

WINTER 2025-2026

the Wilds[®] NEWSLETTER

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

*Whether therefore ye eat,
or drink, or whatsoever ye do,
do all to the glory of God.*

— 1 CORINTHIANS 10:31

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The Brooks



The Krolls



The Chapmans



The Colliers



The Endeans



WHO IS CAMPSABROAD?

By Tim Endean
Director of CampsAbroad

Since its founding, CampsAbroad has served more than 130 camps in 70 countries, helping national pastors and missionaries reach teens for Christ. It's a joy to minister alongside a dedicated team.

Dan and Amy Brooks love people and love seeing them grow in Christ. They know and love camp as much as anyone I've ever known. Dan has served 40 years with The Wilds and 18 with CampsAbroad. He isn't fazed by much. He's the type who undertakes a strenuous hike as an afternoon walk. He likes spice at Scoville heat units that get the attention of our South-Asian brothers. Dan and Amy pursue excellence in all things, raising the bar for themselves and others in the best sort of way, to the glory of God.

Daniel and Lydia Kroll came to CampsAbroad via, well, camp. Daniel's background is in biology, and Lydia is a nurse, but their hearts for camp and youth ministry brought them to CampsAbroad. Now God is using them to strengthen His Church from the Americas to Asia to Africa—and the list keeps growing. They bring their musical gifts, joy, energy, and strong (if suppressed) opinions on Midwestern sports wherever they go.

Abigail Chapman and her husband, Tom, are based in Greenville, South Carolina, where Abigail homeschools her four kids and logs her regular runs. From coordinating trips to designing materials, communicating with ministry partners, or ordering gear, she does whatever it takes to keep CampsAbroad going strong.

Matt and Kelly Collier launched a small, international camp startup effort back in 2001: CampsAbroad, of course! The seed they planted 25 years ago has blossomed into a testimony of God's power and grace. Matt and Kelly signed up for the real adventure of seeing what God would do from nothing. Their steady personalities underlie both an utter competence and an outsized care for people and the things of the Lord.

And the Rest of the Crew. Staff members at The Wilds and other faithful partners jump in on projects to make our ministry efforts as effective as possible. CampsAbroad thrives thanks to many people who love the Lord and love serving His people—to God be the glory!

Follow us on
Facebook and
Instagram to see the
latest photos of our travels.





The Wilds of North Carolina or The Wilds of New England?

Which camp have you been to or are you going to? What are they like? What do they have in common? What is unique about each?

What do The Wilds of North Carolina (TWNC) and The Wilds of New England (TWNE) have in common?

Beautiful **locations!** Trees, mountains, water—soothing natural settings to refresh the body and soul.

The feel of the camp. When you step on site, you know you are obviously at The Wilds. You can clearly feel the **electricity** in the air, the **anticipation** of all that is happening and available to do, and the **excitement of fellow campers**.

Philosophy—the “why” of each camp is the same: *all to the glory of God*. [Learn More](#)

Loving, caring, crazy staff! We often hear the question, “Where do you find your staff?!” A desire for excellence and a servant’s heart approach are evident among the staff at both locations. Whether a camper is receiving counsel at the North Carolina or the New England camp, they will receive the same Scripture and help.

A long-held tradition at both locations, campers look forward to the hilarious **Funtime**.

Delicious food! Campers enjoy yummy meals and look forward to delicious treats like ice cream and candy. Both camps even have a **Cool Beans Coffee Shoppe!**

Both locations feature heart-stirring **music** centered on the glory of God and testifying of His greatness.

In the summer, both camps feature exciting competition, offering some of the same **games, themes, and Final Scoring**.

Both offer more than summer teen and junior camps. There are also **fall camps** for families, adults, and youth.

Both camps point campers to Christ through prayer, God & I Time, Scripture memory, and follow-up. These pointers are the same at both locations, and our camps are very intentionally held at places and times conducive to spiritual growth and refreshment with age-appropriate and Word-centered **preaching**. Many of our speakers preach at both camps.



How are TWNC and TWNE unique?

Camp size and age: TWNE is smaller and younger (founded in 2009), allowing TWNE campers and staff to enjoy fellowship and build relationships that can often feel like family reunions. TWNC, which has been around since 1969, can offer activities and games on a bigger scale, providing a huge atmosphere of fun and excitement.

Geography: TWNC is in the Blue Ridge mountains with a beautiful rustic lodge feel, while TWNE is quintessential New England with quaint, old architecture. You feel like you’re in a classic New England town.

