

Carpenter's Cross ministries

SEPTEMBER 2006 NEWSLETTER

Carolyn arrived in Seattle on June 16th and the very next day we headed across to Boise. It was so exciting to ride in the new Subaru Forester – what a gift from the Lord through the generosity of people with a vision for what we do. Again we thank you for your prayers and financial gifts that made this possible.

*New Subaru Forester ready for
U.S.A. Summer Ministry at Camps
and Churches.*



For part of this summer we have had the joy of an intern with a heart for kids. Rachael Devore graduated from Nampa Christian High School this year and heads to Northwest University in September. She is the granddaughter of Tom and Margaret Turco who head up RFKC in Boise and has been a great help to us in ministering to many kids. We pray that the Lord will continue to guide and direct her as she follows close to Him. Her willingness and flexibility has been such a blessing to CCM.



*Rachael and Larry at Mountain
Kids Day Camp in Idaho City,
Idaho.*

Mountain Kids' Day Camp — run by Isaiah's Ranch, is a non-profit ministry headed by Michelle and Tim Alden. It was great to drive into the camp site (off road) enjoying the 4wd capability of the Forester! ✍ The children who attend this camp come from a variety of needy situations and respond so well to the affirmation and positive attention from the workers and program components. We used "The Sheepfold" curriculum from SCKC and it went very well.

Royal Family Kids' Camp – McCall, Idaho

The theme of RFKC was "Journeys with Joseph" and is one of our favorite curriculum as it deals with dreams, betrayal, hard times, God's promises and the wonder of forgiveness and reconciliation. The kids who attend this camp identify so much with all of these issues – it was so good to see many positive responses in the hearts and lives of the children. Rachael was hugged by almost every girl at the "farewell" session on the last night in the girls' dorm. Her sweet spirit and caring heart were very valuable to these kids.

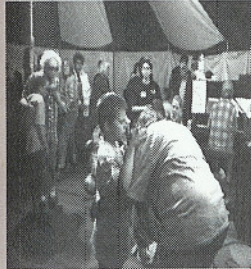
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Miracle Mountain Camp – Grangeville, Idaho



Chris prays, "Hello God. This is me and I'm talking to You and You need to do what I'm asking You to do for Sue..."

A short turn-around in Seattle for laundry and mail, and we headed back to Idaho to the mountains behind Grangeville and the Miracle Mountain Camp led by Dave and Tammy Sherman. Tammy's parents, Billy and Joyce Wikoff were camp leaders when Sue attended kids' camp as a child and it is great to see the camp tradition continue. Numbers were small, but this was God at work as every camper seemed to just "fit in" and flow with the camp. A VBS theme around "Bethlehem Village" was the setting with a village well around which the morning drama took place. We donned beards and robes and managed to be several characters throughout the week. However, when Mary and Joseph were called for, they opted to find two younger people for that and Rachael made a great "Mary". In the afternoons the kids had games, sports and fishing trips, while at night we met in the big tent to worship the Lord, compete in Bible Quiz and then to hear and respond to the word of God. These were great times with so many children both seeking and finding the Lord and experiencing His healing and restoring touch in their lives. One refreshing tale is of young Chris who has not been brought up in church, nor has ever read a Bible. He avidly explored the Bible given to him, was the second top quiz contestant and when he prayed for Sue on the last night his prayer was spontaneous and refreshingly free of religious jargon. "Hello God. This is me and I'm talking to You and you need to do what I'm asking you to do for Sue..." The camp is situated in a beautiful mountain area with trees and meadows, deer and chipmunks and many wild-flowers. We even found huckleberries growing in the undergrowth. It was a good 4wd experience on unmade roads – again thanks, Lord for the Forester.

New Hope Family Camp

We left Grangeville Sunday morning around 10 a.m. after our final session with the kids and headed to Warm Beach, arriving around 6 pm and spent the first couple of hours decorating the room allocated for the children with backdrops and stars. The family camp theme was "Touching Heaven, Changing Earth" and so we did this also with the children. Then off to find something for dinner and finally to bed! It had been a l-o-n-g day! However, getting together with the kids was worth every mile spent sitting in the car. We have a great relationship with the families of this church and it is always exciting to see how the kids have grown (physically and spiritually!) The sessions are quite long and so we have a real mix of music, games, object lessons, teaching time, prayer and of course puppets. Larry is a huge favorite here and the kids often buy him candy, knowing his love for chocolate! We had some very good prayer times with the children and looked forward to returning the next month to take a VBS outreach at the Mercer Island church. On the last night of camp, the kids make a presentation and this time they sang "Inside my Heart", did a short skit based on Elijah and Elisha and then sang "Touching Heaven" – the adults joined in and it was great to see their response to seeing their kids on stage. Many of these children have experienced the reality of Jesus in their lives, they read their Bibles, pray, hear Him speak to them and have a heart for missions.

