



CROSS TRAILS MINISTRY

SUMMER CAMP 2018



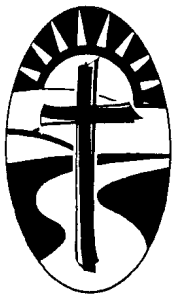
**LUTHERAN YOUTH
LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

- LYLE I •
- LYLE II •
- LYLE III •

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Please Note: This booklet is meant to provide basic information to parents and campers. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our office.



Cross Trails Ministry
391 Upper Turtle Creek Road
Kerrville, TX 78028
(830) 257-6340
info@crosstrails.org
www.crosstrails.org



Welcome to Camp



Dear LYLES and Parents,

Welcome to the LYLE Experience. The Lutheran Youth Leadership Experience (LYLE) is for youth in high school who want to take on an active leadership opportunity within their school, church, community, and the world. This is a camp where our young leaders are immersed in an intentional Christian community that sees the value in service, relationships with others, and faith.

Each year of our LYLE program accomplishes something different. Through Bible study, activities, conversation, interaction, and with the help of mentors, LYLES gain valuable insight to the world around them. The goals for are program:

- LYLE I—Spiritual Gifts
Discover your own spiritual and leadership gifts so that you are able to lead and serve others.
- LYLE II—Peer Ministry
Learn 14 steps to be present with your peers. Learn everything from getting to know them, to actively listening to them, to how to share your faith with your peers. This program is no longer about you, it is about your peer group.
- LYLE III—Discipleship
Even bigger than your peer group, learn how to lead larger groups, your church community, and be a leader in your school. Learn more about the leader God has made you to be.

Campers will learn and grow with each other and get to be a part of a camping community unlike they have experienced before. We are excited to have our oldest campers and look forward to helping them on their vocational journey.

Jay Miller
Director
Camp Chrysalis

Stephen Krupicka
Director
Ebert Ranch

Brandon Bassinger
Director
Beach Camp

Our Mission

***The Mission of Cross Trails Ministry
is to provide unique settings & experiences
in which youth, adults & families
are strengthened in their relationship
with Christ, each other, the church and community.***



Paperwork & Payment



In order to complete your child's registration, the following items need to be sent or submitted to our office by May 1st. Please send these items to Registrar; Cross Trails Ministry; 391 Upper Turtle Creek Road; Kerrville, TX 78028. If your child is coming with a group, your group leader may wish to collect these. Please remember, financial aid Camperships are available. Contact our office for more information.

- Balance Due. If your child is coming as an individual, an invoice will be mailed to you. If your child is coming as part of a group, an invoice will be sent to your congregation in April. Contact your pastor or youth leader to determine if you owe any additional money.
- Health History Form—**signed or submitted online**
If you submit this form online, please send a copy of your insurance card with your child.
- Cross Trails Ministry Release Form—**signed or submitted online**
- Group Photo and Summer Video Order Form—Optional—We will be taking a group photo each week that can be used as a souvenir for our campers. Order one at the beginning of the week to guarantee you get one!

New this year, we will produce a weekly video encompassing all programs at Camp Chrysalis the week your camper comes. It will be offered online through Vimeo.com. Please see page 16 for more information.

Arrival & Departure

Arrival:

Your camper may arrive at Camp Chrysalis, Beach Camp or Ebert Ranch between 3 and 5 pm on the first day of their camp session. Please see the following page for arrival sites. Because our staff have other responsibilities, we can not accept early arrivals. Older youth campers may not drive themselves to camp. They must be brought to camp by a responsible adult.

Departure:

To ensure your child's safety, our policy requires that all campers be signed out by a person designated on the Health History Form. Please note this portion of the form.

For all programs, camp ends at 2:30 pm on Friday. Family and friends are welcome to come at 2 pm and join our closing worship. Please arrive to pick up your camper no later than 2:30 pm.

Early Departure:

If a camper must leave camp early, arrangements must be made with the Camp Director, and the camper must be signed out. Please submit an email or written proof by the camper's arrival date, and please confirm via telephone on the checkout date.



LYLE Schedules and Where to Go



The Lutheran Youth Leadership Experience (LYLE) is a specialized program for our Sr. High Campers.

