



Jan, Feb, Mar,
2012

Down On The Farm

The Quarterly Newsletter of Crossroads Farm

Middle School
Pleasant Valley Bible Camp
Jan. 27-29

Walk The Plank!

Winter Retreats!!

Senior High
Portage Lake Covenant Bible Camp
Feb. 10-12

Speaker: Micah Beckwith

You gave, you prayed, you encouraged!

Band: Sing Love Sing

Polar bear plunge, Rock Climbing, Tournaments, Swimming, Worship

When Kelsey fell 3 times, when we almost burned down the bowling alley, when Kelsey got pushed in the pool. (middle school girl)

Sleep is for losers (high school boy)

Hearing the voice of God...

Skiing, Bowling, Tubing,



3 and 3
tournaments
=
awesome
(high
school boy)



hey!! that winter retreat was soo fun! btw, I'm coming to cross-roads this sunday! (high school girl)

...the teen whose face I could NOT get out of my mind, accepted Christ as her Savior on Saturday night. God is beyond good. He's awesomely amazing. (MS staff girl)

The sheer joy in Corinne's laughter as she zoomed down the tubing hill for the 4,000th time. . . and the tears of repentance as she realized her need for a Savior.



How many times Chelsea fell, when Lilly got pushed in the pool fully clothed, when Megan fell down the stairs. Mostly though, it really touched me spiritually and that was very enjoyable. (middle school girl)

The band rocked my socks off (high school girl)



Volunteer Perspective - Take #1

by Stephanie

What better thing is there than to see kids come to know Christ!? One of my favorite moments of Winter Retreat was a girl explaining to me what prompted her decision to follow Christ. She had heard the truth before – but it finally clicked. But at Crossroads, we don't just want to get them to that point – we want to give them tools to help them continue to walk with Christ. So the past few weeks, we've been working through the basic tenets of Christianity such as the Bible, prayer and the Trinity. I love seeing students' hunger – when they are the ones shushing their peers because they want to listen. They want to know truth.



I'm completing almost four years as volunteer staff, and the end of my time at Hillsdale College. I will miss the CRF staff like you have no idea. You will never meet a more encouraging staff. That can mean the world to a college student bogged down with midterms. I've loved doing ministry with Crossroads Farm. My student guide told me on my college tour, "College can be a very self-centered time of life." I'm so glad I heeded her warning. I've seen the rewards of sowing into the lives of others. God is always faithful to fill you back up when you sow his love. Always. My time here has definitely been one of the best parts of my college experience.



For the ongoing work in the lives of rural youth, special gifts were given:

In memory of

John and Hannah Lane

In honor of

Janelle Berry

In celebration of

Justin and Laura Roebucks Wedding

Student Spotlight



Caught on Facebook after a weekly Barnyard Sunday night program at CRF:

"Well, what can I say? tonight was amazing :) I have God

in my life from now on. I talked about things that have been bothering me, weight was lifted I admitted all my sins and that I'm broken... yes I have bad addictions, but I can get through them with gods help :) I'm excited to start going to church every Sunday and just change, a good change :D God and Jesus are both amazing :)) I cant thank them enough gonna pray by myself tonight for the first time in a long time :) feeling much better knowing he is with me" ~Allie



Volunteer Perspective - Take #2

by Jacqueline

This is the second Bible study I have done with my care cell of girls and it has been fun to see the different personalities. For the current Bible study, the group of girls I am working with are a bit more advanced than some of the other kids. So instead of doing an introductory Bible study, we have been going through Titus using commentaries and cross references as a way to learn different styles to study the Bible more in depth. During the group get together, we try to focus on discussing what we have learned that week as well as just answering questions about words or phrases that are a bit strange. It has been fun meeting with this group because at the beginning of last year, all three of them were a bit shy but have steadily opened up and have become chat-boxes. :) I enjoy hearing about their lives and funny stories they come up with. Occasionally we have other girls join us when we are just hanging out after Bible study.

The small group itself is usually large and depends on the week who shows up. This semester especially has seen an increase in the number of students attending so it always makes small groups interesting. Although this past week,



we had around 70 kids, they were actually completely silent during the special program monologue. It was a little strange considering how chaotic it normally is :)

I have loved being a part of CRF for the past four years. I discovered it Freshman year from another college student and have been coming ever since. It often is a lot of time but it is worth it getting to know the kids and introducing them to God. Over the past four years I have gotten to see how much the middle-schoolers grow during their time at CRF. They are usually there for three years and begin as shy, quite kids, by 7th grade they are often close friends and work well as teams, but are also a bit rowdy, and by 8th grade many of them have matured so much. It has been great getting to know the community through the kids and CRF pro staff. The pro staff are always welcoming and encouraging and it has been lovely working with them.



Mark your calendars!

Home Plate Outreach - Tigers Game!

April 21 *6th-12th grades

Tene Vnem! (White Water Rafting/Caving trip)

June 21-24 *9th-12th grades

Hiawatha Youth Camp!

July 15-21 *6th-12th grades



YAHOOOS:

- ☑ 6 students made first time commitments to Jesus during our winter retreats
- ☑ Record numbers for regular middle school program night, Trough, Tuesdays at 7pm...81 students! (plus staff) That's a FULL building .
- ☑ 131 people on this mailing list gave scholarship monies and prayed for students for winter retreats!

TAKE IT TO JESUS:

- ☑ Jerry Bernard and Shaun Haynes in their last quarter of support raising. Lord willing they will be here serving with the Farm this summer as full time missionaries!
- ☑ Office property donated to the Farm that needs to sell. (in Hillsdale, MI)
- ☑ The follow up with these new believers



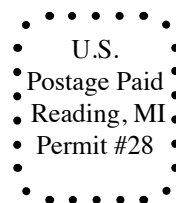
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Change Service Requested



Loving The Rural Teenager



Crossroads Farm celebrates Megan (Rupinski) Gollnick! Megan served as a part of our professional staff for 2.5 years, which resulted in a name change(!), students' lives forever impacted(!) and a portion of our Student Center ceiling covered in cds among countless other things! Megan has transitioned into a crucial role on our volunteer staff team. Please pray for Megan and her "what next."

