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Office of University Communications

June 18, 2012

Community Invited to Evening Services, Monday – Thursday at 7 p.m. through July 26

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.— Crossroads Worldwide Summer Camp 2012 will begin its seventeenth consecutive year at Gardner-Webb University on Monday, June 25. For five weeks, the ministry will immerse more than 3,400 youth campers in a variety of worship experiences focused on this year’s theme, “The Dwelling Place.” Nightly worship services, held Monday – Thursday at 7 p.m. through July 26, are open to the community.

Crossroads began in 1995 when Gardner-Webb alumnus and renowned evangelist Clayton King ('95) answered what he calls “a God-given, lifelong vision for me to do a summer camp ministry.” Since then, more than 40,000 students have experienced Christ’s love and grace through Crossroads summer camps.

The camps are designed to promote sound biblical teaching and discipleship, helping campers to grow in their relationships with Christ and fellow believers. In addition to a variety of worship experiences and exciting activities—including outdoor adventure challenges, Ultimate Frisbee, swimming, musical jam sessions in a recording studio and more— the students enjoy five days of teaching and spiritual exploration focused on a central theme. This year’s theme, “The Dwelling Place,” comes from John 14:23: “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.”

“The whole summer, we’ll talk about how Christ dwells in the hearts of believers,” said Justin Brock, Crossroads’ missions director. “We want the campers to understand that having a relationship with Christ means that He dwells with them wherever they are. His closeness and His love transcend our circumstances. We can be confident and take comfort in that.”

Brittney Becker, Crossroads’ administrative director, said the youth will also gain a deeper sense of belonging when they grasp what it means for Christ to dwell in them. “Many of our campers know nothing but chaos in their family lives, or in their school lives. I personally know what that’s like. But if they understand that Christ dwells in them, then they don’t have to feel lonely in those situations.”

Students will attend breakout workshops helping them apply aspects of that theme to their lives. Becker said the staff even redesigned the daily schedule to offer more time for individual reflection and prayer in the mornings. “We really want students to focus on

growing in their relationships with the Lord, the kind of growth that will help them well beyond the last day of camp,” Becker said.

Each evening at 7 p.m., students will gather for corporate worship services led by King and Matt Orth, Crossroads’ ministry director. The public is invited to attend those services, held in the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center. Crossroads staff asks that community members sit in the upper portion of the bleachers, leaving the floor and the lower bleachers for students.

More information about Crossroads, including information about the upcoming annual Winter Conference at Gatlinburg, is available at crossroadsworldwide.com.



Watch Video At: https://youtu.be/M9RBB79PZ_o