LYLE I Experience:

Please drop off and pick up campers at these locations:

- June 17-22—Ebert Ranch
- July 1-6—Camp Chrysalis
- July 8-13—Beach Camp
- July 29-August 3—Camp Chrysalis

LYLE II Experience:

Please drop off and pick up campers at these locations:

- June 10-June 22—Campers will arrive at Camp Chrysalis and will be picked up at Ebert Ranch.
- July 15-July 27—Campers will arrive at Ebert Ranch and be picked up at Camp Chrysalis.

LYLE III Experience:

Please drop off your campers at these locations:

- July 8-27—Camp Chrysalis

LYLE III Campers will have the opportunity to shadow a Cross Trails Ministry Staff member the 2nd and optional 3rd week of their program. This shadowing experience could be at either Camp Chrysalis or Ebert Ranch depending on skill sets, interests, and space. This experience could also put them in a program where they will go on an offsite experience with one of Cross Trails' programs. Camper parents will be informed of where their camper will be by the Thursday before these experiences if they will not be at Camp Chrysalis.

Directions to each of these sites are located on the next pages.



Directions to Camp Chrysalis



Camp Chrysalis
391 Upper Turtle Creek Rd.
Kerrville, TX 78028

From San Antonio:

Take I-10 Northwest to exit 508 (Hwy 16).

Turn left on Hwy 16 through Kerrville.

Travel approximately 11 miles from I-10 to FM 1273 (Upper Turtle Creek Rd.)

Turn right and go 1.5 miles. Camp is on the right side.

From Austin:

Take Hwy 290 to Fredericksburg.

Turn left on Hwy 16 on go South.

Travel approximately 38 miles through Kerrville to FM 1273 (Upper Turtle Creek Rd.)

Turn right and go 1.5 miles. Camp is on the right side.

Directions to Ebert Ranch

Ebert Ranch Camp
30700 Ranch Road 385
Harper, TX 78631

Please note this is a new entrance from previous summers.

From San Antonio:

Take I-10 North West to exit 492 (Ranch Road 479).

Turn right onto RR 479 and travel north for 8 miles.

Turn right onto US Highway 290 and travel east for 1 mile.

Turn left onto Ranch Road 385 and go 2 miles. Ebert Ranch is on the right side.

From Austin:

Take Hwy 290 through Harper towards Junction.

Turn right onto Ranch Road 385 (approx. 4 miles west of Harper).

Travel 2 miles (North) on Ranch Road 385. Ebert Ranch is on the right side.



Directions to Beach Camp



**First Presbyterian Church of Corpus Christi
430 S Carancahua St,
Corpus Christi, TX 78401**

From San Antonio:

Follow I-37 S to Corpus Christi.
Take exit 1A from I-37 S
Merge onto I-37 S/US-281 S
Take exit 1A toward Buffalo St
Turn right onto Buffalo St
Turn right at the 2nd cross street onto N Tancahua St
Turn left onto Park Ave
Turn left onto S Carancahua St
Follow TX-35 BRS to TX-361
First Presbyterian has two separate entries one of which is a day school and will not be used by us. The door you are looking for is on the North side of the church across from Agnes St.

From Houston:

I-69 to US-59 S/Southwest Fwy
Use any lane to take the ramp onto US-77 S
Turn left onto E Empresario St
Continue onto FM774
Turn right onto FM 2678 S
Continue onto FM136 S
Turn right to merge onto TX-35 S toward Gregory
Merge onto TX-35 S
Continue onto TX-35 S/US-181 S
Use the right lane to stay on US-181 S
Take the Tancahua St exit toward Staples St
Continue onto Padre St
Turn left onto Ramirez St
Continue onto N Tancahua St
Turn left onto Park Ave
Turn left onto S Carancahua St
First Presbyterian has two separate entries one of which is a day school and will not be used by us. The door you are looking for is on the North side of the church across from Agnes St.



Contacting Your Camper



We encourage camper families to contact their campers during their stay. However, non-emergency visits or phone calls are disruptive to the camp program. So please plan to write letters or email your camper.

