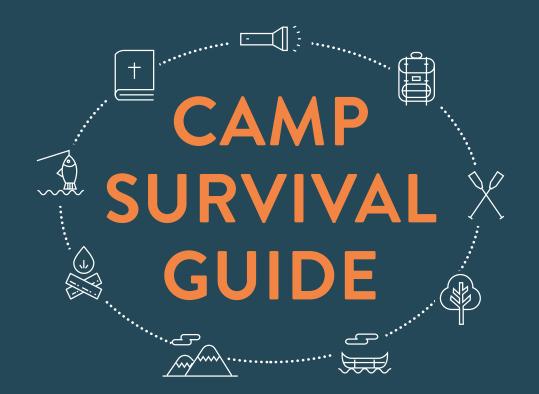
# **CROSSINGS 2018**



## **Participant/Parent Edition**

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## LETTER FROM THE INTERIM PRESIDENT

Welcome to Crossings! Whether you have been to Crossings dozens of times or this is your first time here, you are in for an incredible experience. For all, we pray that we will meet and exceed your expectations. Our hope is that you will leave us forever changed. Our primary goal is for the Gospel to be made evident to you in everything that we say and do. We hire incredible staff who work tirelessly, both to share the good news of Christ Jesus with every one of your students and to provide all of our participants with a comfortable and distraction-free stay.

We are quite excited to introduce a new recreation lake activity to each property. Jonathan Creek participants will experience the thrilling opportunity of the new skislope style water slide that we affectionately call the Sky Launch. Cedarmore campers will gather in the middle of the lake on the new Wave Maker, a floating platform that includes hangout space, slides, trampolines, and rope swings. Our goal is to provide continual improvements to each of our property experiences in the hope that these new recreational opportunities aid Gospel opportunities and conversations.

We have also made a number of registration policy changes for 2019. We are eager to help you, the church, in every way that we can. For that reason, we have made three key changes to make it as pain free as possible for you to get your students to camp. First, we have lowered our per person registration fee from \$25 to \$5. Second, the price of camp will not go up after February 28th. This enables you to not penalize late-comers who may decide at the last minute that they can come to camp. As long as there is availability, they will pay no more than students who signed up early. Third, we are dropping our camp rates by 2% across the board. We hope that 2% means even more students can come to hear that ever important question at camp: "Have you met Jesus?" I want to encourage you to take advantage of these changes and register early in order to get the week and housing that best fits your church.

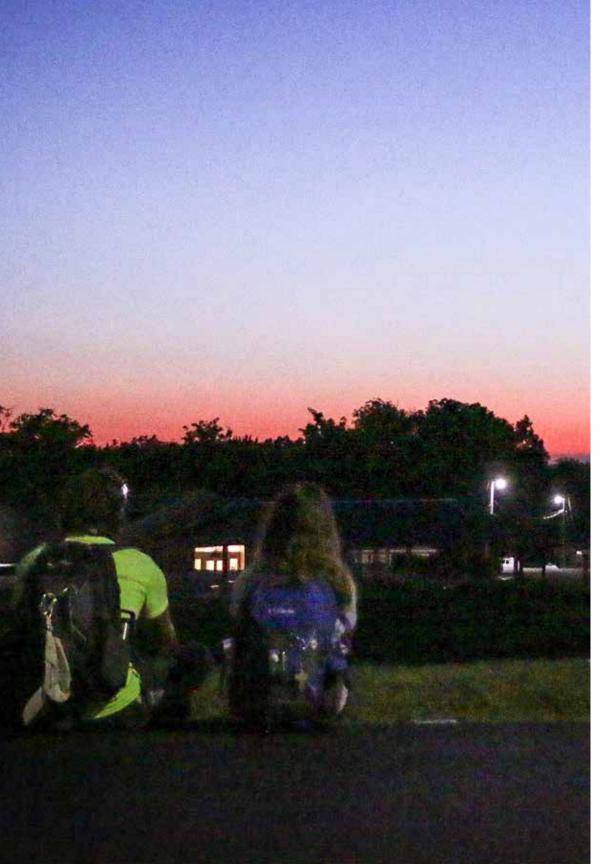
Crossings is laser focused on partnering with churches to share the Gospel through camp ministry. It is that simple. We believe God has called us for this unique ministry.

