

THE CAMPGROUND WITNESS



Acts 1:8 (NKJV) "...and you shall be witnesses to Me... and to the end of the earth."

Quarterly Newsletter

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From The President:

Hello Everyone! June and I just returned to Wisconsin after the 2022 International Rally in Mount Airy, North Carolina. It was a great rally, well attended, and seemed to be enjoyed by everyone there. The testimonies, devotionals, and fellowship were so good.

Special thanks to wagonmasters Chad and Kim Caplinger for a job well done. Everyone pitched in to help. Thanks to Melanie Dands for music ministry assisted by Paula Key and Wayne McNair. So many others helped out, all I can say is, "Thank You!"

The business meeting went well and all of the proposed amendments to the bylaws were passed. Election results: President – Richard Bartz, Vice-President – Chad Caplinger, Secretary – Kim Caplinger, Treasurer – Michael Lawler, Membership Chairman – Kathy Vail, and Newsletter Editor – Leesa Verdote.

One morning last April it seemed the Lord led me to the main points of the message I was to share with CFC at the rallies. There were four things to bring.

First, the TIME IS SHORT. Luke 21:23-24, 2 Timothy 3:1-5. Jesus is coming soon, the signs are clear. The devil is having his day but the Lord is being patient. However, there is not a lot of time to do the works Jesus did. We MUST get busy NOW.

Second, the MISSION IS CLEAR. Mark 16:15-20, Matthew 28:20. Preach the gospel to everyone everywhere! Make disciples! Do the works Jesus did. We are alive for ONE reason only, that is to walk out the works the Lord foreordained.

Third, all NECESSARY PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE. Ephesians 2:1-10, Matthew 6:31-33, Acts 1:8. Everything we need to do the will of God has been provided. He took care of our ETERNAL LIFE two thousand years ago. We can and must do what the Lord wills for each of us to do. He will take care of us!

Fourth, the CHOICE IS OURS. John 14:12-14. Ephesians 2:8-10. We are saved by grace for a purpose, for the "works foreordained". The Lord has a plan that will bring glory to Him and much fruitfulness that lasts for us. The Lord loves the lost so much he is willing to sacrifice US to reach them. Will we go?

June and I are looking forward to the regional rallies in Grapeland, Texas and Quartzsite, Arizona. We sure would love to see you there! God bless you, brothers and sisters, in these last days as we go along camping in the shadow of the cross.

Richard Bartz, President Campers For Christ Ministries, Inc.

Chaplains Corner

We live in uniquely troubled times. Our mission, should each of us choose to accept it (aka the Mission Impossible mantra 😊), is not only to stand strong in our faith in our Lord and Savior, but to remain in fellowship with likeminded people, and to share our faith with those whose fate is unknown to them. Open your bibles and reference Ephesians 6, Mark 16, Luke 4, Matt 9 & 28, Luke 9 & 10, John 14, Acts 1 & Romans 8. This isn't a sermon, but I'm going to make some statements and you should know these are the scriptures on what I'm saying are based.

Back in (literally) another lifetime, Campers For Christ was formed by a group of believers whose focus was being Campsite Witnesses. We are told in Acts 1:8 "you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (NLT). Campsites are part of the ends of the earth.

Lifeway Research has compared pre-covid church attendance to church participation this year. Pew Research Company found that 5% of US churches never reopened, and Lifeway Research has found that in general between 25% and 33% of churchgoers have yet to return to their physical churches. According to Barna Research Group, in the summer of 2020, about 1/3 of people had dropped out of church "for the time being." A Gallup poll taken in 2022 Americans' membership in houses of worship dropped below 50%. That's a 23 point decline since 2020. So where have all the people gone? Some were probably just punching their ticket on Sunday, but what about the believers among them?

Home churches and fellowships have grown dramatically over that same time period. Having a full time, travel RV ministry sharing the Gospel across the country for the past 2 years, I have seen a large increase in home fellowships, "street" churches, and many people returning to a life as described by the apostles in the book of Acts.

According to the Simple Church Journal, House Church Global Report by Wolfgang Simpson, in mid 2021, there were at least 22.6 million house churches worldwide, with a total of around 300,000,000 members. Growth is expected to increase at a "realistic rate" of 20% per year, while most traditional church systems are in overall decline.

