

# SUMMER 2024 URBAN SERVE WEEKS



@ [Saint Edward Retreat Center \(SERC\)](#), Wrightwood, CA | 7/14-19

@ [Mountain Pointe Camp](#), Frazier Park, CA | 8/1-4



## OVERVIEW

### 1. Project Background and Description

Christian camp is one of the most effective tools for bringing the Gospel to our world and for building lasting disciples. It is estimated that over 60% of life changing spiritual decisions are made at camp! If you went to camp, I am sure you can easily recall a “God moment” when He became real, revealed something He wanted to change in you, or when He called you to a new work or way of living.

We are becoming a world of mega cities. As much as Christian camping has tried to keep up with population growth, our increasingly diverse urban cultures, and the cost increases they face due to regulatory impacts, the reality is low-income urban communities have less access to an affordable and culturally responsive camp program than in previous decades. COVID didn't help either! We want to be a part of the solution and expand opportunities.

In August of 2020, The Oaks Camp and Conference Center was closed by the parent organization due to COVID impacts and a strategic shift. Oasis Ministry Ventures (OMV) was formed by former campers, staff, board members, and community leaders to see that the property stayed in the Kingdom and that the ministry of The Oaks to our under-resourced urban communities in Southern California continued. For 35 years, the camp provided effective Christian camp programs that empowered and equipped urban youth, families, and leaders to thrive in faith and life. The camp was sold to another gospel centered ministry serving our neediest communities and is being prepared to operate under a new mission and charter by Union Rescue Mission in future years. Oasis Ministry Ventures is standing in the gap to restore and expand access to culturally responsive Christian camp programs for our low-income urban communities that was lost due to the closure of the camp and cessation of ministry.

In March of 2022, we held our first event at The Salvation Army's Pine Summit Camp in Big Bear Lake, CA. Over 450 urban youth and their leaders participated, representing 14 ministries, and resulting in over 100 decisions to follow Christ and “Keep that same energy!” This fall we are leading a four-day camping trip to Joshua Tree National Park for an urban Christian school in South LA. We have hosted three more winter ‘Spark Retreats’ since then, serving nearly 1,100 urban youth and their leaders from 20 ministries. Last summer we piloted our first summer ‘Catalyst Camp’ for two ministries with volunteer teams from two churches and one urban ministry partner in LA. This year we are planning to expand to two weeks, and 4-6 ministries served plus Angel Tree Campers through Prison Fellowship's program to bring children of prisoners to camp.

## 2. Project Scope

SERC is conveniently located off 138 in the Cajon Pass area in Wrightwood. Mountain Pointe is conveniently located off the I-5 past Gorman, 10 miles west of the freeway. Both camps are at ~6,700' making for comfortable days and cool nights. Cabins are rustic with bathouses, volunteer quarters are better appointed with indoor access to bathrooms and showers. RV hookups are available at both.

SERC is growing camp that is being brought back to life since a near brush with closure during COVID. The new owners are making great improvements. It has a lot of great features including a pool, artificial turf play areas, basketball, crafts area, an ornate chapel, an outdoor amphitheater, paintball ninja course, miles of hiking trails, and high ropes elements. It is a Catholic run facility, and their summer missions team from the Fellowship of Catholic University Students will be serving behind the scenes to cook, clean, and lead technical areas of camp. Our teams will handle the class instruction, spiritual content, free time options, evening games, worship, drama, and speaking. Anyone serving this week will get a lot of program experience.

This lightly used denominational camp of the Pentecostal Church of God is in good condition. It is one of the few remaining 'turn-key' camps. OMV is responsible for all operations, food service, and program. We will need a team to run the kitchen, dining hall, snack shop, and daily housekeeping operations including trash collection and bathroom cleaning. We will also need a program team members to facilitate all the activities and events. This facility will host our condensed week of camp – basically an extended weekend retreat.

Other amenities include a pool, jumping pillow, basketball court, softball field, gaga pit, shuffleboard, horseshoes, cornhole, ping pong, foosball, human pool, tetherball, a playground, and a 300-seat indoor chapel with full AC and sound. There is also an infirmary with a nurse's suite, equipment room, lounge area, and snack shop. There are eight hotel style rooms with private baths, and 26 RV sites for up to 35'+ with 30-amp service and full hookups.

Ideally, we are looking for several churches to cover these two weeks with teams of 8-14 volunteers age 14 or older working 8-10 hours a day. These volunteers would serve in food service, dining room, and housekeeping operations on a rotation under the direction of a summer food service director, and an operations staff person with OMV. There could be additional program involvement if the team brings ministry gifting as well. The primary focus is behind the scenes service at Mountain Pointe and program delivery at SERC.