We are praying that God does incredible things this week and that you and your students will leave having experienced life transformation.

Hope to see you rockin' your granddad swag at the Thrift Store Party!

LANCE HOWERTON INTERIM PRESIDENT, CROSSINGS MINISTRIES

## **CROSSINGS MODEL**





## **GOSPEL INTENTIONALITY**

At Crossings, we are serious about proclaiming the Gospel in everything that we do and teach. The Gospel is the power of God for salvation! Our desire is that every student will believe the Gospel and live forth the Gospel in their life. For this reason, campers will hear the Gospel on the first night of camp and then continue to hear it every day during Bible study, during worship, and from their assigned staffer.

## **ROBUST BIBLICAL TEACHING**

God's Word, through the power of the Spirit, has the sole power to change lives. We want to see lives transformed by God and his Word is the tool to see this happen. For this reason, you can expect our camp pastors to teach and exposit God's word every time they stand up.

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## **TRAINED SUMMER STAFF**

Our more than one hundred Summer Staffers have a hand in nearly every aspect of camp. They lead small groups, oversee activities, staff the kitchen, and clean the property. Most importantly, our schedule is designed so that staffers have ample opportunity to hang out with students, build relationships with them, and proclaim the Gospel to them. Our Summer Staff are essential to you and your students having a life-changing experience at camp.

## **MISSIONAL MINDSET**

We are committed to proclaiming the Gospel to the ends of the earth. At every camp, we invite students to consider how they can obey the Great Commission by supporting missionaries each summer. Our strategic partnership with Baptist Haiti Mission allows us to also offer a next step in the form of short-term mission trips that allow students to see firsthand what God is doing among the nations.

## LOCAL CHURCH PARTNERSHIP

The church is the bride of Christ, the pillar and buttress of the truth, and the one to whom God has given the task of equipping the saints. Our task is to support, encourage, come alongside, and partner with the church. While students are at camp, we make sure that our church leaders are aware and involved in what is happening in every student's life.

## **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

God has called believers to protect the innocent. For this reason, we require all chaperones and group leaders to have a **completed background check within the last two years before they come to camp**. Gated entrances, security personnel, our group-based model, and our high staff-tostudent ratios ensure that our camps are as safe of an environment as we can provide.

## **THEME OVERVIEW**

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## WIRED FOR WORSHIP CROSSINGS STUDENT CAMPS

In Christian circles, the idea of worship is often limited to music and singing on Sunday morning. Worship, however, encompasses all of life because humanity was created to worship God as our ultimate purpose. Therefore, worship is ultimately about a relationship with God. This is why it has been said, "Know your God and know yourself." It is when we focus on God that we discover our true purpose and our true identity.

#### We Were Created?

Next summer at Crossings, we are going to dive into the Psalms and discover that we are wired for worship. In everything that we do, we are to worship God in our work, in our relationships, in our thinking, and in every area of our life. But, we are broken by our sin and we worship the wrong things—idols like status, material possessions, others' praise, grades, Instagram likes, and ourselves.

#### **Return and Reconnect**

In a hyper-connected world, we all need to disconnect from our various distractions, idols, and sins so that we can reconnect to our Creator and Redeemer. This is why Jesus came, not just to save us from the wrath of God, but to return us to our Maker so that we can do what we were designed to do—worship the living God.

**#LIFEASWORSHIP** 

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FOR WORSHIP



## SAFARI: GOD'S PURSUIT OF US CROSSINGS KIDS CAMPS

#### Set Out On a Safari

Crossings Kids in 2018 is going on a Safari—a biblical safari. Join us as we travel to Luke chapter 15. In Luke 15, Jesus presents to us a world of lost things — a lost son, a lost sheep, and a lost coin. Like the lost son, we do things in our own way. Like the lost sheep, we think we know the way when we don't. Like the lost coin, we need to be found.

