



**Capital
Campaign**

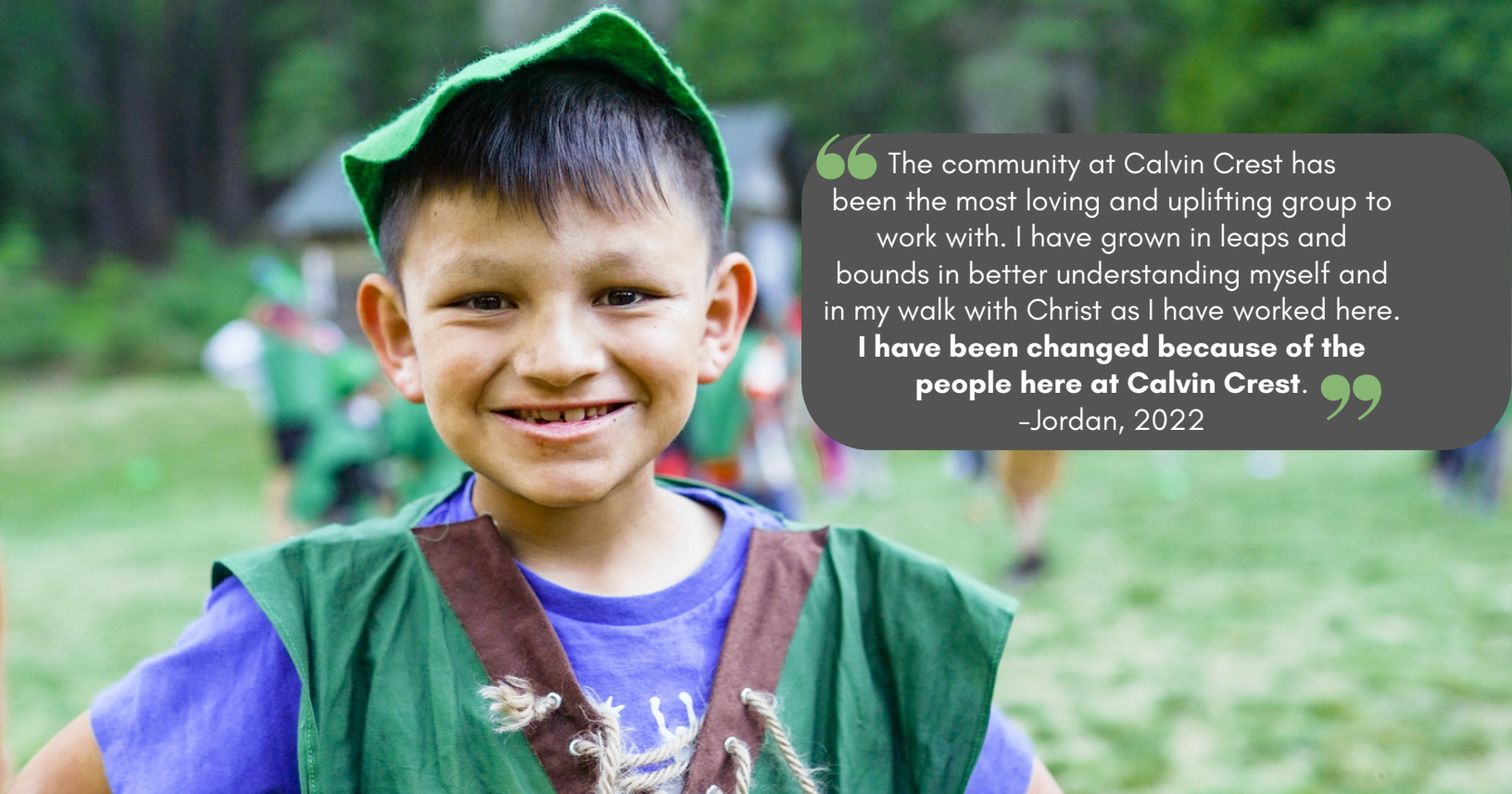
**FOR SUCH
A TIME AS THIS**



**OUR MISSION IS TO MAKE
APPRENTICES OF JESUS
CHRIST THROUGH CAMP AND
CONFERENCE MINISTRY.**

**OUR VISION IS TO BE
A THRIVING CENTER WHERE
GUESTS EXPERIENCE
SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION.**

