

News Release

Christian Camp and Conference Association responds to 'Jesus Camp'

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Colorado Springs, Colo. (September 13, 2006) – The camp philosophy and program depicted in the recently released *Jesus Camp* film are not typical of those found in most Christian camps, according to the Christian Camp and Conference Association. The documentary by Magnolia Pictures looks at the program of Kids on Fire, a Pentecostal camp conducted at a site in Devils Lake, N.D.

Just as there is significant breadth to the American evangelical community, there is also a wide variety of approaches and practices in Christian camps.

“What is depicted in the movie *Jesus Camp* is not truly representative of Christian camping in this country,” said Bob Kobielush, president of Christian Camp and Conference Association. “We are disappointed by the film’s distortion of the Christian camp experience and its attempt to stereotype Christian camping and evangelicals in ways that are misleading.”

Christian Camp and Conference Association strongly encourages all parents unfamiliar with the affiliation or practices of the camp of their choosing to inquire prior to registering their children to see if the organization’s beliefs and values are compatible with their own.

Camping has long been considered one of Christianity’s most effective mediums for impacting lives and strengthening the church. For decades, clergy and lay leaders in all denominations have realized that the spiritually focused, challenge-oriented temporary community inherent in Christian camping is unsurpassed for awakening faith, instilling character, and implanting godly values in participants, regardless of age or background.

Some 1,000 camps and conferences are members of Christian Camp and Conference Association (CCCA), a not-for-profit organization incorporated in 1963. Most major denominations and church associations, as well as many nationally recognized youth and adult ministries, are represented in CCCA. Every year, approximately 7.5 million children, youth, and adults participate in programs operated by or at member camps and conferences.

The largest of 20 similar entities worldwide, CCCA’s mission is to proclaim the power and benefits of the Christian camp and conference experience and to equip the leaders of autonomous Christian camps and conferences nationwide by providing ongoing encouragement, professional training and timely resources. For more information, visit www.christiancamping.org.