



## *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:** June 18-30 or June 18-July 7, 2017 (if participating in optional 3rd week).

**Cost:** \$525.00 for the two week program, 625.00 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](mailto: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, 2017.
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 2017 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, 2017. 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](http://www.crosstrails.org/lyle) for more information. Applications and references are due March 1, 2017.



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***The LYLE III Program***

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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, 2017**

Please type or print neatly in ink.

**Personal Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Completed (2017): \_\_\_\_\_  
 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 gauge your work ethic for potential jobs with Cross Trails Ministry in the future.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate which weeks you are available to volunteer. (List in order of preference - use 1, 2, 3, 4)

\_\_\_\_\_ Week 5 - July 9-14, 2017      \_\_\_\_\_ Week 6 - July 16-21, 2017

\_\_\_\_\_ Week 7 - July 23-28, 2017      \_\_\_\_\_ Week 8 - July 30-August 4, 2017

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 herein 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.

*Cross Trails Ministry*  
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 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, <u>not staff</u> .		
LYLE's will abide by <u>all</u> 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 <u>no</u> 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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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*  
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## 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, 2017.*

### **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





**Lutheran Camp Chrysalis**  
 391 Upper Turtle Creek Road  
 Kerrville, Texas 78028  
 Phone (830) 257-6340



**Ebert Ranch Camp**  
 752 Ebert Lane  
 Harper, Texas 78631  
 Phone (830) 864-4669




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## CROSS TRAILS MINISTRY

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Summer Camps ★ Retreats ★ Expeditions

### Cross Trails Ministry Underage Volunteer Release

As the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ I hereby give permission of him/her to work for Cross Trails Ministry in a volunteer capacity at Lutheran Camp Chrysalis. I understand that this is not a staff position, but my child is expected to comply with all personnel policies of Cross Trails Ministry.

My child has permission to take part in all activities and to aid the staff by giving camper, program, maintenance, kitchen, and animal support, and I will not hold Cross Trails Ministry or its staff responsible for accidents, claims and damages arising therefrom. I authorize Cross Trails Ministry to take such action as deemed necessary for the care, welfare and health of my child including the giving of consent for medical treatment.

I understand that, if volunteering to help with maintenance, my child will not be permitted to use power tools including but not limited to mowers, weed eaters, power saws, etc., but may be in the vicinity of these tools while an adult is operating them. My child will be allowed to use only tools deemed appropriate by Cross Trails Ministry Leadership Staff.

Depending upon the situation, I understand that this position may require my minor to stay on the camp site during the camp week and room and board will be provided. If this is the case, I will pick up my child immediately when his/her services are no longer needed.

If the volunteer period is directly following the LYLE III program, I understand that my child can stay on the weekend after the program concludes. I release Cross Trails Ministry from responsibility for my child. If I do not wish my child to plan his/her own weekend activities, which may include socialization and travel with other seasonal camp staff, I will pick up my child following their LYLE III program and return him/her to the site for the opening staff meeting on Sunday. I also understand that a year round staff member will be on-call during the weekends, but will not be directly supervising my child.

I understand that this is a volunteer position and as such may be terminated at any time should unsafe or inappropriate behavior be exhibited by my child. I agree to pick up my child immediately should the leadership staff determine that his/her volunteer position needs to be terminated and he/she needs to leave the site.

If the Cross Trails Ministry staff needs to transport my minor for any reason to fulfill their volunteer duties, I give permission for them to do so. I also give permission for Cross Trails Ministry to use any photograph/video of my child taken at camp in future promotional materials.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number