

# CAMP CONNECTION



## WILDLY TOGETHER

### A SPRING SEASON OF BELONGING, GROWTH, AND SACRED ADVENTURE

On a summer evening at Cross Roads, voices rise around the campfire —some loud, some quiet, but all belonging. This is what it means to be Wildly Together.

Cross Roads is a community of many stories. It's where campers try new things, teens ask big questions, and families find rest. Here, belonging is offered, faith is explored, and leadership is nurtured.

As we look toward Summer 2026, new stories are waiting to begin. This ministry is only possible through your generosity. Whether you give, volunteer, or pray, you help make these sacred adventures possible.

**See pages 9-11 for a list of our 2025 donors.**

Let's grow boldly.  
Let's belong fully.  
Let's be **Wildly Together.**

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# ANTHONY'S CORNER



## DEAR FRIENDS,

There's a moment every summer that catches me off guard in the best way.

It usually happens at closing worship. The sun is starting to set. Campers are sitting a little closer together than they were on Sunday. The singing sounds stronger. The laughter feels easier. And you can see it — something has shifted.

- A camper who arrived nervously is now leading motions to a song.
- A teen who wasn't sure they fit in is surrounded by friends.
- A counselor who once sat in that same spot is now guiding others with steady confidence.

And I think to myself, this is why we do this. Our theme this year, *Wildly Together*, feels especially meaningful when I picture those moments.

When I think about Cross Roads, I think of a community alive with diverse voices, gifts, and stories. Some people arrive ready to jump right in. Others take a little more time. Some come full of energy. Others come carrying questions, uncertainty, or weariness.

And somehow, together, something beautiful takes shape.

### That's our community.

At Cross Roads, you don't have to be a certain way to belong. You don't have to have your faith all figured out. You don't have to be the loudest voice in the room. *You just have to show up.*

Here, questions are welcome. Differences are honored. Leadership grows naturally. And belonging is something you feel, sometimes before you even realize it.

As we head toward Summer 2026, I feel both excited and deeply grateful. Registration is open. Staff are stepping forward to serve. Families are planning their return. Churches are scheduling retreats. Another season of life-changing ministry is beginning to take shape.

### And none of it happens without you.

Because of your generosity, campers who might not otherwise attend get to experience this place. Because of your prayers, this ministry remains grounded. Because of your presence, as parents, donors, volunteers, alumni, staff, and friends, Cross Roads continues to thrive.

- Thank you for being part of this story.
- Thank you for helping create a place where kids grow braver, faith grows deeper, and community grows stronger.

This season, I hope you'll find a way to step into what God is doing here, whether that's sending a camper, serving on staff, attending a retreat, or simply keeping camp in your prayers.

Let's keep growing.  
Let's keep showing up.  
Let's be **Wildly Together**.

With gratitude,

Anthony Briggs  
Executive Director

### DONATE TODAY!



# RUNNING SO OTHERS CAN BELONG

## CELEBRATING THE 12TH RALLY FOR CROSS ROADS: A HIGHLIGHT OF ALUMNI WEEKEND!

Get ready to double the fun! This year, our 12th Annual Rally for Cross Roads is moving to **the heart of Alumni Weekend (October 2–4)**. Whether you're returning to camp to reconnect with old friends or joining us from afar, Saturday is the day we hit the trails together!

The Rally for Cross Roads is a one-of-a-kind in-person and virtual run/walk event dedicated to supporting Cross Roads Camp and Retreat Center. This year, the energy is even higher as we celebrate alongside our alumni community.

### EVERY STEP MAKES SPACE

Each year, Rally participants raise funds that directly support camperships and year-round ministry at Cross Roads.

Those gifts help:

- Provide financial assistance for families
- Keep summer programs accessible
- Sustain retreat opportunities throughout the year
- Strengthen leadership development for young adults

When someone registers, forms a team, or sponsors a participant, they are helping ensure that cost is never the reason a child misses out on camp.

**Rally turns movement into ministry.**



### WILDLY TOGETHER IN MOTION

Our 2026 theme, Wildly Together, comes to life on Rally day.

Churches gather as teams.

Families invite friends.

