



REACH WORKCAMP
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Within Reach

A monthly newsletter from Reach Ministries Int'l



It's A Great Day For A Workcamp!

Hello Paul,

So who's ready for a warm, summer workcamp after all the cold weather that's been sweeping across the country? Before you know it, you'll be walking into an air conditioned school after a long, hot day at the worksite and there will be a cold glass of lemonade waiting for you. The sweat dripping from your head will soon feel cool on your forehead as you sit in the cafeteria and talk to your fellow workcampers about the work projects you accomplished. You can smell spaghetti cooking in the back of the cafeteria, and the aroma from the garlic bread is especially delicious. Then another smell catches your nose, but this doesn't smell like dinner. Yup, it's time for a shower. You stink. Didn't your mom teach you anything?

We'll see you at camp before you know it!!!

The Reach Workcamps Staff
(Mike, Paul, Heather, Annie, Neil, and Joel)

January's Trivia Answer...

January's trivia question was...

"What is the longest consecutive streak (in years) for a church attending a Reach Workcamp?"

The answer is 17 consecutive years! There are only two churches that have been to a Reach Workcamp every year since we began in 1992!

Ken Elledge from Gettysburg, PA, had the first correct answer and he'll be receiving a free Reach T-shirt.

February's Trivia Question...

How many light bulbs are in the Reach Office? (Yes, I made this question up while I was sitting at my desk and looking up at the ceiling.)

Whoever e-mails us first at workcamps@reachwc.org with the correct answer will win a free Reach T-shirt. We will take answers until February 20th. Good luck!

Youth Leader Spotlight... with Cathy Reitz

RW: How many Reach Workcamps have you attended?

We Need Volunteers...

At each Reach Workcamp there are behind-the-scenes volunteers that help the camp function. Most of the time, these spots are filled by adults from a

CR: We attended our first workcamp in Niagara Falls, NY the summer of 2004 with twelve workcampers and we will complete our sixth Reach Workcamp this summer with fifty workcampers.



RW: Why do you choose Reach year after year?

CR: Reach has a way of making you feel like "family". Aside from the fact that Reach is extremely organized and makes bringing a group so easy for a leader, coming back year after year the staff knows your group and they take the time to call you by name. It's also pretty cool for our kids to be around other young people and adults on staff that are truly there to do God's work.

RW: What is your favorite component of the programs?

CR: My favorite part would have to be the music and the slide shows. I love the dramas, small group, and so many other things but music really speaks to me and hearing the theme song each day along with all of the beautiful pictures of the kids and the neighbors really touches my heart. It also allows a glimpse into the other work sites that you would not have had otherwise.

[Click here](#) to see the entire interview.

A Note From Our Executive Director...

Reach exists because of you. That is, and has been, our purpose from the beginning. With that in mind, as the daily program themes take shape and dramas, devotions, and youth



church that desire to serve apart from the worksite environment. Volunteer jobs include helping during program, handing out break pop and ice, organizing workcrew totes, photo guiding, making lemonade, taking out trash, selling T-shirts, and other duties as needed. We also need worksite Troubleshooters, which are experienced carpenters, contractors, or handymen that visit multiple sites and assist with the work projects.

We are always looking for quality people with a heart to serve. This [application](#) gives you a brief description of each position.

Please know that this opportunity is demanding of your time and may ask you to step out of your comfort zone, but the rewards are endless.

July 19-25 in Hurricane, West Virginia is ALMOST FULL

There are only a handful of spots left at this camp. If you want to attend, be sure to get your registration in soon. If you need more spots at this camp, call the office before it's too late!

2009 Schedule...

group reflections are being written, I thought I would ask for your input. The current question is "What are the main issues that you are dealing with in your youth group?" So far an overwhelming majority of youth leaders that I have talked to have said "identity." Kids are constantly searching for who they are in friends, sports, activities, and other areas. If you agree, please let me know and also add any other thoughts on issues that you are dealing with in your youth group.

