

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Upper Midwest Christian Conference Center Summer Camp Internship

On any given day of the summer at the Christian Conference Center you will find these wonderful people we delightfully call our "summer interns." We recruit, often years before, as they are growing up in our camping ministry but in the end they have to choose to apply for this adventurous journey. It is only 10 weeks long but to a college student often exhausted from their yearlong studies, this is a major decision to give up their summer to come work 14 hour days for only \$2300.00 when we know they can make so much more in other summer jobs.

Yet they do and here is why we think they come:

1. The internship is a chance for them to practice giving back to a camp that gave them a foundation for living. The intern's main responsibility is to support the camping ministry through "Servant" type jobs. These are not always your high profile jobs and in fact, are often the ones behind the scenes. This helps to develop and form the foundational leadership model of "serving each other."
2. Through this internship they experience a chance to practice mentoring. Through interactions and experiences throughout the summer these interns begin to try out mentoring to campers and some young counselors. In a very real sense they become pastors to some of the people who gather but do so in a safe and supervised environment.
3. The internship invites them into an intentional and intense inward look at who they are as a person of faith. Though many in college often suggest that their faith is only a casual thing, this internship has shown that these young adults are yearning to dig deeper into what they do and do not believe. They want to build a faith foundation that is relevant in their life; a faith that they either never learned or were not ready to make their own.
4. The internship provides onsite spiritual direction and life coaching through the onsite ministry staff. This is a unique situation through the denominational camping ministries. The onsite manager and the regional minister both act as

personal mentors to these 6 interns. This is Christian formation at its basic understanding and is at the heart of what the internship is about.

5. The internship encourages the exploration of ordained ministry and exploration of God's call in one's life whatever that may be. We give priority consideration to those who are wrestling with a call to ordained ministry to help raise-up ever-new generations of ministers for the church. However, this internship is about the formation and exploration of calls from God and sometimes those calls to ministry are not along the path of ordained ministry.

If you are interested in applying for one of the summer intern positions, please fill out the attached application and mail to: Bert Burns, Christian Conference Center, 5064 Lincoln Street, Newton, IA 50208, by March 1, 2009. If you have any questions, please call 641-792-1266 or email bb@uppermidwestcc.org.

Christian Conference Center Summer Intern Application

Personal Information

First	Middle	Last	Preferred Name
Home Address:	Street	City	State Zip
School Address:	Street	City	State Zip
Preferred Phone Number		Alternate Phone Number	
Gender	Primary E-mail	Secondary E-mail	

Current School Information

Name of Institution	Location	Degree Program
Month/Year Enrolled	Current classification (circle one) FR SO JR	Major(s)

Church Background

Home Church	Location
College Church (if applicable)	Location

Recent Employment Experience

Employer	Location	Position
Start/End Date	Phone	Supervisor
Employer	Location	Position
Start/End Date	Phone	Supervisor

Reflect and Answer

Take time to reflect on the following questions, then provide your answers on a separate sheet of paper. Please limit your answers to two pages (preferably typed).

1. In what ways have you been involved in your church, denomination, and/or camp programs?
2. How are you currently involved in church or campus ministries?
3. What people, places, or experiences have most influenced your faith?
4. How has college affected your faith?
5. What areas or aspects of ministry would you like to explore through this internship?
6. What gifts and experiences do you think will be helpful to you as an intern this summer? This application and all letters of reference should be mailed to:?

References

Please ask two adults to submit letters of reference explaining why this internship would be a good experience for you and for our church. One reference should be a minister or other church official, the other can be any unrelated adult who knows you well.

<i>Please provide names of references who will be sending letters:</i>	
Name of Ministerial Reference	Relationship to Applicant
Name of Second Reference	Relationship to Applicant

This application and all letters of reference should be mailed to:

Christian Conference Center
5064 Lincoln Street
Newton, IA 50208