#### Return to the Father

The good news is that Jesus used stories like these parables to teach us that we are lost and that we need to return to our Father, who is seeking for us. These parables teach us that we are nothing without Jesus and that it is through a relationship with him that we can come back to the Father. It is our hope that students will leave camp in 2018 knowing that Jesus cares deeply for them and has provided a way for them to be found by God.

#### **Celebrate Lost Things Found**

We want to join the characters in Luke 15 and celebrate lost things found. In fact, we want to celebrate that those who believe in Jesus were once a lost people who now have been found by Jesus: "It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and he is alive; he was lost, and is found" (Luke 15:32).

## **#LOSTTHINGSFOUND**





**NEW TO CROSSINGS?** TAKE A GLANCE AT WHAT A FULL DAY LOOKS LIKE!



## Mornings = Gospel + Heart Focus

**Morning Celebration** | A high-energy time every morning that includes lots of fun, live sketches, videos, announcements, games, and music.



**Bible Study** | Daily in-depth exposition of God's Word led by our camp pastor. The camp is segmented into high school and middle school to allow focused teaching. After Bible study, our staffers lead a time of discussion and application with your students.



**Break Thru** | After Bible study, our staffers invest in your students via games, guided conversations, and general hang out time.



## Afternoons = High-Enegery Indoor and Outdoor Activities

**Points of Impact (POIs)** | We fill your students afternoons with high-energy indoor and outdoor activities on our beautiful properties. At the end of each POI, our staffers spend a few minutes discussing with students how that particular activity illustrates the Gospel. A list of POIs is available at www.gocrossings.org/camps.



**Lake Recreation** | This is a time within the afternoon rotation to participate in activities like water zips, blobs, water slides, etc. Please reference the dress code for appropriate swimwear.



**Connect** | This is a designated time for your Group Leader to connect with students through devotions, discussions, team building activities, or simply hanging out.



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**Time Alone With God (TAWG)** | During Connect, we encourage students to have personal quiet time in Bible Study and prayer. Devotional material based on the morning Bible study is provided to each student.

**The General Store** | Open in the afternoons, the General Store will offer a wide range of products for purchase. Visitors will be able to purchase Crossings merchandise, snacks, and convenience items.



**Evening = Worship + Bible + Relationships** 

**Worship** — The worship service is the heartbeat of camp. Everything we do revolves around worshipping the Lord through song and through the preaching of the Word. During this evening gathering, we are intentional about calling students to repentance and faith in Christ, providing them with a serious study of the Word of God, and offering Christ-centered worship that we pray will help them seek the things that are above.



**Vertical Challenge** | On the last evening of camp, students can compete in a blob and water zipline competition for various prizes in front of the entire camp. Prizes include the Big Bruiser, Flying Squirrel, and others. (Student Camp Only)



**Fellowship** | The entire camp participates in these Crossings keynote experiences. These times are highlights of every camp week that foster unity, team-building, and allow for a little camp-wide controlled chaos.



**Checkpoint** | A designated time for you to meet with your group, debrief, worship, and pray together.



**Shack** | This is the last hoorah before lights out. Immediately following Checkpoint, the Shack will be open to purchase tasty treats and refreshing beverages. This is a time for you and the staff to continue developing relationships with your students.



## **BEFORE CAMP**

## PARTICIPANT ACCOUNTS

This is required for all participants, including chaperones. Your Group Leader will send you a custom link. When you click this link, you will need to create an account. On this account, it will prompt you to update/fill out your personal information

- Indicate preferences for activities/points-of-impact
- Fill out a Medical Release Form (FYI: Parents must electronically sign)
- Indicate any food allergies or relevant medical needs.
- Indicate your t-shirt size.





## **BEFORE CAMP**

## **INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE CAMP**

## **Missions Offerings**

The central aspect of our mission statement heralds the fact that we exist to proclaim the Gospel. We want this truth to saturate every moment of your students' time at camp. For this reason, we continue to raise money to support missionaries and missions organizations around the world.

