



CROSSWAYS

CAMPING MINISTRIES



2019 PIECE TOGETHER CAMP GUIDE

Crossways Administrative Office

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Imago Dei Village

W8160 Cloverleaf Lake Rd
Clintonville, WI 54929
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Welcome! We're excited that you and your family will be joining us this summer! We're eager for you to arrive and are busy preparing to make your family's time at camp enriching, engaging, and transformative. At Crossways, all staff is committed to providing a safe, fun, and memorable experience for each and every family. This informational guide is your best resource in preparing you and your family for camp at Crossways. Included you will find information about:

- * Lodging
- * Arrival and Departure Times
- * Packing List
- * Camp Store account deposits
- * Mailing letters to or from camp
- * Cancellation policies
- * Menu
- * Weekly schedule
- ...and more!

Please review this packet and save it for future reference.

If you have any additional questions that are not answered here, please contact us. We are happy to help!

Piece Together Family Camp Information

All of our family programs are based on the concept of community, where families gather to play and worship together in a beautiful and safe environment. Our programs are directed by full time camp professionals. We know that when we mix organized activities with daily opportunities for you to relax and enjoy the atmosphere of the northwoods, God will renew your spirit and encourage your faith.

We know that many families experience increasing difficulty in finding the time and place to spend meaningful time together as a family. Having a family member on the autism spectrum can sometimes make family time challenging and hard to come by as well, so Piece Together is designed—every last bit of it—to support your family, enhance your connections, and nourish your soul.

Each day will have scheduled activities for your family to participate in together as well as scheduled activities by age group. Our staff will become positive role models for your kids while they lead them in activities, giving parents and other adults time to interact with each other. You will also have plenty of unscheduled time to enjoy outdoor activities with your family. As a Lutheran camp, our Crossways community worships daily, offers small group Bible Studies for all ages, and encourages families to grow together in faith through song, skits, and of course, God's Word.

To download the weekly schedule, visit www.crosswayscamps.org/piece-together.

Lodging Information

Each family is assigned to a chalet, duplex, or lodge room with one queen bed and 4 sets of bunks, plus a bathroom with toilet, sink/vanity, and shower stall. Please note that our facilities do not include full-size bath tubs. If a member of your family is in need of a tub for bathing, we will provide large tubs with which you are able to fill with water and utilize as a bathtub. Please contact Jess Throlson, Imago Dei Village Camp Director, to discuss any sensitive bathing or bathroom needs further, so we can meet the needs of your family as best as possible!

Arrival & Departure Times

Piece Together begins Sunday, June 23. Arrive between 3:00–5:00pm. Dinner will be provided at 5:30pm. Departure is Wednesday, June 26, after lunch, at approximately 1:00pm.

Crossways staff will check or confirm the status of any unexplained absentee campers after the close of check-in time.

Camp Store Information

The Camp Store (“Canteen”) is generally open twice daily for families to purchase a drink, candy, healthy snacks, ice cream, or clothing. When you get to camp you will be able to visit the Camp Store to add money to your account or you can save time at registration by adding money to your account ahead of time. **The deadline to add money to camp store accounts by phone or online is up to one week (7 days) before your scheduled session.** Camp Store deposits cannot be made the day before your family comes to camp. In that case, please bring cash, check, or credit card to camp with you and add money to your Camp Store account after check-in on Sunday. Balances remaining at the end of the week will be returned in cash or you will have the choice to donate to the summer mission project.

Mission Project

Every year Crossways selects an organization to support with our mission project donations. In a world filled with seemingly unceasing violence, innocent families are in desperate need of a safe place; a place where they can find asylum for their children and themselves from the evils that the world produces. Some of these families in need of protection are being taken away because of their faith in God. A faith in God is a faith in the children who know of God’s love and grace. The Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service in partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America works for the families in foreign countries safety and peace. This summer, before you bring your camper to Crossways, pray for these people, pray for their safety, pray for their peace, pray for their prayers to be answered with your help. Please visit www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Immigration-and-Refugee-Services to learn more! All campers will be given the opportunity to learn more about the mission and ministry of Crossways weekly mission project for this summer is to raise money to donate to the cause of bringing foreign families to a safe place where they can go on with or start a new life for themselves and their families.

Connecting with your Family & Friends

Mail

There is nothing better than a letter from family and friends when you are away at camp. Please use the following address for postal mail. If mailing packages please do not use the USPS. UPS or FedEx are preferred. Make sure to post mark your mail early enough so it doesn’t arrive after your family member has already left camp! Piece Together campers can mail letters or postcards out daily from camp so feel free to bring pre-addressed, stamped envelopes along to tell all your family and friends what a great time your family is having at camp! Another option is to give letters and packages to the camp staff at check-in to be dispersed throughout a camper’s time at Piece Together.