Program: To some extent, at TWNE, the schedule can generally feel more laid back and quiet. The TWNC schedule tends to be more structured and fast-paced, but it also offers more experiences.

Summer Themes: While both camps have five shared summer themes for teens, they each have a couple of unique themes. TWNE has *Coffee Wars* and *Western Adventure*. TWNC has *Battle for the High Seas* and *Great American Diner Days*. Both camps also have junior camp weeks. TWNE juniors get to enjoy the same themes as the teens and TWNC has Junior Boot Camp (which has its own themes). You don’t want to miss a single one!

Summer Games/Activities: TWNE has Mystery Mansion; TWNC has the Zipline and waterfalls. At both sites, our staff is constantly innovating games and activities.

Of course, there are more similarities and differences between the camps in North Carolina and New England. Who can forget the TWNC stairs or the TWNE wooden cross? Do you prefer the creek, lake, or pool? Despite the differences, a person who steps on the TWNC campsite after experiencing the TWNE campsite will feel right at home. And vice versa.

No matter what campsite—the mission is the same: Using the unique benefits of Christian camping, we serve people by presenting the Truth of God with the love of God so lives can be changed *to the glory of God*.

NEW THEME

the Wilds WhoDunit? SUMMER 2026



Due to climate (and other factors), the InvestiGators only make an appearance in NC.

WhoDunit? It's time to find out!

Join the Bloodhound Bureau, the Private Eyes, or the InvestiGators in untangling riddles, deciphering codes, and sniffing out hidden clues. Sleuth with your agency through a series of intriguingly fun and exciting activities and games, as well as indispensable breaks at The Snack or Cool Beans Coffee Shoppe, of course. Enjoy time centered around God's Word and among friends at The Wilds. Solve the case, while you make memories that last a lifetime during WhoDunit? 2026!



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registrations are processed in the order they are received. A **nonrefundable \$50 registration fee** per person must accompany each registration. Balance is due upon arrival at camp. Please be aware that some weeks of camp fill up quickly, so please call for availability.

TEEN CAMP ELIGIBILITY

- Must be at least 12 years old by September 1, 2026
- Must be entering Grades 7-12 in the fall of 2026 or be a 2026 high school graduate.

TEEN CAMPER RATES

NORTH CAROLINA

Regular Price: \$435

DISCOUNTS:

Early Bird #1: \$405

(registrations received or postmarked by February 3, 2026)

Early Bird #2: \$420

(registrations received or postmarked by March 3, 2026)

REGISTER

NEW ENGLAND

Regular Price: \$435

DISCOUNTS:

Early Bird #1: \$405

(registrations received or postmarked by March 3, 2026)

Early Bird #2: \$420

(registrations received or postmarked by April 1, 2026)

REGISTER



BATTLING ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION

YOUTH WORKERS' CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY | MARCH 4-6, 2026

ATTENTION YOUTH WORKERS!

We invite you to join us for The Wilds Youth Workers' Conference March 4-6, 2026. As biblical counselors, we have the incredible opportunity to guide struggling young people to Christ—the source of true restoration, hope, and healing for the issues of living in a broken world.

SPEAKERS



KELLI DIONNE
Biblical Counselor
Spokane, WA



BRIAN HAND
Professor at Bob Jones University
Greenville, SC



GREG MAZAK
Pastor at Trinity Bible Church
Greer, SC

the Wilds[®]
— NORTH CAROLINA —

REGISTER

CONFERENCE FOCUS

This conference is for those working with elementary-age children and teens who are battling anxiety and depression. Youth workers will be equipped to guide young people toward the answers that only the Bible can give.

CHECK-IN

Check-in: 3:00-5:30 p.m. Wednesday
Program begins: 6:00 p.m. Wednesday with supper
Program ends: 8:00 a.m. Friday after breakfast

Occupancy Type	Couple	Single* Occupancy	Multiple* Occupancy
Lodge	\$352	N/A	\$176
Inn	\$352	\$259	\$176
Duplex	\$292	N/A	\$146
Registration Fee	\$50	\$50	\$50
Children	Ages 0-24 months		\$25

CHILDCARE

Children ages 0-24 months may attend this conference with their parents. **They must be within this age range at the time of camp.** Childcare will be provided during the General Sessions and Workshops only (**children may not attend these**). Capacity is very limited; cost per child is \$25. Please complete the requested information on the registration form.