Where does Campers for Christ fit into this scenario? *Right in the middle!!* Campers for Christ rallies are gatherings of like-minded people, both saved and unsaved but with the Lord Jesus Christ as the focus. Each day begins with praying for the needs of others. We are commanded to pray for others "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working" (James 5:16, ESV). We then have a variety of activities, from testimonies, devotionals, messages, teachings, worship, poetry and other faith-based contributions. The most powerful of these have been when in small groups as the Holy Spirit moved among us as we began discussions on a devotional topic. This becomes the real church where many receive the fulfillment they were missing from their traditional churches. In these sessions we share, testify, learn, teach, pray for one another, lay on hands and people are healed. Its spirit filled and a demonstration of the power of God.

In addition to the spiritual aspect of our rallies, we recognize that we are in the campgrounds because we *enjoy camping and the camping lifestyle*. We get together because we enjoy fellowship and doing some fun things together. We always have plenty of unstructured time for personal activities such as exploring the local area, luncheons, and group trips. However, we acknowledge there needs to be a balance, and true to what Jesus has commanded us to do, we avoid fleshly activities that might be in conflict staying on the narrow way.

There are plenty of Christian organizations who get together with "like-minded people" for fun and frolic. The difference is that Campers for Christ was founded on strong biblical principles, and to spread the word and preach the Gospel according to the Word in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John; not to meet thinking that just

being together is sufficient worship in obedience. As church attendance goes down, our membership rolls grow. There is a reason, and that reason could easily be the way that we live “in the shadow of the cross.” At Campers for Christ, although we are interested in growing our membership, we are not interested in attracting new members just for the “numbers”. We are satisfied with fewer members who are followers and looking to grow in their faith, as we do not know how much time we have left on this earth. Sitting around the campfire singing worship songs, sharing testimony, and hearing about the miracles God performs is awesome and powerful: the presence of the Holy Spirit is often palpable. Campers for Christ is a lean running organization with funds in the bank and no debt. Our income covers our expenses. We have been good stewards of His money.

As I said in the beginning of this article, we live in uniquely troubled times. The enemy is always hovering around, looking to steal, kill and destroy. And today we have a Woke movement and a Cancel culture. We need to stand firm against attempts to invade, dilute, and change the focus of the founding fathers of this organization. It is our job to Stand in the Victory that Jesus Christ proclaimed at The Cross. We have new chaplains being called and ordained in Campers for Christ, their purpose to pray for, mentor, and support all members through whatever they may be going through. As their numbers grow, so does our ability to help members stand in His Victory, to remain true to what Jesus has called us to do, and how He has called us to live.

As long as I’m a member of this organization, regardless of any position I may hold from time to time, I proclaim victory over any weapon formed by the enemy to distract this organization from its original charter. To do His works and move forward in the power and authority given to me by Jesus and the Holy Spirit, even to refocus who and what we are, to be more obedient to our charge of making disciples of all nations, doing the things that Jesus did and even greater. As we are reassured in Romans 8:35-39, nothing can separate any of us from God, and I call upon all of you to join with me in my resolve.

To His Glory, our God Almighty, and Holy Savior Jesus Christ

Alan Kashdan, Sr Chaplain, Campers for Christ.

Rally Reports

Genesis Chapter Texas

Belton Lake Campground, TX - July 25-28, 2022

The weather was warm but comfortable with a pleasant breeze. We enjoyed sweet worship and praise to our Lord.

Special thank-you to Wayne McNair and David Lopez for their powerful music they provided each day. Really set the “tune” (forgive the pun) for the rest of the day’s service.

Each day, Chaplain Key led us in prayer. We also dedicated one hour each morning, group praying for our nation, our leaders, family, friends, each other - praying for guidance, strength, wisdom, protection, discernment, healing, knowledge, and to grow closer to God, to know Him better, and His Nature more deeply.

Testimonies, lessons, and teachings were shared after this dedicated hour of morning prayer.

After our evening pot-luck meals, we were once again blessed with music from Wayne and David. Just couldn’t get enough of their music! Again many shared testimonies, reading of special Bible verses/devotionals. We also had open discussions for answers to life experiences some of us were going through.

Chaplain Key stressed he wanted each of us to enjoy and be relaxed/refreshed camping with fellow Christians in the Shadow of the Cross.

On our last morning, we shared communion and thanked God for all He has done for us, for His unending mighty love for each of us, and how His love was manifested through His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Special Prayer Requests

- Campers For Christ Ministries and its members
- For the peace of Jerusalem and its leaders for salvation & wisdom, (Psm 122:6)
- United States of America and its leaders (1 TIM 2:2) for salvation & wisdom
“Nothing lies beyond the reach of prayer
except that which lies outside the will of God”

IN MEMORY OF...

