

UPDATE FROM THE QUEST:

Rev. Dyan Mouland, Director at The Quest

What an unusual year for everyone. Like so many others, The Quest also experienced setbacks due to the Pandemic – there were very few times we could actually have groups in, and most every group we did have, had to be cancelled. It was easy to get discouraged. But along with our constituents and supporting churches, we just kept praying that God would help us to stay true to our commitment to “not waste the pandemic”. We also prayed that we would stay safe, creative, and most importantly, to not get in the way for what God has planned for this camp.

And God answered. Oh, how He answered. He has been so generous with His blessings. People rallied together. People helped us financially. We qualified for government assistance. We received various funding through grants. Most of last year’s staff reapplied to work at camp again. Things looked good. And now we can actually run some camps this summer.

Like all camps in our province, we were approved for Family Camps and for Day Camps, and so we set up various Day Camps for children ages 5 through 12. But God had more plans for us too.

Recently I was reading a short devotion on prayer written by Cliff Fletcher, the Bishop of the Free Methodist Church in Canada. He challenged us to stop “praying lovely little prayers to a lovely little God”. At our staff meeting last week, we decided to take this to heart. And so, we tried to pray with rawness, boldness, and urgency. We chose to try praying with expectation. I won’t go into all the details, but by the time we were done praying, we felt very strongly that we needed to pursue a modified form of overnight camping. It only took two days (along with lots of phone calls and emails to the Business Response Team and our Health Inspector) to be approved for overnight camps as long as each of the campers stayed in individual tents.

Introducing... IN-TENT-CITY CAMPS! Campers can now enjoy all the fun of overnight camping, but with a twist - no cabins, just individual tents. The

Quest will provide the tents, and will be setting up many small "Tent-Cities" around our camp.

The excitement is palpable. We have funding for many summer staff through Canada Summer Jobs, and now we are praying that the camp will fill in such a way that all those staff will be busy, busy, busy with Kingdom work!

So please pray for The Quest: that we will get all the right staff in the right places. Please pray that the staff would grow closer to God and embrace a ministry mindset. Please pray that we will get the campers for Family Camps, Day Camps, and In-Tent-City camps that we need. Please pray for safety and good health. Please pray that I will have wisdom. Please pray for our Board as together, we navigate a weird summer. And of course, please celebrate with us the goodness and the greatness of our God who blesses beyond anything we can ever imagine.

Other ways that you can help with our programming this summer. We need some donations: do you have some 2-3 person tents, and some camping sleep mats in good shape that you no longer need? We could use them. We also could use the following: two music stands, 20 new fanny packs, five new brooms with dustpans, a case or two of insect repellent, a case or two of sun screen, a case or two of individual sized hand sanitizer, a case or two of disposable masks (and even some home made masks if you sew) some new lifejackets / PDFs (regulations require that these be new, not used), and some new tea towels. Of course, we will never turn away financial donations either.

Our theme verse this year is Proverbs 4:18, *"The way of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, which shines ever brighter until the full light of day.* Together, my friends, let us SHINE the light of Christ in a world that needs that hope so desperately.

If you have any questions, or want to connect, you can contact the camp at info@questnet.ca. Registrations for camp can be found on our website www.questnet.ca. Our phone number for calls and texts is 306-981-3788.