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A season of setback

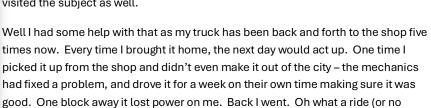
As I look back on my last letter to you I read the title "A summer to remember". I had such feelings of excitement and wonder as I looked ahead to the fall...and of course my own plans. After a wonderful canoe trip with youth, I cleaned, put gear away and repacked to head to our cabin with my family for a week. I don't even want to use the word truck because it has become taboo....but it

had problems. I made it to the cabin, and back, and then dropped it off at the shop before heading to staff conference, over two months ago. Needless to say, I went to staff conference on a high – despite the forest fires, summer camping ministries were nothing short of amazing. The time at the cabin with family was beautiful creating more memories and enjoying the northern life. I encountered a wolf while paddling my canoe one evening. He showed himself high up on a bank, receded to the forest then appeared again along a beach and watched me paddle. I watched him walk. Then decided to head back not interested in being any closer.

Staff conference was great as we gathered, caught up with one another and were encouraged by our speaker. Mark

Buchanan and his wife, Cheryl spoke about their ministry in discipling those fleeing lives as addicts and alcoholics. Mark also spoke to us about the commandment of Remembering

the Sabbath. I was encouraged that this is a commandment from God to remember all He has done and is doing and to purposefully make time to do this regularly. The lesson of remembering the sabbath was reinforced as our local ladies bible study visited the subject as well.







ride?) this has been. It was been a season of asking for and accepting help, encouraging others from home, visiting and being with neighbours, and extra time reading and being thankful despite difficult circumstances.

I was super blessed by two ladies who visited me in September. Leona and Jenn drove from Calgary bringing gifts from their ladies' bible study group and then spent a few days with me.

They toured the area, met some neighbours and my family and enjoyed the north. It was wonderful. I was very encouraged by their visit and support.

So far youth group at church has been going excellent. I am encouraged with the regular group and our great team of leaders. Some new youth are attending Sunday mornings, and those services have become increasingly encouraging to me as well.

I was blessed with the opportunity to serve in the kitchen at a neighbouring northern Saskatchewan Bible camp run by NCEM...another northern Canada mission agency. The forest fire season cancelled all of their summer kids camps so fall weekend camps were scheduled and campers enjoyed camp time. I love serving in the kitchen and had a great time with the team



there. This is a great camp and is accessible all year round which is different from Nemeiben Lake where we can't access the camp during fall freeze up and spring break up seasons where we wait for ice or no ice! I love the option of being able to serve in this capacity and at times when I can't get to our local camp!

So, as I look back over the fall and the initial plans I had for ministry and myself and what transpired in the end, I am extremely grateful. I connected with people and places I would not have connected with had I not had truck issues. God has worked in me deeply to "let go" of a few things – the attachment to my truck (funny but it's the last truck Ben and I bought together a few months before he passed away so somehow there was an attachment there..not anymore), finances – being willing to "suck up" and buy a different vehicle even though I really don't want to, and trust – a deeper level of trust in the Lord has been gained as I have been at His mercy for my daily needs and being able to do the work He has for me. My house is out of town and is on hauled in water so I am dependent on a reliable truck to get water and

groceries, and engage in ministry...I have been well cared for as my kids, friends and neighbours have surrounded me and helped out with that and the crazy amount of trips to the city and back to drop off or pick up my truck. I always want to be the one helping and being a blessing and it has been humbling to be on the receiving end. That said, I am on the receiving end of your generous support and financial gifts and am incredibly grateful especially to those who have given extra and above during the matching grant season. I thank God for each one of you, your friendship, encouragement and generosity. I am amazed at what God is doing among the people in this area – drawing hearts to Himself. It is beautiful. I do anticipate having a sound truck again and moving around carrying His love to those He calls His own...May my heart be a vessel He continues to pour love through.



With much love,

Nikki



*UPDATE: As this heads to print, my truck is once again not fixed. I am shopping for a new-to-me truck. I humbly ask for your support in this journey. There is still time to make your extra donation count – whatever you give above your regular giving will be doubled for the next year. So if you increase your monthly giving by \$25 – it will be received as \$50! Likewise, if you give an additional donation – that will be doubled as well. Prayerfully consider using this opportunity to help me have wheels again!

Please pray also for youth and leaders as we encourage hearts in the truth and spend time together. Pray for freedom for those in gang and addictive lives, and for safety and protection for our first responders and health care workers. Pray for the ministries in this area that they would be effective to draw many to Christ and for open hearts to healthy discipling.

To support this ministry financially, checks should be made out to NAIM and mailed to the NAIM Office. **Donations should be designated for Project #3251**.

Donations can also be made online at www.naim.ca/donate