

BODLIEN HEADLINES

Bottom-line up-front: God is leading our family to return to Word of Life in Schroon Lake, NY. As of August 1st, Mark will be the Camp Director of The Ranch & The Ridge as well as serving in the Ministries Department of the Word of Life Bible Institute during the school year.

Over the past few months, as we have been praying through and interviewing with various opportunities with churches, schools and other camps, it has been encouraging to receive some enthusiastic offers along the way. Recently in June, we traveled to Schroon Lake to take the girls to summer camp, see friends, and talk with WOL leadership about the roles that they had been asking us to fill. After many months of prayer and talking together as a family we have decided to follow the Lord's leading back to Schroon to serve there in a strategic way.



The Ranch & The Ridge- Mark will be Camp Director for both summer camps that operate at the Bible Institute property. The Ranch has been our flagship children's camp since 1955 and the The Ridge is a brand new camp program designed for a middle school audience. Mark and Joanna have spent many years, before Chile, serving in leadership at the The Ranch. We are looking forward to getting to know the team there, continuing a long legacy of serving kids and preteens, and sharing the Gospel with this new generation.

Ministries Department- A distinctive about the Word of Life Bible Institute is that it provides multiple meaningful ministry opportunities for each student during the school year. This allows them to apply, in real life, the things they are learning in the classroom. As the Ministries Coordinator, Mark will be responsible to match each student to ministry opportunities over the course of the year that will help them practice what is being taught. We partner with many local churches and ministries to deploy various types of ministry teams across the northeast, including children's ministry teams, music teams, Spanish ministry teams, sports teams, etc. We are looking forward to connecting with college students and getting involved in discipleship relationships and showing hospitality to many, including Spanish speaking international students. Many of the Bible Institute students become our camp staff and counselors in the summertime.

Our biggest desire in this process has been to live out the call of God on our lives through using our gifts for Him in a strategic way for His Kingdom. We believe that these opportunities for us at Word of Life in NY will do exactly that. Most of you know we served in Schroon Lake before Chile, but we did so without YOU. We want to take you with us on this journey. We have done camp ministry and student ministry before but without this amazing team of supporters. We are asking you to consider continuing your prayer support of our family in this new chapter and we will continue our regular updates on our ministry.

We would also ask that you consider continuing your financial support of our family as well. While Word of Life USA will now cover our salary for the year, there are still many ministry and travel expenses that your continued financial gifts would help make possible. We have been tasked with building contacts to get more kids to camp, build our network of ministry opportunities at the Bible Institute, as well as lead student missions trips overseas. This implies much travel, as you can imagine, and travel is especially expensive as you all know.

Some of you designate your missionary dollars to go overseas and we understand that means that you will need to refocus those dollars. At the end of July, you can stop or redirect your giving through your online account or call our office at 518.494.6000 **Thank you!** for your partnership over these formational years for our family. However, if you are willing to stick with us into this next chapter of ministry we would be so grateful. Your dollars would go to directly aide our family's ministry with Word of Life as they have over the past 5 years. We would be so thankful for your continued investment in our family's ministry and, in effect, with youth right here in the USA. If you wish to continue your financial support of our family, there is no action you need to take.

Joanna, the girls and I, we are all excited to move back to Schroon Lake. We have many dear friends there that we have missed these past few years as well as our local church where we plan to plug back into in many ways.

Thank you again for your friendship and for walking into the future with us. As always, reach out to us with any questions you have! markbodlien@wol.org

Prayer Requests:

- **Homeschool-** For at least the first year, we have decide to continue homeschooling this fall in NY. Pray that the girls will focus in their new environment.
- **Iglesia Bautista Misionera-** We have built a special friendship with Pastor Pato and his family and his church. Mark has been able to continue regular Bible studies online with this church.
- **Kids-** They recently all enjoyed a great week at WOL camp in NY. They are looking forward to reconnecting with many childhood friends.
- **New Role-** Please pray that Mark learns quickly the roles he is being asked to assume. This is a new level of leadership and service.
- **Praise-** We are so thankful to the Lord for His direction and to you for your prayers through this important season of life for our family. Praise be to God for His guidance and provision.