



BSBC NEWS

WINTER 2017



Big Sky's Newest Staff Member



We are excited to announce the latest addition to Ryan and Amanda Nice's family - Naomi Grace. Naomi came into the world on October 10, 2016. She was 7 lbs 9 oz and 20 inches long. Naomi joins her big brother Abram.

Give the "Gift of Camp" this Christmas



Would your child or grandchild love to open a coupon for a week of camp and free camp T-Shirt on Christmas morning? Big Sky is offering just that for \$185.00. You save up to \$30 for a regular week of camp and receive a free 2017 camp T-shirt. If your children are not old enough for traditional camp, you can also buy a coupon for \$85 which gets you a week at day camp and a get a free 2017 camp T-shirt. Coupons are redeemable when you register your child for camp in the spring.

How this works:

1. Contact us by phone at 406-837-4864 or by e-mail at info@bigskybiblecamp.org. You can also stop by the office sometime during business hours.
2. We will send you a coupon when you pay with credit card or check.
3. Wrap the coupon and put it under the tree.
4. Register your child for camp when registration opens online or by mail and use the coupon code to pay.
5. When you bring your child on Sunday to drop them off (or Monday if it's a day camper), show us your coupon and your child will get to pick any of the T-shirts in the camp store.

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Meet Big Sky's 2016-17 Interns:

Shaely Thiele

Where is your hometown? Atkinson, Nebraska

How did you hear about BSBC, and what brought you out here?

I went to Montana Wilderness School of the Bible (MDUB) with Johanna, the Program Director, and heard about camp through her.

What is your favorite aspect of summer camp?

One of my favorite things about summer camp is telling the kids stories at night when they go to bed. They eat it up!

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Big Sky's Annual Fundraiser

Join us for a great night of fun, food and fellowship as we share what the Lord is doing at Big Sky Bible Camp! The evening will include dinner, a Big Sky presentation and an opportunity to give to the ministry.

When: Saturday, March 4, 2017 - 6 PM

Where: Big Sky Bible Camp

Who: Anyone, but get your tickets early as space is limited!

Cost: \$25/person, \$50/couple (If you cannot afford this, come anyway and give what you can!) Call 837-4864 or go online to www.bigskybiblecamp.org to learn more.

We would like to wish you a Merry Christmas from all of the Big Sky staff and our families!

Josh Beaujean

Where is your hometown?

I'm from a little town called Pottstown in Pennsylvania.

How did you hear about BSBC, and what brought you out here?

I heard about BSBC a few years back when my youth group took a missions trip out here to do some service projects. After serving during the summer of 2015, Jamy asked if I'd like to stay as the intern the next year. So I went home and after a bunch of prayer, I said to myself... "Oh yeah, you're so

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From the director

As things slow down significantly at Big Sky over the holiday season, I have had



time to reflect on all that God has accomplished here in 2016. We had a record number of campers, our staff did an amazing job handling all of those campers, countless construction projects and renovations were accomplished and through it all we saw God's hand of provision and guidance. We are so thankful to Him for that. More importantly than camper numbers and projects, we saw God work in the lives of campers, staff, L.I.T.'s and

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Interview with Shaely Thiele Cont'd

What do you do as an intern here?

As an intern at Big Sky, I do a variety of things. Some of these include serving guest groups, cleaning, and working on various projects around camp such as insulating or painting.

What has been your favorite part about being an intern at BSBC?

I really enjoy the conversations I've had with the staff here. I love talking on a deep level about things of the Lord and growing in Jesus and His grace.

What has the Lord been teaching you lately?

Something I think the Lord has been showing me while being here at Big Sky is that life is for His glory. It may be an obvious thing, and it isn't like I wasn't taught this growing up, but it seems like the Lord is just now revealing it to me. I know that I am not here for myself, but it is so easy to fall into thinking that. One of my favorite verses regarding this subject is Isaiah 43:25 "It is I who sweep away your transgressions for My own sake and remember your sins no more." God takes away our sins, and that is good for us, but it is ultimately for His name's sake and His glory. When you forget yourself, and praise the Lord, there is freedom and joy to be found in Him. And that is a great thing.

Interview with Josh Beaujean Cont'd

doing this!" So here I am!

What is your favorite aspect of summer camp?

My favorite aspect of summer camp would have to be seeing kids from my first year here truly growing in their faith. That's just the coolest thing!

What do you do as an intern here?

Maintenance!!!! And some other stuff... During my time as an intern here, I've really come to enjoy working with our fearless maintenance director Matt. My tasks range anywhere from washing dishes, to helping pour cement footers for some of our new building projects, to working on our some of our vehicles...and everything in between.

What has been your favorite part about being an intern at BSBC?

My favorite part of being an intern here, has been being constantly surrounded by these amazing Christian people called "BSBC staff". It's truly been a blessing to become part of this little Christian community and to serve alongside these incredible people who are constantly lifting each other up.