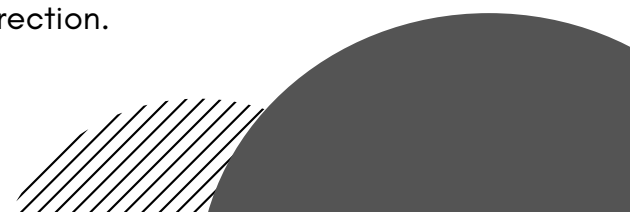




“ The community at Calvin Crest has been the most loving and uplifting group to work with. I have grown in leaps and bounds in better understanding myself and in my walk with Christ as I have worked here. **I have been changed because of the people here at Calvin Crest.** ”
-Jordan, 2022

OUR VALUES

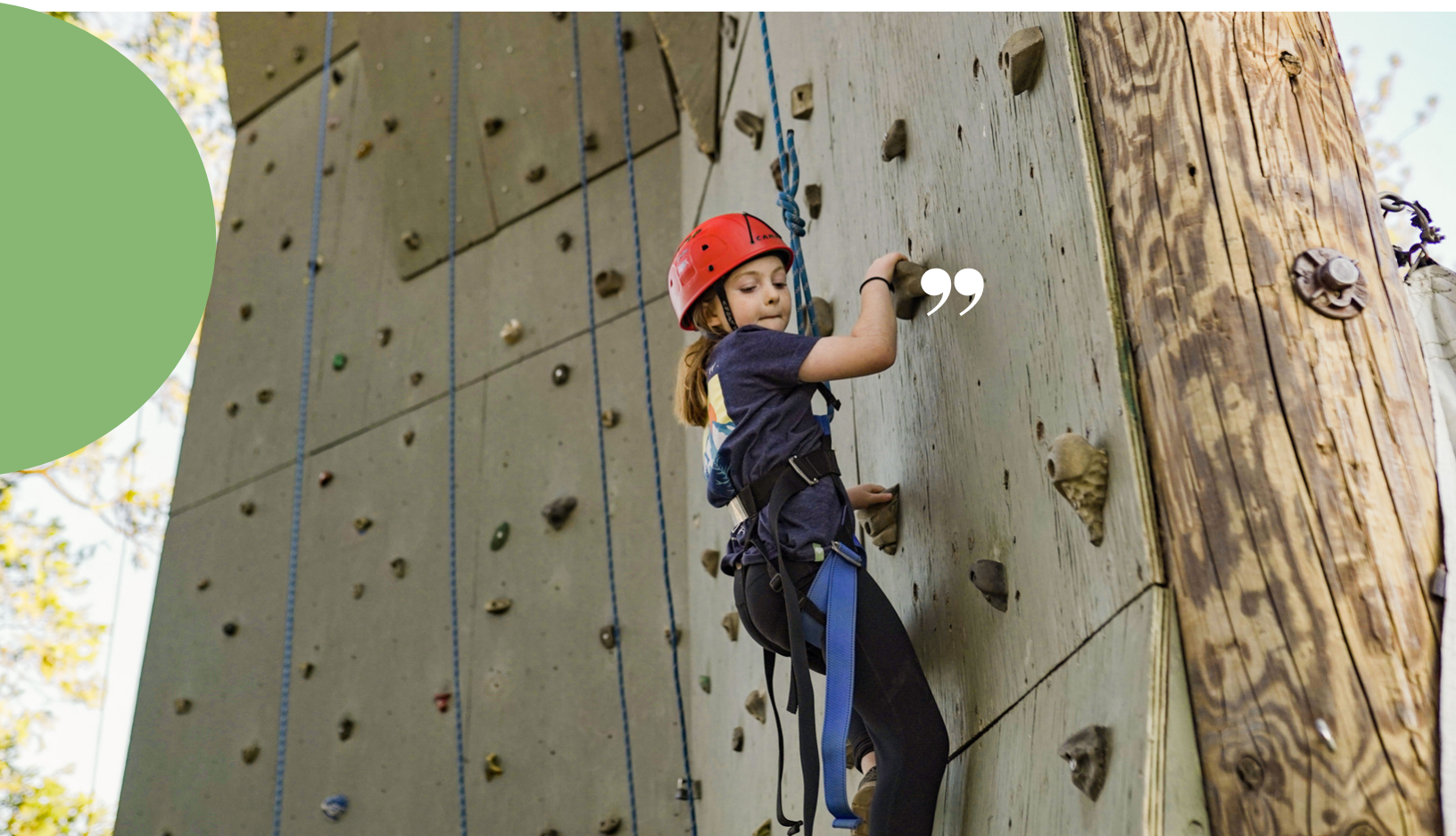
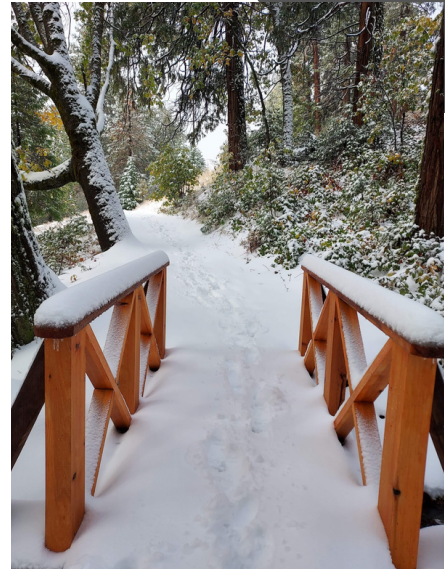
- **Authentic Relationships:** the essence of our Triune God as the foundation for everything we do and how we do it. Where other camps value big programs, we learn our campers names and stories.
- **Healthy Culture:** the result of building trust, engaging in conflict, committing to one another, maintaining accountability, and focusing on desired results.
- **Intentional Discipleship:** the intention to arrange our lives around the practices that help us become like Christ. Who we are becoming is as important as what we do.
- **Gracious Hospitality:** the sacrificial service required to create a “friendly empty space” for friends and strangers to enter and encounter the love of Christ.
- **Resource Stewardship:** the commitment to ethical sustainability and conscientious care of God’s gifts of people, land, facilities, and money.
- **Genuine Humility:** the posture of non-defensiveness, curiosity and wonder, lifelong learning and growth, admitting wrong, and seeking forgiveness.
- **Leadership Development:** the formation of young men and women into servant leaders and the shaping of life skills, vocation, and direction.



OUR HISTORY

After purchasing 340 acres of land in the Sierra Nevada Mountains in 1954, the Presbytery of San Joaquin introduced a camping program at Calvin Crest for Presbyterian youth. The first year saw two weeks of camping - 65 campers sleeping on the ground - and an annual budget of \$25. Sherwood Forest and Logging Camp were developed and added in the late 1960s as camper registration increased to over 1,000. As Eastview and Westview cabins were built, Outpost and AIM (Assistants in Mission) programs were launched to meet the growing demand. Week in the Forest was launched in 1974 and Outdoor Education was added in 1976 to serve schools in the Central Valley.

Today, summer programs continue to serve children, youth, families, and adults with disabilities from all denominations, the Outdoor School has grown and developed to serve sixth graders for more than 30 weeks a year, and guest groups use the grounds for retreats and conferences. Calvin Crest is open year-round, and our annual budget is \$1.8 million.