Former campers return.

Staff show up early to set up cones and water stations.

It's a day that reflects who we are: diverse, connected, generous, and rooted in faith.

Whether you run competitively, walk at your own pace, or participate virtually from wherever you are, you are part of something bigger than a race.

You are part of a community choosing to show up for one another.

*Together, we can help more campers experience the joy, growth, and belonging that happen here every summer.*

*Let's show up.*

*Let's move together.*

*Let's make space for every child.*

*Let's be **Wildly Together**.*

## JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Rally for Cross Roads 2026

- Saturday, October 3
- 5K · 2K Run/Walk · Virtual Option

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

- Register as an individual
- Form a team with your church or family
- Sponsor a participant
- Invite others to give

# MORE THAN A TOURNAMENT. A PARTNERSHIP IN MINISTRY.

## THE BISHOPS' CUP 2026

Monday, June 15

Copper Hill Country Club, Ringoes, NJ

Help sustain the life-changing work of Cross Roads. The Bishops' Cup is more than a golf outing, it's a community partnership that makes camp possible. Register or become a sponsor today.

### WAYS TO SUPPORT:

- **Become a Sponsor:** Underwrite the event with a tee sign or major partnership.
- **Gold, Silver, Bronze Sponsorship:** Directly support camperships and programs.
- **Attend Dinner & Fellowship:** Celebrate and hear stories, even if you don't golf.
- **Make a Direct Gift:** Support the ministry in honor of the Bishops' Cup.



# LEAD. GROW. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



**EXPLORE SUMMER  
STAFF OPPORTUNITIES  
AND APPLY TODAY**



## JOIN OUR SUMMER STAFF

Be the heart of Cross Roads. Serve as a mentor and guide for campers, helping them discover faith and adventure in the beauty of God's creation.

You'll Gain:

- Leadership skills & confidence
- Deep friendships
- Faith lived out in real ways

We're Hiring for Summer 2026:

- Counselors & Support Staff
- Kitchen Staff
- Program Specialists

Applications Open Now.

Serve with joy, and let's be **Wildly Together.**

# WHERE CREATIVITY TAKES THE STAGE

At Cross Roads, creativity isn't an extra activity; it's part of how we grow, connect, and discover who God created us to be.

Some campers find their voice through song.  
Some through paint.  
Some under stage lights.  
Some behind a brush.

This summer, two special programs invite campers to step forward, try something new, and share their gifts in bold and beautiful ways.



## Artist in Residence: Creativity in Community

July 26 – August 1, 2026 | Grades 2–8

Dive into your imagination with returning artist **Sylvia Hernandez**.

Campers explore skill-building and collaborative art in a supportive community, culminating in a joyful showcase for families. Here, art is more than an activity—it's a path to confidence and connection.



## Curtains Up!: Performance Arts Camp

August 2 – 8, 2026 | Grades 2–8

Step into the spotlight with **Pastor Mark Erson!**

Campers spend the week rehearsing scenes, learning stage movement, and building the courage to perform a live production. Whether you are a natural performer or a bit shy, you'll discover that your voice truly matters.



# SUMMER CAMP 2026



## YOUTH CAMP

**Various Weeks | Grades 2-8**

Step out of the daily routine and into a community of discovery. Campers build confidence and lasting friendships while deepening their faith through fun, hands-on experiences in God's creation.

## MINI CAMP

**July 12-15 | Grades 1-3**

A perfect 3-day, 2-night introduction to camp! Designed for our youngest adventurers, this program features games, crafts, and outdoor exploration to build confidence in a supportive environment.

## SENIOR HIGH WEEK

**July 5-11 | Grades 9-12**

A week tailored for teens to connect deeply with friends and faith.

## LEADERSHIP LAB

**July 12-18 | Grades 9-12**

An immersive week focused on identifying strengths, conflict resolution, and leadership principles through a faith-based lens.

## ADVENTURE CAMP

**July 12-18 | Grades 6-8**

For those who love the outdoors! Experience the thrill of canoeing, tent camping, and cooking over an open fire while building essential outdoor skills.

