

MAKING LIFE LONG FRIENDS THIS SUMMER

CHANGING LIVES, SHARING CHRIST

Welcome to Camp!

There was so much to be excited about leading up to Summer Camp 2016! More campers, more sessions and a lot more s'mores too! Also, Camp DeWolfe welcomed a variety of new summer and year-round staff literally from across the United States and the world. Plus, there were new and exciting program additions, such as mountain biking, high ropes challenge course elements and even a new rescue motor boat for tubing on the Long Island Sound.

Above all else – this summer has been another great experience of guiding campers through their camp session with the primary goal of exposing them to the light and truth of the Gospel, through a caring camp community and by experiencing God in nature and embracing challenge.

We make it a habit to reflect daily on our “Highs and Lows” of the day. I shared recently with the staff that my

personal high moment of the weeks are always on arrival days. At exactly 12:45pm each Sunday, a staff member will open the gate to welcome an ever increasingly long line of cars filled with campers and parents onto the camp, as they drive up the hill to the basketball courts for registration. Counselors cheer and wave and there are lots of big smiles all around!

Every Sunday, I tear up at that moment no matter where I am at camp and who I am working with at that opening time. This opening time represents a culmination of WHY we “do” camp. So much time and preparation goes into actually getting ready for camp, and each Sunday, the planning stops and the ministry starts. Children becoming campers, with the expressed intention of seeking God for one, two, or three weeks - that in itself is a miracle!

So for as many great activities and programs that we were excited for in 2016, I am the most excited to share that children experienced Christ at camp, experiencing more of the true and living God! For me there is no greater call than to share with everyone about God’s great love and grace, which is why, my best phrase spoken and heard all year is **“Welcome to Camp!”**

-By Matt Tees, Camp Director



Fall Camp 2017!
Don't miss out! –Page 6

Behold, I Give You a New Commandment: All You Need is Love

By Stephen Tamke
Christian Formation Director



Thoughts and reflections from Adventure Camp this summer: "Adventure Camp Week 1 has begun! This week has been great as we now get to our second campfire of the session tonight! Our Adventure Campers have all moved in, gotten to know one another, and have almost finished their first full week of activity areas. On Monday they will start their new week with new activity areas. Tonight's campfire, complete with songs and s'mores, will be a great way to mark our time together thus far and look forward to a great week ahead.

Before the campfire we will have our first Eucharist of the week with Mother Julie in St. Luke's Chapel. Mother Julie is the Associate Rector from Grace Church, Brooklyn Heights and she is an awesome addition to our Camp Family! So far, this week has



Our Christian Formation theme for this session is Courage in Community. We are looking at different mini-themes that teach us what it means to live, work, and worship together as the Adventure Camp Community here at Camp DeWolfe. We've looked at, so far, at how we can be courageous in showing up for our fellow campers as well as at the courage to trust one another. The story of Ruth and Naomi, the commandment from Jesus to his Disciples to love another, and a passage of Jeremiah that we worked with this morning (Jeremiah 17:5-10) all give us glimpses into what it means to trust each other and God



Beginning tomorrow, we will move into our next themes which will take us through more of the Old Testament into the Gospel of Matthew through which we will see the themes of Standing up for what we believe in, Justice, Change, and Connecting. Our Adventure Camp community is still growing together but it is a strong Jesus-filled community!



This weekend we have our first weekend program of the session, which is run by two of our awesome counselors Brad and Katherine! The theme for the weekend is Olympics! We're going to have a great weekend of fun and excitement as we all compete in various Olympic events. We will have our first Christian Formation session on the beach on Saturday night as the sunsets. Overall, this week has been an awesome one and I think we are in for a really amazing next week together! As always, all of you are in our prayers here at Camp DeWolfe!"

Stephen Tamke served at Camp DeWolfe this summer, from Garden City, NY where he grew up attending the Cathedral of the Incarnation. He is currently entering his third year at Virginia Theological Seminary and is a Candidate for Holy Orders. We wish Stephen the best in his future calling and can't wait to see how God uses Stephen for His Glory in the Diocese of Long Island!



August 2016

- 15th – 19th – C3 Church Camp
- 19th – 21st – Church of God Youth Retreat
- 19th – 21st – Shelter Island Youth Group Mission Trip
- 22nd - 26th - Korean Presbyterian Church Retreat
- 24th - 26th – St Thomas Episcopal Church Retreat
- 27th - 28th – Yoga Darshana Retreat

Camp Programs & Events

September 2016

- 3rd – 4th – Central Baptist Church Retreat
- 4th – 5th – All Saints Episcopal Church Retreat
- 7th- 11th – Pathways to Health Retreat
- 9th – Smithtown Gospel Water Baptism
- 9th -10th – St. Stephen and St Martin Church Retreat
- 10th – Service Saturday 9am – 3pm!
- 16th-18th – NY Youth Symphony Orchestra Retreat
- 22nd -23rd – Lutheran High School 9th Grade Retreat
- 13th – Camp DeWolfe at St Thomas’ Church Bushwick NY
- 24th – Service Saturday 9am – 3pm!
- 25th – Camp DeWolfe at St Marks WHB

October 2016

- 30th -2nd – LI Family Church Women’s Retreat
- 7th- 9th -LI Center for Mindfulness Retreat
- 8th – Service Saturday 9am -3pm!
- 14th – Miller Place High School Retreat

SHARE YOUR ALUMNI NEWS

Email the Camp Office
mtees@campdewolfe.org



14th – 16th Gospel Community Church Retreat

15th – Service Saturday 9am - 3pm

21st- 23rd – Gospel Community Church Women’s Retreat

22nd- 23rd Grace Episcopal Church Youth Group Retreat

27th- 30th – Friends Prayer Retreat

29th – Fall Camp – For All Youth Ages 7-17!