## 3. Team Member Criteria

- Complete Volunteer Application, Liability Release, and Voluntary Disclosure Form
- Age 14 or older (certain tasks will be limited for under 16 per OSHA kitchen safety regulations)
- Growing personal relationship with Jesus.
- Fully support OMV's statement of belief and values without reservation.
- Team oriented, servant hearted, willing to take direction, able to work cross culturally
- Can lift, push, pull 25lbs and stand for 2 hours at a time without rest.
- Able to pass a CA background check for youth serving organizations.
- Willing to attend 12 hours of pre-camp training led by OMV in Spring/Summer of 2024, days and times TBD.

One training will focus on soft skills (teamwork, cultural understanding of urban youth, encouragement, etc.) and the other training will focus on hard skills (how to mop, food prep. Safety, sweeping, trash, schedules, etc).

**Bonus Skills:** Serve Safe Certification, CPR/FA, Lifeguarding, Archery Instructor, CA boater's license

## 4. Lodging Arrangements, Costs and Amenities

We ask each team to bring \$200 per person to cover the cost of food and lodging for Mountain Pointe and \$380 each for SERC. For those staying in the RV sites, or private family/married lodging, there is an additional charge of \$15

per site or \$35 per room per day. Dormitory style lodging is included in the base rate. By covering your costs, it enables more urban campers to come at a rate they can afford.

We will accept single, married, and families. Because we are launching the program, we cannot allow families to bring children under age 12. In future years, as our program grows, we hope to find ways to creatively include younger family members.

Volunteers may bring their own RV, stay in the dormitory style lodges (girls one side, guys the other), or if available, request and pay for hotel style housing which has queen beds or two singles.

## 5. Typical Schedule

Volunteers are asked to arrive at 8am on the start day of camp to set up their RV's and move into their lodging. We will prepare camp, have a brief time of worship, have a light lunch and prepare for registration at 3pm.

At MP the team will be responsible for a daily schedule involving a mixture of kitchen, dining room, and operations work in two shifts plus any program involvement pre-planned with your church. We would prefer each team to have sub-teams for each area that repeat their jobs and shifts each day so we can build a strong team and build skills throughout the week. We will need 10-12 food service staff in two shifts (6-10a, 11-3p, 4-5p Trash) and (1-3p snack shop, 4-8p Kitchen), 4-6 dining room / operations staff (7-10a Dining, 10-11a Bathrooms, 11-2p dining, 7-8p Bathrooms). We will also likely need one "gopher" team to do supply runs some days. This gives your team 3-4p to hang out as a group everyday. We will also find a few times for your team to use the pool and other areas of the camp when campers are not using them. We will also need a program team of 8-10 to teach classes, run free time options, lead evening games, and facilitate the evening program including a worship team, drama team, and AV team.

Service teams will attend the evening worship and message at 8pm. If your team has musical gifts, drama, dance, spoken word, speaking, or other gifts they feel could contribute to the program, we will plan to have your team contribute at the discretion of the program director. The last day we have a closing ceremony and clean up the camp. We will shoot to be completed by 4pm with clean up. RV's must be unhooked by 11am and leaves sites as they were found. All living accommodations are cleaned, swept and mopped at departure. Saturday breakfast is self-serve continental.

## 6. Available Weeks

- July 14-19 Middle School / High School, Classic Week at SERC, Wrightwood, CA
- August 1-4 Middle School / High School, Condensed Week at MP, Frazier Park, CA

## 7. Tubing Boats and Drivers

At Mountain Pointe, if a church can supply a boat and trained boat driver, we will offer tubing for campers at Pyramid Lake. We will pay for gas and launching fees. Proof of liability insurance on the craft will be needed, and any boat drivers must attend a mandatory orientation day in June to drive for camp. We would love for this activity to happen for the students, and we could use up to three boats and drivers per day per week of camp so we can cycle all 10 cabins through 2 hours on the lake over 3-4 days. These folks could just come for the day instead of the week or come as added members of the team.

## 8. Medical Conditions, Allergies, Special Diets

We will do our best to accommodate special needs among our volunteers. Please contact us if you have any questions. We will have limited ability to accommodate dietary needs outside of allergy specific concerns.