“ I spent the summers of my youth there. As a girl and young woman, it was a place of refuge and safety for me. I would spend as many weeks as I could, stretching to five weeks with high school camp, AIM, and counseling for two weeks. In 1985, I spent a summer on staff as the pond lifeguard in Sherwood Forest, a magical place. Though I spent my life going to church and Sunday School, **the deep spiritual foundations of my faith were laid during my time at Calvin Crest.** ” -Debra

CALVIN CREST PROGRAMS



PROGRAM CAMPS

Calvin Crest provides high-quality, Christ-centered summer program camps including Family Camp, Sherwood Forest (grades 3-5), Middle School, High School, AIM (Assistants in Mission), Outdoor Adventure (backpacking), and Week in the Forest (adults with developmental disabilities).

We also provide spiritual retreats throughout the year, including Men's Camp, Advent Retreat of Silence, youth Winter Camp, and Women's Retreats. Our goal is to provide space and inspiration for people to rest, play, and connect with God and one another in transformational ways.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

The Calvin Crest Outdoor School partners with public, private, and charter schools to bring students into contact with science, history, and the wonder of the great outdoors. Utilizing the forest, streams, night skies, and fresh air, our curriculum presents natural science, environmental education, wilderness skills, team building and history. Students participate in hands-on learning and outdoor recreation while developing important social and life skills in a fun and exciting environment. Our outdoor education program serves more than 4000+ students and teachers from California's Central Valley.

“Your entire staff is awesome! It takes special people to make a place like this so special, and you have that team here. **You can tell that everyone loves the kids, and the kids love it here.** I've been to other camps, but this one is by far my favorite. Keep up the good work!”
-2022 Sixth Grade Teacher



GUEST GROUPS

Calvin Crest hosts guests groups many weekends throughout the year. Groups from varying denominations and backgrounds rent our camp and utilize these sacred grounds to help people connect with themselves, God, and others.

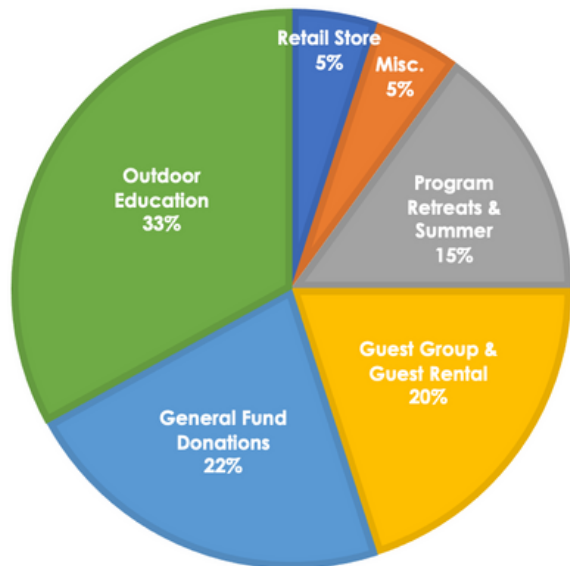
Our goal is to show gracious hospitality by creating "a friendly empty space" where everyone who comes through our gate can encounter God and leave feeling renewed.

