## CAMPS & MISSIONS

## January Update

2017 is here! What a blessed year we had at all our camps and mission bases! There was certainly trial and struggle, yet God was still faithful as we strove to be faithful to the mission of leading teens closer to Christ. We are so thankful for the opportunity to serve the teens, CORE members, and parents with whom we have come in contact over the course of 2016.

We are also so thankful for all the support we received over the course of the Annual Appeal. Life Teen raised almost double our goal for the Annual Appeal! That's amazing! Your support is critical as we transform teens, transform parishes, and ultimately transform the culture.

So as we begin a new year, we are excited to see the amazing ways God will continue to move in this movement. Whether it's a mission trip to our base in Haiti, Summer Camp at any of our camps, or simply just a weekend retreat, we know that God has big plans in store!

With all that said, here's what's happening at our camps and mission bases:



In the beginning of December, the first year missionaries were able to experience the Haiti Mission base. The 10-day mission included making care packages, home visits, prison ministry, a desert day at a nearby monastery, work projects around the base and community, and bonding between our American and Haitian first year missionaries. This year was truly special because the Haitian First Years were able to meet their fellow Life Teen Missionaries from the states. Evening sessions were flooded with the Spirit and coming together as one missionary community was beautiful for all!

This Monday the base just sent off some amazing past Summer Missionaries who were with us for the week to serve in Haiti. On top of that, the base also had the pleasure of hosting Dr. Scott Hahn as he was on mission across the Diocese of Anse-a-Veau and Miragoane presenting to priests, deacons, seminarians, sisters, and lay people.

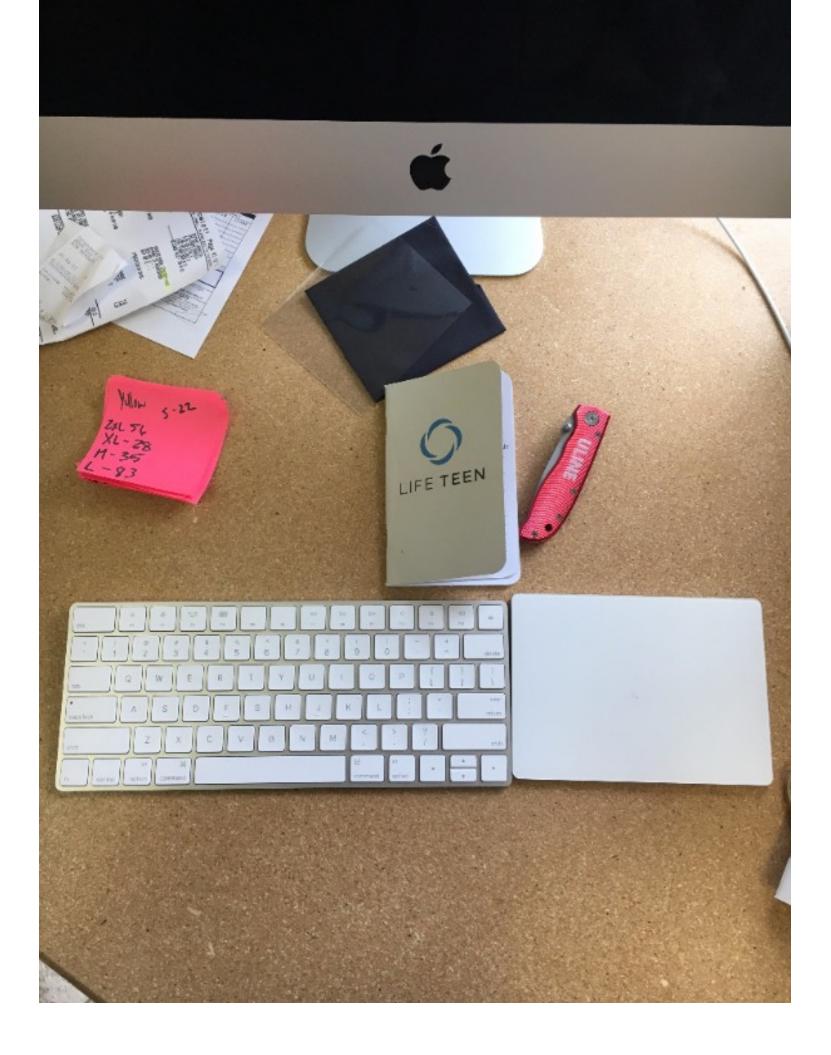
Our Full-Time Haitian Missionaries will begin formation with Fr. Louis Meronse on St. Therese. They had the awesome opportunity to tag along with Father while Dr. Scott Hahn was in country, getting some great formation during the weekday sessions. Please continue to pray for these missionaries as they continue to grow spiritually, serving their fellow Haitian brothers and sisters.