Letters:

Some parents choose to write letters and postcards prior to the camp week, and leave them with the camp staff to distribute. If you would like to write to your camper from home, please mail very early to the site where your camper is based. Please see the addresses on the pages 5 and 6. Faxes to campers will not be accepted.

Email:

Campers can receive email! Email to campers will be printed out each morning at 10:00 for afternoon mail call. Please know that email is not private and may be viewed by camp staff who sort mail prior to email distribution.

We use a system to regulate our email to protect us from viruses and to help cover the cost of printing each email to pass it along to the camper. To email your camper, you'll need to set up a Bunk1 account:

1. Go to our website at www.crosstrails.org
2. Click on Summer Camp and find Connect to Campers
3. Click the "Camper Email" button - This will direct you to a new site
4. Click "Need an account or have an invitation code"
5. Enter your information and the "Invitation Code": **CROSSTRAILS2018**
6. Fill out all the required information
7. Purchase Bunk Note credits—You will need a credit card
8. Send an email to your camper!

You will only need to register once and once you register you will be able to invite others to use these services. Look under camp for where your camper is based to direct where you would like to send your email.

Email Replies:

Campers are not allowed to use a computer or cell phone to reply to emails. Campers can reply using stationery purchased through Bunk 1.

1. Purchase credits through Bunk1—This is the same process as Camper Email
2. Use the credits for Bunk Reply Stationery—Send this stationery with your camper to camp or include it in an email you send to them
3. Campers will hand write replies and give it to camp staff
4. Camp staff will send the reply to Bunk1 and it will be uploaded to your Bunk1 Account.

If you are purchasing stationery, please let campers know you would like them to fill it out. It is not camp's responsibility to have your camper fill out the Bunk Reply.

In Case of Emergency:

In case of emergency, please call (830) 257-6340 if your camper is at Chrysalis. If your camper is at Ebert, please call (830) 864-4669. If your camper is at Beach Camp, please call (325) 829-0234. If there is a life or death emergency after 11 pm, call our Health Center at (830) 792-4868 and a message will be relayed to the appropriate director.



Sample Chrysalis Daily Schedule

Printed here is a sample schedule. This schedule will change depending on age group, special events, weather, and other circumstances.

- 7:45 am — First Word
An introduction to the daily theme
- 8:15 am — Breakfast
- 8:45 am — Cabin Clean-up/Free Time
- 9:30 am — Alpha Worship
We begin our day with God
- 10 am — Bible Study & Program Activities
This time includes the unique LYLE curriculum
- 12 pm — Lunch
- 12:30 pm — Turtle Time
We take time out to rest and get out of the sun before the afternoon's activities.
- 1:30 pm — Program Activities
- 5:45 pm — Sing-a-long / Round Up
A time to have fun and learn songs for upcoming worships. Also a time to tell what groups learned in Bible Study.
- 6:00 pm — Dinner
- 6:45 pm — Congregational Time
Campers attending as a group spend time with their congregation. Campers attending individually play games with staff.
- 7:30 pm — All-Camp Activity
We play a game or complete an activity as a large group.
- 8:15 pm — Snack and Community Meeting
A time for representatives from each village to share what activities they have chosen for the day, and work out any conflicts that may arise in scheduling.
- 9:00 pm — Omega Worship
We end our day as we began it — with God.
- 10 pm-12 am — Night Activities
Cabin Devotions
Lights Out



Sample Ebert Ranch Daily Schedule

Printed here is a sample schedule. This schedule will change depending on age group, special events, weather, and other circumstances.

7:30 am — First Word Worship

An introduction to the daily theme

8:00 am — Breakfast

8:30 am — Chores

We teach stewardship by asking campers to help with Kitchen Party, tending to the garden, feeding the animals and cleaning the bunkrooms

9:00 am — Program Activities

12:00 pm — Lunch

12:30 pm — Siesta

We take time out to rest and get out of the sun before the afternoon's activities.

1:30 pm — Program Activities

5:45 pm — Sing-a-long

A time to have fun and learn songs for upcoming worships. Also a time to tell what groups learned in Bible Study.

6:00 pm — Dinner

6:30 pm — Evening Chores or Worship Preparation

Campers will help to lead a worship during the week and can spend this time preparing

7:00 pm — Congregational Activities

Campers attending as a group spend time with their congregation. Campers attending individually play games with staff.