## SIGN US UP!

Our church wants to serve the least of these in our urban centers who have limited access to quality Christian camp experiences. We commit to providing the team, funding their participation, and attending all the training and scheduled days of service. We will serve as unto the Lord with joy!

Name	Title	Date

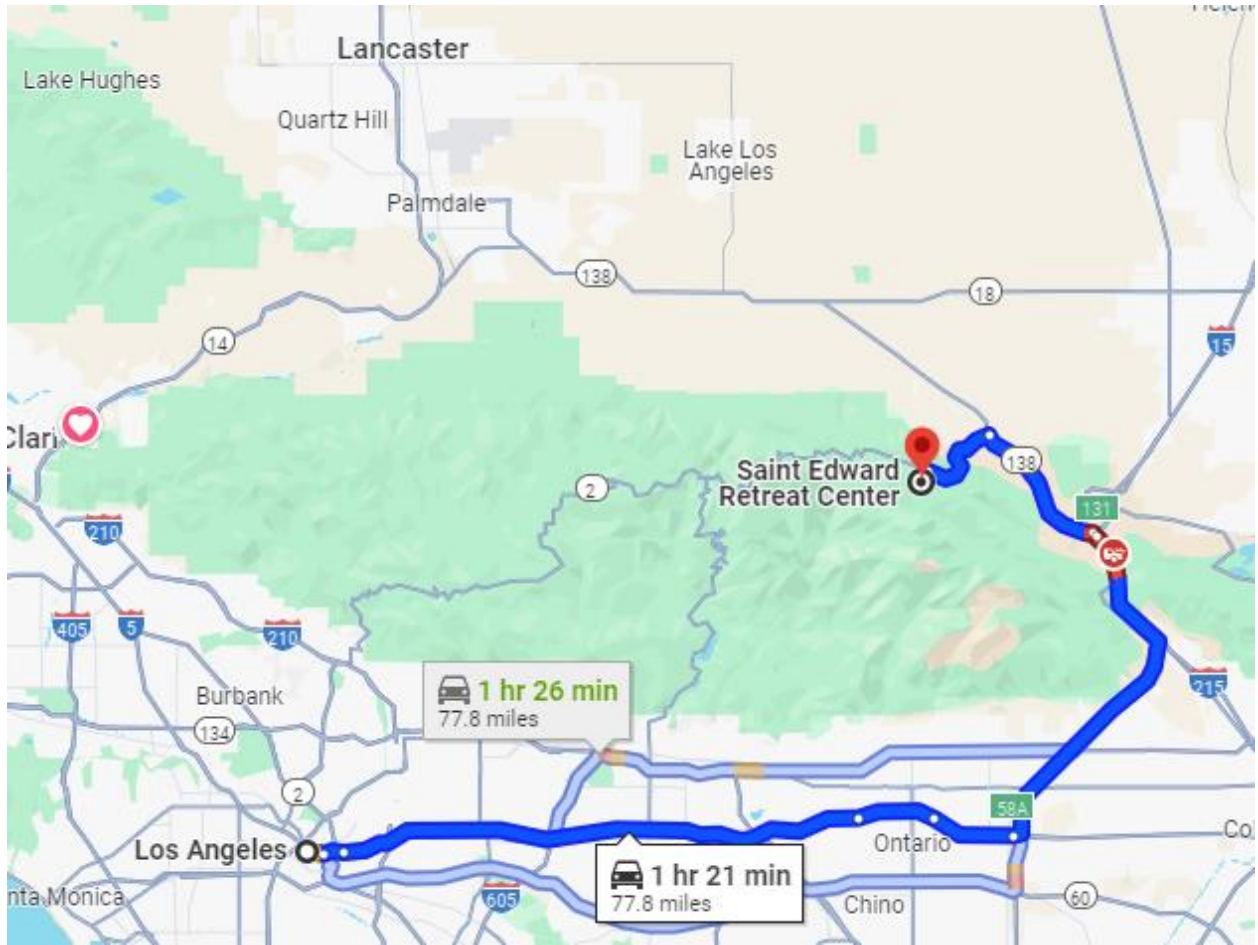
## WHAT'S NEXT?

