



LIFE TEEN

CAMPS & MISSIONS

September Update!

Well, it's September! The weather is starting to cool down, school is back in full swing, and life is as busy as ever. It can be easy to simply just put the nose to the grindstone and just try to get through the craziness of the Fall, with football games, Life Teen Kick Offs, Homecomings, and all the other activities begging for our attention.

What if, instead, we took a step back from whatever is going on, took a breath, and remembered all the awesome stuff God did this summer? What if, instead of being overwhelmed and anxious about all that life is throwing at us, we remembered that we serve and worship a God Who not only knows we are going through the craziness but is even there in the messiness?

Let's take that breath. Let's take that step back. And let's remember what a great and awesome God we serve.

The following are some glory stories shared by our Summer Missionaries who served at camp this past year. It's our way of saying thanks to you for helping us have the #bestcampever!

Summer Camp Stats:

4439: Number of Participants at all Life Teen Camps

22: Number of different states that attended a Life Teen Camp

211: Number of Parishes that attended a Life Teen Camp

20: Number of Parish Priests that attended a Life Teen Camp



A teen with learning and social disabilities came to camp this summer. He had gone to other camps before and not felt included and able to participate. He came to camp with his father (his father fully expected him to have to leave early or at least want to.) Arick, one of our Summer Staffers, worked with them and at the end of the week both the dad and the teen said that Covecrest felt like home and the teen said he felt like for the first time ever he had a place to belong.

Lauren McParlane, Covecrest Camp Coordinator





I saw a young teen sitting down on the stairs by herself with her head in her lap, so I decided to reach out and sit down with her. We got to talking, and eventually after many tears she told me how much she hated Christ for all the things he took away from her. Her suffering was very evident, and she decided it was all Jesus's fault. She also believed that she was not a beloved daughter of Christ and struggled with a loving relationship with Him at all. As we continued to talk I asked her to go to reconciliation and talk to the priest about what was going on, but she refused.

After a lot of persistence (multiple days in fact) she finally received the sacrament. Seeing the pure joy and love on her face as she walked out of the confessional was the most authentic pure warming feeling that I will always remember. As she left, she handed me a letter that read "Thank you so much you helped me find Jesus again. I was lost in my faith and you helped me see the light." I knew that God had called his lost sheep home to him, and to be a part of that journey was the most humbling experience.

Mary Verzwylvelt, Hidden Lake Summer Missionary





At the beginning of the week there were two girls in my parish that came up to me and told me about their friend that had come to camp with them. They were teary-eyed telling me that their friend suffered with depression and often said she didn't see the point in living. The girls wanted so badly for their friend to encounter Christ that week and they committed to praying and sacrificing for her so she would.

The last night of camp, their friend stood up in front of her parish and told her story of how she had lost hope but now found it at camp. She encountered Christ in a real way that gave her hope and joy in life. She also found hope in the teens from her parish that she grew closer with that week and was excited to go back with them knowing she had true friends and support in all things.

Alli Dalton, Golden State Summer Missionary





One of the campers Aldair shared during a testimony that summer camp "reminded him how to pray". He said he had "participated in retreats and other things that the Life Teen missionaries have done before but he recently moved away from home and kind of got lost in the craziness of Port au Prince and the life he was living was not showing that God was first in his life." Aldair said camp was a life changing experience and it changed his life and he knows it changed the lives of others.

Paul Albert, Haiti Mission Base Leader



Please pray for our missionaries at each of our mission bases!



Hidden Lake Missionaries:

Director of Formation and Recruitment/Base Leader: Stephen Estes

Missions Logistics: Alex Beverick

House Leaders: Rose Rapp, PJ Veiga

First Year Missionaries:

- Molly Clavenna
- Sara Gillingham
- Claire Jones
- Amanda Sattler
- Molly McLaughlin
- Kevin Coyne
- Joel Gotera
- Nathan McCormick
- David Sanchez
- Trevor Smith

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Covecrest Missionaries:

Base Leaders: Lauren McParlane, Paul Flores

House Leaders: Erin Garrett, Jorge Gamboa

First Year Missionaries:

- Jessie Corsey
- Anna Kern
- Alice Kraus
- Samantha Roeske
- Joslyn Wiebelhaus
- Kerriane Samson
- Rodrigo Cantu
- David Dominguez
- Kiernan Doyle
- Evan Jamison

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Haiti Mission Base:

Base Leaders: Paul and Anna Albert (plus Nathanael, Therese, Michael, and Baby Albert on the way!)

Missionaries:

- Mecke-Lozano Family (PJ, Kerri, Ruth, Simon, Annabelle, and Jaxon)
- Laura Cordova
- Sean Crepin
- Frankie Tejada

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Also, please let us know how we can pray for you by replying to this email! Our staff and our missionaries will pray for your intentions in front of the Blessed Sacrament during our Holy Hours.

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