

CAMP SURVIVAL GUIDE



STORY

TELLERS

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NEW FOR 2026

CAMP THEME: STORYTELLERS

This year's theme exists to awaken storytellers - people who know the story, live the story, and share the story where they go. Our goal is that every listener would encounter the person and work of Jesus Christ and see how these stories come alive - and that they can tell them, too.

By the end of the session, we pray that participants will be able to tell two or three stories about Jesus and their own story in a way that communicates the Gospel clearly and confidently: Jesus came. He died in my place. He rose victoriously and will rule. And He calls me to be a part of what He is doing.

"HOME ON THE RANGE" FELLOWSHIP

Saddle up and ride into this summer's Fellowship: Home on the Range - a wild western gathering where the dust kicks up, the laughter's loud, and the spirit of the Wild West comes alive! Step into a world of cowboys and cowgirls, barrel racing, and a heap more action straight outta the Wild West. So, dust off your boots, tip your hat, and suit up in your best western wear. It's gonna be a rootin'-tootin' good time out on the range! We'll see y'all there, partner!

MISSIONS OFFERING

Path to Panama/ IMB Partnership PANAMA & WESTERN COLOMBIA

This summer, we have the awesome opportunity to continue our partnership with the International Mission Board (IMB) in Panama and Colombia. The goal of our partnership is to equip local missionaries to share the good news of Jesus Christ with Indigenous people groups in Colombia and Panama - in communities who have yet to hear the Gospel.

During your week at camp, you will have the opportunity to watch mission videos and hear firsthand testimonies from those who have served in Panama and western Colombia with the IMB, as well as Indigenous missionaries who are serving in their home country of Panama and in Colombia. One of the missionaries featured is Dylan Duvall. Dylan was a Crossings camper not too long ago, returned as summer staff, and later served as an intern. It was during his internship that Dylan sensed and obeyed God's call to go.

We invite you to prayerfully consider how you might give to the Path to Panama Missions Offering. Pray also that God will begin stirring hearts of students with a vision for how and where He might lead them to serve - perhaps even in places like Panama or Colombia. Our hope is to help students begin discerning their own "there," wherever God may be calling them.

CHECKLIST

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

- ❑ **Update your church and personal information:** Access your online Group Leader account at <http://core.gocrossings.org> and make sure the church address, Group Leader, and your contact information are correct.
- ❑ **Promote Camp:** Promotional materials can be downloaded from www.gocrossings.org/campprep.
- ❑ **Participant Registration opens February 2:** Send the participant registration link to chaperones and parents of all participants. The registration link is found in your Group Leader Dashboard under Registration Status and next to your event code. Group Leaders must register as chaperones.
- ❑ **Deposit Due February 28:** This is the last day to drop numbers without financial penalty. Have an accurate number of campers and chaperones attending with your group by February 28. Contact Guest Relations to adjust your numbers, 502-491-7000.

MARCH/APRIL

- ❑ **Organize a missions fundraiser** (*recommended*)
- ❑ **Hold a participant/parent meeting:** Discuss participant registration, daily schedules, packing list, dress code, etc. A parent handout can be downloaded at <http://gocrossings.org/parents>
- ❑ **Parent Page:** Instruct Parents to visit this page on our website for more information on camp.
- ❑ **Fellowship Nights:** Don't forget to let your group know about this year's theme and encourage them to bring Western styled clothing to wear!
Theme: Home on the Range

MAY

- ❑ **Download Connect Bible Study Material from** www.gocrossings.org/campprep This material will be available to you at camp, but you can print it out ahead of time if you wish. This material is to be used during your Church Connect time.
- ❑ **Crossings App: Download on Camp Prep Page**

JUNE

- ❑ **Registration for 2027 camp opens June 1**

2 WEEKS BEFORE CAMP SESSION

- ❑ **Complete Background Check Form:** All adults attending camp must have had a background check performed in the last 2 years and must be listed on the form. This online form is found on your Group Leader Dashboard under "Manage."
- ❑ **Upload Certificate of Liability:** Crossings Ministries with our Louisville address (13420 Eastpoint Centre Dr. Louisville, KY 40223) MUST be listed as the Certificate Holder. Your church insurance agent can provide you with this form, and you can upload it to your Group Leader Dashboard under "Manage," or you can email the form to info@gocrossings.org.
- ❑ **Ensure all participants' registrations have been completed.**
- ❑ **Final Camp Payment is due.**
- ❑ **Property Guest Relations Staff Call:** Have the following information ready for this call: gender breakdown, arrival time, and together/apart information.

