

Program Highlights

These 2 months are definitly our most popular with retreat groups and we had over 500 people come with 13 different groups. We also served 165 campers. Returning staff and generational alumni (pictured left) remind us how impactful BaYoCa has been and continues to be. Rappelling and bullride continue to be loved activties at camp.







Carter would love to connect in person with local churches. If you can help set up connections email us!

Email us

Facility Highlights

We were blessed by a mission team from FBC Taylersville who were able to clear the whole slide hollow hiking trail, declutter gutters, & pinpoint several wasp nests (the last one was not an assigned task). With all the groups & campers our firewood stock has been depleted & we have begun the process of harvesting more wood (if you have a chainsaw that's getting dusty, & are looking to use it, we have logs!)





Often times I try to make these stories have some greater meaning or purpose. The problem is, most of my stories at camp take place from the perspective of a seventeen year old camp counselor; I didn't yet have much meaning or purpose. I assure you, this story has no greater meaning, and its purpose is simple.

The reason escapes me, but one summer the staff stayed in the Lodge. The guys stayed on the left side and the girls stayed on the right. As far as staff togetherness goes, this must have been one of the best summers I spent at Camp. Every night after the kids went to bed and our tasks were done, all the non-counselor staff went to the bottom of the lodge to play dodgeball and boardgames. When it came time for lights out, we all went upstairs to our respective sides, got in bed, and talked about the deepest or silliest things we could think of.

But as happens in any summer, tension at some point starts to build. Sometimes it's at one another, and other times it's just general teen angst. I don't remember what caused the tension, and for the purposes of this story it doesn't matter. Whatever it was, a friend named Zach and I decided that we needed to do a prank to let off some steam. Often pranks aren't great; people feel targeted and taken advantage of and it just leads to more pranks or tension. But Zach and I decided we wanted to do a prank that was not targeted. We wanted to do something that would just cause the tiniest bit of chaos.

It didn't matter who the mark was, just that someone walked into the trap. So Zach and I swiped some garlic powder from the kitchen, brought it into the bathroom in the boys' side of the lodge, removed a shower head, and packed that shower head as densely as possible with garlic. There was a problem with our plan, however: there were three showers. We set the trap in the last one. We had to be sure that someone would use that shower. So that night, instead of our usual routine of hanging out with the rest of the staff, Zach and I said we needed to call it an early night. We went upstairs and got everything ready for the shower, so that when the first person came up to get cleaned up, we could quickly take the other two. Our unlucky mark ended up being another of our friends, Chase. The second he grabbed his towel we bolted for the bathroom and started up the water.

By the time he got in we were already done getting clean, all that was left was to witness the aftermath of our scheme. Chase got immediately into the shower, as there was already hot water in the pipes from us using the other two. But then about a minute passed, and nothing had happened! There was no discernible effect from our tiny bit of chaos. Had every bit of it sprayed out the second he turned on the spout? As I stood there dejected, I heard one of the best sentences I heard all summer.

"The smell of garlic is..... completely filling my nostrils....."

Zach and I burst out laughing. The poor guy had to change showers and scrub for a half hour. For the next few days nothing he could do could rid himself of the smell of garlic within a six foot radius. At least the mosquitoes probably followed suit and stayed away as well.



Fall Festival Oct 28

Highlights will include smores, chili cook off, <u>converting the chapel to an</u> <u>open air pavilion</u>, games, leaf pile, and more!

- No cost to attend, <u>please RSVP</u> below so we can plan accordingly.

- Friday night is open if families want to stay overnight (no cost, dinner & breakfast are on your own)

- Saturday 9:00-12:30 Deconstruction of Chapel side walls (Lunch included) - bring gloves, eye pro, and if able some tools to help bring walls down

- Saturday 1:30 - 7:00 Fall festival games and chili cook off.

RSVP Here

<u>Amazon Wishlist</u>

Facebook Page

Instagram Page

<u>Website</u>

Camp BaYoCa 2320 Happy Hollow Rd, Sevierville United States of America



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