## Student Camps – Baptist Haiti Mission

Baptist Haiti Mission is our strategic missions partner and has been doing faithful Gospel ministry in Haiti for over 70 years. BHM supports 350 churches and schools, trains pastors, provides medical care, sponsors children, and provides summer camps at VBS at its Camp Le Phare location on the Caribbean Ocean. All students are encouraged to bring \$20 to support BHM in its work of taking the Gospel to students in Haiti at Camp Le Phare.

## Kids Camp –IMB's One Life Project

61 million kids are left behind in southeast Asia while their parents seek work in larger cities. These children are left with elderly family members or neighbors and largely must fend for themselves. To minister to these kids, One Life is starting One Center, a project focused on developing community centers where those left behind can find love, help, and support. We are asking all Crossings' kids to bring \$10 to give during the missions offering. This \$10 will give kids (just like them) in southeast Asia a wide variety of supplies in a backpack. One student can change the life of one student in southeast Asia with just \$10.

## Dress Code

We ask that all students and adults dress modestly. For females, shorts need to be longer than fingertips when arm is extended down the side of leg. We do not allow spaghetti strap tank tops or any tops where undergarments can be seen. Swimsuits must be one piece, no exceptions. For females, shorts must be worn over swimsuits at all times, even in the water. For both males and females, shirts must be worn at all times when walking to and from the lake/pool.

## The Leadership Experience

LEAD is a unique opportunity for upcoming and recently graduated seniors to experience Crossings like never before! To be a part of the LEAD program, students must be recommended by their Group Leader and then accepted by Crossings. Please speak to your Group Leader about filling out the application form. They must recommend you through their Group Leader account.

20 participants are selected each camp session to participate in a specialized program alongside our Crossings staff. While these students will stay in the lodging,

eat meals, and attend morning celebration with their church, they will spend the afternoon with our Summer Staff attending leadership classes, serving with summer Staff, and of course, having fun at the recreation lake.

LEAD's desire is to see students who have attended Crossings for years, or who are leaders among their churches, grow deeper in what it means to be a leader as they seek to proclaim the Gospel!

## Directions

Turn-by-turn directions are available at <u>www.gocrossings.org/cedarmore</u> or <u>www.gocrossings.org/jonathancreek</u> (in the FAQ sections). We encourage you to use Google Maps to locate us.

Cedarmore Camp and Conference Center, 3083 Cedarmore Rd, Bagdad, KY 40003 Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center, 3043 Beal Rd, Hardin, KY 42048



# PACKING LIST

- 1. Pillow and sheets or sleeping bag.
- 2. Towels: beach towel and bath towels.
- 3. Toiletries (toothbrush, soap, shampoo, etc).
- 4. A complete Bible, notepad, and pen for Bible Study and Worship.
- 5. Appropriate clothing (see Dress Code below).
- 6. Thrift Store Party attire. \*Students must bring themselves, we will not provide.
- 7. Modest one-piece swimsuits. Females MUST wear shorts over their swimsuits.
- 8. Crossings strongly recommends that you bring a pair of athletic sandals and/or water shoes if participating in kayaking (Jonathan Creek only).
- 9. Sunscreen and insect repellent.
- 10. Spending Money. Students and adults will have opportunities to make purchases throughout the week (the Shack & The General Store).
- 11. Reusable water bottle.
- 12. Wristwatch: we do not want you to miss any part of your exciting week of camp!
- 13. Missions Offering Money (Recommend \$20 for student camp and \$10 for kids camp).
- 14. We recommend you bring hand soap, bath mats, and hand/paper towels.
- 15. Required: Closed toe shoes and sturdy shorts for zip-lines, aerial adventure park (JC), and climbing tower (CM). Closed toe shoes also required for archery tag (CM), laser tag (JC), and bazooka ball. As a general rule, it is wise to wear closed toe shoes for all activities and POIs. \*JC = Jonathan Creek / CM = Cedarmore.