If the requested accommodations are full, we will confirm the next type of housing available and put you on standby for your first choice. You will receive a confirmation receipt after your reservation has been processed. The registration fee is refundable or transferable only if we are notified of the cancellation at least 30 days before the program begins. The balance is due upon arrival at camp. Please read the childcare paragraph concerning this conference.

*There are a limited number of single occupancy rooms available.

REWARD

For each first-time Youth Workers' adult or married couple you bring as your guest, you can receive a \$60 deduction from your balance due at check-in. Please let us know the name(s) in advance. You can save up to the total cost of your Youth Workers' Conference price.

Q

What do a napkin, 740 plates, a pitcher of sweet tea, and the glory of God have in common?

A

These are all staples of The Wilds Dining Hall!



By Laura Bush
Dining Hall Services Manager



The Dining Hall is one of the most recognizable buildings at The Wilds of North Carolina. And for good reason! Nearly every camp officially begins and ends there. From that first dinner where campers receive a warm welcome, to the final breakfast where they are encouraged to “take your time going, but hurry, hurry back,” everyone enjoys refreshing food and fellowship in the Dining Hall before heading home or going back out to experience all that The Wilds has to offer. But the Dining Hall is more than a place to sit down and fill up; every meal begins with prayer and reciting the camp verse. Did you know that before you come in for a meal, many of the camp staff and their families have already eaten, just a few minutes earlier? And they also begin their meal by reciting 1 Corinthians 10:31 as a group, “Whether therefore, ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” This verse is recited over 300 times in the Dining Hall each summer and hundreds more times throughout the school year, reminding campers and staff that we can bring God glory in every responsibility.

Before each meal, the waitress crew sets out food, ice cups, and drinks, and makes sure that everything is ready to go. They spend the meal time bringing out food, providing refills, and getting to know the campers on their aisle. After the meal, the work continues as they reset their tables and complete a list of clean-up jobs around the building. The work can be tedious, but we make it fun by playing music and coming up with competitions along the way. Imagine the excitement when a waitress has grabbed the exact right number of napkins to set for her aisle! Setting a table, sweeping the floor, and cleaning windows are all ways that the waitress crew glorifies God. The crew plays a part in each camper's experience as they come and go throughout the day. By doing each task with excellence, paying attention to the details, and having a heart of love for the campers and our God, they serve people with the love of God, so that lives can be changed *to the glory of God*.

Couples' Conference

A Short, Sweet Destination!

This weekend retreat is a complete mini-vacation for just the two of you! Or why not invite friends to join you in an amazing combination of activity, relaxation, and speakers with a practical outlook? This could be one of the most memorable events of your year!



May 1-3 / Drew & Mary Ellen Conley

Ladies' Retreats

A Treasured Tradition

Come to the magnificent mountains and enjoy the informality of the schedule, engaging speakers, delicious meals (no cooking or cleanup needed!), fun, and refreshing fellowship. Minimum camper age: 16



April 10-11 / Lorie Newcomer April 17-18 / Christa Threlfall

Father/Son Campout

Connecting Fathers and Sons!

Rustic campout accommodations are waiting for all of the men in the family. Bring the dads, sons, uncles, nephews, cousins, and grandfathers! It's great to hear the Word of God practically applied for each age. Minimum camper age: 6



May 1-2 / Joel Achenbach

Family Camp Weekend

Bring 'em All!

Bring your family, and we'll do the rest! Enjoy a gorgeous weekend packed with activities and all the together-memories a family can contain!



April 24-26 / Paul & Karen Tautges

2026 SPRING CAMPS

Sweetheart Overnight Getaway
February 13-14

Men's Retreat
February 27-28

College & Career Retreat
March 20-22

Senior Class Trips
March 30 - May 15

Weekend Family Camp
(for Spanish speakers)
March 27-29

Senior Adult Conference
April 14-17

Ladies' Retreats
April 10-11 / April 17-18

Spring Weekend Family Camp
April 24-26

Couples' Conference
May 1-3

Father/Son Campout
May 1-2

View all upcoming
camp details!

REGISTER TODAY

NEWEST MUSIC & PUBLICATIONS

Explore our online store for digital singles, 6-week Bible studies for youth, Christian living books, music, and more!

SHOP NOW



NEW

NEW

LIFELINE MINI-BOOKS

The issues teens face in today's world can be troubling. The Wilds has teamed with Shepherd Press to create mini-books written with those issues in mind and intended to provide biblical counsel that connects directly with a teen's heart.



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