



# INNERCHANGE

May 2011  
update

## LAST NIGHTS FOR THE XCHANGE

The last night of The Xchange for Middle School is Wednesday, May 18th. The last night of The Xchange for High School will be Thursday, May 26th. Please notice that middle school students are invited to attend the Senior Banquet being held on May 25th at the church.



## PARENTS' NIGHT

Don't let the name fool you! All parents are welcome to join us for this special get-together. Parents of upcoming 6th and 9th graders are especially encouraged to come out. We will be meeting from 6 to 8 pm on Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. This should be a good time of getting to know one another as well as learning about the vision and programs of the InnerChange Student Ministry. We will also be discussing the Amazing Opportunities That We Can Easily Miss!

## EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY 11TH 6:00PM	PARENT'S NIGHT
MAY 15TH	LAST DAY TO PURCHASE SENIOR BANQUET TICKETS
MAY 15TH AFTER CHURCH	PARENT MEETING Q & A ABOUT SUMMER ACTIVITIES
MAY 18TH 6:30PM	LAST NIGHT FOR MS XCHANGE
MAY 25TH 6:00PM	SENIOR BANQUET
MAY 26TH 6:30PM	LAST NIGHT FOR HS XCHANGE
JUNE 8	FIRST NIGHT OF SMX
JUNE 11-19	CAMP RAY BIRD TRIP
JULY 10-14	VBS
JULY 15-17	HILLS ALIVE
JULY 12-26	ALBANIA MISSIONS TRIP
AUGUST 6 9AM	HARNEY PEAK HIKE
AUGUST 17TH 4:15PM	WATERSLIDES
AUGUST 28TH 12:30PM	FAMILY POT-LUCK AT CANYON LAKE



## SENIOR BANQUET

Congratulations to all our soon-to-be-graduates! We are very excited for you and all that God has ahead for you. So...we want to celebrate! At our annual Senior Banquet, we want to honor the many years of hard work that you have put forth and bless you as you begin this new chapter in your lives. May 25th is the night for the banquet, which will be held at our church. Guests may arrive as early as 6 p.m., with dinner being served at 6:30. Tickets will be \$5 each, and may be purchased from Carol or Kimberly Wold. Please have your tickets purchased by Sunday, May 15th, so that we know how many to plan for. This event is open to Middle and High School students, as well as friends of our seniors.



-Carol Wold  
Senior Banquet Coordinator



## LESSONS FROM A CAMPFIRE PART I: BUILDING THE PERFECT FIRE

I love to sit at a campfire. Have you ever noticed how people get transfixed on that glowing pile of wood in the middle of the group? It warms them and also gets the squirmiest middle school student to stop and listen as he becomes hypnotized by the glow.

I'm assuming that you have built a campfire or that you have seen one built before. What do you need to start with? – Something small and flammable. If you don't believe me, just hold a match to anything thicker than a pencil. What happens? A black smudge.

The technical explanation given to me by my dad, a thermodynamicist, is this—the ability to achieve combustion for the next level of a campfire is based on the value of heat transfer required per pound of mass of the material. (Translation: As the wood gets bigger, more heat is needed to get it to catch fire.) Hope that I haven't ruined the mystery of the campfire for you, but I like to think that God is teaching us something through this fire-pit moment. You see, I have learned a valuable principle from both building campfires and from the lives of amazing young men and women of God like King David, Daniel the prophet, Esther, Mary of Bethany and others. That principle is that God seeks to start with something small and "flammable" and works to make it into a raging fire for His glory.

Most anyone is familiar with the story of David and Goliath - a relatively scrawny young man against the nine foot menace. The Lord used a sling and a single rock to change the course of Israel's national

conflict, but the Lord also used earlier experiences in David's life to prepare him for a defining moment. While Goliath had been training for battle since his childhood, David had also been training in how to trust in God's ability to deliver him from his foes.

David recounts to Saul two of his previous adventures. He states that, in the course of protecting His father's sheep, he had killed a lion and a bear. David explained the impact that these experiences had made on his ability to face Goliath when he said

**"The Lord** who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear **will deliver me** from the hand of this Philistine." 1 Samuel 17:36-37a (ESV)



As he is facing what appears to everyone else as certain death, David's thoughts are, **"I've been here before. The obstacle is only a little bigger this time."** For David, the Lord only needed to show up as He had in the past. Having been started on what was relatively smaller trials, David's trust and devotion to God was burning bright and ready to consume this next and bigger foe!

The same is seen in the life of Daniel that seems to culminate in his best known act of daring. As a distinguished administrator for Darius king of the Medes, he was challenged to remain faithful in the face of a den of lions that awaited him. (Dan. 6) But a reading of the book of Daniel will show that this challenge is just one in a line of trials which were preparing him for this moment. These trials began soon after his being brought to

Continued on pg. 4

If you're looking for a chance to stretch yourself in extraordinary ways and see God use you to impact others, Camp Raybird may be the trip for you! This trip, open to 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders, gives students the opportunity to serve at-risk children in the Michiana area by being co-counselors alongside battle-hardened college counselors. Camp Raybird is an intense week in which God will use you in crazy ways and fill you with the joy that comes along with pouring oneself into the lives of others. If you look forward to having deep heart-to-heart conversations with youth and sing a few camp fire songs, join us this year for Camp Raybird, Jun 11<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>!

-Amanda Reeves



## SUMMER NEWSLETTER PARENTS' MEETING

We will have a Q & A Parents' Meeting on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, immediately after church. This meeting is to answer any questions regarding this summer's activities.



## HS BIBLE STUDY

During the summer, we seek to provide our high school students with the opportunity to learn in fellowship together. This will be happening at the church from 6:30 to 9:00pm. This study is available to all present 8th thru 12th graders. If your family would like to host this event please contact pastor JD at [jd.bowman@parkviewefc.org](mailto:jd.bowman@parkviewefc.org).

