



## **MEET THE KERST'S!**

We are very excited to welcome Big Sky's newest staff member and his family to camp! Tyler will be joining Big Sky as a full time staff member along with his wife Keturah, and daughters: Isabel (14),

Adelyn (12), Annaliese (8) and Emmeline (6). Tyler has served in camp ministry for around 15 years with many of those years at Idrahaje, a camp located in Bailey, Colorado. Tyler's role at Big Sky will include introducing an outdoor education program, heading up Big Sky's ropes course, discipling staff members, speaking, boat driving and more! Keturah has the full time job of home-schooling, but with a background as an RN, she will help out with nursing at Big Sky. We asked them some questions to help you get to know them:

### ***How long have you been married?***

16 years (September 28, 2002)

### ***How did you and Keturah meet?***

We met at an adult Sunday School class at Mountain View Church in Glenwood Springs. On a related note, we got engaged at Blacktail Mountain Ski area on January 1, 2002.

### ***What is one of your favorite parts of serving in camp ministry?***

It is hard to pick favorites, but certainly the list is topped with witnessing people becoming followers of Christ. I also love seeing staff grow in their faith and getting to have meaningful conversations about God, faith, scripture and life with them.

### ***What are you as a family looking forward to as you serve at Big Sky?***

We honestly are very excited about water. We miss being able to do things in and around a lake and we love the setting of Big Sky. We also are looking forward to building new relationships and serving guests together with our new camp family. Additionally, we are also very enthusiastic about Camp Promise and the A Promise Kept Expansion Project.

### ***What are some things you enjoy doing together as a family?***

We love spending time outside! We enjoy hiking, camping, boating, climbing, and skiing. We also love working with animals, particularly 4-H/livestock animals (goats, pigs, sheep, steers, etc.).

### ***What is one of your family's favorite Bible verses?***

My personal life verse is Proverbs 3:5&6

Keturah's favorite verse is Romans 8:26

As a family we cling to Jeremiah 29:11

### ***Where did you attend school?***

Keturah: Oklahoma Baptist University

Tyler: McPherson College, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary

## **NEW TO BIG SKY: MINI-CAMPS!**

Big Sky's mini-camps are a great option for children making the transition from day camp to overnight camp. Mini-camp will have all the fun and great Bible teaching of traditional camp in a three-day, two-night experience!

### **2019 Dates:**

Mini-camp 1: July 21-23 (Grades 3-6)

Mini-camp 2: July 24-26 (Grades 3-6)

Cost: \$160/\$175 - Register online at [www.bigskybiblecamp.org](http://www.bigskybiblecamp.org)!

## **CHICK-FIL-A SPIRIT NIGHT**

For those of you in the Flathead Valley (or those desiring Chick-Fil-A who are willing to drive a long distance!), come on out and support Big Sky at the Kalispell Chick-Fil-A's "Spirit Night." On Monday, April 8, 20% of all sales from 4-8 PM will go to Big Sky Bible Camp. Big Sky staff will be present all night with camp brochures available. Those who sign up for camp this evening will be entered for a chance to win free merchandise from the camp store! Also, be sure to mention that you are there for Big Sky when you order!



## **BIG SKY'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER!**

The BSBC advisory committee and staff invite you to join us for our annual fundraiser. It is a great opportunity to hear what the Lord is doing at Big Sky, mingle with Big Sky staff and advisory committee members and donate to various aspects of the ministry. Below are the details:

**Date:** Thursday, April 25th

**Time:** 6:30 - 8:30 PM (This is a dessert event)

**Location:** Best Western Plus Flathead Lake Inn (White Oak)

**Cost:** Suggested donation of \$15/person

*RSVP by phone (406.837.4864) or email ([info@bigskybiblecamp.org](mailto:info@bigskybiblecamp.org)) to reserve your spot by April 15th.*

## **COOKS WANTED!**

We are continually in search of cooks interested in cooking for week long sessions during the summer as well as part time from Sept-May. Pay varies depending upon session.

## **COUNSELORS NEEDED!**

If you are high school or college age, we challenge you to consider a summer working at Big Sky! For ministry experience and spiritual growth, there is no greater opportunity than ministering to children and those with special needs at summer camp.

### **FROM THE DIRECTOR**



As usual, there is a lot happening around Big Sky Bible Camp! As you have probably read, we are very excited to welcome the Kerst's to Big Sky. They are currently in the process of moving to Montana from Colorado. I wish I had space to share with you how the Lord worked in bringing the Kerst's to Big Sky. If you bump into me at camp, be sure and ask me about this! I am grateful for the Lord's provision of this ministry-minded family who I believe will add a lot to Big Sky.

When I was younger, I remember dealing with the discomfort of what the doctor termed "growing pains." As I observe the ministry at Big Sky and Camp Promise, I can see that we are having some growing pains of our own. This mainly takes the shape of the current staff just not having the time to do everything that needs to be done. There is a lot that goes into maintaining camp, planning programs, hosting retreats and recruiting summer staff just to name a few of the tasks that keep us busy! Add to that the work necessary to keep the new facility planning going and there is just not enough staff to go around. This is one of the reasons we are very excited about the gifts and abilities that Tyler and his family will bring to Big Sky.

I realize there is a lot of information in this newsletter, so I just wanted to highlight one aspect of it - Big Sky's fundraiser. In lieu of the ground-breaking celebration last year, we didn't host our normal evening together. We will once again be having the fundraiser this year and I invite you to join us for it (details are on the front). This is an important time for anyone interested in the ministry at Big Sky. It is an opportunity to learn more about what is happening, mingle with the staff and advisory committee and support the work here. We hope to see you there!



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[www.bigskybiblecamp.org](http://www.bigskybiblecamp.org)

*Be sure and register before the April 15 price increase!  
Go to [www.bigskybiblecamp.org](http://www.bigskybiblecamp.org) to learn more and to register!*

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### **NEEDED: DONORS WILLING TO HELP SEND KIDS TO CAMP!**

The scholarship requests are appearing for summer camp and we are once again asking for your help! It is our desire never to turn away a camper from Big Sky because of financial reasons. Camp Scholarships help us to accomplish this and we give out anywhere from 20-30 camp scholarships each summer. If you would like to donate to this fund, you can either send a check to Big Sky or go online to [www.bigskybiblecamp.org/donate](http://www.bigskybiblecamp.org/donate).

### **REACH DAY 2019**

BCM (Big Sky's Parent Organization) began implementing a "Reach Day" in 2018 to help their various camps raise funds. This is a 24 hour cyber-giving event. From 12 AM April 26 to 12 AM April 27, any gift given to Big Sky's scholarship fund or new facility fund will not be assessed any administrative fee by BCM. If you plan on donating to either of these funds, please consider donating online on April 26th.

To donate, go to [www.bigskybiblecamp.org/donate](http://www.bigskybiblecamp.org/donate), click the online donations link and select either camp scholarships or new facility.

### **BIG SKY'S 3RD ANNUAL FUN RUN**

Join us at Big Sky for a family oriented fun run through Big Sky's beautiful property! Everyone is welcome, many people just enjoy walking the trail! Here are the details:

#### **5k Run/Walk**

Packet Pick up: 8 am

Race Start: 9 am

#### **1 Mile (ages 12 & under)**

Packet Pick up: 10 am

Race Start: 10:30 am

**When:** Saturday, May 11, 2019

**Cost: 5K:** \$30 (includes shirt if you register before April 26)

**1 Mile:** Free! (Shirts may be purchased for \$10).