8:00 pm — All- Ranch activity

We play a game or complete an activity as a group

9:00 pm — Snack and Community Meeting

A time for representatives from each village to share what activities they have chosen for the day, and work out any conflicts that may arise in scheduling.

9:30 pm — Last Word Worship and Devotions

We end our day as we began it — with God.

*All campers participate in a daily Bible study time. LYLE campers choose one of the Program Activity times in which to have their Bible study.

Sample Beach Camp Daily Schedule

The schedule at Beach Camp changes daily.

To meet the objectives of Beach Camp, each day contains 5 basic components:

- Bible study which has an evangelism focus
- Time at the beach to relax and have fun
- An opportunity to explore and learn about nature and the beach community
- Activities to build relationships such as All Camp games, crafts, and crew responsibilities
- Worship and devotions to focus on God and experience faith leadership

Various activities include going to the beach, shopping trips, a Dolphin watching boat tour, and more. Campers can also choose some of their activities such as fishing, boogie boarding, and sea shell hunting. Some activities will be limited or cancelled if the weather is poor.

The following is a sample schedule. Each day is unique and the schedule will change depending on weather and other special circumstances.

- 8:00 — Breakfast
- 8:45 — Staff/Sponsor Meeting and Crew Chores
- 9:00 — Sunrise Worship
- 10:00 — Bible Study & Evangelism Activity
- 12:00 — Lunch & KP, Low Tide Quiet Time
- 1:30 — Beach Time
- 5:00 — Shower/Clean up
- 6:00 — Dinner & KP
- 7:30 — All Camp Activity
- 9:00 — Sunset Worship
- 9:45 — Snack
- 10:00 — Crew Devotions
- 11:00 — Lights Out



Activity Options



We value empowering campers and teaching decision making skills. Because of this value, campers will choose many of their daily activities as part of a small group.

All LYLE campers will have intentional leadership development daily with a specialized curriculum including Bible study with the help of our LYLE Coordinators. These skills will be reinforced throughout the day.

Program activity options they may choose from include swimming, arts & crafts, hiking, visiting the camp store, nature activities, field games and more. Some activities may not take place in poor weather.

Please note any activity restrictions for your camper on the Health History Form.

LYLE I campers at Camp Chrysalis or Ebert Ranch may have the opportunity to participate in their ropes course and shoot archery. All LYLE I campers at Ebert Ranch will have the opportunity to learn basic western horsemanship. This will typically be for an hour and a half per day. Some riding will be in our riding ring and, if our staff feel they are ready, some will be trail riding. LYLE I campers at Chrysalis may have the option to go canoeing. LYLE I campers at Beach Camp will participate in daily beach and community activities of Corpus Christi

LYLE II, and some LYLE III, campers will have the opportunity to participate in horseback riding and the ropes course at Ebert Ranch Camp in addition to Chrysalis activities. They may also stay overnight at Ebert Ranch Camp's Outcamp one night.

Meals & Snacks

Cross Trails Ministry strives to provide nutritious and satisfying meals. Food is an integral part of our program. Campers come together as a community to share a meal and fellowship. Because we are an intentional Christian community, campers are encouraged to mingle and meet new people. As a community, campers take turns serving each other by serving meals, cleaning up after meals and washing dishes.

Should your camper not like what is being served, options are available, including cereal at breakfast and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches at lunch and dinner.

The following is a sample menu for a typical camp day.

Breakfast — Pancakes, bacon, cereal, milk, fruit & juice.

Lunch — Sandwich bar, macaroni salad, salad bar, cookies, decaf tea & water.

Supper — Lasagna, garlic bread, broccoli, salad bar, cake, punch, milk, and water.

Snack — Rice Crispy Treats.

For special dietary needs, please specify on the health form. Campers often expend more energy at camp than at home. For this reason campers are encouraged to eat an appropriate amount of food.



What to Bring



Below is a list of things to bring to camp this summer.
Please put your name on everything!