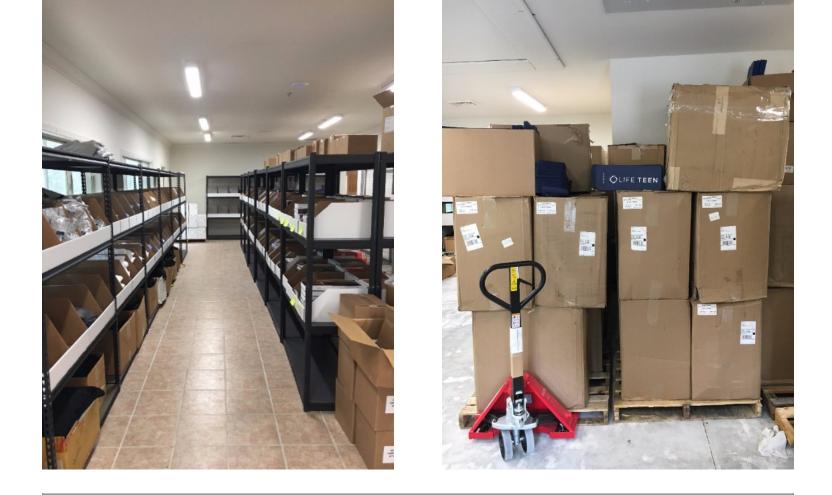
## **Donate to the Haiti Missionaries**

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Camp Hidden Lake had the great pleasure of hosting Life Teen's Board of Directors for their December meeting. Additionally, Hidden Lake also hosted the Annual Christmas party for the Georgia staff. Christie Ross and Jordan Raus did an amazing job creating a beautiful environment where the staff could experience great fellowship and great food with one another! The missionaries from Covecrest and Hidden Lake also were an amazing help making this vision come together. A big shout out and thanks to all of them!





And the newest development at Hidden Lake is our Fulfillment Center! Any book, T-shirt, resource, or game that you order from Life Teen will be shipping out of here! We're really excited to do this in-house for the first time! Also, be sure to check out the new <u>online store</u> from Life Teen!





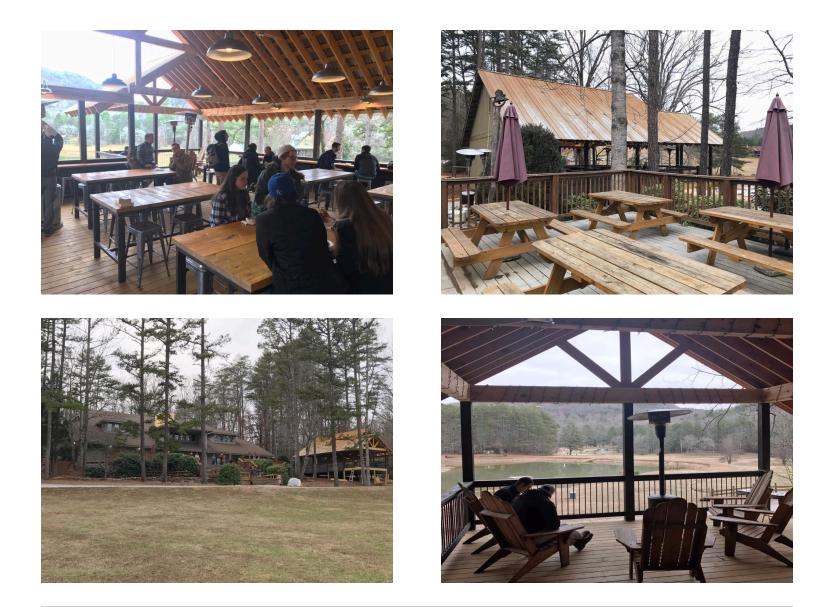


Following soon after the Christmas party, Covecrest hosted the annual John 15 retreat. John 15 is a retreat put on for our past summer missionaries. It's a time for us to invest in these college students who poured out their lives and their hearts for 6 to 13 weeks serving teens at our summer camps. We had over 175 past summer missionaries return for the retreat to learn to remain in the Father's love, bear fruit, and be a disciple. Huge thanks to DJ Starzec, Katrina Siebels, and Lizzie Gormley for all the work they put into the retreat to make it happen!

The first year missionaries just concluded their 8 Day Silent Retreat. Directed by Fr. John Ignatius, Fr. James Claver, Br. Peter Francis (all member of the <u>Servants</u> of <u>Christ Jesus</u>), Ed Lugo, and Amy Perez, the missionaries go through <u>The</u> <u>Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius</u>, where they meditate and place themselves into the life of Christ. It is one of the most powerful experiences of their mission year and truly is a turning point during the year. Please continue to pray for them as they process the graces of their exercises.

**Donate to the Covecrest Missionaries** 

**Donate to the Hidden Lake Missionaries** 

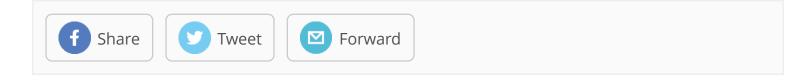


The newest addition to Covecrest is Caskey's Corner! This awesome outdoor eating area can seat 80 people and has a great view looking over Mike's Place Field and the lake. The structure is dedicated to Tim Caskey, a great friend of camp who tragically passed away 2 years ago. Tim loved serving in the kitchen and we thought it would be fitting to name the structure after him! A huge thank you to Jason Ball for getting this project off the ground and to everyone who donated and worked to make the structure possible!





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