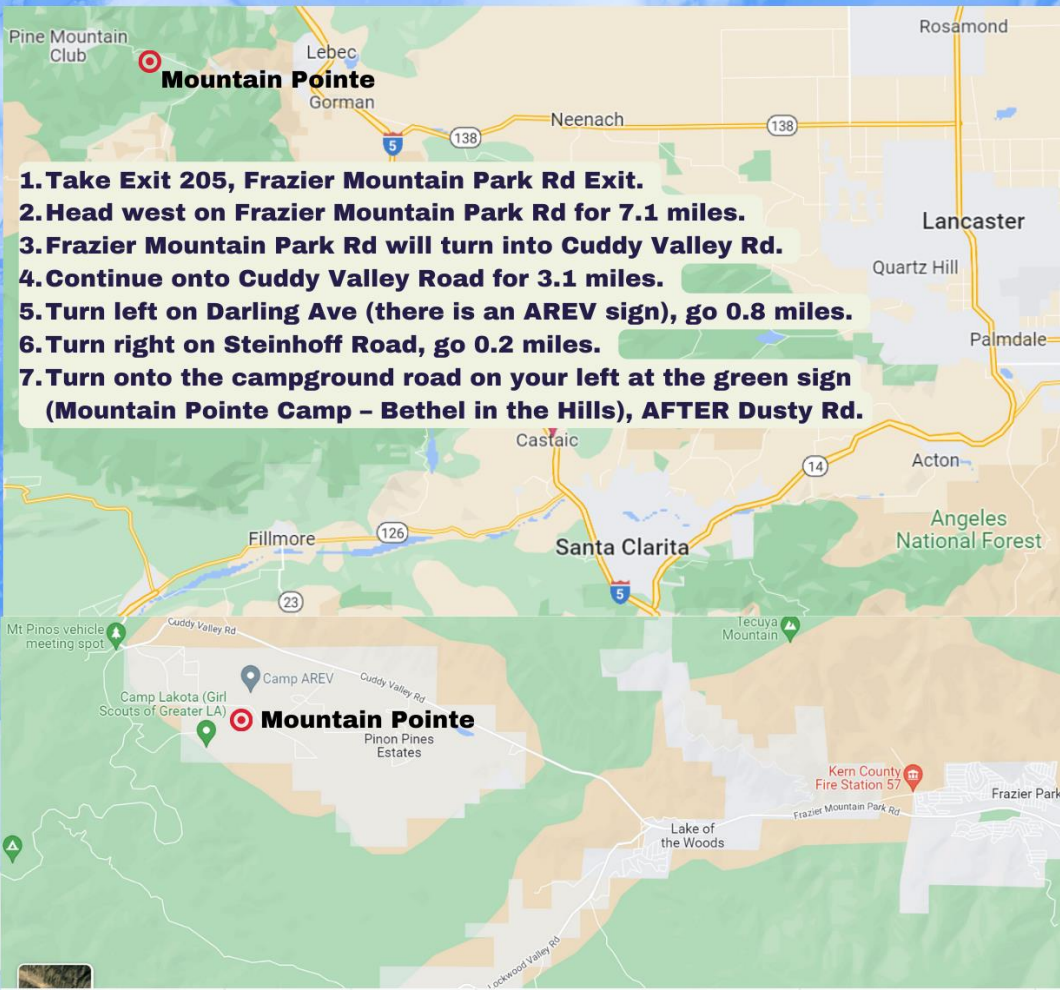
Our Team will reach out and go over next steps. We would love to schedule a time to present the opportunity to your congregation, sign up volunteers for your team, and plan an informational meeting as well as set dates for the two mandatory six hour in person trainings prior to camp. Once the team is finalized, we will create a custom registration link for your group to complete the background check process, volunteer application, voluntary disclosure, medical form, and liability release form. If your team is already currently background checked through your church, we can accept those findings in lieu of our process through a simple affidavit you will fill out. We can also support with media and graphics to help you get the word out and promote.

Sean McFeely | Executive Director | (661) 262-3637 | [sean@omvcamps.org](mailto:sean@omvcamps.org)

PO Box 121, Lake Hughes, CA 93532







- 1. Take Exit 205, Frazier Mountain Park Rd Exit.**
- 2. Head west on Frazier Mountain Park Rd for 7.1 miles.**
- 3. Frazier Mountain Park Rd will turn into Cuddy Valley Rd.**
- 4. Continue onto Cuddy Valley Road for 3.1 miles.**
- 5. Turn left on Darling Ave (there is an AREV sign), go 0.8 miles.**
- 6. Turn right on Steinhoff Road, go 0.2 miles.**
- 7. Turn onto the campground road on your left at the green sign (Mountain Pointe Camp – Bethel in the Hills), AFTER Dusty Rd.**



**The Speed Limit is 15 mph on community roads and 10 mph on camp.  
Dust control is enforced. Please obey all speed limits.**

