

Camp Ewalu Summer Camp Employment

Dates of Employment
May 31 - August 13

Looking to make
a difference this
summer?

EWALU 
Camp & Retreat Center

www.ewalu.org

37776 Alpha Avenue
Strawberry Point, IA 52076

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“Ewalu Serves all people as a place to connect the world of God with the Word of God.”

— Ewalu Mission Statement —



Camp Ewalu is a year-round ministry that primarily serves over 200 Lutheran congregations in Eastern Iowa with 1,000 youth participating in our summer programs and nearly 1,000 more through our Day Camp evangelism program. We also see 2,500 environmental education students and nearly 6,500 additional youth and adults who come to renew and grow in their faith during the rest of the year.

What makes Camp Ewalu’s summer ministry unique is it’s decentralized, small group camping environment. Our camp facilities allow powerful ministry and support an awesome Christian community, where you have a role in lifelong faith formation through small group ministry. As a member of Ewalu’s staff, with God’s help, **you will change kids’ lives for the better**, make lifelong friends, practice leadership skills, and grow personally.

How To Apply



Start an application online at:

<http://ewalu.org/summer-employment/>



Are you ready to make a BIG positive difference in people’s lives, with God’s help? Consider your calling to serve at Camp Ewalu. We have a truly top-notch, highly gifted, world-class summer youth ministry staff with a variety of passions and fields of study. In addition to camp counselor roles, 15+ different leadership positions are available, as well as Internships for many college majors.

Daily Schedule

Not sure what to expect? Well, no day, week, or summer program is ever exactly the same at Ewalu. Here’s a typical day at camp to show you how much fun you’re guaranteed to have.

Wake Up

Breakfast

Alpha

Start your day with God through song and prayer.

Morning Activity

Perhaps you’ll catch critters while creek stumping, or take a ride on the zip line. You might even visit animals at the farm!

Lunch

Bible Study

Hike to a rock formation and gather your small group for Bible Study immersed in God’s creation.

Pool Time

Cool off, or play water basketball at the Ewalu Pool.

Canteen

Take a break for snacks and ice cream at the Canteen!

Afternoon Activity

You might try Archery, or express yourself at Arts and Crafts.

Dinner

Evening Activity

Maybe you’ll play group games with your village, or reflect of the day while stargazing.

Campfire

Worship with your village, or the whole camp, around a blazing campfire.

Omega

End your day with God through stories and prayer.

Bed

Summer ‘22 Theme



BOUNDLESS: GOD BEYOND MEASURE



Questions?

Contact Ashley Gulrud,
Interim Program Director

PHONE: 563-933-4700
EMAIL: program@ewalu.org



“... I want you to know all about Christ’s love ... Then your lives will be filled with all that God is.” (Ephesians 3:18-19)

Frequently Asked Questions

✉ camp@ewalu.org
☎ 563-933-4700
🌐 www.ewalu.org

🏠 Camp Ewalu
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Where is Ewalu located?

Ewalu Camp and Retreat Center is located in Northeastern Iowa about 3 miles west of Strawberry Point. It is situated on the Maquoketa River near Backbone State Park. Ewalu is within 1-1 ½ hour of Waverly, Cedar Falls, Decorah, Cedar Rapids, and Dubuque.

When does camp begin and end?

Summer staff commit to serving from May 30–August 13. Coordinator positions start May 26 and include a spring work weekend as well. High Ropes training for coordinators interested in becoming certified occurs in the spring as well. The summer begins with two weeks of paid training followed by eight weeks of camp.

What does a week at camp look like?

Camper registration goes from 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. on Sunday and ends on Friday with a program at 2:00 p.m. Ewalu’s youngest Mini campers and Grandparent Camp participants come for just a half week of camp. Family Camp occurs on the weekend. Some of the adventure trips for senior high campers leave early on Sunday mornings. Counselors stay in a cabin, covered wagon, platform tent, or tents with six to eight campers. Each program has a different schedule but most campers gather together on Sunday night for an All Camp Campfire, Wednesday for an activity and prayer, and then on Friday for the program.

What are the ages of the campers that I will work with?

Ewalu serves campers of all ages! Campers are 2nd–12th grade and family and grandparent campers can be any age. Day Campers are 1st–6th grade.

What will my salary be?

Salaries start at \$275 for counselors and \$285 for coordinators with an additional \$10 for each summer you return. In addition to the salary, staff have minimal expenses as room and board are provided. We are happy to work with individuals who are looking for an internship opportunity.

Do I need to be Lutheran to serve?

You do not need to be Lutheran to work at Ewalu. We provide a Lutheran Theology session during staff training to prepare all of our staff for the summer. Many of our campers and staff do not come from a Lutheran background.

What about time off and weekends?

The camp week runs from 12:00 p.m. Sunday–6 p.m. Friday. Staff are required to work one weekend during the summer. July 2-8 is a break week and staff come together on Friday, July 8-10 for a renewal weekend. Staff are welcome to stay at camp during weekends off and some staff are hired to work during the break week. Ewalu seeks to employ people who can serve the entirety of the summer, but some exceptions may be arranged ahead of time.

What does it mean to work for an ACA Accredited Camp?

The American Camping Association’s (ACA) nationally recognized standards focus primarily on the health, safety, and risk management aspects of a camp’s operation. Ewalu is ACA accredited which means you can rest assured that your and your camper’s safety is being taken seriously in all aspects of life at camp.



What do summer staff have to say about working at Ewalu?

“I can confidently say outdoor ministry and Ewalu specifically has transformed me! **What kept me coming back to Ewalu each summer and sometimes the fall was and still is, the community that is alive and active in these woods.** The relationships that I have formed with other summer staff members will last a lifetime!”



