

Camp Bethel Residential Summer Camp Counselor General Position Description 2010



Minimum Qualifications:

- Desire and ability to serve God by leading and mentoring children in outdoor Christian education programming.
- Ability to relate to children, peer group and employer; ability to accept supervision and guidance.
- Good character, integrity, adaptability, enthusiasm, sense of humor, work-ethic, patience and self-control.
- 16yrs+ or 18yrs+ and age appropriate to counseling assignment (at least 2 years older than oldest camper):

Responsible To:

Summer Program Coordinators, Assistant Director and Camp Director.

Camp Statement of Purpose and Mission:

Camp Bethel is the outdoor ministry of the Virlina District Church of the Brethren that seeks to foster and build relationships with the Creator, with others, and with creation. This ministry is realized through our Christian camping programs, our services, and availability of our facilities to all people of all denominations and backgrounds. In small groups of 10-12 campers and 2-4 counselors, campers experience living in Christian community as the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12). Well-trained counselors and program staff lead hundreds of active, fun, educational activities. Campers come to understand themselves, each other and all creation as precious to God and worthy of active care.

Responsibilities:

1. To carry out the camp program.

- Participate in two-week staff training.
- Guide unit and individual campers in participating safely and successfully in camp activities.
- Facilitate group building by creative, interactive use of program opportunities and natural resources.
- Incorporate faith sharing, Bible study, prayer and worship into the unit's activities and experiences.
- Supervise all aspects of the camper's day.
- Ensure campers' proper treatment of natural surroundings, program equipment and camp property.

2. To be in relational ministry to the campers.

- Ensure camper's physical and emotional safety.
- Create an enjoyable, safe and open atmosphere in the unit, using preventative discipline and clear communication.
- Learn the likes and dislikes of each camper.
- Recognize and respond to opportunities for problem solving in the unit.
- Initiate, monitor and participate in unit activities in ways that allow camper and unit success.
- Utilize camp program strategies for preventing or minimizing behavior problems and homesickness.
- Consult the Summer Program Coordinators, Assistant Director or Camp Director when problems warrant.

3. To fulfill other staff duties and roles.

- Other duties may be assigned as needed by the Assistant Director or Camp Director.
- Be a positive example of punctuality, appropriate cleanliness, work ethic, manners and sportsmanship to campers, staff, parents and public.
- Follow staff policies and camp policies, including no on-site use of tobacco, alcoholic beverages and drugs.
- Encourage respect for personal property, camp property, equipment and facilities.
- Manage personal time-off in ways that do not detract from ability to fulfill duties.
- Maintain good public relations with campers' parents and the public.
- Submit reports and evaluations on time.

Staff Provisions:

Overnight accommodations as assigned, meals and access to limited laundry facilities during contract.

Residential Summer Camp Counselor Salary:

Senior or Adventure Counselor: \$225.00/week for 7/8 weeks plus \$100.00 for Lifeguard Certification and \$100.00 for tenure.
Junior Counselor: \$110.00/week for 7 weeks plus \$100.00 for Lifeguard Certification.
Additional pay opportunities are available. Contract is negotiable. 2-week training (June 1-June 12) is provided at no cost to staff, and salary begins June 13.

Dates of Contract:

Training is Tuesday, June 1 through Saturday, June 12, 2010.

Work weeks are Sunday, June 13 through July 31, 2010, (or August 7 for Adventure Counselors).



Camp Bethel Summer Staff Standards 2010:

The following standards represent the cumulative wisdom and experience of staff from the past eight years of summer camp ministry at Camp Bethel. Also, **YOUR** recent experiences and ideas will help define how these standards actually work, so please share, teach and model. The Summer Leadership Team has committed themselves to these standards. Consider these standards as **ABSOLUTES** in building and being the Body of Christ.

DURING MY TIME HERE THIS SUMMER, I COMMIT TO...