1ST TIME GROUP LEADERS

CHURCH CONNECT

This is your time to connect with your students. Each day, there is an opportunity in the schedule for you to do what you understand to be the most helpful with your group. We have written some material that coordinates with the Large Group & Small Group lessons for your use, but it is up to you if you want to use that. Regardless of what you decide, your students will be looking to you for some direction. Some groups encourage their students to rest or get cleaned up, some do *TAWG (Time Alone With God)*, and some go over our material. It's totally up to you!

CHURCH CHECKPOINT

Our desire is to always direct your students back to you in the significant decisions they are making at camp. As a result, we have scheduled time for you to check in with your students every night after worship. They will always be directed to respond to the invitation with their group leaders. Checkpoint follows evening worship so you can follow up with the students with whom the Lord is doing work.

POIS

These POINTS OF IMPACT (POI) are our opportunity to entertain and engage your students with activities and communicate the Gospel to your students. They select their POIs upon arrival at property and these selections will be given to you at the opening group leader meeting.

FELLOWSHIP

This is a gathering of the entire camp on one evening of camp (the day depends on the camp property) for a fun, energetic, and festive party-like experience. It will take place during free time. Our desire is for there to be a special night of dressing up with a few exciting surprises along the way.

CROSSBOWL

Crossbowl is a camp-wide competition where small groups, divided by their color, compete to be the ultimate Crossbowl Champion at the end of the session. Each morning, small groups will compete in team activities, ending with a final competition on the last night.

SCHEDULE

ARRIVAL DAY

2-4pm	Registration
3-5pm	Store Open
5:00pm	Dinner*
7:00pm	Crossings Staff-led Small Groups Adults Only Meeting**
8:00pm	Opening Celebration
9:15pm	Church Checkpoint
10:00pm	Free Time/Store Open
11:00pm	In Rooms/Housing

FULL DAYS

7:15am	Breakfast*
8:15am	Group Leader Meeting
8:45am	Morning Celebration
9:15- 11:30am	Large Group, Small Group, & Crossbowl
11:30am	Lunch*
1-5pm	Store Open
1:00pm	Open Rotation 1: Recreation (POIs)
2:30pm	Rotation 2: Recreation (POIs)
4:00pm	Rotation 3: Church Connect
5:15pm	Free Time/Breakouts
5:45pm	Dinner*
7:30pm	Worship
9:00pm	Church Checkpoint
10:00pm	Crossings Fellowship Heartsong Worship
11:00pm	Senior Night (Day 2) In Rooms/Housing

LAST FULL DAY

7:15am	Breakfast*
8:15am	Group Leader Meeting
8:45am	Morning Celebration
9:15- 11:30am	Large Group, Small Group, & Crossbowl
11:30am	Lunch*
1-5pm	Store Open
1:00pm	Rotation 1: Recreation (POIs)
2:30pm	Rotation 2: Recreation (POIs)
4:00pm	Rotation 3: Church Connect
5:00pm	Dinner*
6:45pm	Worship
8:15pm	Church Checkpoint
9:15pm	Final Small Group
9:45pm	Crossbowl Championship
10:15pm	Closing Celebration
10:30pm	Free Time
11:30pm	In Rooms/Housing

CLOSING/DEPARTURE DAY

7:15am	Breakfast*
9:30am	Groups Depart

*Actual mealtimes may vary as they are split into three 30-minute segments according to your group's camp color. Camp colors are assigned at arrival.

**Adults/Group Leaders and Chaperones registered for camp.

THIS IS A MOCK SCHEDULE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

PROGRAMMED ACTIVITIES EXPLANATION

Church Checkpoint: We want to strengthen the relationship between students and their church leaders. This is a designated time for you to meet with your group, debrief, worship, and pray together.

