## WHY CAMP? A place for Christ-centered community

Daniel comes from a family that is all about baseball. Their vacations and their summer plans all revolve around coaching, playing, and refereeing games and visiting famous ballparks and baseball history museums. But every summer, Daniel makes sure that he has one week set aside to go to camp – even if it means missing a game or two.



"A week at camp is like nothing else I do," Daniel says. "It's different

than being on a team playing a game. Our cabin group – and the whole camp community – is like a family. The counselors are fun, and you can tell they really care about us, and nobody has to be the best at anything – we just have fun together! And I like talking about God with the staff and other people my age."

Camp provides daily opportunities for prayer, faithful conversation with other Christians, stewardship of God's Creation, elements of service to God and others, and daily devotions. We hear and experience God's Word, and have opportunities to put it immediately into practice. We live out our baptismal promises, reminded that we are named, claimed, and sent. It's an immersion in a loving, grace-filled community of Christ that offers us the a glimpse of the promised Kingdom - a fully immersive experience of the loving presence of Jesus, thanks to the gift of the Holy Spirit - and, as Daniel reminds us, we also have a lot of fun.

Maybe it's time we rethink the value we place on church camp. It really does reinforce everything we teach about being a beloved child of God and allows us to encounter the living Christ in powerful ways.



REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CAMP AT LUTHERANCAMPING.ORG

The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm LutheranCamping.org

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