**EXPLORE OUR  
SUMMER PROGRAMS  
AND REGISTER TODAY**



## CONGREGATIONAL CAMP WEEK

**July 5-11**

Experience camp as a congregation! We are widening the invitation for churches to bring youth of any age along with a pastor or adult leader. Rebuild trust, strengthen faith formation, and experience shared ministry together. Unable to join in 2026?

**Congregational Camp dates for next year are July 4-10, 2027.** Questions? Contact Anthony or Helen.

## LEADERS-IN-TRAINING

**July 19 - August 8 | Grade 11**

An intensive three-week program equipping youth with leadership skills and a behind-the-scenes look at camp operations. Space is limited; apply by May 1.

## SEEK: SERVICE & EXPLORATION

**July 19 - August 1 | Grades 8-10**

This two-week program focuses on teamwork, spiritual gifts, and local service projects alongside traditional camp fun.

## ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

**July 26 - August 1 | Grades 2-8**

Unleash your creativity! Work alongside professional guest artists to explore collaborative art and new skills during Youth Camp 4.

## CURTAINS UP! THEATER CAMP

**August 2-8 | Grades 2-8**

Combine the thrill of the stage with the joy of camp. Rehearse a production under professional guidance, culminating in a final performance.

## FAMILY CAMP & WEEKENDS

**August 9-16**

Bring the whole family to live in "God's time." Enjoy worship, nature, and bonding through shared activities. Choose the full week (Aug 9-14) or the weekend getaway (Aug 14-16).

PROGRAM	DATES	GRADES	PRICING	IMPORTANT INFO
YOUTH CAMP 1	JULY 5-11	2-8	\$580 / \$720 / \$860 / \$1000	Campers registering for <b>SENIOR HIGH WEEK</b> can add <b>LEADERSHIP LAB</b> for an additional <b>\$340</b>
CONFIRMATION CAMP	JULY 5-11	6-9	\$580 / \$720 / \$860 / \$1000	
SENIOR HIGH WEEK	JULY 5-11	9-12	\$580 / \$720 / \$860 / \$1000	
<i>*HOLDOVER WEEKEND A</i>	<i>JULY 11-12</i>	2-12	\$85	<b>*HOLDOVER WEEKEND</b> is for campers who attend camp during the weeks on either side of the weekend. Staff and activities will be available.
MINI CAMP	JULY 12-15	1-3	\$250 / \$325 / \$350 / \$375	
YOUTH CAMP 2	JULY 12-18	2-8	\$580 / \$720 / \$860 / \$1000	Come to an <b>OPEN HOUSE</b> to see what Cross Roads has to offer!
ADVENTURE CAMP	JULY 12-18	6-8	\$580 / \$720 / \$860 / \$1000	
LEADERSHIP LAB	JULY 12-18	9-12	\$610 / \$750 / \$890 / \$1030	
YOUTH CAMP 3	JULY 19-25	2-8	\$580 / \$720 / \$860 / \$1000	A pre-summer-camp visit can really help with a new camper's (and parents') anxiety. <b>MAY 23   JUNE 6   OCTOBER 24</b>
LIT <i>(3 WEEKS)</i>	JULY 19 - AUGUST 8	11	\$580 / \$720 / \$860 / \$1000	
SEEK <i>(2 WEEKS)</i>	JULY 19 - AUGUST 1	8-10	\$890 / \$1030 / \$1170 / \$1310	
<i>*HOLDOVER WEEKEND B</i>	<i>JULY 25-26</i>	2-10	\$85	<b>FOR PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS AND MORE INFO</b> 
YOUTH CAMP 4 ARTIST IN RESIDENCE	JULY 26 - AUGUST 1	2-8	\$580 / \$720 / \$860 / \$1000	
YOUTH CAMP 5 CURTAINS UP	AUGUST 2-8	2-8	\$580 / \$720 / \$860 / \$1000	

FAMILY CAMP WEEK   AUGUST 9-14			FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND   AUGUST 14-16		
LODGING	Room in the Christ Center Cabin for the week	\$260 \$180	LODGING	Room in the Christ Center Cabin for the week	\$105 \$73
MEALS	Adults Youth ages 6-12	\$180 \$90	MEALS	Adults Youth ages 6-12	\$62 \$31



# YEAR-ROUND OPPORTUNITIES

Events are subject to change.

