

**2009**  
**LIFE TEEN**  
**WORK CAMP**  
INFORMATION PACKET



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We are offering our first ever Life Teen Work Camp at Life Teen Camp Tepeyac with the help of Augie and Dawn Leal of Shine Catholic Work Camps. This guide will help you prepare for your upcoming Life Teen Work Camp Experience.

## **HERE TO SERVE**

Life Teen Work Camp is quickly approaching! We are so excited to welcome you and your teens to camp this summer. Our staff is here to serve you and to help in whatever way we can. From this point on, please direct any logistical questions regarding work week directly to our camp offices.

In this packet you will find some important information about camp, including important dates, final preparation info, and frequently asked questions. Please take the time to look through this information and forward it on to your teens and chaperones.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

## Camp Tepeyac

Contact Person: Cathy Woodall  
Office Number: 928-778-5397  
Emergency Cell: 480-586-8213 or  
480-586-8215  
Fax Number: 928-778-0944  
Email Address: [camptepeyac@lifeteen.com](mailto:camptepeyac@lifeteen.com)  
Address: Life Teen Tepeyac  
2600 S. Tepeyac Rd.  
Prescott, AZ 86303

# IMPORTANT DATES

**April 1st, 2009** - FINAL PAYMENTS DUE  
(if you sign up after April 1st, we will work with your group to set a feasible date for Life Teen and your group). \*Payments sent to Life Teen office.

**April 15th, 2009** - Forms mailed to Tepeyac

- Participant Agreement
- Insurance Card
- Diocesan Certificate for chaperones
- Roster EMAILED to Tepeyac ([camptepeyac@lifeteen.com](mailto:camptepeyac@lifeteen.com))

# LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

## FORMS AND ROSTER

The following forms and information need to be sent to Camp Tepeyac by **April 15th**. Please send your forms separated by type and in alphabetical order. (i.e. All participant agreements together, all insurance cards together.)

- **Participant Agreement:** This is the main liability release form that each of your participants (campers and chaperones) will need to fill out.
- **Roster:** This is an excel file that needs to be completed with information about each participant and group travel plans. This information helps us with logistical things such as housing, name tags, site assignments, etc. Please email this to [camptepeyac@lifeteen.com](mailto:camptepeyac@lifeteen.com) (Tepeyac).

Copy of insurance card (or letter indicating who will be responsible for medical expense.)

- **Chaperone Certification Letter** or certificate indicating youth protection training.

# ARRIVAL TO CAMP

The first thing on the schedule when you arrive at camp is registration from 12pm-3pm. Opening Mass will begin at 3:30pm. (\*Note: this is unique to the work camp week only). Please call when you are about an hour away. We want to have the summer staff ready to greet your bus. If you are going to be late, it is imperative that you let us know!

# DIRECTIONS TO TEPEYAC

Directions to Tepeyac can be tricky. Cathy Wodall will be in touch with you 1 to 2 weeks before you arrive to give you specific directions.

# WHAT ARE THE ROLES?

## Group Contact

This is the person organizing the trip and serving as the contact person to the Life Teen Headquarters and Camp. The group contact must be an adult, age 21 or older, who is actually attending the camp with the group.

## Adult Chaperone

Someone attending the camp to chaperone the youth. Chaperones must be 21 years of age or older. Adult chaperones must comply with your home Diocesan Youth Protection Policies. Life Teen requires a copy of the certification for each adult attending camp. (It is the responsibility of the Group Contact to ensure all chaperones are in compliance.) Chaperones must be able to carry out the role of supervising their group, lead small groups, and participate in the various activities. Keep in mind this is a camp experience; physical and spiritual fitness is highly encouraged.

The Group Contact can be an Adult Chaperone. While at camp, the adult chaperones are to participate as any camper would. They will be the role model of openness to God throughout every adventure. Along with having fun, they will be responsible for the actions and participation of the youth. Throughout the day, they will keep the youth on task and involved. At night, they will enforce the curfew and lights-out rules of the camp. Sleep becomes a key factor when allowing the Spirit to move- we can not have the youth exhausted during the day. During the evening sessions, adult chaperones will need to be present and attentive, so they can lead the small group discussion that follows. The discussion topic and group questions will be explained at the beginning of the day. The small groups will be a mix of youth from your own parish and others. Please make sure your adult chaperones are aware of their responsibilities, and comfortable carrying them out, prior to coming to camp.

*\* Just a note:* Chaperones will be supervising mixed parish groups at the work sites. This means you will be looking after some teens that are not part of your group. It also means that another chaperone may be looking after some of your teens. There will always be at least 2 adults at each work site.

## **Youth**

Participants in work camp. These include incoming freshmen (entering 9th grade) through graduating seniors (Class of 2009) for the work week.

## **Ratio**

For the effectiveness of summer camp and for the good of all involved, we require at least one adult per six campers. If you have male and female campers, you must have at least one male and one female adult.

## **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF AN ADULT CHAPERONE?**

While at the camp, the adult chaperones are to participate as any camper would. They will be the role model of openness to God throughout every adventure. Sometimes the adventure may not be comfortable for the adults but their willingness to try it out will give your teens hope for a trustworthy and steady relationship. Along with having fun, they will be responsible for the actions and participation of your youth. Throughout the day, they will need to keep the youth on task to the adventure at hand. And at night, enforce the curfew and lights out rules of the camp. Sleep becomes a key factor when allowing the spirit to move. They will need to be present and attentive during the sessions at night, because they may be the small group leaders immediately following. The discussion and questions for the group will be explained at the beginning of the day. So, when deciding on which adults to bring, please inform them of their responsibilities at camp and make sure they are prepared.

