



Lutheran Youth Leadership Experience

The LYLE III Program

This informational letter is provided so that prospective participants may determine if the LYLE III program will meet their needs as a camper.

What is the LYLE III program?

The Lutheran Youth Leadership Experience (LYLE III) program is a leadership development program that builds upon the LYLE I and II experience and combines leadership skills, service, and each young person's individual God-given gifts and interests. The LYLE III program is focused on the leadership skills required specifically to work with children, the community, and the church. This program provides intensive and challenging hands-on experiences through participation in the camp community and experiential learning sessions. The program is designed for youth that have committed themselves to participation in their home communities and congregations, as well as those interested in future leadership in camping or other ministry settings. The LYLE III program will focus on creating leaders not only at camp but in the community and will have many opportunities to plan and participate activities easily done back at home. LYLE III's will be well equipped to follow God's calling to serve their church and community. The LYLE III experience is two weeks in duration with an optional third week (including the weekends). The optional third week will give LYLE III's the opportunity to experience more of the programs Cross Trails Ministry provides at Chrysalis, Ebert Ranch, one of our offsite programs, or a Support Staff role.

Who can participate in the LYLE III program?

Youth who have completed the 10th or 11th grade and have successfully completed the two week LYLE II program. **ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST HAVE COMPLETED THEIR SOPHOMORE YEAR.**

What are the components of the LYLE III program?

Participants in the LYLE III program will gain knowledge through experiential learning sessions. Each of these sessions is an intense learning experience requiring each participant's focused concentration and participation. LYLE III participants will spend an entire week shadowing a staff member to observe cabin or support roles and to gain hands-on experiences and develop skills that applicable to working with youth in the camping environment. LYLE III campers are not guaranteed to shadow a staff member at Camp Chrysalis. Based on space and skills, some will shadow at Ebert Ranch or an offsite program such as Texas Trek. All LYLE III campers will try a role at camp that will challenge them as a leader, often times allowing them to serve in a way they would not typically do.

Volunteering after the LYLE III Program

After you have completed the LYLE III Program, you are eligible to volunteer for one additional week in the summer pending Director approval. This will be a week of intense and physically demanding work, very different from a week at camp. These volunteer weeks may consist of working on a maintenance crew, in the kitchen, at our on-site day camp, or other various

positions. Each volunteer will be a part of the community and will participate in worship and all camp activities. Please note on your application when you are available to volunteer. We will try to honor first requests, but no guarantees can be made. We will let you know which week when we accept you in to the program. This is an excellent way for you to get your foot in the door to working at camp. It allows us to know that you are here to serve youth and that there is a desire to be at camp.

LYLE III Program Dates: July 8-20 or July 8-27, 2018 (if participating in optional 3rd week).

Cost: \$550.00 for the two week program, \$675.00 to participate in optional third week program

If you have more questions regarding this program or would like to discuss other possibilities and experiences, please contact Jay Miller, Director of Camp Chrysalis at (830)257-6340 or e-mail jay@crosstrails.org.

LYLE III REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:

1. If you choose to apply for a Cross Trails Ministry Senior High program other than the LYLE III program, mail only the registration form and deposit in. If you are applying for the LYLE III program, complete the LYLE application along with the participant agreement with a parent or guardian. Both a paper copy and an online copy can be found on our website. The application deadline is March 1, 2018.
2. Arrange for the reference page to be sent to the Cross Trails office. This reference must be someone (other than a friend) who has supervised you in a leadership or servant role (pastors or youth directors are preferred). This reference can be a paper copy which can be printed from our website or can be done online.
3. You will need to fill out the 2018 Camper Registration form and mail the \$100.00 deposit for the LYLE program. You can also do this online. **PLEASE ONLY FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION FORM AFTER YOU HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED TO THE PROGRAM.**
4. Your application will be considered complete and processed when all application materials have been received (application, reference, leadership project and participation agreement).
5. Final decisions will be made by committee by March 30, 2018. Applications will be reviewed by the Cross Trails Ministry Program Committee. Applicants will be notified shortly thereafter by mail.
6. If you are willing to volunteer for a week of camp following your LYLE III experience, please read, sign, and have a parent or guardian sign the volunteer release form. Please note that we will try to honor your first choice, but due to space limitations might not always be able to. Also note, volunteers will only be allowed one volunteer week.

LYLE III Applications and References are available online!

It's the faster and easier way to apply! Go to www.crosstrails.org/lyle for more information. Applications and references are due March 1, 2018.



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Mail completed application to:
 Cross Trails Ministry, ATTN: LYLE III Program
 391 Upper Turtle Creek Road
 Kerrville, TX 78028
 Phone 830-257-6340

APPLICATION DEADLINE MARCH 1, 2018

Please type or print neatly in ink.

Personal Information

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____ Age: _____
 Home Address: _____ ___ Male ___ Female
 City: _____ Grade Completed (2018): _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____ Home Congregation: _____
 Email: _____ Pastor: _____
 Phone: _____ Phone: _____

Leadership Experience (Please list experiences in school, church, and community. Use a separate sheet if necessary)

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Positions/Responsibilities</u>

References

The reference may be your parish pastor or someone who has supervised or observed you in a leadership or servant role. Please do not include relatives or friends. Give the reference a copy of the Reference Form included with this packet and ask them to mail it directly to the Cross Trails office.

Reference: _____ Relationship to Applicant: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 Phone: _____

Essay Responses (Please use a separate sheet of paper and type your responses.)

- A. Why do you want to be a part of the LYLE III program this summer?
- B. How would you describe yourself?
- C. What strengths/skills would you bring to the program?
- D. What do you see as areas where you need additional growth?
- E. Please describe your personal relationship with Christ and your involvement in the life of your congregation.
- F. What skill did you use most as a leader in the past year that you gained from the LYLE I or II experience?
- G. How have you put skills you learned in the LYLE I or II program into action within your congregation, school, or community?