- Bible
- Sleeping Bag & Pillow
- Sleeping Pad (except for Beach Camp LYLE I's)
- Towel & Washcloth
- Soap & Shampoo
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Other Toiletries
- Shirts—at least one per day of camp
- Shorts—at least one per day of camp
- Underwear & Socks
- 1 Pairs of Long Pants
- Clothes That Can Get Muddy
- 2 Pairs of Tennis Shoes
- Shower Shoes
- Water Shoes or an Old Pair of Tennis Shoes (no sandals except for Beach Camp LYLE I's)
- Sun Hat or Cap
- Insect Repellent
- Sunscreen & Chapstick
- Modest Swim Suit — 2 if attending Beach Camp
- Swim Towel
- Light Jacket or Sweatshirt
- Lightweight Rain Coat or Poncho
- Prescription Medications *in their Original Bottle*
- Copy of Your Insurance Card—*If you have not submitted one yet*
- Flashlight with Batteries
- Sunglasses (optional)
- Camera (optional)
- Notebook, Pen, Envelopes & Stamps (optional)
- Money for Offering— \$5.00 per camper—Please see page 15 (optional)
- Money for the Camp Store—Please see page 15 (optional)
- Bunk Reply Stationery—Please see page 7 (optional)
- Group Photo and Video Order Form—Please see page 16 (optional)
- Quarters for Laundry (LYLE II & III campers only)
- Laundry Soap (LYLE II & III campers only)
- Shoes with a Heal or Boots (LYLE I campers who will be at Ebert Ranch, LYLE II & LYLE III Campers)

*Long pants (not skinny jeans) and boots or a heeled shoe are mandatory for riding horses. We do keep some spare boots for camper use. For unusual sizes, please contact us.



What Not to Bring



In order to keep in the camping spirit, please leave the following items at home. If these items are brought to camp, they will be labeled and stored by staff for the duration of the camp session. Our insurance does not cover personal belongings.

- x Pets - Not even to pick up or drop off times
- x Cell Phones
- x Devices Used to Access the Internet: Laptops / Tablets / Apple Watches / Kindles / Other
- x I-Pods / MP3 players
- x Radios / Walkman
- x PSP / Nintendo DS
- x TV's
- x Food / Gum / Candy
- x Sandals / Open Toed Shoes (Except for Beach Camp)
- x Hair Dryers
- x Curling Irons / Flat Irons
- x Weapons
- x Pocket Knives
- x Personal Sports Equipment (Except for Boogie Board for Beach Camp LYLE I's)
- x Tobacco Products
- x Alcohol or Illegal Drugs
- x Over the Counter Drugs
- x Anything Valuable

Cross Trails Ministry reserves the right to search a camper's belongings in special circumstances.

Dress Code

All clothing should be appropriate for a church camp setting. Clothing should not have messages with double meanings or advertisements for adult themed products.

Shirts must cover the entire stomach and may not be strapless, spaghetti strapped or split sides. Tank tops are fine.

Shorts must be an appropriate length as to cover the buttocks, no shorter than the fingertips with arms and hands extended down the sides.

Bathing suits must be modest. For girls tankinis, modest bikinis, or one piece bathing suits are recommended. No string bikinis or thong swimwear are permitted. For boys, no speedos are permitted. While at the pool or beach a camp t-shirt will be issued for those campers who do not bring appropriate swimwear.

Should a camper be dressed inappropriately, the camper will be asked to change into more appropriate clothing.



Cell Phones and Camp



At Cross Trails the small groups that we form for the week a very important part of the camp experience. We strive to build an intentional Christian community in which everyone has the opportunity to be included, develop friendships and learn independence in a safe environment.

We have found that cell phones make this process more difficult for two reasons. First, most cell phones are able to access the internet quickly and take photographs and videos. Although we cannot control what participants post after camp, we want to limit opportunities for images of your camper to be put onto the internet without your permission. We also want to make sure your child is not shown anything on the internet that you would not want them to see. Second, if campers are able to constantly connect to those outside the camp community, they tend to not fully participate in camp and miss the opportunities they have to grow.

We know that being disconnected from your camper is difficult, but we want this to be a safe learning and growing opportunity. For that reason, we ask that cell phones be left at home. If they are brought to camp, we will collect them and securely store them until the end of the camp session.