OUR FINANCIAL HEALTH

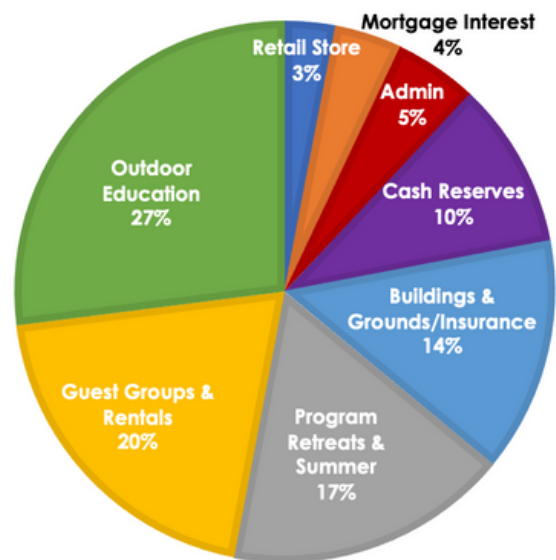
Over the last five years, God has enabled Calvin Crest to become more sustainable while also carrying us through a forest fire, devastating winter storms, Covid-19, and a historic Mono windstorm. Despite all of these challenges, we ended 2023 above our \$1.9 million budget in revenue (\$2,140,760) and under budget in expenses (\$1,950,175) and were able to set aside funds (\$190,585) for emergency savings. At right, is a breakdown of our 2023 annual revenue and expenses. We have worked hard to cut expenses and operate lean. We believe God has provided and carried through so many challenging seasons *for such a time as this*.



2023 REVENUE



2023 EXPENSES



“ In the last five years, I have seen Calvin Crest's finances go from operating in a barely viable state, to navigating a Covid shutdown, **to operating soundly in the black**. We are so grateful to now be experiencing an era of financial health and stability. ” -Ginny, Board Treasurer and former CPA and Retired Camp Business Administrator



OUR FUTURE

As we partner with God to help make apprentices of Jesus Christ, we will continue to work alongside pastors and youth leaders to train young people in the life and ways of Jesus and to do the work of the Kingdom. We will invest in staff members, empowering them to become who God has created them to be and to follow His calling to be the hands and feet of Christ in whatever occupation they choose.

Our retreat facilities and guest services will remain an extension of our spiritual practice of gracious hospitality for generations to come. The wonders of our natural setting will continue to invite students and adults to experience and know God in this thin space. Our partnerships with churches, stakeholders, and our community are growing stronger every year. Our financial picture is strong and sustainable. Our board, leadership, and staff are healthy and poised for growth, and we believe God is clearly leading us into the future.

Building on the strong foundations and rich traditions of the past 70 years, we move forward confidently, knowing God wants to continue to use Calvin Crest to transform lives for many years to come. We are ready and can't wait to see what He will do!

Specifically, our goals include:

- Further expanding our camp ministry, increasing camper and guest visits by 5 percent annually
- Ready ourselves for future weather and other challenges through wise financial stewardship by paying off debt and having cash reserves on hand
- Hiring high quality staff and developing young leaders for life and ministry
- Enabling people to experience a deeper relationship with God through nature by developing excellent facilities and spaces
- Launching an endowment to provide security for future generations

“Camp was super amazing from the start to the end. From games to worship, it was awesome. **I felt super safe there, and it felt like a second home to me.** I was able to be myself and enjoy the opportunity I was given to go to Calvin Crest. I really loved it and am super hyped to go there again.”

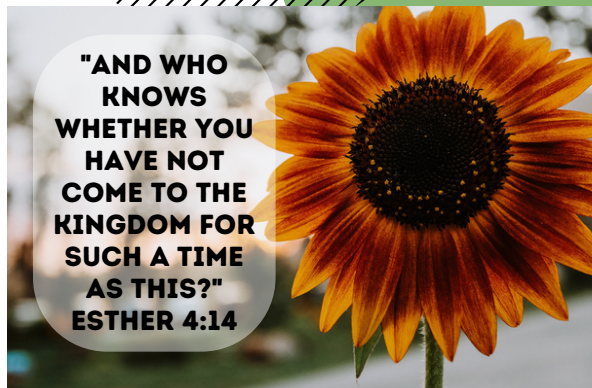
—Gerardo, high school camper

OUR CURRENT CHALLENGES

In 2017, Calvin Crest experienced the Railroad Fire which destroyed 200 of the 340 acres of our camp. We have overcome significant financial struggles, closure due to COVID-19, and complications from the Creek Fire in 2020. Most recently, in 2021, we experienced a devastating Mono Windstorm that brought down thousands of trees and destroyed several of our facilities, including our largest meeting space, Mountain View Lounge. While we can sleep and feed more than 200 people at a time, **we lack indoor meeting space** for guest groups. This limits our ability to serve guest groups or Outdoor School students during inclement weather.