Sign up for our email newsletter and follow us on social media for the latest updates.

## WEDNESDAYS AWAY

**Monthly (Oct–June) | 9:30 am – 3:00 pm**

A day of spiritual renewal in the Christ Center. Each month features a guest director and a unique spiritual practice.

## OPEN HOUSES

**May 23 | June 6 | October 24**

Explore camp with a guided tour, hear summer stories, and enjoy a free lunch in the dining hall. Perfect for new and returning families!

## OPENING DAY

**May 16**

Help us get camp ready for the best summer ever! All ages and skill sets are welcome. Volunteers are treated to a delicious lunch and fellowship.

## BISHOPS' CUP GOLF OUTING

**June 15**

Support the future of Cross Roads through golf or sponsorship. See page 4 for details.

## GIANT CHURCH PICNIC

**August 16**

The Giant Church Picnic is back! Come enjoy a day of food, fellowship, camp activities, and community as we gather together again at Cross Roads.

## FAITHSOURCE

Faith Source is a faith development resource, available for both congregations and families. Our packages offer churches a full weekly curriculum, including videos and activities, for vibrant Sunday School and small group programs.

Separately, we empower families to have meaningful faith conversations at home through simple tools like our Family Newsletter and On-The-Go Podcast. We aim to make faith development engaging and accessible.

Visit [faith-source.org](http://faith-source.org) for details!



## ALUMNI WEEKEND

**October 2-4**

Open to anyone who attended Beisler, Eagle's Nest, or Cross Roads. Come reminisce with old friends around the campfire.

## RALLY FOR CROSS ROADS

**October 3**

Join our 11th annual fundraiser to help ensure we can continue offering life-changing outdoor experiences for all.

## WOMEN'S RETREAT

**October 9-11**

Step away from the noise of daily life for a weekend of intentional rest, laughter, and spiritual renewal. Connect with a supportive community of women as we reflect on our faith and recharge in the beauty of God's creation.

## SHEPHERDS' GATHERING

**December 3-6**

For clergy and lay leaders working with youth. A time to rest, exchange ideas, and be refreshed. Personal retreat starts Thursday; full program starts Friday.

## YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

**January 8-10, 2027**

Gather with peers for learning, fellowship, worship, and nature walks.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RETREAT

**February 5-7, 2027**

A taste of summer camp in the winter! Faith and fun for our younger campers.

## MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT

**March 5-7, 2027**

An amazing weekend of community and growth for long-time campers and newcomers alike.

# THANK YOU TO OUR PATHFINDERS & PARTNERS

Pathfinders and Partners keep summer camp and year-round retreat experiences at Cross Roads affordable.

Thanks! You give children, youth, and adults the chance to experience a welcoming and inclusive community providing life-changing and sacred adventures for renewal, growth, and joy.

To add your name to our growing list of enthusiastic supporters, contact Anthony at 818.414.1965 or [anthony@crossroadsretreat.com](mailto:anthony@crossroadsretreat.com).

## PATHFINDERS

### Trailblazer (\$10,000+)

Lorraine and Richard Freimuth

### Adventurer (\$5,000+)

Anthony Briggs  
Matthew J. Burd  
Sandra Johnson  
Bernard Milano  
Betsy and Roy Riley

### Counselor (\$2,500+)

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**REGISTER NOW**

Let's gather again.  
Let's celebrate community.  
Let's be Wildly Together.

It's been years since the Cross Roads community gathered for this special tradition, and we're excited to bring it back. Join us for the Giant Church Picnic on August 16, 2026, for a joyful day of food, fellowship, and fun at camp. Whether you've been part of Cross Roads for years or you're looking for a new way to connect, this is a beautiful chance to gather across churches, generations, and communities.

Enjoy:

- Food trucks
- Camp activities
- A variety show

This event is free, but registration is required. Come spend the day reconnecting, celebrating, and making new memories together.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 16**

**GIANT CHURCH PICNIC RETURNS**