What has the Lord been teaching you lately?

Since I've started my internship, God has really been showing me how to slow down my crazy busy life and how to focus on him more.

Would you consider one of the following options for your year end giving?



Project 1

Will you help us break ground?

We are continuing our pursuit of a new facility here at Big Sky. For more info., or if you would like to give financially to this project, go to www.bigsky-biblecamp.org/expansion-project. If you cannot give, would you please help us make people aware both of this project and of Big Sky's ministry to those with special needs through Camp Promise?

Project 2

Help us remodel the girl's dorm bathrooms!

As many of you have seen, the boy's dorm bathroom renovations are complete! Now to the girl's dorm. Each renovation costs roughly \$1500 and there are 4 bathrooms. This includes new sinks, counter tops, flooring, lighting, wall tile and more!

Project 3

Carpet

Would you consider helping us replace carpet in both the boy's and girl's dorms? A bundle of 20 carpet squares costs roughly \$100. Each dorm will require approximately 8 bundles of squares.

I want to help!

Big Sky Bible Camp

501 McCaffery Rd
Bigfork MT 59911
406.837.4864

www.bigskybiblecamp.org

Project #1 - Expansion Project

- A monthly gift of ___\$200 ___\$100 ___\$50 ___\$20 ___Other
- A one-time gift of \$_____

- Project #2 - I would like to help remodel the Girl's Dorm bathrooms: ___Amount

- Project #3 - Carpet: ___20 Squares - \$100 ___40 Squares - \$200 ___Other

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

(All gifts are tax deductible and will be receipted by BCM Int'l. Donations can also be made online at www.bigskybiblecamp.org)

L.I.T. Reflections

From Johanna - Program Director

During a session of Big Sky's L.I.T. (Leaders in Training) program, high-schoolers come for a week of camp and do a lot of the behind the scenes work that keeps camp running. They also share testimonies, lead Bible studies and participate in leadership classes. We asked a participant in the L.I.T. program to share as well as a parent of an L.I.T.

L.I.T. Participant:

How did your time as an L.I.T. affect how you read scripture?

The time I spent in the L.I.T. program this summer helped me to actually retain and interpret what I read. Spending time reading scripture becomes more meaningful and it's something you truly look forward to doing instead of feeling like it's an obligation, since you know how to get the most out of what you're reading and apply it to everyday life.

How has it affected your attitude towards serving others?

Serving in the L.I.T. program has challenged me, but with the challenges presented was the rewarding feeling of having done something helpful for someone other than myself. I've come to realize it's one of the best feelings to know you're serving God and His people and it gave me a good idea of what I'd like to do in the future.

Why would you recommend this program to other students?

I've learned so much through this program, and can say I'm further in my walk with Christ because of it. The L.I.T. leaders are genuine, and they do what they can to help you grow and to better your understanding of the Word. You meet incredible people and build friendships that last beyond your weeks at camp, and learn from each other. It's also a great way to keep yourself busy during the summer and surround yourself with positive influences. On top of that, L.I.T.ing is some of the most fun I've ever had.

L.I.T. Parent:

My son attended three weeks in the L.I.T. program at Big Sky Bible Camp during the summer of 2016. For him, it was a life-changing summer. The encouragement, admonition and love that he received not only from the L.I.T. leaders, but also from the rest of the staff at Big Sky, have challenged him to grow in his faith and walk in a way that pleases the Lord. He was encouraged to spend daily time in the Word and also to be open and honest about his struggles as he tries to live out his faith. I have seen this play out in his life at home as he searches the Scriptures and seeks out counsel in his daily struggles. At the end of the summer he also decided to follow the Lord in baptism.

We have always challenged our children to lead by serving, not by demanding. This attitude was reinforced in the L.I.T. program. We have seen him want to serve more willingly at home without always being asked. He takes more initiative outside of the home to help friends and family. He doesn't tend to complain and mostly serves joyfully. He of course is not perfect, but responds positively when confronted with a bad attitude. He is much more willing to take responsibility for his part in disputes and to seek forgiveness. His Christian friendships have become more meaningful. He is more apt to encourage others in their walk and allow them to encourage him also. It is refreshing to see the genuine love that these young men have for one another. Most of them have spent time in the L.I.T. program at BSBC.

I would highly recommend the L.I.T. program to any parent. The staff at BSBC are dedicated to helping all of the young people involved to grow in faith and love for one another and others.

Join us for Summer 2017!

From Ryan - Program Administrator

While it still feels like summer 2016 just ended, we are already starting to think about 2017. One thing I have learned from recruiting for summer staff is that the most effective tool is people like you getting the word out about Big Sky. We could go to 10 of the best Christian colleges in the United States to recruit and meet hundreds of students, and maybe even hand out some applications to those students, but our best asset for recruiting is the mentor or pastor who has seen a lot of growth in a college student at their church, or the parent who knows their son or daughter would be a great godly leader to a cabin of kids because of how they teach their younger siblings.

