



FREEDOM GATES BOYS RANCH ~

17" ... where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." 2 Cor3:17

Opening the gates to freedom

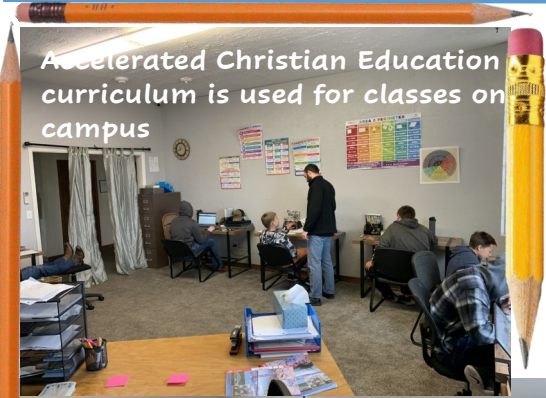
By Michael Simpson

These first few months of the year have absolutely flown. It has been amazing to see how God has worked through so many volunteers and supporters as we charge on to complete the new Campus Center. This project has consumed almost every minute of day for the last several months. As the last group of volunteers left last week, I was able to get some rest time with my wife and sons. Much of this time was spent reflecting on God's goodness and faithfulness as I considered all of the help that has come alongside us in so many ways. It is easy to see the hands of God in this project because, as in the nature of a building project, the growth is outward and visible. However, this building will, one day, not be new, it will get its first hole in the sheetrock, and one day, with the glorious return of our Savior, this building will be no more. However, God did not raise this structure simply to have another building in Hazelton. This building's value is that it will be a place where boys learn that they are safe, that they are loved, and that they are valued. A place where they will learn of the love of Jesus Christ through His written Word and through the loving actions of the team. It is not a place where the bad is made good, but where the dead are made live, and where the lost are found. When we were in the middle of building walls at the Campus Center, we stopped to have worship and celebrate the baptism of one of our boys. As he was giving his testimony about what Jesus Christ had done in his life he expressed, with perfect simplicity, the goal of *Freedom Gates Boys Ranch* and the reason for every building project. He said, "I was so tired of trying to be good, so one night I asked Jesus to come into my life, Forgive Me, and make me new. When I went to sleep that night it felt like I just blinked and it was morning, and when I got out of bed, I just knew I was free." The Verse that came to my mind at that moment was John 8:36 "And who the Son sets free is free indeed". This is the reason and purpose for the Campus Center, for all the hard work, and for or every dollar given. Giving a place where Jesus can set the captives free. Thank you all for being a part of this young mans freedom and for laying up treasures in heaven.



- * Will Schmucker teaches Gaige how to run a table saw
- * The first Baptism in the New Campus Center
- * Ron Allenbach helping Dakota work on trim board





Boys helping with meals →
 Everyone is enjoying the new picnic style tables in the dining room



Every Tuesday Is Family Games Night!
 We started a tradition a few months ago. Every Tuesday night we shut down all activities and gather together as a family for Family Game Night. Sometimes we have several different games going on at once like Risk, Monopoly, Uno, or other similar games. However, the boys' favorite activity is when we all join for group games like Charades, Pictionary, or Bible trivia. Game night has become such a great experience that our team members even stay late just to have fun with the boys.





Trades Program

The boys absolutely love going to shop class with Dave! One of the goals we have at the Ranch is to teach the boys basic automotive mechanics and general repair. With this, we have the boys perform general maintenance on much of our farm and ranch equipment. They also learn how to take care of vehicles, tractors, mowers, and other equipment that needs repair or maintenance. We are excited to be able to prepare these young men for their future. It is so much fun watching the boys light up after a job is completed. They love hearing "Job well done" after their project pulls out of the shop ready for work.



THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT THE OUTSIDE OF A HORSE THAT IS GOOD FOR THE INSIDE OF A MAN. A HORSE CAN LEND ITS RIDER THE SPEED AND STRENGTH HE OR SHE LACKS – BUT THE RIDER WHO IS WISE REMEMBERS IT IS NO MORE THAN A LOAN.

~Sir Winston Churchill

How COOL! Kody organized a trip to the *Wichita Mounted Patrol* and *Wichita Canine Unit*! Kody, Davey, and Mr. Thomas took the boys and they SOOOO enjoyed the learning experience. The boys have talked about it for days.



Listen, O sky, so I may speak!
 Pay attention, O earth, to what I say!
 Let my teaching fall on you like raindrops;
 let what I say collect like the dew,
 like rain sprinkling the grass,
 like showers on the green plants.
 I will proclaim the name of the Eternal;
 I will utter greatness to our God.
Deuteronomy 32:1-2

Please pray with us:

- * For the boys
- * For the staff
- * Wisdom in decision making
- * Provision
- * Completion of the campus center
- * Branson Trip
- * and do let us know how we can be in prayer for you



**Do you want to help change the lives of boys? With your help, we can redirect their future...
 ...donate now....**

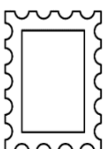
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Make your check payable to
Freedom Gates Boys Ranch

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Freedom Gates Boys Ranch
 Opening the gates to freedom!
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