Bible Study: We separate middle school and high school and give them in-depth exposition of God's Word from our camp pastor followed by a staff-led breakout time of discussion and application.

POI | Point of Impact: Students participate in one specialized activity per day, based on student preference. Activity followed by intentional Gospel discussion (see pg 7 for full list).

TAWG | Time Alone With God: Crossings will provide TAWG/Bible study booklets for each student and adult to support daily personal quiet time, Bible study, and prayer. The devotional content aligns with each day's spiritual focus and can be completed during church connect time or at their convenience.

PACKING LIST

- ❑ **Appropriate Clothing** (see *Dress Code and Activity/POI Requirements* below.)
- ❑ **Bedding** (pillow, twin sheets, blanket, sleeping bag)
- ❑ **Towels** (beach towels, bath towels, bath mats)
- ❑ **Toiletries** (toothbrush, soap, shampoo, washcloth, deodorant, hand soap, paper towels)
- ❑ **Hand Sanitizer**
- ❑ **Sunscreen**
- ❑ **Insect Repellent**
- ❑ **Reusable Water Bottle**
- ❑ **Wristwatch**
- ❑ **Swim Suit** (see dress code)
- ❑ **Sunglasses and/or Hat**
- ❑ **"Home on the Range" attire (Western Themed)**
- ❑ **Complete Bible** [we use *ESV* (not required) in all programs] Do not bring Bibles that have sentimental value as they may be misplaced at camp.
- ❑ **Pen and Notepad**
- ❑ **Spending money for Camp General Store**
- ❑ **Mission Money:** We challenge students to bring \$10 or more for the missions offering.
- ❑ **Camp Color specific clothes for Crossbow**

ACTIVITY/POI REQUIREMENTS

Many of our activities require certain shoes or shorts for safety. Participants must adhere to guidelines or they cannot participate in the activity/POI. [LV = Linden Valley | CS = Carson Springs]

- ❑ **Sturdy Shorts** typically have belt loops and are made from denim, khaki, or heavy cotton. Students wearing gym/basketball/running shorts, yoga pants, or similar casual clothing will not be allowed to participate and will be excluded from LV zip lines.
- ❑ **Closed Toe and Closed Heeled Shoes** required for LV zip lines and LV & CS Archery
- ❑ **Athletic Sandals / Water Shoes** (Recommended for LV kayaking & tubing)

GROUP PACKING LIST

For adults and/or group leader, we recommend you bring the following to ensure your group has an optimal experience.

- ❑ **Hand Sanitizer**
- ❑ **Anti-itch cream** (*Lanacane*)
- ❑ **Sunburn relief** (*Green Aloe with Lidocaine*)
- ❑ **First Aid Kit** (*triple antibiotic ointment, ace bandages, bandages, anti-bacterial wipes, and epipen*)
- ❑ **Pain Medications** (*Tylenol, Ibuprofen, etc.*)
- ❑ **Gold Bond**
- ❑ **Please ensure students pack closed toe shoes and sturdy shorts.**
- ❑ **Hand soap, hand towels, paper towels, and bath mats**
- ❑ **Nightlights**
- ❑ **2-way radios (for communication with other adults in your group)**

WHAT NOT TO BRING

1. **Alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, and illegal drugs.**
2. **Fireworks or weapons of any kind.**
3. **Skateboards, roller skates, or shoes with built in skates.**
4. **Silly String**

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 the leg.
- » No spaghetti strap tank tops or any tops where undergarments can be seen.
- » Swimsuits must be one-piece with shorts/swim shorts worn over swimsuit at all times, even in the water. If you do not have a one-piece swimsuit, a dark t-shirt and shorts must be worn over a tankini swimsuit at all times.
- » Shirts must be worn over swimsuits at all times when walking to and from the lake/pool.

For Males:

- » Shorts need to be longer than fingertips when arm is extended down the side of the leg.
- » No shirts with sides cut out.
- » Shirts must be worn at all times on campus, even when walking to and from the lake/pool.

