

COPASS CONNECTION

DECISIONS FOR CHRIST

SALVATIONS	593
RE-AFFIRMATIONS	260
CALL TO SERVICE	10
HAVING QUESTIONS	60
GRAND TOTAL	923

SUMMER CAMP 2018

By - Carla Besco | Program Director

WOW, how did this happen! Where did July go?! For the record it was one of the best Julys in my 8 summers here at Camp Copass.

As I sit here writing my thoughts down, one of the first thoughts that I have was what an awesome bunch of counselors we had out here at the camp this year. Throughout the camps I would ask questions of the counselors and their responses were absolutely amazing... let me list the questions below;

1. How many of you have given up a week of vacation to come and serve with us here at Camp Copass?

2. How many of you are teachers?

So, in answer to the first question about ½ of them were using vacation time to come and sleep on bunks with a room full of campers. Question number two was very much a surprise for all of us... over ½ again were teachers... realize now that those people are on vacation from classrooms full of kids and yet they are willing to come and serve their churches and campers.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to every one of you! Churches, thank those that represented you and loved on your campers...these are truly special people!

The second thought was this... I truly wish that I could share the

sound of their laughter, screams of joy and voices raised up in praise with each of you. I know for a fact that your face would light up with the biggest smile, and your heart would be filled with JOY! The Bible says in Mark 10:1 "Let the little children come to me" and that is what we do here at Camp Copass. The feelings that you get as you watch these campers experience God is unbelievable. Look at the pictures in this newsletter and imagine the sounds and smells (maybe not all the smells) from the campers and you will know the exact reason that we have Camp Copass. We count it all JOY to be a part of this ministry.

I guess like all good sermons my third point is this... almost 600 campers came to know the Lord Jesus as their personal Savior this summer. Another 300 made decisions to heed God's call to serve in ministry or simply needed this time to re-affirm their relationship with HIM.

For no other reason than the above paragraph, we are all glad to have July each year! Hope to see you next year where we will count it all JOY in our theme and studies. Nehemiah 8:10...



CAMP COPASS SUMMER MEDICAL TEAM

We had our first “Medical Team” on staff this summer and it was a HUGE success! Our team consisted of three TWU nursing students: Ana Deleon, Cristina Cisneros, and Tiffany Kane. They served over 3,800 campers and counselors during our Associational Camps. From GaGa knuckles (it’s a camp condition ☺) to broken arms, our medical team took care of the situation!

We also appreciate Bruce Eckel, MD for serving as our On Call Physician this summer. Dr. Eckel is a pediatrician for Cook Children’s in Denton and is also a member of one of our associational churches.

Thank you Medical Team and Dr. Eckel for taking good care of our campers this summer!



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

2019 DATES

KEENAGE KAMP	MAY 6 - 8
GA/RA WEEK	JUNE 10 - 14
YOUTH WEEK	JULY 1 - 5
TREK I	JULY 8 - 12
TREK II	JULY 15 - 19
TREK III	JULY 22 - 26
MINI CAMP I	JULY 12 - 13
MINI CAMP II	JULY 26 - 27
SENIOR ADULT DAY	OCTOBER 1

CAMP COPASS

By - Robbie Oliver | Summer Staffer

In my two years of working here at Camp Copass I have learned a lot about a wide variety of things ranging from the best way to carry a large pan of gravy without spilling it everywhere to how to clean an entire cabin in under an hour. The latter of the two I just learned this year and I am quite proud of it.

This year I received my ropes course certification and after a couple weeks I was named "Head of Ropes". With this I was in charge of scheduling who was doing ropes on what days and making sure all the equipment was up to code. Being on the ropes team is no easy task. It's long days in the sun, but on a brighter note I did get quite the tan this summer. Ropes taught me to have endurance and patience this summer.

Reflecting back on my time this summer and last I've learned a lot about myself and about God. I have learned that I have a good work ethic and that if I can survive 4 weeks of July here at camp then I can survive just about anything.

This job has taught me that I am called to be a servant of the Lord and that whatever I am doing, I am doing it for the advancement of His kingdom. I scrub toilets and take out trash for the glory of God. Once I realized that I became a lot happier in my day to day life here at camp. My boss Zach has always said, "We don't do something just to check it off a list; we do it for a purpose and with purpose" and that has stuck with me since I heard it last summer. In everything I do, I do it for God and whether I see the purpose of it or not there is always one.