Read the rest of Mike's note and respond with comments at our [Discussion Forum](#).

June 14 - 20
OAK RIDGE, TN*
 June 21 - 27
ANNVILLE, PA*
 June 28 - July 4
NIAGARA FALLS, NY*
 July 5 - 11
NIAGARA FALLS, NY*
PETERSTOWN, WV*
 July 12 - 18
PETERSTOWN, WV
 July 19 - 25
HURRICANE, WV*
 July 26 - August 1
HURRICANE, WV
CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH*
 *Combination Jr. and St. High
 Camp is FULL

June 14-20 [Oak Ridge, TN*](#) (248)
 June 21-27 [Anncville, PA*](#) (FULL)
 June 28-July 4 [Niagara Falls, NY*](#) (201)
 July 5-11 [Niagara Falls, NY](#) (288)
 July 5-11 [Peterstown, WV*](#) (190)
 July 12-18 [Peterstown, WV](#) (FULL)
 July 19-25 [Hurricane, WV*](#) (402)
 July 26-Aug 1 [Hurricane, WV](#) (130)
 July 26-Aug 1 [Cuyahoga Falls, OH*](#) (125)

*Indicates combination Jr. & Sr. High Workcamps (the # in parenthesis is how many are currently registered)

Fundraiser of the Month...

Family Movie Night

You can show the movie in your own building or look into renting a gym, local theater, or even an outdoor screen if the weather is warm enough. Be sure to mention your purpose in renting and you may receive a donation or price break from the rental company!

Be sure to rent a movie that is good for the whole family, and it's usually cheaper to rent movies that are not in their opening weeks. You could even use a movie that is not a new release and tie it into nearby holidays (i.e. a romance for Valentine's Day, Christmas classic, etc.) It is even a good idea to show a movie that can be tied into your trip.

Set up a concession stand to sell goodies before and during the movie (make sure that food and drink are allowed in the rented space). Make sure you

have a cleaning crew for after the movie. You can try to sell tickets for this event, or you can simply ask for donations from the attendees. It's a good idea to have your pastor or youth pastor give a brief presentation about the missions trip and explain why the funds are being raised.

Do you have an idea for us to share with your fellow readers? Email Joel (jminter@reachwc.org) and you might be featured in a future newsletter.

Reach Devotion...

If there's one phrase to describe my usual February mindset, it's "Cabin Fever." It's been cold for quite a while, the snow is usually around just enough to make things complicated and messy, and everything just seems drab and dreary. I start to feel trapped inside and longing for warm sunshine on my skin. Sometimes cabin fever could be used to describe our spiritual lives, couldn't it? There are times in our lives when God seems distant and things just aren't as vibrant and on fire as they used to be. It seems like our spiritual spring may never come. Today I read about a man who could probably relate to both kinds of cabin fever:

"In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month--on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights...The waters continued to recede until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains became visible."

- Genesis 7:11-12, 8:5 (NIV)

I can't imagine the feeling of spending ten months on a boat while all of creation is destroyed, but I bet uncertainty, restlessness, and gloom were all felt at some point. Noah's story provides hope, though, because of how it ends. God caused the water to recede and soon Noah and his family were able to leave the Ark and walk about on an earth full of new life. God made a promise to Noah with the rainbow that He would never destroy all of mankind by water again.

It's great to know that we serve a God who delivers! No matter how dismal things may seem, we can rest assured that God never forgets us and not only promises our deliverance, but has proven Himself time and time again. Let's take a hint from Noah and remember to honor and trust in God through our downtimes and during imminent deliverance.

In Him,
Joel Minter



[Email Joel](mailto:jminter@reachwc.org) with thoughts of this devotion.

We look forward to serving with all of you this summer!
Please call us at 1-888-REACH-WC (1-888-732-2492) for more information about Reach Workcamps or check us out on the web at <http://www.reachwc.org>.

Blessings,

The Reach Staff