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[www.WoodcrestRetreat.org](http://www.WoodcrestRetreat.org)  
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### Upcoming Events @ Woodcrest

- Father & Son Campout — May 30-31
- Summer Staff Training — June 2-13
- Summer Camps — June 16-August 8

- Woodcrest Community Pool Nights — June 5; July 3; August 7 (6:45-8:30)
- Woodcrest Swim Lessons — Begin June 16
- Youth Group Pool Night — August 16

Learn more at [www.woodcrestretreat.org/events](http://www.woodcrestretreat.org/events)



Something unique to Woodcrest is our ability to provide space during the summer for families, churches and organizations to rent pavilions for a variety of events. Additionally, most weekends in the summer there are campsites available. Woodcrest provides a great place with plenty of activities that help everyone experience the wonder of God. Call the camp office to reserve your campsite or pavilion.

### Current Needs

- 12 passenger van to use for our expanding Outbound program and weekend excursions
- Kitchen Volunteers for summer camp
- Sponsors for the Fall Fest
- Donations for the silent auction at the Fall Fest
- Propane Gas Grill

### Prayers and Praises

- Praise God for the amazing response to this year's summer camps. Pray that God will prepare their hearts for the Gospel and we will see many lives changed.
- Praise God for the staff that we have coming this summer. Pray that God prepares them for their intensive weeks of service. Pray for their spiritual and physical protection.
- Pray that God would watch over Woodcrest during the upcoming season where we literally have thousands of people on site each week in the campground and pavilion rentals.
- Pray for revival and an outpouring of the Holy Spirit for all our guests who step on the mountain this summer.



Spring/Summer 2025



Most youth today do not experience traditional outdoor play which is negatively impacting their development.

## Fun for the Glory of God

Although Christian youth camping has long been the place where God impacts lives, recent studies are showing the value of summer camps for healthy spiritual, emotional, and physical growth for today's youth.

Christian camp remains a primary place where youth have their faith strengthened. At Woodcrest we provide a variety of ways where campers can connect with God. We offer daily devotions, Bible studies, and worship services all lead by caring staff who are trained to impart their love for Jesus. A recent survey by the Christian Camp & Conference Association estimates that more adults recall giving their lives to Christ at youth camp than any other place outside the home.

However, new research is showing that summer camps are also providing a variety of benefits vital to a child's overall development.

*(Continue reading about the power of camp on page 2)*

God, Your way is holy. What god is great like You?

You are the God who works wonders; You revealed Your strength among the peoples.

With power You redeemed Your people... (Psalm 77:13-14)



### Cabin Update

We hear lots of questions about when are the new cabins arriving. Funds are still being raised to reach the \$1.6 million needed. Additionally, we are working with East Cocalico Township to get final approval.

*Learn more on page 5.*



### Fall Family Fun Fest

This year's Fall Fest will look a little different. We have moved it to October 4th and shifted events to start in the afternoon and culminating in our evening concert.

*Read more on page 5*

Fun Continued:

Woodcrest gives campers a break from screens and connects them with God and others. At Woodcrest we want campers to escape the ordinary and experience the extraordinary. More and more studies are showing that many of the mental health and emotional struggles that youth face are directly related to the amount of time spent on a screen and in particular social media. Camp provides a place to reengage the mind by helping youth disengage from their screens.

Although we always knew that creative, outdoor play was good, science is now backing up that truth. With teens spending an average of eight hours a day on screens (and children ages 5-8 spending over three hours a day), parts of the brain are not developing essential skills that are developed through creative, outdoor play. Although sports provide a healthy break from screens, most youth do not experience the benefits of imaginative games that defined childhood thirty years ago. At camp we provide time for campers to develop their God-given imagination through unique activities. It is exciting to watch children enjoy our extensive playgrounds that were built to inspire imagination and enhance community.

Despite the connectedness online, in reality most youth today admit to feeling disconnected in the real world. At Woodcrest we emphasize not only God's creation, but the fact that God created us for community. Camp is a great place to meet new friends and to be one's self. Camp creates lasting memories surrounded by positive role models who live their Christian faith out authentically. Parents often write about how their children grow in confidence and independence after their week at camp—skills not developed online.