What I hold dear to my heart is that this camp has shown me what it is like to be a servant. Without this camp and all my bosses and my co-workers I wouldn't know what it is like to be a servant for God's kingdom. I owe a great deal of gratitude to Camp Copass, because I became someone who is equipped and ready to be a servant for God's kingdom in any way possible.







WHAT DOES IT TAKE?

That is one question that is asked every summer. So this year we are taking some time and answering that question for everyone. Please note that every summer is different but here are some specifics for this summer. As we prepared this information for ourselves we were totally amazed at some of this information...

So lets get started.

Staff for the summer

- 9 full time staff
- 36 summer staffers
- 7 cooks
- 35 volunteers a week
- 1 camp pastor
- 1 worship band
- 6 tech people

Total - 95 people on call

Dining Hall (This is where we were amazed and amused!)

- Hot Dogs: 6,561
- Bacon: 1,075 pounds
- Ice Cream Sandwiches: 3,651
- Gallons of Sweet Tea: 792
- Chicken Tenders: 12,710
- Watermelons: 360

- Cantaloupe: 540
 - Pounds of Ice: 28,000
 - Cartons of Milk: 10,350
 - Packages of Oreos: 7,248
- Dining Hall Items - 71,287**

Camp Store/Concession

- Monster Slobber Jobber: 1,378
- Bags of Colored Rocks: 584 bags
- Ice Cream Treats: 2,784
- Jars of Slime: 2,784

Concession Items - 17,324

Having listed all of these random things I must say that there are some things that unless we as a staff had not done Camp truly would not have happened. So please let me end this article sharing the most important answer to the question above.

1. Unending Prayer
2. Constantly seeking Him (Jeremiah 29:13)
3. God's guidance in all things
4. Being in God's Word daily

Last but not least... **God's mighty provision** (Philippians 4:13)



BIBLE STUDY TO THE MASSES!

By - Bobby Cates

It's been a privilege to be entrusted with the task of leading the Bible Study at Youth Camp and all the TREK weeks for the last 3 summers. I've been asked to share a bit about how I develop the content of those Bible Study sessions and how I see the campers react to what they hear.

First, my primary goal is to clearly present the gospel in a way that connects with the various age groups. Yes, the camp pastor will share the gospel at least once during the week, but the reason the Church and Camp Copass exists is because you can never have too much gospel. I do my best to get to Jesus as quickly as possible.

Second, I want to connect the dots between the theme for the year and how it fits into the lives of the campers. For example, with the theme "Love your Selfie" I wanted to be clear that Jesus isn't calling us to put ourselves above everyone else. In fact, Jesus calls us to do the exact opposite all while trusting that He will take care of us. With that in mind, the Holy Spirit led me to focus on three different "selfies" we see in Scripture: The perfect selfie of Adam and Eve and their original relationship with God, the bestie selfie of Jesus as our best friend who always tells us the truth and gave him-

self up for us, and the group selfie of being a part of the Church that enables us to worship and grow together.

Last, I want to keep it fairly simple. Now, simple doesn't mean dumbed-down. It just means I make every effort to avoid the temptation to teach 2700 campers into submission. It's important for hearers of all ages to understand that the gospel is intended to bring about real life change in this life. They won't grasp this really if they can't understand or aren't interested in what is being said. I've learned that Jesus has a pretty amazing track record of doing supernatural things with simple offerings.

As I taught the different lessons this past summer, the campers were amazing in their responses and really took an active part in explaining to those who did not understand or those who did not truly know the Lord. Watching them put two and two together and come up with four is what all the preparations and prayer is about. Praise the Lord for His Word that is current today and every day.

I'd like to thank Carla and Brad for the chance to be a part of what God is doing through Camp Copass.





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BRAD'S CORNER

What a great summer we just completed at Camp Copass!

We had record attendance and record temperatures too! The Lord continues to move and work in the lives of our campers each year at Camp Copass. It is truly a blessing to be a part of what He is doing here.



I'd like to thank the Denton Fire Department and Denton Emergency Services for going above and beyond to secure a safe environment for the weekly fireworks shows during July. We greatly appreciate their service.

We were able to raise over \$13,000 this summer for Guatemala Missions. Our next trip is planned for this upcoming January. It was a blessing to be able to host Eric and Debra Stone at Camp Copass for several days this summer. They are missionaries in Guatemala and instrumental leaders with Camp Rio Dulce.

Thank you for your prayers and support!

GOD IS SO GOOD!

Brad

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