We are asking you to pray and consider who you might think would be a good camp counselor and share with them about Big Sky. In my own personal experience, I have been encouraged the most when a mentor, parent or friend suggested a place of ministry they thought I would be good at. So whatever your connection to camp is, please begin praying for our 2017 summer staff - pray that they would be godly leaders who desire to share about the amazing grace they have received with kids and young adults. If you or someone you know is interested, have them call our office or e-mail myself at ryan@bigskybiblecamp.org.

Registration Tips and Tricks and Updates for 2017

From Nancy - Bookkeeper and Registrar

1. Remember that if you registered online for March Madness or Summer Camp in 2016, you already have an online account in our registration system. Log in with your user name and password, and registration will be quick and easy this year! If you lost your user name or password, contact our office and we will reset it for you.
2. Information entered last year will be saved for this year, with the exception of some forms requiring updated information.
3. Be sure to check and update information for emergency contacts!
4. L.I.T.'s will be able to apply online this year!
5. Some camps filled up in May last year, so be sure to register early!

From the Director Cont'd

more. From the perspective of a camp director, this is the greatest joy of all. When you read the L.I.T. comments, we hope they convey this joy to some small degree.

It seems like there is very little time every year to reflect on the past, however, as there is much planned for the future! Founded in 1947, Big Sky will be celebrating its 70th anniversary next year in numerous ways. We would love for you to join us for our fundraiser, which will be March 4th at 5:30 PM. We will also be hosting a celebration this summer on July 22 where we will celebrate God's faithfulness to Big Sky over the last 70 years. There will be loads of activities, fun events and more! We hope you are able to join us for these events and we will do our best to keep you posted!

Along with the celebration of 70 years of ministry, we also plan on re-energizing our campaign for a new facility – entitled "A Promise Kept." With the busyness of summer camp and conferences, this campaign has not received the attention it deserves. With the new year, our goal is simply awareness. We want to help people see how much we believe in this project and particularly how important Camp Promise, Big Sky's ministry to those with special needs is. For now, you can go to www.bigskybiblecamp.org/expansion-project to learn more about how we believe the Lord is leading Big Sky.

Lastly, I would invite you to take a look at the options for year-end giving. As those of you who have been to Big Sky recently have witnessed, we have been slowly updating and renovating thanks to the generosity of those who believe in Big Sky. Since 2010, we have invested over \$75,000 into the facility and a large percentage of that number was through donations. Our goal for 2017 is to replace the carpet in the dorms and begin renovation on the girl's dorm bathrooms. Check out page 2 of this newsletter if you would like to contribute!

As always, thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. We genuinely wish you a Merry Christmas from myself, all of the Big Sky staff and our families.



Mark your calendars!!!

What: Big Sky's Annual Fundraiser

When: Saturday, March 4, 2017 - 6 p.m.

Where: Big Sky Bible Camp

For more information, go to <http://www.bigskybiblecamp.org/opportunities-to-serve/fundraiser>

See you there!

Non-Profit Org.
Postage Paid
Bigfork, Montana
Permit No. 219



Big Sky's Winter Retreat Line up

Big Sky is gearing up for one our best winter retreat seasons ever! Winter retreat's include tubing, ice fishing, group games, Bible teaching times, great food, ropes course and more!

Jr High Snow Camp

For: 6-8th Graders / Date: Jan 27-29, 2017

Senior High Getaway

For: 9-12th Graders / Date: Feb. 24-26, 2017
(2016 L.I.T.'s attend free)

March Madness

For: 3-6th Graders / Date: March 10-12, 2017

All retreats begin at 7 PM on Friday and end at 12 PM on Sunday.

Cost \$50/person. Register online at www.bigskybiblecamp.org

2017 Summer Schedule

Week	Traditional Camp	Cost	
		Before April 15	After April 15
June 18-23	High School (Grades 9-Grad)	\$200	\$215
July 9-14	1st Junior (Grades 3-6)	\$200	\$215
July 16-21	All Girls Jr. High (Grades 6-9)	\$200	\$215
July 23 -28	2nd Junior (Grades 3-6)	\$200	\$215
July 30-Aug 4	Jr. High Coed (Grades 6-8)	\$200	\$215
August 6-11	Man week (Grades 5-8)	\$200	\$215
August 13-18	3rd Junior (Grades 3-6)	\$200	\$215
Week	Day Camp	Cost	
June 19-22	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM daily (Grades K-3)	\$100	
July 17-20	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM daily (Grades K-3)	\$100	
July 31-Aug 3	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM daily (Grades K-3)	\$100	
August 7-10	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM daily (Grades K-3)	\$100	
Week	Backpacking	Cost	
T.B.A	Jr. Boys BP (Grades 5-7)	\$220	
July 8-21	Trail Camp (Grades 10-college)	\$100	