### HS Bible Study

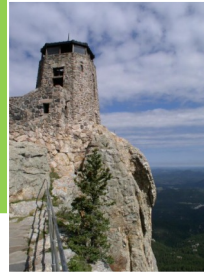
#### Dates

- June 2, 16, 30
- July 14, 28
- Aug 11, 25

## HARNEY PEAK

AUG. 6TH

We will be returning to the Peak named for Harney this summer, and parents are welcome to join us. In fact, we will need to know how many vehicles (vee-hick-els) we will have going along. So, any parents wishing to go and drive should email us at [jd.bowman@parkviewefc.org](mailto:jd.bowman@parkviewefc.org). We will be leaving the church at 9am. Make sure to bring a sack lunch!



## SUMMER

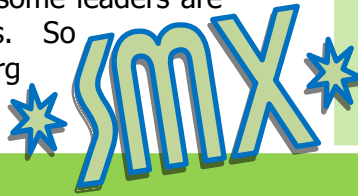
## OPPORTUNITIES

You may have noticed that this summer is not quite as full with activities compared to summers past. There are a few reasons for this, but there could be more opportunities if any parents would like to make it happen. Are you interested in setting up a Parkview spot at Hills Alive, planning a Cookout at Canyon Lake, or facilitating an evening at The Ranch Amusement Park? If you would like to direct one of these ideas or have an idea of your own, please just email JD at [jd.bowman@parkviewefc.org](mailto:jd.bowman@parkviewefc.org)!



## SUMMER MIDDLE SCHOOL XCHANGE

Last summer we had so much fun carrying The Xchange for middle school students through the summer, we are planning to do it again. Summer Middle School Xchange (SMX) will be meeting every Wednesday from 6 to 8 pm at the church! **Our first night will be June 8th!** In order to keep it running even when some leaders are out of town, we need the help of Parkview parents. So please email Pastor JD at [jd.bowman@parkviewefc.org](mailto:jd.bowman@parkviewefc.org) if you would like to help or if you have any questions!



## FAMILY POT-LUCK

We are going to be starting off our school year coming together again for a pot-luck pic-nic on August 28th. This should be a time for families to get to know each other better, for parents to get better familiar with our Adult Leaders, and for parents to get information on plans for the fall. We will reserve a shelter at Canyon Lake Park again. We ask that each family bring a main dish plus a side or a dessert (or both if you're feeling adventurous)!



## WATERSLIDES

Date: Aug. 17th Time: 4:15-7pm

Cost: \$7:50 + more if you want to buy dinner

Needs: Whatever you take to the pool, but wear a swim suit that is one piece

Imagine that one day soon, it will actually be warm enough for watersliding! We are going to be meeting for their twilight deal at the Rushmore Waterslides (corner of Catron Blvd. and 16). The whole family is obviously welcome! Our rainy-day plan is to go to Putz-n-Glo. In that case, though, you will need to have about \$10 for admission + money for dinner.



## VBS

The excitement and passion of our middle and high school students is a necessity in our Vacation Bible School program! This July 10-14th (evenings) we will show children that Jesus is the Rock of Ages as we follow a Gold Rush theme. There is room for all to participate as a helper in prayer, crafts, games, drama, leader, administration, snacks, decorating...the possibilities are endless! So, get ready to head west as we help children answer the important question that Jesus asked his disciples..."Who do you say I am?" To sign up, contact Amanda Oaks at 791-0553 or click on the VBS icon at [www.parkviewefc.org](http://www.parkviewefc.org).



-Amanda Oaks,  
2011 VBS Director



Parkview Evangelical Free Church

333 Sandra Lane  
Rapid City, SD 57701  
Church office: 343.1485

## LESSONS FROM A CAMPFIRE PART I: CONTINUED

Babylon where all the above took place. He and his three friends chose not to be defiled with the royal food and wine from the king's table. Like David and his preparation for his giant battle, we see how the fire of non-compromise was stoked for Daniel prior to facing the den of lions.

So, in the same way that a campfire requires sticks to build up the energy to consume larger logs, victory in the larger battles that we face is going to be attained by our learning faithfulness and courage amidst life's smaller skirmishes. Jesus explained this principle in Luke 16:10 when he said, "One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much." Charles F. Pfeiffer put it this way, "Faith in past events lends a believer courage to trust in the power of God to meet the crises of the present."

The young men and women I work with live most of their lives at home, in classrooms, after school activities, and maybe at church. It's hard for them to see life as battle-training for when they are face to face with a "Goliath." We parents must be teaching, challenging, and coaching our young people to practice faithfulness to God in the smaller, daily activities. The fact is that there are some "lion's den size logs" in their future, and their fire could easily be smothered if it is not consuming the smaller "sticks" as it has the opportunity.

So it may be the obedience with their toys that leads to responsibility with their bike that helps them to be faithful with your car. It could be that abiding by TV rules leads to self-control with internet time which prepares them for being faithful users of technology like the phone that can download anything without your knowing. As was discussed in January's newsletter, it is their handling of being under our authority as their parents that sets the tone for how they will respond to other authorities in their lives. Rest assured, the opportunities are piling up, for which our kids need to be prepared to be faithful.

Incidentally, Daniel was in a position of influence in Babylon in the first place because he had been faithful in his boring studies back home in Judah (Dan 1:4), and David spent many days in the same old fields taking care of a few sheep all because he was being obedient to his father. (1 Sam 16:11) Like the beginnings of our much-loved campfires, a young man or woman's faithfulness in the classroom and in daily chores is preparing them for a greater, blazing impact in the arena for which God is preparing for them.

