

Dear Friend:

Greetings from Ironwood's Family of Camps! I'm writing this letter to help a friend of yours present to you their summer ministry opportunity. First, let me tell you about the "Family of Camps." Ironwood, founded in 1973, is in southern California and serves churches across the southwestern United States. Ironwood has been blessed beyond measure in so many ways with ministry opportunities, resources, and friends around the country. In 2009, at our annual staff planning meetings, we brainstormed the concept of sharing what we have in a way that helps churches in other areas of the country to have a camp with our philosophy to use in their ministries. The picture in our minds was of a family—a mature couple (still learning and growing themselves) having a baby and taking the next 20 years to train and equip that child to become independent. In 2011 the Lord allowed us to begin this venture. We currently have been blessed with one camp that has reached independence and three more that are in various stages of growth towards independence.

This summer we are excited to have a summer team that will begin their summer at Camp Grace near Wheatland, WY for a week of training and then serve there for three weeks of camp. That last week of June we will pack up our people and our program and travel to Camp Assurance near Georgetown, IL. We will take a few days to learn the new facility and make adjustments before serving four more weeks of camp there. Each of the two camps we will serve has a website and a facebook page: www.campgrace.org and www.campassurance.org. If you are interested in our "parent camp" you may enjoy going to Ironwood's website or YouTube channel. (www.ironwoodcamp.org or www.youtube.com/user/IronwoodOnline), Joining me (Carol Bond) and the Paul Dickman family is a team of 14 college and career age folks and 6 high schoolers. Each week of camp this summer, our team anticipates serving between 50 and 70 young people. We believe that camp is a place of decision, and we are praying that we will see salvation decisions each week. But it doesn't stop there! Important steps of growth in Christlikeness and other life-changing decisions are presented to each of our campers during each week of camp. Each element of the week is crafted to create an atmosphere free of distractions so that the Lord can work in the hearts and minds of our campers.

We believe that this summer will also continue the process of preparing for a lifetime of ministry for the young person who sent you this letter. Among the most important life-changing decisions made at camp this summer will be those made by our summer staff. Our intensive staff training is a time of preparation and instruction. Emphasis will be placed on knowing and applying God's Word in all areas of life and on the components of biblical counseling. Teamwork, job skills and various responsibilities will continue to be taught and applied during the preparation week at each facility. During the six weeks of camp, they will see God work miracles in the lives of campers and be used by God in this amazing process.

The summer team members are considered volunteers. We are helping by covering most of their travel expenses and all their essentials during the summer, but they are stepping out on faith for the expenses of college and life after camp. We have asked our summer staff to present their ministry opportunity to as many people as possible. Let me encourage you to participate in your friend's ministry this summer; there are several ways of doing so.

1. Prayer support: We have both paper and online forms prepared for those who would pledge to pray. We will send out a prayer card with a photo of our entire summer staff in June and will e-mail weekly prayer requests and praise reports to those who request it. Fill out a pledge card and return it or go online to <https://bit.ly/49V02hY>
2. Financial support: The financial needs may be two-fold. First, individual expenses: this may be travel related or bills that need to be paid during the summer. Second, the college scholarship fund. Transportation and expenses gifts should go directly to your friend and scholarship funds should be written out to Camp Assurance and designated for your friend. The scholarship fund is intended for tuition and other educational expenses, and we will be passing those on to the educational institution chosen by the staff member. Designated gifts will go to the scholarship needs of the individuals while undesignated scholarship funds will be divided among the summer staff members with needs.

Thank you for investing in your friend with us!



Carol Bond
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Ironwood is a home missions ministry using the unique aspects of the camping ministry to reach young people for the Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen families, and serve local churches. It is a place of decision in the areas of salvation, full surrender and consistent Christian walk.