Additionally, Campers will not be able to use the phone or cell phones on weekends. You are welcome to send email and campers are encouraged to write home. This is a long program, so please know that you will be disconnected for quite a while.

Online Photos

Parents will be able to view online photos of camp during the week. Photos of each day will be updated overnight for viewing the next day. To view pictures, you will need to set up a Bunk1 account. Please follow the instructions under camper email (page 7). Viewing pictures is free and each high quality photo download is \$0.99. You may also purchase photo gifts at their website. For your camper's safety, pictures are password protected. The password will be emailed to your family email the week before your camp session. Please add info@crosstrails.org as a contact to ensure that we are not caught in your spam filter.



Camp Stores and Shopping



At Camp Chrysalis and Ebert Ranch Camp "The Cocoon" or "The Trading Post" will be open during the camp week.

Camper groups typically choose to go to the camp store for an afternoon snack. Snack items include soda, candy, and more. Each camper is limited to two snack items during camp store time, with a maximum spending limit of \$2.00 a day on food items.

The camp stores also sells various camp attire and memorabilia. These items may be purchased throughout the week, as well as during camper departure. Beach Camp will have a limited supply of Cross Trails Ministry apparel and memorabilia. The following is a sample inventory and price list.

- T-Shirts cost \$15-20
- Hats, caps and visors cost \$15 to \$20
- Stuffed animals cost \$10 to \$12
- Carabineers and other small items cost \$4 to \$6

Because we are not responsible for money kept by the camper during the camp week, at Camp Chrysalis and Ebert Ranch we ask campers to turn in all money on the first day of camp. They will then have a charge account established in their name at the store. Any unused funds will be returned before the close of camp. If campers would like to donate their unused funds to aid our summer offering they may do so at closing worship. Beach Campers are responsible for keeping their own money for the week. For this reason we recommend sending a small amount for limited shopping.

Checks for store purchases may be made payable to Cross Trails Ministry. Visa, Mastercard and Discover Card are accepted.

Summer Offering

In keeping with our summer theme and encouraging campers to have a life a prayer and giving, Cross Trails Ministry is partnering with the Dr. Eduardo Roig Lutheran Camp in Puerto Rico. This camp serves its immediate community while also providing a home base for visitors from the states.

Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico in September of last year. Our special offering this year is to help renew the facilities and support the work that the camp has to offer people from all over the island and the world. Because it is in the heart of the local community, there are many opportunities to form relationships with our friends in the Caribbean.

This summer we will teach campers about Puerto Rican daily life, pray for our neighbors there and collect funds to give to the camp for improvements. Later this year, we are planning to take an adult trip to the camp to volunteer there and work with the local community. We would like to present them with a gift of at least \$5000. If most of our campers give \$5, we will easily reach our goal.

Please join us in praying for Puerto Rico and give as you are able to this special summer offering!



Summer Videos and Group Photos



Group Photo:

Upon arrival, campers and parents may purchase a group photo for their week of camp. It will be an 8x10 photo and will have all campers, staff, and information about the week printed on it. Campers who order this will receive it prior to going home. Cost—\$5.00
LYLE Campers in a multi-week program will receive a photo of each week.

Camp Video: Weekly Videos at Camp Chrysalis and Ebert Ranch

Campers at Camp Chrysalis and Ebert Ranch Camp have the option to purchase a camp video. The video will include all of the programs offered during your camper's week. Videos will be posted Friday afternoon online. Beach Camp will not have a video due to production limitations.

Campers and parents who purchase the video while their camper is at camp will receive a promotional code to take home. Buy these during camper check-in or in the camp store prior to departure. Video presale forms are available on our website.

Video Presale Cost—\$10.00. After Camp Session Cost—\$15.00

LYLE Campers in a multi-week program will receive a promotional code for each week.

