- **Dan Oostdyk** leads a men's Bible study on Monday evenings.
- **Wendy Smith** leads a women's Bible study on Thursday mornings and is currently walking through the book of Acts.
- **Alyse Oostdyk** leads a middle and high school girls' study on Wednesday mornings before school, studying the book of Luke.



# WHAT'S COMING SOON?

## Prayer Requests:

### Summer Camp Preparation

Summer is coming quickly, even if the snow seems to think otherwise! Pray that the weather breaks soon so we can begin preparing the property.

### Property Expansion

First off, a huge thank you to everyone who has stepped up so far. We've managed to raise the majority of our funds, which is an incredible milestone. That said, we're now moving into the final phase. Closing on the property and starting the actual addition. If you've ever done a renovation or bought a house, you know that "closing costs" and construction "surprises" are always a bit of a moving target. We are so close to the finish line. Pray with us that this is a smooth process.

### Sand Volleyball Court

Our campers and counselors love volleyball in the gym, and we have an outdoor area ready for transformation. Pray that we can develop this into a sand volleyball court for them.

### Family Nights

We feel strongly about cultivating opportunities for families to grow *together*, not just in separate age groups. Pray for wisdom and direction as we plan how to create Christ-centered family nights that strengthen our community.

### Field Trips

We have dozens of field trips from local schools that will be coming to our property in the months of May and June. Pray that we are able to be used in so many different ways.

**Thank you for praying, supporting, and partnering with us. We are simply vessels and we are grateful to be used, alongside you, for the glory of God.**

*To God be the Glory.  
The Staff at Grace and Glory*