Like most camps our age, we also face significant amounts of **deferred maintenance**. Our cabins, shared restrooms, lodge, and pool need varying levels of repair and renovation. Our **deteriorating staff housing** inhibits us from attracting additional high caliber employees. In addition, we anticipate **ongoing environmental challenges**, demanding continual repair and maintenance for which we must prepare. We carry **past mortgage debt** that carries interest and would love to instead **invest funds** toward the **future sustainability** of Calvin Crest.

While our challenges are great, we have clung to the truth that our God is a good God who can be trusted with our future. He has provided strong board and staff leadership *for such a time as this* and has used these challenges to bring us into a deeper faith and trust in him.



“Wow, thank you so very much for making another incredible Calvin Crest memory for us. We know that it seems like everything has come against this place in the last few years, but **we know God's presence is still very tangible here**, and we pray for His divine hand of provision and blessing on all of you. We will definitely be back.”

-Vince & Jennifer,
family campers



OUR PLAN

Complete the Lakeview Lodge as a new meeting space.

To further our mission of extending gracious hospitality and training apprentices of Jesus Christ, we plan to complete Lakeview Lodge (formerly known as the Pavilion), which will provide a beautiful meeting space for up to 200 with large garage doors that open to the outdoor patio. It will also have a smaller meeting room for up to 50 people, a kitchenette, and accessible restrooms. Replacing the beloved Mountain View Lounge, the finished space will enable more guests than ever before to worship, learn, and experience transformation while being immersed in God's creation.



Perform much-needed renovations.

We have numerous repair and maintenance projects that need attention, including renovating Westview cabins and restrooms, the pool and pool house, and parking lots. Bathrooms must be updated, roofs, windows, and siding replaced, and foundations shored up. Staff housing, including Ranch House and Barn, need significant structural work to provide safe and functional accommodations.

Reduce or retire mortgage debt.

Calvin Crest carries old mortgage debt from building projects dating back to the 90's. We would save \$120,000 a year (\$60,000 a year in interest!) and be able to re-invest those funds into staff, programs, or buildings and grounds if we could reduce or retire this old debt.

Fund an endowment.

To remain a strong and thriving center, perpetuate our ministry, and mitigate the cost of future repairs, we plan to launch an endowment as the beginning of a new planned giving program. For the first time, donors will be able to give estate gifts that will continue giving for decades to come!

“ Calvin Crest is my favorite place on earth! ”
-Danny



PROJECT PRIORITIES & COSTS

1. Lakeview Lodge Construction	\$400,000*
2. Camp Renovations	\$200,000*
3. Debt Retirement	\$1,400,000
Cash and Pledge Goal	\$2,000,000
<i>And we are seeking estate pledges to our fund our Endowment:</i>	
Endowment Fund Goal	\$2,000,000

*To supplement Mono Wind insurance proceeds designated for rebuilding.

OUR PURPOSE IS STILL PEOPLE

As we create a plan for building a new meeting space, renovating old spaces, retiring debt, and creating an endowment, we never lose sight that these serve the purpose of ministering to people.

Someone asked recently if summer camps are still needed for this current generation. Generation Z (those born between 1997-2012) have been shaped by the events of 9/11, the digital age, climate anxiety, a shifting financial landscape, mass violence, racial unrest, and Covid-19.

Social scientists say Gen Z is the most anxious generation yet, and a 2022 survey found 42% have been diagnosed with a mental health condition.

These may be your kids or grandkids, and they are our staffers and campers.