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Colfax Church of the Nazarene – Kids' Crusade

We used one of the SCKC themes "Sure Hope" for the week of kids' meetings at Colfax Nazarene. Ps. Don and Peg Moore got right behind this and Peg and her helpers made a fantastic stage set complete with pirate ship and dock. It was such fun to see Ps. Don in the "Pirates of the Palouse" drama along with a very able and enthusiastic cast. And of course we ALL loved dressing up as pirates for the week. This is a great outreach week to the Colfax community and it was so good to see so many youngsters respond to the positive message that Jesus loves them and desires them to be all that they can be – strong young men and women making good choices with their lives. And we can attest that the best choice ANYONE can make is to make Him Lord of their life.



Our last ministry week was on beautiful Mercer Island, across Lake Washington where we led the teaching sessions for the New Hope VeBS (= Very Exciting Bible School). Great to meet up with the camp kids again and to welcome several new families. There was a good response from kids and adults alike and we look forward to continuing this next year.

NEXT MINISTRY:

Sue and De Ann at Onecho Family Camp
Eastern Washington (Sept 15-17)

Carolyn – working on SCKC curriculum in Melbourne

Sue and Carolyn Ministry in the Czech Republic:

WE ARE SO THANKFUL FOR:

Lord's provision of the new Forester
His protection in travel
Open doors and hearts
Responsive kids/adults
Rachael and her open heart for kids
Provision of a wonderful week in Seattle
for Dale and Bertha.

GOD'S SUPPLY: We prayed about bringing Sue's parent's over to Seattle for a week of new sights, sea air and relaxation. To do this involved the provision of air fares plus the hire of a motorized wheelchair and a handicap accessible van. We decided that whatever came in from the honorarium for the last week of ministry would go towards this. God's love for us never fails – we were able to cover all costs including some delicious lunches during the week. Dale and Bertha did have a wonderful time.



DALE & BERTHA AT IVARS

WHAT HAS GOD BEEN SAYING?

While we were at Miracle Mountain Camp, a pastor's wife came to us and said she felt God gave her four things to share with us regarding Carpenter's Cross Ministry.

1. Expansion
2. Amplification
3. A Seismic Shift
4. Provision

She specifically mentioned web or podcasting to widen the exposure of our ministry.

The next week we traveled from N. Idaho to Western Washington's Warm Beach at Stanwood where two ladies at New Hope's Family Camp met with us to share what God had spoken to them. It was the same thing! We'll keep you posted...

PLEASE PRAY WITH US FOR...

- Dale & Bertha – strength and healing
- Jeanette – Sue's cousin – strength and healing as she continues her battle with cancer
- Rachael – as she commences at Northwest University in September
- Sue and Carolyn – for continued health, wisdom and anointing, also as they pray about future ministry opportunities



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Our Newsletter is online: www.carpenters-cross.org
Check Sue's blog: www.travelmonkey4christ.blogspot.com
Check Carolyn's blog: www.cubsplace.blogspot.com

Carpenter's Cross ministries

upcoming schedule

DRESS FOR THE WATER



We went rafting for my birthday on the South Fork of the Payette River in Idaho. After signing up, one of the staff gave us the option of a rubberized water jacket to wear with Velcro cuffs, waist and collar. I thought since they offered, it was probably a good idea, though the weather was predicted to be hot. So we all got jackets, helmets, and life jackets and headed out. It was getting hot. The Guide sat in the back of the raft using his oar as a rudder and calling out rowing orders to us to avoid the rocks ahead. An assistant guide was also present, but not wearing a rubberized jacket. We hit the first series of rapids getting drenched with freezing water from snowmelt. The temperature was climbing toward 90 F and in the rubbery jackets the cold water felt good. Our assistant guide however was not fairing so well. Coming out into some calm water, the senior guide noticed the shivering assistant and said, "I told you before, dress for the water, not the weather." Coming back home Carolyn asked me for the most memorable part of the ride and I said the statement of the head guide. "dress for the water, not the weather." The weather represents to me the normal events of living within our culture, what do I want to do, what do I want to own, where do I want to go? When 9/11 happened, it was like a blast of ice water to our souls - emotional rapids - flooding our nation with shock and devastation. But the amazing thing was the way Christians who had dressed their lives spiritually for the water (the icy blasts that hit every life) were suddenly the refuge for a shivering nation. Media broadcasts that used to hide behind platitudes like, "They're in our thoughts" were now openly talking about prayer and God. To me I could see all the things Christ calls us to do were His way of preparing us for the water not the weather. When someone asks you why you need church, fellowship with other Christians, tithing, reading the Bible,

Just tell them you are dressing for the water - not the weather!

THANK YOU for your encouragement, prayers and support.

We love and appreciate each one of you!

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