

Dear friends and family,

Three years ago I stepped into a role as a Summer Intern at Camp Daniel, a role that I only expected to last a season. But God had other plans! I felt called back the following two summers as well, each summer has impacted me in different ways and in more ways than I could share in a single letter to you, but here are a few examples. Each year I have grown in my faith and my confidence in myself, I have learned how to be a stronger leader, I have met the love of my life (who I get to marry in October at Camp Daniel!), I have gained my closest friends and have found where I feel like I belong.



Camp Daniel is a camp for individuals with disabilities. Throughout the year we have many different programs ranging from summer camp, to Special Olympics, to weekend getaways, to movie nights. Summer camp is by far our biggest event of the year. This is for anyone with a disability aged 8-80 to come spend a week of their summer doing summer camp activities such as swimming, crafts, participate in team activities and so much more! Go Blue!

With that said, I have felt led to join on staff as a year-long intern starting this May! I



will be living at camp with other staff members and help run camp year-round. This is something that I have thought about doing for a few years. While I have dismissed the idea of spending a full year at camp for different reasons, God had different plans. Plans that are bigger than I ever imagined! My mom has always told me to 'dream big with God' and time and time again I remind myself of this; that there is no box God can be put in, and there is no limit to what God can do!

I am currently attending Lakeshore College for business management and am required to complete a business internship. My time at camp will allow me to meet, and exceed, the requirements for my internship. I will be working closely with Evan who runs the business side of Camp Daniel. I will also be learning about different aspects of camp, such as the business side of running the kitchen, how scheduling works for the summer, and the ins and outs of running the gift shop.

A story I have shared on Facebook before, but one that has truly impacted me, happened during Girls Getaway this past year. I typically work in the background as a worker; however, I was given the opportunity to council during this weekend. My camper's name was Jillean; she isn't always able to carry out a full conversation but is able to communicate clearly what she is thinking. She also loves to repeat phrases such as knock-knock jokes, and the fact that "James is crazy" so when she said "Jesus knows me" before a

chapel session her words hit different. I dismissed it the first time, not sure if I heard her correctly, but then she said it again. It was a total God moment, that was something that I needed to hear. She might not have all the communication skills, but she was able to take such a complicated idea, like faith, and make it three simple words. Jesus. Knows. Me. Three words that I will never forget. Three words that reminded me that I am seen and loved by the savior of the world. Three words that still choke me up as I'm writing this because it's a simple message that I need a reminder of daily.



Now that I have shared where God has called me for the next year, I would love to have your support in a few different ways!

- First, prayer! Prayers through my internship as well as the big life change of marriage in the fall.
- Second, financially. As full-time missionary staff I will need to raise \$1,500 each month to cover the cost of living, including rent, groceries, medical supplies, etc.
 - o You can donate online at <https://campdaniel.org/lydia-weidner/>
 - o Or write a check to Camp Daniel and mail to W10541 Army Ln, Athelstane, WI 54104. Make sure to include a note with the check stating that you wish the funds to be put towards my missionary support.

Over the next year I will be stretched in ways that I wasn't during the summer internship. I look forward to how I personally grow over the next year, as well as how James and I grow together as we will be living at Camp Daniel after we get married. I look forward to having the privilege of serving as missionaries together. Thank you for your support through my journey and I'm excited to keep you updated throughout my next adventures!

God Bless,

Lydia Weidner