We believe camp is needed now more than ever before. Our young people need to hear about the hope, freedom, peace, and love found in a relationship with Jesus. We know God has sustained and equipped Calvin Crest for such a time as this!



“As a youngster, I attended what was then logging camp in 1975 and again in 1976. I was an AIMer several years in a row and spent an entire summer one year at CC either on AIM or counseling in Sherwood.

Those events were magical for me, and I have the fondest memories of my time spent on the property. I remember making sure that we signed up to be on the first AIM group each year so we could clear the slash from the Shadow of the Giants trail. I remember helping dig out the pond for Outpost camp one summer.

I remember the trips to Bass Lake and also hiking up to the top of Half Dome... it was something I will never forget.

Thanks for all you do. It really is life-changing.”

-Dave,
2022 first-time donor



OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE

We invite you to prayerfully consider making a three-year pledge to this campaign. To meet our campaign goal, we must have participation from *every member* of our community. Those who can make a significant pledge will enable us to complete the initial leadership phase of our campaign before moving into the community phase. We invite you to partner by:

- Praying this campaign will further the mission of Calvin Crest
- Inviting your friends and family to participate in the campaign
- Hosting a dinner party or dessert to share our mission
- Inviting Executive Director, Tiffany Staman, to speak at your church, school, or organization
- Determining your **three-year commitment** and returning the response card to Calvin Crest
- Donating a gift of stock or life insurance
- Leaving Calvin Crest in your estate or will to build our endowment to ensure our long-term sustainability and growth

Our executive staff or board members would love to discuss any of these opportunities with you. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration!



“We know beyond a shadow of a doubt God called Cam and I to Calvin Crest **for such a time as this**. Throughout the past five years, we've had a sense that God was preparing the camp for **something larger than we could even imagine**. We are humbled and excited to be part of this family and look forward to what lies ahead!”

-Tiffany Staman, Executive Director

YOUR IMPACT

Camp opens the space for lasting life-change.

Over 90% of parents say they notice *immediate positive impacts* in their children in the weeks following camp. Over 25% of parents say they notice *significant changes* in their children. Many campers describe camp as "life changing" or "transformational" and see lasting impacts in self-confidence, leadership, understanding faith, and spiritual formation.

Your investment in Calvin Crest will result in changed lives.

Your partnership ensures that camp will be a safe, fun, and spiritually formative place for campers of all ages and a leadership training ground for young staff members. Together, you and Calvin Crest can partner with God to make disciples of Jesus Christ and continue to propel young people into lives of discipleship and ministry regardless of what vocation they may choose.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING AN ETERNAL IMPACT IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS!




CalvinCrest

THE IMPACT OF CAMP: MIKE'S STORY

“During my freshman year in college, I realized that I didn't belong in church. I didn't feel comfortable with other collegians who were often amoral and immoral. I felt alone when I wasn't playing a sport.

I was invited to attend University Presbyterian Church in Fresno, CA by a friend, and I went. I hadn't attended worship since middle school. The pastor encouraged me to attend the college week at Calvin Crest, and I chose to pursue that opportunity.

I was impressed that people who did not know me gave time and energy pursuing my friendship (I found this sense of love humbling, unusual, and life giving). One evening the leader invited us all to sing Amazing Grace - I did not know the words and chose to bow in a prayerful posture rather than pretend to sing a song I was unfamiliar with. In moments, a voice asked me: "If I loved you enough to die for you, would I ever ask you to do something that wasn't in your best interests?"

My heart melted and I told the Savior that I was tired of living for myself and would live for him. Three new friends listened in a small group the next day, and Christ's fellowship has called me to spiritual growth and learning since. Service and ministry in California, Alabama, and Florida followed for the next fifty years.

Calvin Crest has always been a key to my faith experience. Staff training, lifelong friendships, opportunities for summer ministry all emerged from the connection between the local church and Calvin Crest! **I owe my spiritual life to this place.**”



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