Camp Video Directions:

Presale:

1. Buy a promotion code at Camp Chrysalis or Ebert Ranch for \$10.00
2. Keep your promotion code until your camper's video is uploaded on Friday
3. Go to www.vimeo.com/ondemand/campchrysalis2018 or to www.vimeo.com/ondemand/ebertranch2018 depending on where your camper is based
4. Find your campers weekly video—It will have the dates your camper came to camp!
5. Select the Buy option—It will say \$15.00, but you have a promo code
6. Sign in for a free account with Vimeo—All you need is your name and an email address
7. When it asks for your credit card, select promo code
8. Enter your promo code and select continue
9. Download the video onto your device or watch it instantly

After Camp Session Sales:

1. Camper videos will be uploaded on Friday afternoon
2. Go to www.vimeo.com/ondemand/campchrysalis2018 or to www.vimeo.com/ondemand/ebertranch2018 depending on where your camper was based
3. Find your campers weekly video—It will have the dates your camper came to camp!
4. Select the Buy option—It will say \$15.00
5. Sign in for a free account with Vimeo—All you need is your name and an email address
6. Pay using your credit card
7. Download the video onto your device or watch it instantly



Camper Expectations & Guidelines



It is our priority to take care of the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of both the individual and the group. In order to do this we have established some basic guidelines and expectations for campers.

Some camper expectations are:

1. Explore your faith.
2. Try new things and learn new skills.
3. Be an active part of the Christian camp community.

Some camper guidelines are:

1. Respect others by using only appropriate language, clothing, actions and physical contact.
2. Respect your cabin mates privacy, personal space and possessions.
3. Respect and care for the camp facilities and natural environment.
4. Respect your safety by staying within camp boundaries, using the buddy system, and telling a staff member if, at any time, you feel unsafe.
5. Respect the rules shared with all campers on the first day of camp and those given at specific activity areas during the camp week.

Camper Consequences

Our staff practice positive behavior management and work with their campers to build communication and cooperation within the group. If a camper breaks a rule or fails to follow the camper guidelines, our staff work with him or her to define what the appropriate behavior would have been and to determine the appropriate consequences for their actions. Cabin Leaders will document camper behavior daily.

If a camper continues to break rules, or becomes disruptive to the camp program, he or she will meet with the Director to develop a written agreement on appropriate behavior called a behavior contract. Parents will be contacted if their child is placed on a behavior contract. If the behavior contract is broken, parents will be required to come pick up their camper.

Campers may be sent home at any time, even for a first offense or without a behavior contract, if the Director and Executive Director determine that the camper poses an emotional or physical threat to themselves, other campers or staff. This includes bullying as defined by repeated offenses that interfere with other campers' experiences.

If your camper is attending with a pastor or youth director, this adult will be involved in the behavior management strategy.



Health & Wellness



For the safety of your child, your camper cannot be at camp without a completed **Health History Form**. Please fill this out as completely as possible. This can be found online and can also be printed off of our website. Please submit it online or mail it to camp by May 1, 2017. Be certain to sign it. This gives our nurse time to review it and ask any questions they need to.

If you submit the form online, please send a copy of your insurance card with your child to camp. If you submit a paper form, you should include it with your form.

If anything changes with your child's health in the month prior to camp, please call our office at (830) 257-6340.

If your child has any unusual emotional, mental or physical concerns, please contact our office to speak with the Director regarding any accommodations that may need to be made.

Upon their arrival at camp, all campers visit the Health Care Coordinator or Camp Director. At this time, all medications are checked in and all campers are screened for lice, athlete's foot and any pre-existing conditions that may affect their participation in camp activities.

If your child takes prescription medication, it must be brought to camp and turned in to the health center in its original container with the dosage instructions. We can not administer medications without dosage instructions or differently from the instructions on the bottle. Campers should not bring non-prescription medication. We keep plenty in stock. Simply indicate which ones we can give your child on the health history.

In the event of minor camper injury or illness, it is Cross Trails Ministry's policy to treat the camper according to physician-approved procedures. If the injury or illness prevents campers from participating in normal camp activities, parents will be notified to inform them of the situation and of treatment given. This includes any ailment that keeps a camper away from activities for longer than 1 hour.

In the event of serious camper injury or illness, it is Cross Trails Ministry's policy to notify parents by phone. If emergency treatment is deemed necessary, the camper will be taken to the emergency room and treated by a physician. Your insurance company will be responsible for the cost of any injury to or illness of your child while at camp. Cross Trails Ministry carries secondary accident insurance only.

