

MINISTRY UPDATE

from

Heidi Halcomb

MIRACLE MOUNTAIN RANCH
SPRING CREEK, PA

September 2017



Dear loving friends and supporters,

September is a wonderful month here at the Ranch, with the anticipation of a change in seasons, both in terms of weather and ministry. The leaves are starting to change and drop from the trees, giving us some cooler weather and a majestic display of God's handiwork in the array of colors. I still never tire of the four different seasons, each reflecting God's creativity in a different way.

It always seems as if the autumn rushes upon us, with the ending of busy summer camp, graduation of our discipleship students, Family Camp, and orientation as we welcome the incoming students. This year, that included a shuffling of staff between different housing units, which created another sort of crazy. Thankfully, I didn't move out of my house, only changed rooms to make room for a few new roommates. Still, transition always brings its challenges and we're experiencing all sorts here.



Our Advisor Group at Graduation in August

My job has remained much the same in the last year as the Marketing Manager, working directly under the Marketing Director for Miracle Mountain Ranch. I'm grateful to be in a position where there's always something new to learn and challenge me. My summer Media team was even more fantastic, skilled and hardworking than ever before. It was exciting to have a team of high school and college students who produced countless hours of pictures and video of summer camp, for parents to see and for the kids to keep as memories.



With my 2nd Year student, Lydia

This fall, we're excited to welcome a 2nd year student into our Marketing Department. Lydia Torrey and I were part of the same advisor family last year (we were buddies), so we already know each other well, which makes her transition into our department a smooth one! She has a sweet spirit, is smart, and eager to learn about marketing and photography. She's already taking off with a good eye for pictures and managing our Ranch Instagram accounts (@miraclemountainranch and @mmrschool). I'm

grateful for her assistance, learner's spirit, and friendship.

Some new and exciting things are in the works for me! This past spring, I undertook the new challenge of enrolling in Liberty University Online's Business School, with a major in Business Administration and an emphasis in Digital Advertising & Marketing. Pursuing higher education is something I've had on my mind for a while, especially since I've developed an excitement for the marketing field, and Liberty seems to have a really flexible program for my crazy working schedule. I was able to complete the first spring semester and take a break from studies to focus

PRAYER:

- For the new students, who are beginning their year of growth in the School of Discipleship
- Good stewardship with my finances and an ongoing, solid base of support
- For the hearts of the people, some unbelievers, who will be attending our various retreats through this season
- Wisdom for me as I make some big changes and decisions ahead

on summer camp. I plan to start back up with both classes and accelerated testing (read: faster/cheaper) methods this winter.

With higher education comes higher expenses. While Liberty University Online is certainly only a small portion of the cost of brick-and-mortar schooling, it still is not sustainable on my current monthly mission support. I did receive some federal aid, but still owe \$4,800 for my schooling to date. I would like to redirect that course and pay for school out of pocket from now on, but I still need to take care of that \$4,800 loan. I'm committed to paying this off as soon as I can so I can commence with classes, so I'm letting my supporting base know of the need at hand.

That said, starting school has given me reason to consider where I'm at in life and where I'm headed in the future. For a long while now, I've had the quiet prayer in the back of my mind about what the future holds, but it remained a big question mark as I continued on enjoying my work and ministry here. As I considered more about what school is going to cost, as well as the kind of time and energy I want to put toward it, I started to seriously pray about a new season.

Through much prayer and seeking counsel, I made the decision to bring my time here at the Ranch to a close and step into a new season at the end of this calendar year. It was a hard decision to make, but I've had a lot of godly counsel and encouragement from which to draw. I've spent five wonderful years of growth here, and I really believe that God has been preparing me for something new for quite a while. I'm excited to see what that is! I have opportunities both here locally in Warren County, as well as back in California, but what exactly that will be is yet to be determined.

I will need your prayers and support as I consider this new season. I continue to be amazed at the way God meets my needs, physically and spiritually, each and every time I ask. He is a great God, mighty in power and full of lovingkindness towards us! Thank you to each of you who reach out and extend Christlike love to me, whether through your prayers, your words of encouragement, or your financial support. You have been a tremendous blessing to me!

In Christ,

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- Make a payment online at www.mmrm.org/about/staff/support.
- Save time and money by setting up a monthly gift by Electronic Funds Transfer from your bank account. To complete the form for monthly transfers, go to www.mmrm.org/about/donation-center.
- Send a check to the MMR office at 101 Rodeo Drive, Spring Creek, PA 16436 with a note enclosed to designate your support to Heidi.