WIFI AND CELL PHONES

At Crossings, we pride ourselves on providing groups with a distraction-free environment. We strongly encourage you to collect your group's cell phones upon arrival to manage cell phone use directly. We do provide WiFi connectivity to adult chaperones only. Cell phone service is limited. We highly recommend bringing 2-way radios to communicate with other adults in your group.

CARSON SPRINGS POIs

ALL ABOARD: Don't forget to say UNO! Come join us in this fun and relaxing POI filled with your favorite board games and card games! Think Apples to Apples, Mafia, Uno, and more!

COOKIE DECORATING: Discover your inner cookie artist skills in this fun, engaging POI! You'll learn easy techniques using royal icing to create your own sugar cookie masterpieces.

ARTS AND CRAFTS: Are you creative and artistic? Or do you want to inspire your creative side? Arts and Crafts is for you! No matter your skill level, come inside for a fun afternoon.

CREATIVE CANVAS: A painting adventure awaits! Unleash your inner artist, one stroke at a time, and create a canvas of your imagination. Join us for a splash of color and a world of artistic fun!

CREATIVE WRITING: God has gifted us in so many unique ways. In this POI, we will express our thoughts and use our minds to write various things. We will play writing games and share our pieces with each other in this circuit.

IMPROV: If you love to laugh, you will love improv! Enjoy some of the games you might have seen from late night comedy and learn some new ones as well. This will challenge your mind and crack you up! Give it a try!

MINUTE TO WIN IT: Do you like competitive games? Do you like working together as a team? Join us in these high-energy competitive games.

BASKETBALL: So, you think you got skill? Bring your "A" game out to the court and you may learn a thing or two in the process!

DODGEBALL: Grab your athletic wear and stretch out that rotator cuff. Head down to the court for this classic you have come to know and love, all done Crossings style!

FLAG FOOTBALL: He's at the 20, he's at the 10, he's at the 5, and it's a TOUCHDOWN! Join us for the flag version of a classic game.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE: 3...2...1... Ultimate! Come put your frisbee skills to the test as you compete in this classic outdoor rec game! Remember, it's all in the flick of the wrist!

OUTDOOR GAMES: Are you competitive? Looking for some exercise? Or just wanna let loose? Join us for some intense and friendly competition. Gaga ball, Nuke'Em, Basketball, you name it, and we might play it.

NERF WARS: It's Nerf or Nothin! Step into battle, outlast the opposing team, and claim your victory in Crossings' Nerf Wars!

JUST DANCE: Move to the beat, groove to the rhythm – show everyone how it's done on the dance floor!

ESCAPE ROOM: Oh no! You're locked in a room! Combine the brainpower of you and your teammates to solve puzzles to escape before time runs out!

POOL GAMES: During the summer heat, a day at the pool is just what you need. Cool off and enjoy the various activities we offer.

ARCHERY TAG: Archery Tag® is played similar to dodge-ball with bows and patented foam-tipped arrows. This exciting, action-packed game offers the ultimate family-friendly experience that engages everyone. Don't miss out on Tag... The game you never outgrow!

HEARTSONG: Spend time with the camp band, learn songs, and worship with your passion for music!

APOLOGETICS: As Christians, we should be prepared to give a defense of our faith. Here students will learn what a Biblical defense looks like and answer difficult questions that are often asked about the Christian faith.

HOW TO READ YOUR BIBLE: Have you ever wanted to dive deeper in reading your Bible, but you weren't sure where to start? Come join us to learn some practical tips on how to read your Bible to take your Bible reading to the next level.

LINDEN VALLEY POIs

COOKIE DECORATING: Discover your inner cookie artist skills in this fun, engaging POI! You'll learn easy techniques using royal icing to create your own sugar cookie masterpieces.

ARTS & CRAFTS: Are you creative and artistic? Or do you want to inspire your creative side? Arts and Crafts is for you! No matter your skill level, come inside for a fun afternoon.

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JUST DANCE: Move to the beat, groove to the rhythm – show everyone how it's done on the dance floor!

KICKBALL: "And it's One! Two! Three strikes you're out at the ole kickball game!" Get warmed up to run, field, and kick your way to victory in this favorite field game!