If a camper is attending with a pastor or sponsor, this adult may be consulted and involved in treatment of the camper.

We will have some campers come to camp that are not current in their vaccinations or their parents voluntarily do not immunize them. All parents must sign the vaccination



Tips for Preventing Homesickness



Many campers, whether first timers or returning, will experience some feelings of homesickness. This is normal for all ages. Homesickness can show itself through physical symptoms, strong emotions, or both. It is often strongest early in the week, and at meals, rest and bedtime.

Our goal is to help your camper be successful in their time away from home. Campers who are homesick are encouraged to be involved and active in camp activities. They are encouraged to write and talk about their feelings, but not focus on them.

By staying at camp and participating, even if they are homesick, campers gain confidence in their abilities and a healthy sense of independence.

Parents of campers whose homesickness is severe or disruptive to the camp environment will be contacted.

Help set your camper up for success!

Do's

1. Make sure your camper knows that you think he or she will have a wonderful time.
2. Talk openly with your child about homesickness. Explain that it is normal to miss home, but you know they can handle it.
3. Encourage your camper to bring a non-valuable security item to camp — such as a blanket, stuffed animal or photograph.
4. Write encouraging and enthusiastic letters to be delivered while at camp. Let your camper know you want them to have a good time and are looking forward to hearing about their new experiences.
5. For younger children, make sure your child knows how to take care of his or her own basic personal needs and hygiene. Make sure your camper knows where to find everything in the items you pack for camp.

Don'ts

1. Don't worry too much. Most homesick children are still having a positive experience. They write home when they feel sad, yet are happy most of the day.
2. Don't tell your child you will call or visit during the camp week. If you are worried that your child is homesick, you can call the camp and ask the director to check on your child for you.
3. Don't emphasize how much you will, or do miss your camper, either when saying goodbye or when writing letters.
4. Don't promise to pick up your child immediately if he or she feels homesick. Your camper may never give camp a chance.
5. Don't emphasize homesickness so much that your child expects to be severely homesick.
6. Don't let campers have cell phones. Don't encourage the camper to call home or to hide their cell phone so they can call if they are not having a good time. This teaches them it is okay to break rules and often they will not give camp a chance.



Upcoming Events



Lutheran Camp Chrysalis

Women's Big R	<i>Adult Women — August 8-11, 2018</i>
Family & Friends Labor Day Retreat	<i>Families — August 31-September 3, 2018</i>
What Does This Mean?!	<i>Confirmation Students of Smaller</i>
Confirmation Retreat	<i>Congregations — September 28-30, 2018</i>
Upper Elementary Advent Retreat	<i>Youth in Grades 3-5</i>
	<i>November 30-December 2, 2018</i>
Family Advent Festival Retreat	<i>Families — November 30-December 2,</i>
	<i>December 7-9, and December 14-16, 2018</i>

Ebert Ranch Camp

Mother/Daughter "Daring" Retreat	<i>Girls in Grades 4-6 and their Mothers</i>
	<i>October 12-14, 2018</i>
Father/ Son "Dangerous" Retreat	<i>Boys in Grades 4-6 and their Fathers</i>
	<i>October 19-21, 2018</i>
Youth Worker Retreat	<i>Paid and Volunteer Youth Workers</i>

Lutheran Fall Festival in Fredericksburg

Fredericksburg Markt Platz	<i>September 15, 2018</i>
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Year Round Retreating

Ebert Ranch and Camp Chrysalis are open year-round for your use. If you have a group that wants to come to camp, simply contact us and we will help you plan your event.

Who can come?

Anyone. Youth groups, church councils, sewing guilds, scouting troops, service groups, family reunions. Anyone.

When can you come?

Camp is open year round. Contact us to reserve your dates. Retreats can be for an afternoon, a weekend or during the week.

What does camp provide?

We can provide as little or as much as you need. We offer housing, meals, campfires, Bible studies, worships, challenge course activities, canoeing, horseback riding, games and more. Let us work with you.

Why come to camp?

Groups come for many reasons. Some want to learn more about each other and create a bonded group. Others want to get away for a meeting or to accomplish a task. Some want to serve by completing work projects. Others want to take advantage of the many activities we offer. What is your reason?