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Dear Friends of FACT and the Glendive Dinosaur & Fossil Museum,

*"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11*

Recently, we received a 5-star review on Google with the following comment: "Was a bit unsure when I saw it was a Christian facility but once I walked in I was nothing but impressed! For as small as it looked from the outside it was really amazing. So many full-size dinosaur skeletons. Great exhibits! Nice presentations. From what I could tell it gives all of the traditional info but it also shows you a Christian alternative. Several of their theories left me feeling the need to do more research. I plan to go back next year and join them for a dig. Well worth the stop."



While we occasionally receive 1-star reviews from skeptics, we are always encouraged by those who come to the museum as skeptics and leave with a newfound appreciation for the historical accuracy of the Bible. Our hope is to always plant seeds. You never know when those seeds will germinate!

Interestingly, we find fossil sequoia cones here in Glendive. Writing about this tree for the Institute for Creation Research (ICR), Dorothy E. Kreiss Robbins states:

...the giant sequoia reproduces by seed only. These are contained in small, egg-size cones with 30-40 closely packed, woody, persistent scales; the cones mature in two years. The seeds, 30-plus in each cone, are the size of an oat seed with membranous disk-like wings. The cones remain green and closed until dried and open, and may remain attached to the tree in a green, growing condition for 21 years. They do not disseminate the seeds while on the tree. Even severely damaged trees continue to produce cones. In order to germinate, the seed must be buried in moist mineral soil in such places as rocky ledges, steep hillsides and in crevices, with little nutrient needed. There must, however, be open sunlight. <sup>1</sup>

In other words, it takes just the right conditions for a new giant sequoia to form. As we plant seeds at the Glendive Dinosaur & Fossil Museum, we are encouraged to see some of them fall on good soil and ready to produce a bountiful harvest of faith.

### **2017 Dig Report by Martha Lohman**

Imagine you are sitting at your lab work-station carefully removing sediment from a delicate fossil. Though somewhat isolated from the museum, you pause as you hear the excited voices of children, "Look at the T.rex!" or, "That's a shark tooth!" Smiling, you estimate how many minutes before the small, eager faces will

<sup>1</sup>Dorothy E. Kreiss Robbins. 1984. Can the Redwoods Date the Flood?. Acts & Facts. 13 (8).

appear in the lab window to watch you work for a few seconds before the next fascination overwhelms their short attention span. While we do not spend as much time in the lab as we do in the field, it is an exciting part of this ministry...from both sides of the glass.

One of our joys in working in the lab is being able to preserve fossils for museum guests to see, such as the 59-inch rib now featured in the *Triceratops* exhibit. We also enjoy adding smaller fossils to display cases so visitors can visually connect locally-excavated bones with corresponding dinosaur skeletons.



This year we hosted weeklong, group digs with Buddy Davis from Answers in Genesis, Montana Bible College and Arrowhead Bible College. We also welcomed many families for our “day digs.” Several times we heard the dig was the highlight of their vacation—ample reward for our labors in preparation. Even more fulfilling is connecting the message of the Gospel with the experience of hunting and excavating fossils. One guest was particularly impressed with the realization that she was digging up something that had not been seen since Noah’s Flood over 4,000 years ago! We desire to help others remember (and be reminded ourselves) that the presence of fossils in the ground is evidence of God’s judgment on sin—and that we are not without hope because of Jesus Christ, the perfect Sacrifice for sinners.

The Montana Bible College students began the excavation of a partial (likely *Edmontosaurus*) skeleton. They were hard workers and discovered 20 ribs and seven vertebrae in articulation. This is a rare and exciting discovery! There is still much work to be done to finish this project, since much of the skeleton (perhaps more than we know about) has been preserved in hard rock and very dense sediment. We also appreciated the help of our summer intern, Grace, and enjoyed watching her confidence grow as she learned more about fossils and her faith.



If you are interested in joining us for the adventure of an authentic dinosaur dig, please visit our website ([creationtruth.org/digs](http://creationtruth.org/digs)) for more information. There are limited spaces available for our 2018 season, so contact us soon!

We are also accepting applications for next year’s internships (candidates must be 18 to apply). Send an e-mail to [robert@creationtruth.org](mailto:robert@creationtruth.org) for information about this exciting opportunity.

## Fall and Winter Hours

We had a great summer season, which we will further update you about in our November newsletter. The museum is currently open on **Fridays & Saturdays from 10am to 5pm** through the end of October. It will also be open on **November 24-25 and December 22-23 & 29-30 from 10am to 5pm**. We look forward to seeing you! Thank you for all your support, and may the Lord bless and guide you as you daily seek after Him!

*Otis*

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