Fall Retreats- Each week during the school year, Camp DeWolfe welcomes church groups, families and schools from across NYC, CT & Long Island. Call the Office to book your retreat at 631-929-4325.

WATCH THE NEW SUMMERCAMP VIDEOS

www.campdewolfe.org



FAST FACTS

NEW in 2016!

Nature Trail complete with 3 “Tent Camp Out” sites.

NEW IN 2017!

Spring Camp - April 10th-12th
All Welcome!





From Camp to Camp

Recently, the Camp DeWolfe family went on a pre-summer camp adventure to the mountain town of Jinotega, Nicaragua to teach English and volunteer with Outreach 360's Dare to Dream Summer Camp program. After serving in 2012, it was an absolute blessing and gift thanks to our supporters and donors, to be able to return to the Neighborhood Learning Center and see the same students! They had ALL grown in their maturity, skills, English and Spanish literacy, as well as height!

We kicked off their first week of Summer Camp 2016 – facilitating camp games and activities, all around the theme of learning to respect the dignity of all persons, including those physically disabled. From blindfolding mazes, silent charades and color challenges, to no armed water transfer relays and pairs bracelet making with no arms, to no legged soccer games, the activities were engaging and fun for students to enjoy! Students also enjoyed handicapped bridge model making and an art program including puppet shows. All of which in a small 90 degree tin-roofed, concrete floored, breeze-blocked center in a shanty town in the mountains. The

background of camp certainly wasn't the luxurious Long Island NY with the ocean views and AC, however the children were all just as excited, energized, engaging and fun as any other summer campers on the planet!

From neighborhood walks through the dusty roads, to mountain hikes with volcanoes on the horizon, to a 6.2 Earthquake on Thursday night, to coffee bean and cacao bean tasting, to exploring the Selga Negra (Black Forest) listening to the howling monkeys, we all soaked up the beauty and majesty of God's natural setting in Nicaragua deep into our souls. However, it is always absurd to be reminded that these kind-hearted people are fighting to survive on just \$2 a day, working from ages 5 and up, with education being rare past the age of 10, where class sizes are 1:60 for only a half day of elementary education. For us, we took it all in as a reflection and life-check on priorities – for our children in the Learning Center it is a daily reality of life.



We are so thankful that Outreach 360's grass-roots year-round permanent neighborhood learning center provides free Spanish and English classes for children up to ages 16 to attend for their 2nd half of their day. This is not just to keep them from being forced to work in the coffee plantations, but to provide an opportunity of choice for their future.

For more information, please check 'Dreaming Nicaragua' and 'No Passaran' documentaries about Nicaragua, and also www.outreach360.org to get involved and help make a difference in the lives of children.

There are options to volunteer, short-term and long-term, donate gifts, items and raise awareness as well as re-thinking priorities in the west that can positively affect the global community we are a part of today. We certainly cannot wait to return to Nicaragua next year and take another team down from Camp DeWolfe/Diocese of Long Island. These children are God's children who are our children! And Camp life is camp life!

Our prayers are that we all may be ever mindful of the GIFTS of running clean water, 3 meals a day, education, shelter, transportation and electricity – all of which are just not a constant or present reality for more than 80% of our brothers and sisters in 21st century world today.

May God continue to open our eyes to see how we can BE love through serving actively in our local communities, as well as globally, this summer.

**-By Emma Tees
Camp Mum**



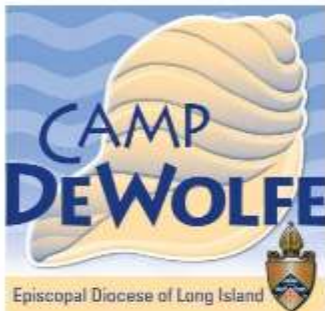
FALL 2016

SERVICESATURDAYS

- ✓ An opportunity to participate in the stewardship and physical care of Camp DeWolfe; to practice Christ-like service; to engage in community, and enjoy a day out east in the natural setting on the Long Island Sound!
- ✓ Service Projects include painting, landscaping, gardening, beach clean-up and more!
- ✓ Bring your friends, family, youth group, parish, school and neighbors! Ages 8 and up welcome!
- ✓ Sign up today at (631) 929-4325 or email office@campdewolfe.org



Sept 10th, 24th & Oct 1st, 8th, 15th. 9am–3pm. Lunch provided. Donations welcome.



SUMMER CAMPING PROGRAMS & FOUR SEASON RETREAT CENTER



408 North Side Road, Wading River, NY 11792
www.campdewolfe.org



Episcopal Diocese of Long Island

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