“Every week this summer held its own unique magic. Perhaps it was a particularly great Bible study, or Wednesday night campfire, or a game with the campers, or worship service, or encounter with wildlife, or discussing with another counselor that placed each week in my heart. One day, during one of my breaks, **I was struck with the feeling that I was living twice as much life as normal here at Ewalu.** It was a wonderful sensation of making the most of my time.”



“I’m writing this after my first ever week counseling a group of campers on camp by myself. **It was so exciting and I honestly enjoyed every minute of it!**”



Summer Ministry Team Opportunities

Counselor—Age 18, one year of college preferred

These small group leaders are responsible for a cabin of campers each week. Depending on your preference each week, you will stay in cabins, lodges, tents, houseboats, or even with a host family at a local congregation. As a counselor at Ewalu, you will lead your group in meaningful games, Bible studies, nature activities, hikes, meals, swimming, and worship. These include on-site camping programs, off-site travel and adventure trips, and Day Camps (Vacation Bible School) in local congregations.

Arts and Crafts Coordinator—Age 18, one year of college preferred

This person leads arts & crafts activities with children. This coordinator's primary role is teaching campers how to use art to express their faith, have fun and be creative. The Arts & Crafts Coordinator designs craft projects, manages the craft room, purchases art supplies and offers general support in program areas.

Program Area Coordinators—Age 21 preferred, 1 year experience

Coordinators design and oversee activities for camp programs. They support and supervise counselors and facilitate morning devotions, evening campfires, and other activities. Program Area Coordinators assist in general camp leadership responsibilities. Christian witness, maturity and leadership are primary assets.

Need one per program area: Mini-Camp/Explorers, Trailblazers, Foresters, Pioneers, M.A.D. Camp, Confirmation Camp, Night Camp, Uplifted, Intergenerational

Health Officer—Age 21 preferred, CPR, First Aid certified

The Health Officer supervises the infirmary, cares for injured and ill campers and staff and maintains counselor first-aid kits. The Health Officer is the contact person for parents, campers, and Ewalu staff for all health-related issues, including the registration of health forms and dispensing medications. This individual also offers general support as needed in all program areas.

Houseboat Coordinator—Age 21, 2 years college, Houseboat experience, lifeguard

The Houseboat Coordinator accompanies each Houseboating trip and provides guidance and leadership for campers and counselors, ensuring safety and encouraging teamwork. This person serves as a counselor on the boat and works with other staff to model faith development. Maturity, organizational skills, and strong leadership qualities are needed.

Mediagrapher—Age 21 preferred, 1 year experience

The Mediagrapher is responsible for documenting life on camp through photo and video to be used in promotional materials throughout the year. The mediagrapher will post content to Ewalu's social media accounts throughout each week of camp. This individual should have experience with photo/video editing.

Outdoor Adventure Specialist—Age 21, 2 years experience, lifeguard

The Outdoor Adventure Specialist accompanies most out-trips and provides guidance and leadership for campers and counselors, ensuring safety and encouraging teamwork. This individual serves as a counselor and works with other staff to model faith development. Maturity, outdoor living skills, and strong leadership qualities are needed.

Out-Trip Coordinator—Age 21, 2 years experience

The Out-Trip Coordinator is in charge of camping and canoeing trips, teaching outdoor living skills to both campers and staff. Duties include maintaining and purchasing camping equipment, preparing and supplying groups with camping equipment, scheduling transportation, and teaching staff and campers proper use of equipment.

Pool Director—Age 21 preferred, lifeguard

The Pool Director is responsible for managing the swimming pool during afternoon and night swims. This individual works with the property manager to control chemical levels, schedules lifeguards, maintains a clean and safe swimming area, directs emergency procedures according to camp policy, enforces pool rules and offers support as needed in program areas.

Program Assistant—Age 21, 2 years experience at Ewalu

This person assists the Program Director and Assistant Program Director in many aspects of the summer program, including weekly staff assignments, camper registration, managing support staff and helping with general duties.

Trailroom Coordinator—Age 21 preferred, 2 years experience

Trailroom Coordinator is responsible for ordering food, supplying meals and campfire cooking equipment to all camper groups not eating in Cedar Dining Hall. This includes daily cookout meals on-site and all meals for out-trips. The Trailroom Coordinator will also be responsible for maintaining a clean and safe food prep area. Strong organizational skills are required for this position. This individual also offers general support as needed in all program areas.

Day Camp Coordinator—Age 21 preferred, one year of experience

The Day Camp Coordinator is the contact person between the congregations and Ewalu. This person helps teams prepare for doing youth ministry through Vacation Bible School in churches. The Day Camp Coordinator also advises churches in housing our staff and supports and visits the Day Camp teams during the week. This position offers support to other program areas.

Leadership Training Coordinator—Age 21, 2 years college, 2 years experience

The LT Coordinator leads two four-week Leadership Training programs for senior high youth. This person and the LTs lead games and activities with campers, deliver camper luggage to program areas, help with the general operation of the camp and run the canteen. Each week the coordinator spends time with the LTs in trainings, discussions, Bible studies, building relationships and teaching the essentials of being a strong Christian leader and counselor.

General Position Information

We require our staff to be 18 and prefer a year of college or equivalent experience. Staff have two weeks of paid training, including site orientation, outdoor skills, camp songs, Bible Study and worship planning, age group characteristics, behavior management, games, low ropes, CPR, first aid, and much more! There is also an opportunity for lifeguard training. Salaries increase \$10 each year you return.

Most coordinators must be 21 and have prior camp experience. Depending on the position and interest, coordinators can be trained to facilitate our high ropes course. They provide the leadership and support for counselors and campers.