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NERF WARS: It's Nerf or Nothin! Step into battle, outlast the opposing team, and claim your victory in Crossings' Nerf Wars!

PAINTBALL: Step into the arena, ignite your courage, and paint your victory. Put on your glasses as you attempt to outlast the opposing team in a classic match of paintball.

TUBING: Hop on a tube, grab a buddy, and float down the Buffalo River. Maybe you'll spot some wildlife as you enjoy this relaxing excursion.

KAYAKING: Ever wanted to kayak down the Buffalo River? You'll have the chance to do this and more in kayaking!

ZIPLINES: Do you like heights? Do you like an adrenaline rush? Clip in your harness and hold on! Zip across 600 ft of the property enjoying the beautiful views. Minimum weight, 90 lbs. Maximum weight, 250 lbs.

ESCAPE ROOM: Oh no! You're locked in a room! Combine the brainpower of you and your teammates to solve puzzles to escape before time runs out!

POOL GAMES: During the summer heat, a day at the pool is just what you need. Cool off and enjoy the various activities we offer.

HIGH ROPES COURSE: Look out below! You'll need to watch your steps as you stand, suspended in the air, with your partner. Work with your team amongst the trees to conquer this aerial rope adventure!

LOW ROPES COURSE: Teamwork is the name of the game as you will find you and your team intertwined with this ropes course. Problem solve and untangle your team to conquer the low ropes!

HIKING: Do you enjoy nature? Are you needing a peaceful break from the excitement of camp? Join us for a stroll through the woods and deepen your knowledge of outdoor living!

ARCHERY TAG: Archery Tag® is played similar to dodgeball with bows and patented foam-tipped arrows. This exciting, action-packed game offers the ultimate family friendly experience that engages everyone. Don't miss out on Tag... The game you never outgrow!

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HOW TO READ YOUR BIBLE: Have you ever wanted to dive deeper in reading your Bible, but you weren't sure where to start? Come join us to learn some practical tips on how to read your Bible to take your Bible reading to the next level.

FAQs

HOW MANY ADULT LEADERS SHOULD I BRING?

An important aspect in the ministry of Crossings is the relationships that students build with the adult leaders from their church. Crossings requests one adult for every seven students (gender specific) in order to facilitate discipleship between students and adults that will extend beyond camp. As your students will be looking for guidance from the adults that come with your church, it is important that you bring adults who are at least 21 years old, maturing Christians, and can be examples to your students and lead them spiritually.

WHAT IS THE CAMP RATE AND WHAT DO THE ACCOMMODATIONS LOOK LIKE FOR ADULT LEADERS?

The camp rate is the same for both students and adults. Your adult leaders will stay in the same accommodation as their students overnight. During POIs and recreation activities, we encourage leaders to hang out with their students. They may even participate in activities after every student has had their chance and if there is space.

ARE THERE LAUNDRY FACILITIES?

There are no laundry facilities available on property. Be sure to bring enough clothes for your entire stay.

MAY ADULT LEADERS BRING THEIR YOUNG CHILDREN?

No, we do not allow young children at camp. Crossings' facilities do not have accommodations for parents to bring children who are too young or too old to register as students or kids. Because of the nature of camp and the busy schedule, it would be impossible for an Adult Leader to provide appropriate supervision for both their child/children and their group's students.

WILL I HAVE CELL PHONE RECEPTION?

Linden Valley and Carson Springs have very limited cell service. We recommend group leaders bring two-way radios to communicate with the other adults in their group.

IS THERE A CAMP NURSE?

There will not be a camp nurse. We provide basic First Aid supplies and a First Aid Coordinator. More serious injuries can visit the closest hospital for medical help.

Linden Valley:
Wayne Medical Center in Waynesboro, TN
Carson Springs:
Newport Medical Center in Newport, TN

HOW ARE FOOD ALLERGIES HANDLED?

If you have a member of your group with food allergies, please make sure this is noted on their Crossings Medical Release Form. Our staff will do everything we can to accommodate them and keep our kitchen staff aware of the student's needs. Details on each location will be given closer to time.

VISITORS?

We do not allow visitors to camp. However, pastoral staff from your church is welcome to pay a visit with permission from Crossings.