

# Camp Roger Faith and Life Covenant

## Here's Who We Are.

Camp Roger is a ministry that seeks to encounter and celebrate God's love for his children through experiences and relationships in creation. All community life at Camp is meant to find its center in Christ since we know that "in [Christ] all things hold together" (Col. 1:17).

In this covenant you will find a number of ways that we, as a diverse group of Christians, seek to live in order to find our center in Christ for the purpose of serving God together at Camp Roger. We won't get it perfect. Sometimes we won't even get it right; we're all on the journey. But we commit to working in the same direction together, orienting ourselves toward Christ in all things. Christ is the one redeeming the world, and he invites us to be his fellow workers through his Spirit.

We believe that Christians share some core beliefs and convictions.

- **First**, that there is one true God who is made known to his creation through the persons of the Trinity: The Father who created us, Jesus Christ the Son who died for us, and the Holy Spirit who guides us.
- **Second**, that the Bible is the true and inspired Word of God, revealing God's character and redemptive story to his creation.
- **Third**, that God's world-wide church, which includes all Christians, has been called and equipped to co-labor with Christ in building the kingdom on earth.

Camp Roger seeks to be a community where all individuals feel they are welcomed, affirmed, loved, and belong. We recognize that while holding to these core beliefs, Christians differ in biblical interpretations and practice around a variety of topics. So when difficult discussions arise, Camp seeks unity despite our differences rather than imposing a uniformity that forces people to choose sides, creating further division. This means we carefully hold the tension of such tender conversations, entering with love into challenging dialogues with one another, and working alongside Christians with different opinions and scriptural interpretations. We know at times living like Christ is hard, and we want to be able to have hard conversations about how to do it together. As we do, we trust that "in Christ, all things hold together."

Ultimately, as a Christian community at Camp, we desire to pursue a way of life together that's unique to Christ's way. We want to grow together, both spiritually and personally. We also seek to practice humility when we intentionally or inadvertently work against Christ's way at Camp. And in it all, we hope to encourage each other in the Spirit's guidance and in the Word of God, engaging with each other in our questions and even our doubts so that we can all grow closer to God.

Our core beliefs, paired with the Spirit's work in each of us as his beloved people, shape our day-to-day actions and character to make us more and more like Christ. Again, we know that we are imperfect in this goal, and so part of the purpose of this Christian community is to keep each of us accountable in our actions and to remind us of our true identity in our God. This covenant is a commitment in faith and trust to a posture turned toward Christ and one another. In other words, it's a declaration of desire to live out our faith and life with integrity in community.

## Here's How You Can Join Us.

If this sounds like something you want to be a part of, read the following agreement and sign at the bottom to indicate your desire to live and work in community in this way.

*As a member of the Camp Roger community, with God's help, I will do my best to stay centered in my relationship with Christ through personal spiritual practices. I will follow Christ's example in my life, exhibiting the fruits of the Spirit and acknowledging every person as an image-bearer of God. I will pursue unity and redemption in the world, starting with the relationships closest to me. This means I will put my neighbor and Christ's kingdom above myself, that I will seek peace with those around me by pursuing reconciliation where there is conflict, and I will use language that is life-giving, not destructive. I will also do my best to represent myself and Camp Roger to the world with Christ-like integrity.*

*Because I am pursuing Christ's mission at Camp, I will strive to live in his example. I recognize that patterns of pride, gossip, and dishonesty, among other stumbling blocks, contribute to division rather than God's vision of shalom - perfect peace and unity for all of creation. I recognize that my failure to live as God wants me to not only affects me individually, but also those close to me and the community around me. Where there may be ongoing destructive patterns, I will seek help if needed, for the good of God's purposes both in my life and the world.*

*I will work with integrity and excellence, and strive to go above and beyond for the good of the Camp Roger community and those it serves. When conflicts arise, I commit to treating my coworkers with respect, seeking understanding. In doing so I seek to listen and love as Christ, particularly seeking truth in his Word.*

*The idea of "covenant" implies a desire and commitment to not only join with others on this journey but to humble myself to let others join me. It gives my community members permission to speak into my life, and me the desire to speak graciously and lovingly into the lives of my covenant friends. I take this covenant seriously because I seek after the peace, freedom, and love of Christ in all things.*

**I agree! This is something I want to be a part of. Sign me up:**

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Name

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Date