*\*Specific to Work Camp:* Chaperones will be supervising mixed parish groups at the work sites. This means you will be looking after some teens that are not part of your group. It also means that another chaperone may be looking after some of your teens. There will always be at least 2 adults at each work site.

## **WHAT HAPPENS AT A LIFE TEEN WORK CAMP?**

Each week-long work camp includes the perfect balance of time to encounter Christ through service and time to play. In the mornings and afternoons, the teens along with their chaperones will journey to a variety of locations in a nearby town to serve and meet the needs of the community. In the evenings/night, the teens will gather back at camp for a night of fellowship, praise, games, and small groups.

# PACKING

## WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

\*In the spirit of mission, we encourage people to leave behind clothing, bedding, personal items that we can give away to the poor of the area.

- Tshirts (long and short)
- Pants or modest length shorts
- Sweatshirt or jacket for evening
- Closed- toe shoes for work
- Rain jacket
- Work gloves
- Hat/bandana
- Toiletries
- Towels
- Linens or sleeping bag/ pillow
- Money for snacks and t-shirts at the store
- Bug repellent
- Flashlight
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses or hat
- Bible, journal, rosary
- Water Bottle
- Cooler for every 10 people (to pack lunches in)
- First Aid Kit

## WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Cell phones
- CD player
- iPods
- Satellite radios
- Tobacco products
- Drugs
- Alcohol
- Weapons
- Lighters
- Magazines
- Computers
- Portable gaming devices
- Anything that may distract you or others from the work camp experience

## RULES ON CLOTHING

At Life Teen summer camp we encourage all campers to respect others as well as their own bodies. If the following guidelines are not respected, we may have to ask the camper/chaperone to change their clothing before returning to the daily activity. We recommend all campers and adults to adhere to our modesty guidelines.

- No solid white t-shirts – Many of our activities will involve mud, mess or water. Chances are good that white t-shirts will be ruined and/or see through. Please bring old clothes that you won't mind leaving behind or throwing away.
- No strappy tanks tops or short shorts - Please be respectful of your body and of others by dressing modestly. Wear shirts that cover your shoulders and chest, and shorts that cover your thighs. A majority of activities during the day will be outside where the weather is hot and the sun shines brightly. By covering these areas, you will avoid getting sunburned.
- No flip flops! We are constantly moving around the camp on loose gravel and rocky ground. Sturdy shoes are necessary for avoiding sprained ankles and unwanted scrapes and bruises.
- No low riding shorts or pants. Many activities involve bending, sitting, and moving around. Please make sure that your shirt covers all of your stomach and back when you sit down or raise your arms above your head.

## Q & A

## ARRIVAL TO CAMP

### *When does camp begin and end?*

Camp begins with registration from 12pm to 3pm on Monday. The opening Mass will begin at 3:30pm. Camp ends with lunch on Saturday around 1:00pm.

### *Can we come early or stay late?*

If your travel plans require that you arrive early or stay late, we can accommodate your group's lodging need, however, the cook is not available on "noncamp" days. We can provide cereal and sandwiches, but we recommend that you go into town for meals or bring food for your group for the extra day. Reservations MUST be made ahead of time.

## HOUSING

### *Where will our group stay?*

Due to the different ratios of males to females from week to week, we cannot plan exact housing until we receive all of the rosters from the groups coming for your week. Groups are housed in sleeper cabins that sleep 12 each. Bathrooms are not in the cabins.

### *Can chaperones bring their small children to camp?*

We are unable to accommodate non-camper children

in camper housing. We value families and provided that you have enough chaperones staying with your teens, we would be happy to help you find additional suitable housing in the surrounding area.

***Will our group be housed together?***

Sometimes it is not possible to keep an entire group together. However, we never put one teen by themselves. We will always keep part of the group together.

***Do you assign rooms or do we?***

We leave room assignments up to the discretion of the group leader. When you arrive at camp, your housing assignment will be given to you. It will be up to you to decide how to split your teens and chaperones between the designated rooms.

## **MEALS**

***One of my teens or chaperones has dietary restrictions. Can you accommodate these?***

We try our best to accommodate dietary restrictions. It is imperative that you inform the camp as far in advance as possible, in order to give the chef enough time to make any necessary adjustments. We recommend that the person bring supplemental snacks.

***How do meals work during this week?***

Breakfast will be served in the dining hall each morning. Bagged lunches will be packed for you to take to the site where you are working for the day. We will all join back at camp for dinner.

## **TRANSPORTATION TO CAMP**

***My group is flying into the Phoenix airport. Do you offer transportation to the camp?***

One of the requirements for work camp is that each group provides transportation to and from work sites. If you are flying into Phoenix, your group will need to rent vans/bus to shuttle up to Tepeyac and to the work sites.

## **PRIESTS/RELIGIOUS**

***Can we bring our priests or seminarians to camp?***

Absolutely! We welcome and highly encourage it! Please contact our office to arrange housing.

## **CONTACTING HOME**

***Do you have cell phone service at the camp?***

Currently only a few cell phone providers have service here. However, we recommend that teens and chaperones bring a calling card if they need to call home.