Are you interested in volunteering at Camp Chrysalis for an additional week in the summer? This volunteer experience lets us gage your work ethic for potential jobs with Cross Trails Ministry in the future.
Yes ____ No ____

Please indicate which weeks you are available to volunteer. (Please list in order of preference—1, 2, 3, etc.)
____ July 29– August 3, 2018 (Camp Chrysalis) ____ July 29– August 3, 2018 (Ebert Ranch)
____ August 5-10, 2018 (Camp Chrysalis) ____ August 5-10, 2018 (Ebert Ranch)

Have you ever been arrested and convicted of a crime involving drugs, sex, or violence?
Yes ____ No ____ If yes, please explain:

How recent was the offense? _____

I certify that the answers given herin are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant

Date

We consider all applicants for all programs without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, or the presence of a non job-related handicap.



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The LYLE III Program

As part of application process for the LYLE III program, a community congregational leadership requirement has been added. We would like to learn what you do with the skills you have learned when you return to your home congregation. You are therefore being asked to complete a leadership project. We would like you to take on leadership of an event, program, service project or new idea in a congregation. This means that you will plan and execute the project, supervise others who help you with the project, work with a mentor for questions you have regarding the project and submit a written report detailing your project with your LYLE III application. Please see the questions below for further instructions and feel free to contact me should you have any further questions.

Please be very detailed and thorough in the write up of your program. Include as much information as you can give us. It is important to have the project well thought out and organized. The LYLE III decision committee will be looking for preplanning, organization, depth of content, and follow up. Please include all aspects of your projects.

If you need help with ideas or if you would like to have either Camp Chrysalis or Ebert Ranch as a part of your project let us know. We would be happy to be your mentor for your project.

LYLE LEADERSHIP PROJECT WORKSHEET

Please attach additional sheets as needed, including any publicity materials, notes, and/or resources used for your project.

- A. Please describe, in detail, what you planned and lead. Who was there? When did you do it? Etc.
- B. Why did you choose to do this project? How did it help your community?
- C. Please comment on who you supervised or led while executing your project. What did you find easy and difficult about supervising and leading others?
- D. Which skills did you use from LYLE II while leading this process?
- E. How did the Peer Ministry Program help you lead in your project?
- F. Please have your mentor fill out this portion, reporting on the success of your project and your leadership skills as well as explaining their role in your project.

Cross Trails Ministry
Lutheran Youth Leadership Experience
The LYLE III Program
 Participation Agreement

It is important that all participants understand the program before committing themselves to it. Applicants should review this sheet with a parent or guardian and each initial or sign where needed. Applications are not considered complete without this document.

Applicant Initial	Parent/Guardian Initial

LYLE participants are role models to younger campers at all times.

Even though this is a specialized program, LYLE's are campers, not staff.

LYLE's will abide by all camp rules, even on the weekends.

Full participation (including being alert and attentive) in learning sessions is required.

The LYLE programming will continue through the weekend even while normal camp programming is not in session. Visitors or "time off" are not allowed. A short phone call will be allowed on the weekend.

The last week of programming, participants will shadow staff members in cabins or support roles. LYLE III's will not be housed with persons of their own age at this time. Participants will not be responsible for directly supervising campers, but will be asked to participate in many different roles.

Should my behavior or participation in the LYLE III program not reflect the above statements, I will be asked to leave the program with no refund.

LYLE programming requires full participation in the first two weeks. Missing part of the program is not allowed. The third week is optional.

I have read, understand and agree to the above statements.

 Applicant's Signature Date

 Parent/Guardian's Signature Date



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Lutheran Youth Leadership Experience
The LYLE Program

REFERENCE

The person named below is considering participating in the Lutheran Youth Leadership Experience which is a leadership development program that combines leadership skills, service, and each young person's individual God-given gifts and interests. This program provides intensive and challenging hands-on leadership experiences through participation in the camp community and experiential learning sessions. This program is designed for youth that have committed themselves to participation in their home communities and congregations, as well as those interested in future leadership in camping or other ministry settings.

Your name has been given as a reference for this applicant. We appreciate your time and consideration in completing this form. All responses will be kept confidential.

Application deadline is March 1, 2018.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT

Printed Name of Applicant: _____

Printed Name of Reference: _____

Position/Title/Relationship to Applicant: _____

I hereby authorize the above request for information, and release all parties from liability for any damage that may result from furnishing this information. I understand that the information given will be kept confidential between Cross Trails Ministry and the Reference.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REFERENCE

Please type or print neatly in ink

Please rate the following:

1 = poor, 2 = fair, 3 = good, 4 = excellent, 5 = outstanding, N/A = not applicable/don't know

___Reliability

___Emotional Stability

___Ability to Work with Children

___Honesty

___Flexibility

___Ability to Work under Stress

___Hard Worker

___Expression of Faith

___Follows rules

___"Team" Player

___Communication Skills

___Overall Attitude/Enthusiasm

Please complete the following:

- A. How well and in what capacity do you know the applicant?

- B. Please comment on the applicant's ability to work well with others.

- C. Please comment on the applicant's self-initiative and creativity.

- D. Please comment on the applicant's level of maturity and responsibility.

- E. Please comment on the applicant as a person of Christian faith.

- F. Is there any reason you know of why this person should not be involved in such a program and around young children?

Signature of Reference: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM PROMPTLY TO:

Cross Trails Ministry
ATTN: LYLE PROGRAM
391 Upper Turtle Creek Road
Kerrville, TX 78028
Phone (830)257-6340 • FAX (830)257-3060