#### WHAT NOT TO BRING

- 1. Alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs.
- 2. Fireworks or weapons of any kind.
- 3. Skateboards, roller skates, or shoes with built in skates.

#### **DRESS CODE**

We ask that all students and adults dress modestly. For females, shorts need to be longer than fingertips when arm is extended down the side of leg. We do not allow spaghetti strap tank tops or any tops where undergarments can be seen. Swimsuits must be one piece, no exceptions. For females, shorts must be worn over swimsuits at all times, even in the water. For both males and females, shirts must be worn at all times when walking to and from the lake/pool.











## WHILE AT CAMP

#### MEDICAL INFORMATION

Camp nurses will be available for all basic medical needs. Our camp nurses can administer medication, address dietary issues, offer first aid services, and handle medical emergencies. Please advise us of any known medical conditions or allergies at registration and on the medical release form. Directions to the nearest hospital are available at camp.

## HOUSING

Room assignments will be emailed prior to arriving to camp. Please inform your Group Leader of anyone requiring ground floor accommodations due to handicap or medical needs. Room keys are only given to adult leaders. Lost keys will incur an \$11 charge. All rooms must be cleaned and are subject to inspection on the last day of camp.

#### VISITOR POLICY

If you are a parent, pastor, or any other non-registered adult, then our Visitor Policy & Code of Conduct applies to you. Visiting hours are 1:00-11:00pm. You will need to fill out a Medical Release Form prior to your arrival if you are participating in any recreational activities or are under the age of 18. Visitors to camp MUST be visiting a registered church who is at camp.

All visitors are required to check in at the Welcome Center upon arrival with a physical Medical Release Form if necessary. Our staff will provide you with: a lanyard, a parking pass, and a copy of our code of conduct. Dinner tickets are available for purchase at the Welcome Center for \$10 a ticket. We recommend that you fill out the visitor form ahead of time at gocrossings.org/visitors.



## THRIFT STORE PARTY

This is a night for ballin' on a budget and rockin' granddad swag. Go huntin' in the bins and pop some tags to find the craziest, oldest, and cheapest outfit you can then come kick it solo with your friends for games, music, and maybe even a dance off. Show up in style to see if you can win best dressed.

\*Please bring your outfit to camp with you. We recommend that you raid your parents' closet (with permission) or stop by your favorite Thrift Store before camp.







AFTER CAMP







# FAQs

What are the age groups for students attending Crossings Camps?

Student Camp, On Mission Camp, and Camp40 are for those entering 7th grade through graduated high school students. Kids Camps are for those entering 3rd grade through entering 6th grade.

## We do not have access to the internet: Can my student fill out paper Medical Release and POI forms, and bring them to camp?

Crossings receives thousands of Crossings Medical Release Forms each year. In order for these forms to be accessible, it is important to store them in our electronic database by completing the form online.Please fill out the forms at the church if you have no internet access at home.

**Do you have a place where my student can do laundry during camp?** There are no laundry facilities available on property.

## My student's cell phone does not get reception, is there a phone they can use?

There are phones available for your use by Group Leaders and Chaperones if an emergency call is necessary. Please ensure your student's Group Leader has the relevant contact information.

### What if I have a student with food allergies?

If you have a student with food allergies, please make sure this is noted on their 2018 Crossings Medical Release Form in their participant account. Our staff will do everything to accommodate them and keep our kitchen staff aware of the student's needs. Please advise your student to find a member of the kitchen staff to discuss their options during meal times. For Kids Camp, please ensure an Adult Leader is aware of the allergies so that they may speak to our Food Service Director on behalf of the child.

#### Does it cost extra to participate in activities?

Crossings is all-inclusive and all of the activities that your students want to participate in are already included in the price.

More FAQs can be found at: gocrossings.org/camps/studentcamp2018 gocrossings.org/camps/kidscamp2018 Camps Short-Term Missions Resources Events Retreats

WWW.GOCROSSINGS.ORG

