

2019: A Year of Change and Growth

Dear Friends,

"Leave everything and follow me." This was the calling Cam and I heard one year ago when God called us to Calvin Crest. I still marvel at His goodness in helping us sell our home in Illinois, buy a home in Oakhurst, sell almost all of our possessions, wrap up our jobs, and celebrate the holidays in a matter of weeks before leaving family and friends to move across the country. Wrapped in the peace of God's clear leading, we accepted His invitation to trust Him with our future at Calvin Crest. Maybe more than any other time in our lives, we could say, "We are all in!"

And what a year it has been!

We survived an incredible winter of snowstorms and freezing temps, resulting in power outages, burst pipes, propane leaks, damage to the pool, and more vehicles than we could count stuck on the roads up to camp. But thanks to so many of you, this year brought much growth:

- More than 110 women participated in women's retreat
- 60 volunteers participated in the Memorial Day Work & Worship Weekend to prepare Sherwood Forest for Summer
- Summer camp programs grew by 18% and lives were changed
- Men's Camp grew from 12 men in 2018 to 60 men in 2019
- The Outdoor School will serve more than 3,000 students
- More than 7,150 guests connected with God and one another
- Two staff weddings celebrated how God continues to build families through Calvin Crest
- More than 150 people attended our first annual Fall Crest Fest!



2019 also brought improvements to our buildings and grounds:

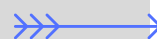
- Westview bathrooms were fluffed and buffed and re-landscaped to protect from increasing erosion
- Offices were purged, painted, and re-organized
- The maintenance shop is undergoing major reorganization
- Needed stairs and platforms were built by our amazing AIMers
- Mountain View Lounge received new paint and carpeting thanks to Dionne Lyons and fall work & worship volunteers
- The Hillhouse was transitioned to staff housing
- Miwok Village was rebuilt in a new location
- Our land continues to be cleared in the burn areas; we planted more than 21,000 trees, and brought in goats to clear acreage of overgrown brush thanks to Tom Hobby and BioStewards

Great growth and improvements came to our staff, leadership, and finance:

- Our staff culture has grown more unified and healthy with regular training and accountability structures in place
- Three new board members joined our Board of Trustees (Sarah Friesen, Ginny Harrison, and Sylvia Sloas)
- Extensive research was conducted to understand our industry, other camps in our region, effective staff structures, and equitable wages to help Calvin Crest become sustainable
- Our mission was presented in nearly 20 churches and local organizations, resulting in new donors, volunteers, and partners
- Our store product line was revamped with a whole new look

"We had such an amazing week. We can't thank you enough for providing this place for us to focus on family time and experiencing God! Thank you for pouring into us as adults and for loving and pouring into our children!"

- 2019 family Camper



Finishing 2019 Strong

There's no doubt God is working at Calvin Crest, and we are humbled to partner with Him to further Calvin Crest's mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ. Despite our growth in 2019, and our considerable work to restructure our operations to increase efficiency, we are still facing significant financial challenges that have been years in the making. We are working hard to finish 2019 in the black, and we cannot do it without your generous partnership.

Will you be "all in" with us?

When you invest in Calvin Crest, you are investing in the spiritual and relational transformation of...

year-round and summer staff,
children and adults,
men and women,
marriages and families,
adults with special needs,

and thousands of students from across the Central Valley.

You are investing in change and growth. You are making it possible to share the gospel with those longing for hope and healing. You are ensuring the legacy and rich history of Calvin Crest continues for generations to come.

Will you consider giving a generous year-end gift today?

"I am excited to see where God is leading Calvin Crest in this new season. I look forward to expanding the tribe of people we serve and see a new generation rise up as leaders. I am hopeful that we can invest in the current facilities and invest in new ones that will increase our capacity to be increasingly hospitable to our guests. Calvin Crest is my very favorite place on Earth."
-Sarah Friesen, Board Member



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From all of us at Calvin Crest, we want to thank you for your incredible support. Thank you for coming to camp in 2019, thank you for your prayers, and thank you for your financial support. We pray you have the merriest of Christmases, and we can't wait to see you "all in" with us in 2020!

Warmly,
Tiffany Staman,
Executive Director