(Camper Name)
Imago Dei Village
W8160 Cloverleaf Lake Rd
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715-823-2902

Camp Fee Final Payment

A \$100 non-refundable deposit is required at the time of registration. The final balance is due by May 31st. If you are applying for funding from other organizations to cover the cost of Piece Together, please let our administrative office know so we can make a note that funding is pending. If you have an outstanding balance, you may send a check to our Administrative office (address listed at the top of this guide) or you may call our office to pay by credit card. Crossways will send a final statement by request only. To save on administrative cost and postage we ask that you use your canceled check or credit card statement as a receipt for payment(s). **Please do not wait until you come to camp to pay your final balance.**

If your church is paying a portion of your remaining balance, you may deduct the portion to be paid by your church from your final balance. Please verify this amount with your church office first. **We are not able to credit your account with an expected payment from your church without payment or direct notification from the church office (phone or written).** If you have questions about the amount your church pays, contact your church office to coordinate this information & payment schedule.

Cancellation Policy

In the event that you need to cancel your session at Crossways, please contact our office immediately. A refund less the \$100 non-refundable deposit will be granted based on payments received.

Your \$100 deposit is non-refundable except for the following reasons;

1. A medical condition or death in the family prevents the family/camper from participating in the program. A written excuse from the camper's physician may be requested.
2. Crossways cancels the session. A full refund will be issued based on payments received.

We will not pro-rate fees. Departure from the camp program due to dismissal for behavior problems is non-refundable. Due to processing fees, all refunds (regardless of payment type) are processed via check within 2-3 weeks of cancellation.

Safety at Camp

We have always taken the safety and well-being of our piece together family campers very seriously. Our camps have an excellent reputation as safe and healthy environments. Each camp follows all Wisconsin State Health Codes and is licensed and inspected annually. All staff undergo background checks and participate in two weeks of staff training. Each camp follows clear policies and training regarding emergency management and behavior recognition and summer staff are supervised by professional full-time staff. You are always our first priority.

Camper Departure Form

A Camper Departure Form must be filled out and turned in by the parent/guardian on the registration form for every camper. **Camper Departure Forms must be brought to camp with you/your camper to be turned in upon check-in at camp when you arrive for your session.** Camper Departure Forms are available online at www.crosswayscamps.org/parent-information.

We discourage parents/guardians from taking campers away from camp during their time at family camp. Campers miss fun activities and their absence affects the community that is built between the campers and families. No camper is allowed to leave the premises with anyone not **authorized on the Camper Departure Authorization** from the parent/guardian of a youth camper. Visits that are absolutely necessary should be scheduled in advance to avoid confusion. **All visitors MUST check-in with our camp offices.**

Bullying

Crossways is committed to providing a safe, positive and nurturing environment for its campers, staff, and all participants. Our staff is trained to identify and address bullying immediately and effectively.

Weather

The summer is a busy time for weather in Wisconsin! All three sites have multiple storm shelters and practice emergency response procedures regularly. When severe weather arises at our camps we keep parents and family members informed in the following ways:

- (1) Facebook: we post regular updates on our pages, so please follow your specific camp -facebook.com/imagodeivillage

Health & Medical Information

Camper & Adult Health History Form

A Crossways Summer Health History Form must be completed each year for adults and youth (a signature by a parent/guardian required for youth), and sent to the camp you will attend no later than two weeks prior to the start of your session. The Camper & Adult Health History form will be emailed to you and is also available online at www.crosswayscamps.org/parent-information. A new health history form must be on file for every person for EACH session regardless of past participation at camp.

Medical Services

Each site has a Wilderness First Aid trained staff member on-site at all times for health needs and medication distribution. Routine first aid will be provided by the health coordinator or a staff member certified in First Aid and CPR as needed. If medical problems occur, the camps of Crossways use local clinics and hospitals to treat medical conditions or accidents. Medical expenses will be billed to you through these clinics. Crossways does not carry medical coverage for campers.

Food Allergies & Special Medical Needs

Camper families are fed well-balanced meals and our food service staff are very familiar with dietary needs. **If you or your child has a food allergy or needs special accommodations please list that on the registration and Summer Health History Form.** In addition, **please call the camp you will be attending two weeks ahead of time** to discuss any particular needs with our staff. Of course, if you have any questions about our ability to meet your needs please don't hesitate to reach out sooner. We are eager to assist in the planning for a successful and well-fed camp experience for your entire family! In some cases, families may choose to bring supplemental food items with them.

Weekly Menu

Our kitchen staff is excited to provide your family with nutritious, delicious, balanced meals. For a copy of our menu, please visit www.crosswayscamps.org/piece-together. This menu will be provided on our website in May or June.

