

## CAMps Newsletter

Wow, this has been an awesome year of growth for many young people. God continues to work on my heart showing me that He cares and that He knows all things before it is revealed to me. This year's camps were some of the easiest camps to prepare. Things just came together like a puzzle. It has been a blessing to see how many of the participants that have been with CAM for several years have matured spiritually this summer. Many of these young people have become mature focused individuals that have a servant's heart. They are all willing to share the Gospel through actions and words. They desire to **dive deeper** into the scriptures and hear the voice of God. One scripture that CAM focused on this summer is found in Philippians 2:1-5, "If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus."

CAM held 3 Local Summer Mission Opportunities this year. We had a total of 15 new participants. Due to the fact that there were many churches out of town for mission trips and camps the first camp was low in numbers but not in spirit. This was the first camp where only girls spent the night. We did have several guys join us during the day time. The second and third camps were full. It amazes me how each camp is so different. During the second camp we had several firsts, one being that the girls went to sleep early while it took the boys a little while longer to settle in for the night! The third camp consisted of mostly upper classman which accounted for the in depth discussions. These youth are very hungry to serve God and to make an impact in their world.

As a leader of CAM we focus on bringing the Body of Christ together to accomplish the work of the Father. It was exciting to see 17 churches represented through the participants this summer. Over the summer we were able to help 16 different agencies, some of which we helped several times. We accomplished 894 volunteered hours, which accumulates to a total of 7,202.45 hours since August 1999. That's quite an accomplishment for teens these days! While working out in the 100 degree weather we never heard a complaint. If someone needed encouragement then you would hear one of the youth say, "two fourteen it!" Which represents the scriptures from Philippians 2:14, "Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life – in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing."

We give a BIG thanks to Alameda Church of Christ, Riverside Church and Wildwood Community Church for hosting this year's camps. Mazzio's Pizza, Dominos, and Papa John's Pizza each donated one meal to a camp. Subway donated one meal for each camp! May God bless their business and church body for being so gracious to this out reach ministry! We also would like to thank board members Beth and Mike Sykes and Curtis and Barbara Williams for helping to prepare the evening meals during the camps. Please be sure to express your appreciation to these organizations for making it possible to have these "FREE summer mission opportunities".

Several of the teens have expressed a desire to step up in leadership roles and join the YAC-Youth Advisory Council. In order to do this, they must fill out a lengthy application and go through an interview process with some of the Board Members. Leadership roles are not taken lightly in this ministry. For we believe that people will tend to follow their leaders examples. Young people that are allowed to participate in the YAC are outstanding youth that have a heart focused on Christ; are seen as responsible and enthusiastic individuals. They are respected by their peers and will represent then well in the council. The young people will be responsible in leading devotions, preparing music for gatherings, getting a quarterly newsletter out, and helping to make decisions concerning CAM's future. We look forward to working more closely with these teens.