

CrossRoads Summer Camp

March 2008 Live It!



For over 20 years, campers from around Virginia and beyond have come to CrossRoads Summer Camp for a week-long experience of faith, friends, and fun. Located in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Amherst County, CrossRoads is the perfect setting for summer adventures. Week after week, campers experience God's presence in new ways through high energy worship, Bible studies, recreation, and interaction with the staff and each other. Many life-changing decisions for Christ are made each summer at CrossRoads.

Camp is for the Camper!



Summer camp at CrossRoads is all about the campers. The goal of each week at camp is to provide campers with a challenging combination of missions education, spiritual growth, and recreational opportunities. In a Christian environment away from the distractions of everyday living, campers can grow in their knowledge of God, of themselves, and of their world.

Most weeks at CrossRoads are geared toward campers who have completed grades 4-12. Some weeks are designed just for girls, and other weeks offer coed camping. There are two mini-weeks each summer where campers and families of all ages can experience camp together. (Please see the CrossRoads website

www.crossroadscoc.com or request a summer camp

brochure by calling 434.277.8465 for more information about each program offered.)

Most camp weeks begin on Monday afternoon and conclude Saturday morning. The week is jam-packed with action including daily swim times, hiking, climbing wall, age-appropriate Bible studies, opportunities to meet missionaries, and engaging worship

experiences. Campers are grouped in cabins by age with two counselors and 14 campers or less. Campers spend most of their day with their cabin mates, but time is also provided for campers to explore their own specific interests through "tracks." High Adventure weeks offer extra excitement and challenge through activities such as backpacking, rock climbing and rappelling, horsemanship, and sports.

As campers discover the 2008 theme, "Under Construction", they will learn about how God is constantly "building" our faith and that He provides us with the "tools" we need to be growing Christians. Campers will be challenged to discover that, "[We] are God's fellow workers; [we] are God's field, God's building." (1 Corinthians 3:9)

A Camper's Perspective

"My favorite thing was vespers which was a miniature worship service outside by the creek. Another of my favorite things was Celebration Night where you go into the counselor's room and talk about things like who shared Christ with you this week.

This week was a lot of fun...this year was the most fun! I had a good group of kids in my cabin this week and two good counselors also." Camper E.C.

A Parent's Perspective

"Thank you for your wonderful camp!!! My daughters enjoyed it so much. They have been singing all the songs and reading the Bible every day. They made terrific friends and loved all the counselors and activities. What a blessing! Thanks so much." Parent T.M.

Training Tomorrow's Leaders

Open to teens ages 14-18, the Leader in Training (LIT) Program is for students who have a desire to develop their leadership skills and take a deeper look into God's will for their lives. All LITs are assigned to a cabin of younger campers in order to provide them with opportunities to lead. The LIT program is a three-year plan with each year building on skills previously learned. This is a perfect opportunity for students considering applying to work at CrossRoads in the future. In recent years almost half of the staff had attended CrossRoads as an LIT.

Campers registered as LITs participate in leading worship, plan a devotion to share with their cabin, and have a fun, fellowship activity each week. LITs also have a small group Bible Study designed just for them each day. LITs are encouraged through their Bible studies to stand out as leaders among the campers in their cabins and among their peers. Counselors challenge LITs with the same challenge that Paul extended to Timothy: "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity." (1 Timothy 4:12)



An LIT's Perspective

"I really enjoyed being a Leader in Training this year. It helped me open up and really be myself. The experience was incredible. I learned that it takes a lot

of patience to be a leader. I also enjoyed listening to the missionaries. They did a good job presenting their stories and were very interesting. I loved hiking up the mountain to the rock. The view was amazing. Planning the worship Thursday night was a whole lot of fun too!" Camper J.C.

A Dream Team



The CrossRoads summer staff team consistently stands out as one of the very best elements of the program. Comprised of older high school, college, and seminary students. The summer staff team is well trained in basic first aid and safety, counseling students, leading worship and Bible studies, and leading campers. These students serve as positive role models and encouragers to over 700 campers throughout the summer. Through their service to campers, staff members consistently return to school at the end of the summer with a new passion for their Christian faith.