Special Program Elements for Older Campers

All camp programs and activities are designed to enhance the family campers' experience. We seek to challenge each individual to grow personally and as part of our community. Some of these programs involve giving campers an opportunity to step outside of their comfort zone. It is important for parents/guardians to be aware of certain special adventure activities.

Bike Trips

Our bike trips take our family campers off-site on quiet country and lake community roads. Our bikes are maintained regularly. Before each trip campers are properly fitted with a helmet and are instructed in safety procedures. Two staff trained in leading bike trips participate in every trip. On all trips a staff member carries a first aid kit as well as a cell phone to ensure contact with appropriate authorities in the event of an emergency.

Canoe Trips

Family campers are able to participate in canoe trips on a river near camp. For these trips campers are transported to and from camp in camp vehicles. Prior to each trip, campers are taught basic canoe skills. On the trip campers are outfitted properly with paddles and life vests. Campers are accompanied by trained lifeguards and at least two staff who have been trained to lead canoe trips. On all trips a staff member carries a first aid kit as well as a cell phone to ensure contact with appropriate authorities in the event of an emergency.

Climbing Wall

Family campers will have the opportunity to climb our rock wall. Each camper is fitted with a safety harness and helmet for their climb. Our certified staff instructs all campers in safety procedures before their climb and guide campers safely through each climb from start to finish.

Miscellaneous Information

Pets

Except for guide service animals, guests are not allowed to bring pets onto camp facilities.

Boats & Motorized Vehicles

Boats and canoes are available to our guests. Launching or docking private boats at our docks is not allowed due to safety and insurance reasons. There is no public access to the lake at Imago Dei Village. No motorbikes, ATV's and other motorized vehicles are allowed on camp property.

Alcohol & Tobacco

All camp facilities have been declared alcohol and tobacco free environments for our guests during our summer programming.

Tips & Gratuities

The services we provide are part of our ministry. Please do not offer tips or gratuities to our staff. (As an alternative, consider a donation to Crossways in honor of a staff member.)

Our Core Values and Program Goals

At Crossways we uplift the following core values in all of our programs: **Faith, Care of Creation, Community, Hospitality, and Discovery**. Our programs are designed with these values in mind and it is our goal that every camper's experience will include engagement and activity in each of these areas. Our goals, based on our values, are:

FAITH: Families will experience and encounter God in new ways, through Bible study, worship, nature exploration, community life, adventure, conversations, and more.

CARE OF CREATION: Families will grow in their understanding of and appreciation for God's creation and will engage in activities to help them learn how to be good stewards of creation.

COMMUNITY: Families will be welcomed and included as a valuable member of the camp community and will be asked to extend welcome to fellow campers and staff as they take part in creating our camp community during each session.

HOSPITALITY: Families will not only be served by our staff but will also be invited to serve others and will grow in their understanding of how to be good neighbors who care for each other despite our differences.

DISCOVERY: Families will be challenged to try new things and engage in new activities that may push them beyond their typical comfort zone in order to spark their curiosity and instill or nurture a desire to learn new things.

Our Summer Theme: "Transformed Community"

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Romans 12:2

This summer, we will watch communities be Transformed! Each day, our campers will engage in activities and conversations that take components of our Christian faith and use them to make real changes in the communities where we belong. Imagine what change we could bring with Inclusion, Compassion, Justice, Forgiveness, and Generosity. Campers will leave with new tools or big reminders of how they can be the change that Transforms Community.

Packing List:

- Bible
- Money for the Camp Store & Mission Project Offering
- Notebook & pen/pencil
- Sleeping bag, sheets and/or blankets and pillows
- Towels (Bath, Washcloth & Beach)
- Personal Toiletries (soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush, etc)
- Tennis shoes (2 pairs suggested)
- Swimsuit
- Water shoes (or sandals w/ backs) for walking to waterfront – **flip flops are NOT allowed unless for use ONLY as shower sandals; all sandals must have backs and be securely attached to the whole foot**
- Long jeans/pants and sweatshirts
- T-shirts and shorts (no bare mid-riffs)
- Pajamas
- Hat or cap
- Jacket
- Rain gear
- Sunscreen
- Medications in original containers
- Non-Aerosol bug spray
- Water Bottle (labeled with name)
- Lawn Chairs
- Games for rainy days and nighttime

Optional Items:

- Camera
- Stationary, stamps, envelopes
- Sunglasses
- Flashlight
- Guitar/Musical Instrument
- Your Fun Mug (for returning campers at Imago Dei Village)
- Fans

DO NOT bring:

- Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco
- Weapons of any kind, including pocket knives
- Fireworks
- Pets
- Fishing gear
- Scooters without helmets
- Personal sports equipment

Crossways is not liable for the damage or loss of any personal property.