

# Daybreak Camp

# SUN

**Mission:**  
“Daybreak seeks  
to encourage  
everyone to have  
a personal  
relationship  
with Jesus Christ”

**Spring 2007**

## Camp Is on the calendar

*By Lloyd Matson, author, camp director, and pastor*

There was a time when the plaintive call came often, “What’s there to do, Mom?” You seldom hear that anymore.

Before kids are barely out of diapers, they are bombarded with compelling opportunities for amusement. Little mites scurry about on ice rinks and soccer fields followed by rabid parent fans. The teams sport expensive uniforms. Soccer moms have become a voting bloc. Kid sports’ grip on the nation is amazing.

Sports get kids outdoors, teach teamwork, build friendships, and burn energy, but there’s another grip on kids that’s scary.

A friend recently commented, “Last Saturday I drove through an upscale new development with fine homes, textured lawns, curving streets, a pool, and a fenced play area bristling with colorful gizmos. Suddenly it struck me: I couldn’t see a kid? Not one.”

Millions of kids, young and old, no longer live in the world of bikes and playgrounds. Imprisoned in their virtual world, they bounce and weave to iPod tunes and hover over garish monitors, addicted to noisy digital input foisted on them by a multi-billion dollar industry.

Is this a cranky, old-fogy exaggeration? I hope so. But if this apparent digital enslavement worries you, consider a happy alternative; a week at camp.

Don’t imagine you can suddenly haul a load of digitalized kids to camp. You must apply a soccer mom’s dedication to building an appetite for camp. Family involvement in a youngster’s early years will do that. Considering the values Christian camping offers, that involvement will become increasingly vital.

To say kids have lost interest in camping misses the point. A kid who has never seen an ice rink will not be interested in hockey, but when Dad give Junior a puck for a teething ring, hockey interest will follow.

### **Family values Christian camping offers:**

▪**Safety:** Careful staff screening and training weed out people unfit to serve. Camps work constantly to assure physical, moral,

and spiritual safety for campers. Government regulations reinforce the camp’s efforts. A typical youth camp provides about one staff member for every three campers with trained counselors guiding cabin groups.

▪**Friendships:** Friends are one of the most vital forces for shaping a child’s character, and camps create an environment where friendships form and grow. Campers encourage kids to share adventure with peers from diverse backgrounds over 5-6 days under spiritual guidance, allowing friendships to mature.

▪**Self-discovery:** The overpowering sights and sounds of the digital world stifle personal reflection and creativity, while the camp’s natural setting and challenging programs create moments of self-awareness and creative thought.

▪**Spiritual input:** Christian camps present the gospel through chapel services, Bible study groups, counselor-led sharing times, and campfires, providing opportunities for campers to make spiritual choices and receive counseling.

▪**Role models:** The home church brings kids and leaders together for an hour or two of directed activity in a religious setting. At camp, kids and leaders interact constantly in worship, play, adventure, discover, and meals—the stuff of daily life. In this setting, the friendship of older Christians makes a great impact.

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## SPRING WORK DAYS



**SATURDAYS—MAY 5 and MAY 12**  
**9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**  
**Snacks and lunch provided**

Bring your family, your teen youth group, work gloves, strong backs, sunscreen, and willing, servant hearts to work together preparing Daybreak for this summer. There’s plenty of work for all. Please give Daybreak a call at 831- 335-2756 to let us know how many are coming so we can prepare the food.

*“Camp in on the Calendar” continued:*

▪**Creation:** Our world of wire and concrete dulls the spirit to the wonders of nature. Many youngsters spend most of the hours indoors, going out only to move from one indoor place to the next. Camps feature the natural setting. Campfire worship, nature hikes, outpost overnights and week-long trips bring campers close to creation. The near presence of forest, field, hill and lake stirs camper’s hearts. The heavens do declare the glory of God.

▪**Change of pace:** Within the camp’s full schedule are pockets of leisure that provide the camper with breathing room. Away from the distractions common to life at home, and immersed in a Christian community, campers often find new life perspectives. The Christian life at home takes on the appearance of a group activity engineered by leaders, but God’s Spirit always deals with hearts one on one. Camp often provides the stillness that is mandated in Scripture: “Be still, and know that I am God” (Ps 46:10)

▪**Leadership growth:** The camp, more than any other Christian agency, provides openings for entry-level leadership experience. Most camp leaders once were campers. A significant percentage of Christian leaders first tasted leadership in a camp and trace their sense of calling to a camp experience.

