I know some of you have already begun the school year while others are savoring the very last few days of summer vacation. Believe it or not, it is time to sign up again for CHWC. 10 years ago, I went to my first CHWC. It has been an amazing experience and the teens have been the guiding force of our continued growth. They have explored music, retreats, service and ways to grow as a community. We will continue with the service projects throughout the year. We will be participating in a variety of service opportunities in our parish and community.

I will try my best to make the process easy and smooth for each family so that the expectations are reasonable and clear. As last year, we are asking that all campers participate in at least one service opportunity during the year and at least one after Mass fundraising spot. Everyone will participate in at least one after Mass peanut sales, the spaghetti dinner or cake sale as has been the case in past years. So the year should look pretty familiar.

I need adults to be invested in this year. First and foremost we need adult campers. I say this now so you will have time to think and pray about it. We need parents of the teens going to camp to come with us. This is an amazing experience and I promise to guide you through each step. You do not have to be particularly handy to go or have special skills. All that is needed is willingness and a good attitude. The bottom line is that we can only take the number of students that we have adults to cover. There is a required 5 to 1 ratio and we strive to have closer to a 4 to 1 ratio. If I can't get enough adults, then I will have to take fewer teens and I really don't want to say no to any teen who wants to participate.

If your job or situation makes it impossible to go to camp, then please look at other ways you can help. We need adults at service projects, the spaghetti dinner and fundraising. Please see what you can do. You will be amazed at our teens – their spirit, their love and the laughter we all share! And we need your help.

Here are the 2019 camps that we plan to participate in: Pittsburg, PA – July  $14^{\rm th}$  –  $20^{\rm th}$  – Regular camp open to current  $7^{\rm th}$  graders and older Greensboro, NC – July  $21^{\rm st}$  –  $27^{\rm th}$  – Next Level Camp open to high school students and older.

Richmond, VA – June  $23^{rd}$  –  $29^{th}$  – If you are a college student and want to help out on a worksite.

We will have 3 informational meetings and I am asking EVERY camper (including past campers) to attend with at least one parent. Bring a calendar so you can sign up for your volunteer spots as well as camp. Children of adult campers will

automatically have a space at camp. We will fill the remaining spaces on a first come, first serve basis. If we need an additional information session, please let me know and I will try to arrange one.

Meetings-September 4<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 p.m. September 9<sup>th</sup> – After All Masses

Forms are due by September  $10^{\text{th}}$ . I will be purchasing spots on September  $11^{\text{th}}$  and may not be able to get additional spaces after that date. These camps fill up very quickly. As always, I will do everything I can so that all interested student campers are able to attend.

Looking forward to an incredible year!

Peace

Anne-Marie Condlin