



The Bennetts to Barakel

Jim, Rachel, Grace, Mary Emma, and Lydia



April 14, 2019



Dear Family and Friends,

In January, we took down our Christmas decorations, went on vacation as a family, sent Grace back to Hillsdale for her second semester, and jumped back into our schedule of work, school, church, and activities.

In January, the staff at Barakel hosted 1,264 guests over four weekends, opened up summer registration, continued processing summer staff applications, and began accepting applications for the high school volunteer program.



In February, we continued work, school, church, and activities; braved the polar vortex; and shoveled snow.

In February, the staff at Barakel hosted 1,180 more guests over four more weekends, rejoiced in the snow and winter weather, plowed roads, and maintained winter activity areas.

In March, we went to Hillsdale for parents' weekend, helped plan and lead a teen ski trip with our youth group, and enjoyed Grace being home on Spring Break.

In March, the staff at Barakel did a deep cleaning of both East and West sides, gutted and rebuilt the bathroom of Birch cabin, worked on upgrading the zipline, began putting together handbooks for summer campers, and many other maintenance and preparation jobs.

For now we continue on with our normal life activities. But we look expectantly to the day we will make the move north and join the staff at Barakel in the work the Lord has for us there. There is certainly plenty of work to be done at camp in each unique season, the staff are eager to have us there to join in that work, and we are eager to be there.

Once we have 100% of our support committed we will make that move and begin that work. Right now we have 60% of that required monthly support, so we are still in need of churches, individuals and families to join with us to make the work at Barakel possible. There is no payroll at Camp Barakel; all of the resident staff are financially supported through God's provision of those who give regularly to the ministry.

Would you be able to consider being a monthly supporter? Please look at the enclosed reply card and consider if you can help financially. Or would you be willing to advocate for us? If you have a church, Sunday School class, small group or Bible Study who may be interested in hearing about our future ministry, we welcome the opportunity to speak to them.

Please continue to pray ...

- That we would wait well, making use of our time to prepare for the changes to come
- For each of our girls, Grace, Mary Emma and Lydia; as they each prepare in their own unique ways for how their lives will change. That they would be filled with acceptance and peace and even excitement.
- For more monthly supporters to get us the last 40% we need.
- That we would not become complacent in the place the Lord still has us.

To God be the glory,

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Camp Barakel Website
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