

Reaching Cowboys for Christ



Read these short stories to learn how Lemhi River Cowboy Church members reach their community for Christ.

THE DAY THE DONKEY WENT TO CHURCH

It was the Sunday before Easter. Mike Palmer and his church were celebrating Palm Sunday—a day to remember when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey while people shouted, “Hosanna” and spread palm branches on the road.

Mike was preaching his sermon. Suddenly, he noticed people straining their necks to look out the windows. The children were outside attending Kids’ Corral—what your church might call children’s church. The young woman leading Kids’ Corral had brought a small donkey to church that day. The children took turns riding the donkey while the other children waved palm branches they had made from construction paper. Seeing the donkey at church made everyone smile!

THE DUTCH OVEN COOKOUT

People in Pastor Mike’s community enjoy cooking in Dutch ovens. So, Lemhi River Cowboy Church hosts a Dutch Oven Cookout every year to celebrate the Fourth of July.

A Dutch oven is a large, heavy cooking pot with a lid. People prepare a variety of foods in their Dutch ovens, such as biscuits, beans, casseroles, and roast beef. Some prepare wild game like deer, sage grouse, and elk. Pastor Mike says the desserts, like cobbler, are his favorite. Some people prepare their dishes at home. Others bring their

Dutch ovens to the church and let their dishes slow cook outside over coals provided by the church. When the food from the Dutch ovens has been cooked, everyone shares a meal together. After everyone has eaten, Pastor Mike preaches and shares the good news about Jesus. What a happy Fourth of July!

BAPTISM IN THE SNOW

Pastor Mike usually baptizes people in a river near the church. But what happens in the winter when it’s too cold to be baptized in a river? Some people wait until summer so they can be baptized in the river when it’s warm. But others choose another option.

Outside Lemhi River Cowboy Church is a tank designed for watering horses, except this tank is not used for horses. It’s used for baptisms! The tank is filled with warm water, so it doesn’t matter how cold it is outside. In fact, Pastor Mike says there is often snow on the ground when people are baptized. It might be cold, but the water’s warm!