Campers for Christ Ministries extends condolences to the families of the following CFC members who have departed earth and entered their Heavenly Home, to spend Eternity with Jesus. Our hearts and prayers are with the families as they adjust to the loss of their loved one. May the love and peace of God comfort and strengthen you at this time.

Ralph Hood – August 13, 2022 – Temecula, California

2022 SCHEDULE OF RALLIES- Listed by date

CENTRAL REGIONAL RALLY EVENT September 7 - September 11

Salmon Lake Park
247 Salmon Lake Road
Grapeland, TX 75844 Phone: 936-687-2594

**BE SURE TO ASK FOR VALLEY VIEW OR SUNSHINE INN LOCATION
And mention Campers For Christ in comments when reserving campsite**

Salmon Lake is a 2 acre spring fed swimming lake surrounded by a 100 acre campground with plenty of space to explore and make new memories with friends and family. Whether you come for the day or stay for a week: you will LOVE your stay at Salmon Lake Park + Resort.

All are Welcome – Membership Not Required!

Rally Registration is FREE as usual.

YOU must reserve your campsite or cabin with the campground.
Be sure to tell them you are coming for the Campers For Christ Rally.

Full hookups \$30 – \$35
Cabins start at \$75 a night and up

Organizer: Chad Caplinger; Phone: 405-434-8750; Email: chad@chadcaplinger.com

TRI LAKES CHAPTER Oct 8 @ 5:00 pm - Oct 10 @ 11:00 am

Indian Point COE Campground at Table Rock Lake; 3125 Indian Point Road; Branson, MO 65616-9615; 417-338-2121.

<https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/232610>

EVERYONE IS WELCOME – MEMBERSHIP NOT REQUIRED!

Great News – the Tri Lakes Chapter will be holding a rally in beautiful Branson, MO this fall!! There are a lot of things going on in the fall in this area, so be sure to make your reservations ASAP!

Location:

Will include times for prayer, devotionals, testimonies, and praise and worship. More details coming soon! Branson is nearby with many attractions. Some members are interested in going to the [Sight and Sound Theatre](#) which is performing Jesus live on stage through Oct. 8th, and Billye Brim Ministries [Autumn Assembly of Prayer](#), set for Oct. 12-17th.

Arrive early and stay longer if you like. Look forward to meeting you while we go camping in the shadow of the cross!

Organizer; Mike Vail; Phone: 501-762-2992; Email: KMVCrossWalk@gmail.com

**2022 CFC Western Regional Rally October 16-23 (Yes! 7 Days!)
Split Rail RV Park, Quartzsite, Arizona
EVERYONE WELCOME**

There will be activities every day but the main parts of the rally will be middle to end of the week. Partial attendance is fine. Walk-ons are welcome for the gathering times.

Split Rail RV Park 1258 N Central Blvd., Quartzsite, AZ

Phone: (928) 927-5296

Website: <https://split-rail-rv-park-rv-park.business.site/>

Full hookups \$190 for the week or \$35 a night.

Boondockers welcome, plenty of space nearby. Remember, it can still be pretty HOT in October!!!

Agenda soon.

Please send **DIRECTLY** to the Membership Chairman any changes in your postal Mailing Address / E-mail Address / Telephone (indicate whether cell). **THANK YOU!** Send to:

Editor/Membership INFORMATION

Please take a few moments to read the following:

Campers For Christ Ministries: Website: <https://campers4christ.org>

Membership Chairman: Vikki Eady, 1119 Lauren Crest St. SW; Hartville, Ohio 44632. (330) 933-0055. Email: veady284@yahoo.com

Campground Witness Newsletter Editor: Leesa Verdor; 753 State Highway BB, Hollister, MO 65672 (417)559-7552; email: cgweditor@hotmail.com

Campers For Christ Web Master: Richard Bartz, 1100 South Palo Verde Ave, Parker, AZ 57332 (928) 502-2375 Richard@seamist.org

If you have not done so please sign up for the online version of the Campground Witness Newsletter. Emailing instead of Regular Mail saves \$4 a year in mail fees per member! That adds up to more than \$400 every year!

Please send your address / e-mail changes for receiving the Campground Witness Newsletter either through postal service or online notification to Membership Chairman Vikki Eady, 1119 Lauren Crest St. SW; Hartville, Ohio 44632. Email: veady284@yahoo.com . Be a good steward of resources and sign up for the paperless version of the Campground Witness Newsletter.