- 1. Pray often.** However it is that you pray (silently, out loud, alone, group), pray a lot! The Leadership Team will intentionally model this so that you are more comfortable with leading prayer in your units and with your campers. Remember, God really wants an intimate relationship with you, so take the time (alone and together) to thank God for this great life and to get God's advice for your plans and ideas. Keep God (Word-Incarnate-as-Jesus-present-with-us) as head of our Body and which you are an important part.
- 2. Strictly follow camp and staff policies.** The camp and staff policies were established to create the best possible atmosphere and community for building and living as the Body of Christ. *"... when one part rejoices, all parts rejoice..."*
- 3. Be a model of cleanliness,** in my assigned staff housing, my camper cabin, in all public spaces, and in my personal appearance. We are many persons living in spaces made for few, so it requires maturity and creativity to be tidy. Strictly follow the "house rules" as created together. Keep your personal belongings in your assigned places and out of common space. At Camp Bethel, common space is God's space, thus common space (and the activities therein) is SACRED -God space. Each of us is accountable to the Body, so let's work hard to rejoice together more than suffer together.
- 4. Be a model of Earth care.** As a participant in God's creativity, take joy in your decisions that benefit our Earth. Dry your laundry on the drying lines. Recycle what you can, and help clean the recycling and take off the recycling. Turn off the TV! Turn off lights, fans, and other electronics when you're not there. Manage the cooling of your housing or cabin with creatively timed window open/close, (use your knowledge of Science: convection and heat-transfer). Practice Leave-No-Trace camping-hiking-living ethics.
- 5. Be ready 24 hours in advance.** Keep your own updated to-do lists and strictly follow lists from Barry, Jenny, Brad & Tabitha. Don't put off the tedious stuff (cleaning, paperwork, duties, laundry, moving into your cabin, etc.). Keep a daily designated time to clean up and prepare for what's ahead.
- 6. Resolve and manage conflict in healthy and mature ways.** Don't gossip, don't allow gossip in your presence, and gently scold those who repeat gossip. Find an appropriate time to approach conflict early while de-escalating the emotions. Speak the truth in love, and follow the model of Matthew 18:15-17.
- 7. Keep my energy high for everything and everyone all summer.** You owe it to each other and your campers to keep up with your sleep, especially on weekends. Make the repetitive fresh, new and exciting by being creative. Eat right, keep hydrated, and if necessary, use caffeine!
- 8. Be a contributing member of a cohesive, inclusive and welcoming Body.** Reach out to staff and volunteers you haven't gotten to know very well. Mix up your "usual" group and avoid cliques. Offer rides on weekends, and make an effort to attend and contribute to communal activities.
- 9. Take action on what I observe,** (if I can think it, I will do it and address it). Be the "I'll do it!" staff member by volunteering for every work task. Don't dictate, but contribute. No whining! Take out the trash and put items back in their correct places, EVEN if you aren't the guilty party. If you know who's guilty, speak the truth in love.
- 10. Support each unit's unique relationships with a servant's heart.** Using your "binocular vision," make going out of your way to help each other commonplace while honoring the sanctity of each small group. Don't disregard your unit's needs.
- 11. Be 100% invested in our collective ministry.** "Fun people can have fun doing anything!" Make whatever you're doing enjoyable for yourself and those around you. Focus on the tasks at hand. Keep up with sleep and your personal devotional and prayer times. Recharge over weekends, ready to minister each Sunday at 1:00pm.
- 12. Check-in regularly with each other and the Leadership Team.** All resident staff, volunteers and CITs will attend nightly corporate worship and daily Morning Watch. Non-counseling staff meets nightly for devotions and sharing after groups dismiss. Leadership Team as mentors check-in with their assigned counselors at least once weekly.
- 13. Be positive and keep a good sense of humor.** Smile! Joke! Laugh! High-five! Loosen up! Spread the love! Don't sweat the small stuff, because it's almost ALWAYS small stuff.