CrossRoads counselors are passionate about their ministry to children and youth. They recognize how much Jesus cared for children ("But Jesus called the children to him and said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.'" Luke 18:16). The CrossRoads counselors strive to follow Jesus' example in their day-to-day interaction with campers.

From a Staffer's Perspective

"Last summer my spiritual journey was greatly impacted by CrossRoads. From my own personal time with the Lord and the ways I saw him work in the campers and through the staffers, I learned so much about the way God works through the ministry of all of His children. As a result, I grew much closer to the Lord because I got to know him better." Counselor C.W.

"Last summer was the GREATEST summer of my entire life. I made closer friends in 3 months than I ever did in all my years of school. I learned so much about myself and what God wants my life to be. I learned how to persevere and push my own limits. A part of me came alive while I was at camp. It was just amazing, more than I ever thought it would be. I loved waking up in the morning with a job to do. It was tough at times, but I loved every minute of it." Counselor J.B.

For the Least of These

CrossRoads depends on volunteers, nurses and missionaries for a successful week of camp. Adults ages 21 and older may serve as a weeklong summer camp volunteer. Volunteers help setup and clean up in the dining hall, assist in various camp programs such as crafts, missions adventures and canteen, and offer an encouraging smile or hug to campers and staff. They may also lend a hand with odd jobs around camp such as filing or making phone calls in the office, sorting the day's mail, and taking pictures for the end of the week slide show. While serving in many different capacities during the

summer camp week, volunteers embody the servant lifestyle that Jesus describes in Matthew 25:31-45.

From a Volunteer's Perspective

"It was such a treat for me to volunteer for a week at summer camp. I helped in various areas - kitchen, canteen and office. It seemed as if we just cleaned up after one meal when it was time to set up for the next! But it was fun! The folks in the kitchen were very helpful and pleasant to work with. It is clear that everyone on staff loves their jobs - and it shows in how they relate to the campers, summer staff and volunteers.



It was encouraging to watch the young people who served as summer staff - they demonstrated such a mature Christian love for the children they worked with.

As a member of WMU, I had the list of names of the summer staff and had been praying for them throughout the summer. But it was so much better to be there and actually meet and interact with those names on my prayer list! My prayers were so much more personal after my week at camp.

I came to camp with the idea that I was to serve and help as needed in order to make the week more meaningful for the campers. Hopefully, I did that - but something else happened that week - I left camp full to overflowing with the wonder of God's love! I was blessed beyond measure! I can't wait until next summer to volunteer again!"
Volunteer Brenda Somers

Live It! CrossRoads Style

The following is a short list of ways that you can live out your faith through the ministry of CrossRoads:

- Pray daily for the upcoming summer camp season. Please pray for the staff team that is developing. Pray that God will unite them and prepare them for this incredible ministry opportunity. You can pray for the nurses, international student missionaries, and weekly missionaries that God is calling to CrossRoads. Finally, don't forget the campers! Please pray that each camper that comes this summer will experience God's presence in a new way.
- Help send a child to camp. You may do this by paying the registration fee of a child you know, donating to one of our camp scholarships, or nominating a child for the CrossRoads Connection Scholarship.
- Spread the word about CrossRoads. If your church doesn't already send campers to CrossRoads, talk to the parents of children in your congregation about this opportunity. Tell your friends and neighbors about CrossRoads. Call CrossRoads at 434.277.8465 to request summer camp brochures that you can distribute to members of your local community.
- Recommend students for the CrossRoads Staff Team. CrossRoads is still looking for several more young men to serve on staff this summer. (A dynamite group of

young women has already been hired.) Let guys in your church know about the open positions at CrossRoads, and direct them to visit the CrossRoads website to download an application.

- Volunteer for a week at CrossRoads. CrossRoads needs nurses, missionaries, and volunteers to serve each week at camp. Visit the CrossRoads website for an application and more information.
- Donate to the CrossRoads Wish List. A list is published each spring of items that CrossRoads needs for the summer camp program. Visit the CrossRoads website to view this list.

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