▪**Fair price:** Remembering their camp years, parents may wonder at today’s camp fees. The answer lies in the cost of today’s homes, cars, professional sporting events tickets, and dinners out. Considering the benefits one week at camp offers kids, the fee represents an overwhelming value.

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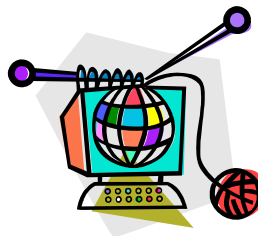
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## Upgraded website

At Daybreak Camp, currently in its 38th year of operation, the website was due for an upgrade. Peter Nicklin, the original designer of the website, helped with setting up our website. We are so thankful for his help. However, time had come that the website needed some TLC. So, what we thought would take a few weeks—turned into a winter major project.

Take a few minutes and check out the upgraded website. . . [www.daybreakcamp.org](http://www.daybreakcamp.org). All of these are available online—just for the asking. . .

- Summer camp information including registrations and parent information
- Current time, temperature and weather at Daybreak
- Facility information about guest group rental and how to use Daybreak
- Directions and maps
- Camp volunteer staffing application forms and information
- Forms for the OTS (Opportunity to Serve and CIT (Cabin Leader in Training)
- Upcoming Events Calendar



Although there is more to be added, most of that will have to wait until next winter. We must concentrate on the upcoming summer.

We would appreciate your prayers for a safe summer; a summer that more campers will come to know Jesus through their camp experience at Daybreak.

## CREEKSIDE CABIN RESTROOM REMODEL



The restroom in the Creekside Cabin, formerly known as the mobile home, was due for a facelift. Two men from the Campbell congregation asked if there was a winter project they could do. Of course, everyone knows that projects at Daybreak are plentiful.

Thanks to Curt Acord and Dale Fuqua, the Creekside Cabin has a tiled shower, new flooring, new paint (floor to ceiling), a new sink, and 3 new mirrors.



Thank you, Curt and Dale, for using your skills to remodel the restroom. Many thanks for a beautiful job, well done.

# Book of Remembrances and Honors

*Removed for Web Version*

## Secure online giving for your convenience

Currently we have available online at [www.daybreakcamp.org](http://www.daybreakcamp.org) **secure online giving** where you can make a one-time donation, or reoccurring weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annual donation to this ministry. Donations are accepted by credit card or electronic check.

To use the secure online giving service:



- Open the website homepage
- click on Support Daybreak
- click on Donate Now!

Follow the directions to complete your donation, whether it is by credit card or electronic check, and it will be processed.

Thank you for all the ministry support and prayers.

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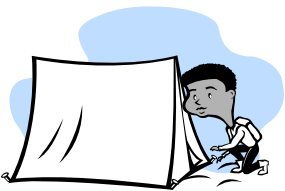


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# Summer Camp opportunities



**Faith Development Camp(Completed grades 9-12)—July 8-14**

**Wildside (Completed grades 6-8)—July 15-20**

**Adventure Camp (Completed grades 2-5)—July 29-August 3**

**Labor Day Youth Rally (Completed grades 8-College)—August 30-September 3**

Registration forms are available online at [www.daybreakcamp.org](http://www.daybreakcamp.org).

Mail early for best rates for all camps. LDYR brochures will be available in June.

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## **STAFFING**

Daybreak needs staffing help from thoughtful adults. Each spring families from last years' campers receive information requesting help for the upcoming summer. Campers need adults that are willing to participate in their lives; and the adults that are already committed need you to sign up to work at camp. Please pray and consider this request; give of yourselves and your time to work this summer at camp. Share the fun in the summer with others that want to make a difference in the lives of these teens and children. OK, give it more prayer! You can work with food service, take pictures, in cabins with campers, many places need filling. Have a question—give us a call at 831-335-2756. Check online-all of the information is available at [www.daybreakcamp.org](http://www.daybreakcamp.org). Together we all can achieve more—Be part of this staff team.