



Castaway Trip Leaders,

We are excited to be with you at Castaway this summer!

Thanks for the way you are loving kids and inviting them to join you on this amazing camp trip in July. As an assigned team and camp staff, we are honored to partner with you in living out the life-changing love of Jesus with your high school friends. We wait in expectation for God to do miracles in all of our lives, as we watch Him change hearts this summer.

We are fervently praying for you, your leaders and their high school friends as you prepare to come. Please recruit a team of people to be praying for you, your leaders, your kids, and the assigned team during our week of camp. There is beauty in the Lord allowing us to pray into the work He is going to do in the lives of kids. So let's invite others in to participate in the miracles He is going to do!

Our assigned team and camp staff are working hard to prepare for a great week. We are praying with you as you fill your last spots. May God bless you as you pursue kids to join in on the adventure of a week at Young Life camp and ultimately life in Jesus!

- Brett Hersma, Camp Director

I walked into the Windjammer (dining hall) at Castaway Club for our Staff Conference and my heart traveled through time to when we are together. Even now when I close my eyes I can hear the buzz of family style meals, I can see smiles and tired eyes telling of yesterday's adventures. I can see Brendan sitting dejected-and it looks like something is wrong. We've spent hours together: eating, rides to Club, hanging after school, fundraising. I know Brendan but I don't know this look- I've never seen this look.

Then I catch it, the subtle spark in his eye that tells me nothing is wrong. It's just as unfamiliar to him as it is to me- he is having the best week of his life because the smile that comes next is a glimpse into how life was intended.

Jesus, we thank you for helping kids see who you created them to be, that they are loved- may you continue to move in preparation for Camp this summer. May you be with the fundraising efforts- soften hearts and move in mighty ways. May each seat be filled, every heart soft, and mind open to what you will do. God please move in people's heart to serve on Work Crew and Summer Staff.

I'll be serving with my wife Jamie, our daughter Eliyah (7), and our son Ezra (4). You may meet Jaxen on Work Crew and Kevin on Summer Staff who are also from Spearfish and will be serving alongside the rest of the teams that are praying and prepping for our time together.

In Christ,

- Micah Schiller, Camp Speaker



Castaway Trip Leaders,

It's that time again... the school year is nearing the end, clubs are wrapping up, and the Young Life faithful are running all over your town tracking down camp payments, and getting that "one last kid" on your trip! We hope that your spring semester has been filled with sweet moments and reminders of how Jesus relentlessly pursues you and your friends. We also hope that you know your Session 2 Program Team is running the race alongside you as we pray, polish characters, learn songs, and conquer sweet new dance moves. Our hope this summer is that kids from all over the place will see and experience the authentic love of Jesus Christ at Castaway.

Let's talk about your summer trip to lakes country. It may be your first time coming to Castaway with kids, or it may be your 30th time... regardless of how many times you've slept in the aisle of a bus, please know that we will be excited and ready to greet you as you step off the bus as you enter into Castaway! We've been meeting together as an Assign Team and also as a program team in order to align ourselves with the bigger story God is telling this summer. We want to make sure our eyes are fixed on Jesus so we don't miss Him in the midst of all that goes into pulling off the "best week of kids' lives."

You're probably wondering, will the program team be funny this summer? Well... We sure hope so! What I can tell you about our team is that we will be bringing every ounce of energy we've got. We count it a real privilege to serve you and your kids – and we want to help create a safe atmosphere that will invite your friends into joy, laughter, and freedom. Our vision and hope is for your kids to be kids. From meals to events, clubs to awesome surprises, we hope to clear a path and break down walls so that the love of God can come flooding in.

Daniel Hartsoch (Alexandria, MN) and Mark Chauhan (Chicago, IL) are serving on the program team alongside of me. You're going to love these guys... they are so talented and extremely funny, but most importantly they are super passionate about kids knowing the love of Jesus Christ. Please pray for our assigned team and the Castaway Camp Team as you think of it and of course, add Micah Schiller, our camp speaker, to your list.

On the second page of this letter you'll find all the things you need to know before camp in order to fully join in on all the fun this summer. Take a minute to read through all the details (things to pack, program events to be aware of, etc.) and after you've read through it – reach out to us if you have any questions. We would love to help clarify anything on the next page so that we all feel like we are on the same team – sharing the good news of Jesus!

Peace and blessings,

Jessica Pudwill
(218) 849-1997
pudjes@gmail.com

Daniel Hartsoch
(425) 315-6100
danielhartsoch@gmail.com

Mark Chauhan
(973) 727-6242
mark.chauhan16@gmail.com

WHAT TO BRING & HOW TO BE VAGUE ABOUT WHY YOU'RE BRINGING IT

We want for you to be able to communicate a few things to kids about the stuff they need to throw into their bag. We also want you to be able to communicate a few things to cabin leaders about what to throw into their bags too.

Stuff to Tell Kids:

1. **Two sets of clothes (t-shirt, shorts, and closed toed shoes) that they don't mind getting dirty.** Please don't tell them why, but this will be for our night 1 activity, along with a morning event on day 3.
2. **Beach Themed Outfit.** (Floral shirt, sunglasses, board shorts, lays, sunglasses, etc.)
3. **Neon/90's Themed Outfit**

Stuff to Tell Leaders:

1. Volleyball Tournament - We want to take a minute to stress the idea of bringing things that will help accent/enhance cabin unis, rather than bringing outlandish over-the-top things. Examples of things that would be great accents: duct tape, garbage bags, bandanas, hair paint, balloons, etc. Along with that, we are very committed to being inclusive of all kids at camp during our time. Please do not appropriate a culture (this goes for the whole week).
2. Neon/90's Themed Outfit - feel free to bring glow sticks, neon tape, etc. Think about the kids that might not have any neon clothing.

Things to Think About Before Arriving:

1. Are there any songs that would be a win for your kids to sing at club, hear in the dining hall or at an event? We would love to know them! Please send any and all our way by emailing us!
2. So who doesn't love free time at Castaway? We sure do, but we know that free time can get a little long as the week goes on. We want camp to be as relaxing or high energy as you and your kids need, but that will be driven by you and your team! If you guys have fun games, bring them! If you have a fun idea for a free-time activity, let us know! We will bring the fun, energy, and hype in so many ways, but are looking to your team of leaders to continue that fun throughout the week!