Note to Secretaries of chapters:

- Send rally reports, announcements, death notices and prayer requests no later than the 15th of the month before publication is due, i.e. Nov 15th for the Dec newsletter. Send it directly to the editor at cgweditor@hotmail.com **not** the website manager
- Send rally reports ASAP via email (preferably) or postal mail to the editor. Please check your punctuation and grammar before submitting. Corrections will be made before publication.
- Try to keep the rally summaries to a reasonable length mention attendees, topics of different speakers and a detailed teaching by one of the speakers.
(We would like to see more teaching being sent so everyone can benefit from them)
- If a rally is cancelled or has changes of any kind, notify the editor and the website manager.
- Send to the editor and the web master all rally schedules as soon as you get them so they can be published in the next newsletter.

WELCOME NEW CFC MEMBERS

George & Ann Sparks, Irving Texas 75062, 2022-06-02

Carolyn & Robert Hillegeist, Canyon Lake Texas 78133, 2022-06-03

Allison Thompson, Double Springs Alabama 35016, 2022-06-09

Erica & Erica Bender, Richland Washington 99352, 2022-06-12

michelle schultz, interlochen Michigan 49643, 2022-06-18

Patricia & Edward Huber, Waupaca Wisconsin 54981, 2022-06-25

Mark & Evelyn Fullerton, Fletcher Oklahoma 73541, 2022-07-10
Robert & Nancy Welborn, Benton Arkansas 72019, 2022-07-10
Nancy Yow, Huson Montana 59846, 2022-07-22
Nelson Col'on , Millersville Pennsylvania 17551, 2022-07-23
Christopher & Shannon Robinson, Lynchburg Virginia 24504, 2022-07-24
Suzan & Ron Bernucho , Houston Texas 77080, 2022-07-25
Beverly Travis, Belton Texas 76513, 2022-07-27
Michael & Cathy Lusk, Tyler Texas 75703, 2022-08-01
David & Vickie Horning, Hot Springs Arkansas 71901, 2022-08-01
Rodney & Joann Smith, Sun Prairie Wisconsin 53590, 2022-08-08
Sara Figley, San Marcos California 92078, 2022-08-12
John & Heather Flint, Henderson Nevada 89011, 2022-08-14
Buddy & Debbie Williams, BUNA Texas 77612, 2022-08-15
Anthony & Anthony Shattles, Snellville Georgia 30039, 2022-08-20
Randall & Elaine Korby, Oakley California 94561-1615, 2022-08-22
David & Denise Baker, Fort Worth Texas 76179, 2022-08-24
Nancy Sitter, Mishawaka Indiana 46545, 2022-08-29
John & Cindy Jones, North Ft. Myers Florida 33903, 2022-08-30
Patricia Mullins, Luray Virginia 22835, 2022-08-30
Jerry & Chris Morris, Havelock North Carolina 28532, 2022-12-13

WE BELIEVE:

1. The Bible to be the inspired Word of God, authoritative and infallible in all aspects for living a holy and righteous life, the purpose of our creation.
2. There is one God eternal, manifested in the persons of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. In the virgin birth of Jesus Christ, in His atoning sacrifice through His blood, ascension and return for His Bride, the Church.
4. That regeneration and conversion through faith in Jesus Christ is essential for salvation of a lost humanity
5. In the bodily resurrection at the last day.

OUR AIMS:

1. To provide a means for Christian campers to get together for fellowship at local and national levels.

2. To provide a way for recognition of Christians on the road or while camping.
3. To encourage a witness to others, while camping, regarding the claims of Jesus Christ, the club crest being an effective opener when asked to explain its purpose.
4. To provide a Chaplain service to campers if requested, especially to those who have no church affiliation.

****NEWS & NOTICES FOR ALL****

- Hello friends, we currently have a member owned business that would like to put up a poster to promote Campers for Christ in their business. We are looking for some help designing this poster. Do you have experience in this area or some ideas. If so please contact me so we can discuss some criteria. Also if you have a business that you would like a poster for please let me know. Be blessed Camping in the Shadow of the Cross. Richard Bartz, President Campers for Christ Ministries, 928-502-2375, richard@seamist.org
- I occasionally get the paper Campground Witness Newsletters returned to me as undeliverable due to an address change that we don't have. Please let your chapter members know if there has been a change in address that they notify both the webmaster and the editor of the newsletter.
Thanks, Leesa Verdot, Editor CGW