Your support of Woodcrest is helping to shape young people in life transforming ways. Christian camping is just as vital as ever in seeing the younger generation be equipped to serve our heavenly Father in whatever ways He calls them. Thank you for investing in their lives.



Our summer staff connect campers to the truths of the Gospel in powerful and transformative ways.



We have three exciting off-site trips with high adventure and deep discipleship

- West Virginia — June 16-20
- River Rumble — July 7-11
- Deep Woods — July 21-23

## Where are the Cabins?

In the fall of 2023 we launched Phase 2 of our Mission 4:12 Initiative to raise \$4.8 million to move toward being a year-round facility that can offer winter retreats and rental space for churches and families. Phase 2 is for the placement of 10 Lancaster Log Cabins to replace the existing bunkhouses that have served as lodging for our overnight program. The new cabins would be winterized and add an additional 125 beds.

Each cabin would roughly cost \$150,000 to place. That cost includes the construction of a second shower house as well. We are currently around one million dollars. It was our plan to have the first five of those cabins in place for use during our 2025 summer camp program with the remaining five to be installed for 2026. However, we are currently working with our township to receive final approval for our development plan. We are optimistic that we will receive this approval, but we have had to adjust our timeline. Meanwhile, we are continuing to raise the remaining funds needed to complete Phase 2 (\$1.6 million total) and to make plans for their arrival and use. You can learn more about and donate toward the cabin project online at [www.WoodcrestRetreat.org/donate](http://www.WoodcrestRetreat.org/donate) or use the code to the right.



## Fall Fest Schedule

### October 4th

- 1:30-3:30 Waterslide Open
- 2:00-5:00 Fall Fest Kickoff
  - Craft Vendors
  - Food Vendors
  - Games & Activities
  - Yard Sale
  - Family Scavenger Hunt Challenge
- 2:00-6:00 Silent Auction
- 3:00 Gaga Tournament
- 5:00 Family Night
  - Food Vendors
  - Campfire Cookout
  - Live Music
- 6:00-8:00 Evening Festivities
- 8:00-9:00 "S'moresgasbord" Bonfire & Fireworks



## A Night of Family Fun & Worship

The purpose of Fall Fest is to create space for families to create lasting memories. We do that through a variety of activities for children of all ages while keeping it fun and entertaining for adults.

New to our 2025 schedule is a Family Scavenger Hunt Challenge. Families will be able to compete to accumulate the most points and win great prizes including Woodcrest merch. We are also seeking local church worship bands to come and play during the event, showcasing local talent and keeping the focus on Christ throughout the event. If your church's youth or worship teams would like to sign up, please call the camp office for more information.

We are moving our silent auction online this year as well as in person. People will be able to begin bidding before the event with live online bidding happening during the event. If you would like to donate a unique item including antiques, handcrafted items, food, tickets, gift cards, or other items, please call the camp office at 717-738-2233. Items should be donated by the beginning of August.

Stay tuned as we announce our main artist for the evening festivities. It is certain to be a family pleasing night of fun and worship. We are still finalizing the schedule so keep watching for details.

Get full details and sponsorship information online [www.WoodcrestRetreat.org/events/fall-festival](http://www.WoodcrestRetreat.org/events/fall-festival)

## Making Ministry Happen

Woodcrest is thankful to the many local businesses and ministries that support Woodcrest through financial partnerships. Because of their gifts, we are able to cover expenses to our community events so that donations received at those events go directly toward supporting the camp ministry.

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BUILDERS



Our 2025 Equipping Partners are **Lehman Insurance** and **Garman Builders**. You can see all of our partners on our website. Please let them know that you appreciate their support of Woodcrest. If you own or have connections to a

business or ministry that would like to be a Gospel Partner, scan the QR code to learn more about the various levels and benefits of supporting what God is doing here at Woodcrest.

