

Evaluation Report

Marketplace Day Camp

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Prepared for:
Marketplace Co-Directors
CPC Pastor to Youth and Families
CPC Session

by
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I. Summary

Marketplace Day Camp is the largest program run by Covenant Presbyterian Church. It takes place for one week each summer. Its purpose is for children and youth to learn about Jesus Christ and to have opportunities to grow in discipleship and service. It is also an outreach to children and families in the surrounding community. In addition, the program also seeks to develop the leadership capabilities of the volunteers who help run the camp.

The name Marketplace is based on the camp's simulation of a first century marketplace environment, with tents, various props, and volunteers in costume. Campers are organized into *tribes* based on age. The camp includes energetic large group worship, crafts that take place in artisan tents, outdoor dramas, devotions/Bible study in groups by tribe, games, and a family picnic. Middle school students serve the camp in several roles, and large numbers of high school students participate as volunteers along with a large number of adults.

The purpose of this evaluation is to determine the effectiveness and impact of the program in meeting its stated goals. The evaluation included a parent survey to determine the degree to which the camp helps children come to know and love Jesus Christ and grow in discipleship. It also included an analysis of registration records from 2011 and 2012 to determine the degree to which the program is serving its target population and the degree to which it is encouraging growth in service and increasing the leadership capabilities of the volunteers. Finally, interviews were conducted with selected program staff to provide additional insight into these areas of evaluation.

The results of the evaluation showed that the program is meeting all of its stated objectives, and that it has a significant impact on the spiritual development of the children who participate. In particular, this impact seems to be strongly evident in those children who participate annually over a period of several years. Registration records indicate that the program has a wide reach both within the church and also in the surrounding community, including participants from many other churches and participants with no church affiliation at all. Finally, substantial numbers of volunteers grow in their leadership capabilities from year to year.

II. Program Description

The Marketplace Day Camp program has a seventeen year history. It is the largest program run by Covenant Presbyterian Church (CPC, a.k.a. "The Barn"). The program takes place during the mornings for one week in August each year. The purpose of Marketplace is for children and youth to learn about Jesus Christ and to have opportunities to grow in discipleship and service. It is also an outreach to children and families in the surrounding community, which is a middle- and upper-middle-class suburban area.

Although CPC has only 180 members, the camp draws over 200 children in grades pre-K through 6 as campers, along with 100 middle school and high school students who help lead various activities. There are also about 100 adult volunteers who help out during the camp or with planning in the months leading up to it.

A. Program Objectives

The following program objectives were derived from the program's mission statement (Appendix A).

1. Communicate the good news about Jesus Christ in such a way that
 - a. children come to know and love Jesus
 - b. children grow in discipleship (i.e., maturity in their beliefs and faith practices)
 - c. youth grow in service.
2. Serve the children of Covenant Presbyterian Church.
3. Serve children and families in the surrounding communities.
4. Serve all who wish to come.

In addition, the following objectives were identified through discussions with the camp directors.

5. Develop the leadership capabilities of the youth and adults who serve as volunteers.
6. Provide an entry point for people without a church home to connect with the church.

B. Program Components

The Marketplace Day Camp program is unique among church day camp programs. It seeks to engage children by transforming a portion of the 40-acre church property into a representation of a first century marketplace. Crafts take place in large "artisan" tents, and the large group meeting area is decorated with baskets, plants, and colorful cloths draped around. Many of the volunteers who run the program dress in first-century-style costumes.

Children participate in most of the Marketplace activities as part of a *tribe*. Tribes are groups of children of similar age, led by one or more tribe leaders and several tribe leader assistants. Tribe leaders are either adults or older teens. Assistants can include younger high school students.

The Marketplace Day Camp program consists of a number of components.

Singing and worship. The first and last fifteen minutes of camp include an energetic time of singing and worship, led by a youth band. Most of the songs include hand and body motions led by a team of youth singers.

Artisan tents. Following the opening worship/singing time, children go with their tribes to one of the artisan tents to do a craft. The crafts are generally durable, high quality projects that connect to the camp theme.

Drama. The artisan time is followed by an outdoor drama that presents a Biblical story. The main character is Jesus, usually portrayed by a college student or adult. Care is taken the first day to make clear to the younger children that it is an actor playing Jesus, and not the real Jesus. However, the actor typically engages with the children outside of the drama time, and children are encouraged to ask the actor questions. The actor tries to interact as Jesus would interact.

Devotions (Bible study). Tribes meet together for devotions/Bible study after the drama. The topic of the devotions is tied to the drama the children have just seen. Snacks are served during this time as well. Children write or draw in journals for reflection as part of the devotion time.

Games. Following devotions, children participate in games. Following the game time, the tribes gather again for the closing worship and singing time.

Youth participation. Middle school students serve the camp in one or more of these roles: artisan assistant, games, or drama team. High school students serve as tribe leaders, assistant tribe leaders, pre-K leaders and assistants, game supervisors, music team, tech team, and occasionally other roles. Middle and high school students have their own separate devotions.

Picnic. A family picnic is held on Thursday night of camp week. It is an opportunity for parents to see what their children have been doing during the week. Over 400 people attended in 2012. Activities include games, a bounce house, face painting, an opportunity to tour the artisan tents, and a program that includes singing and a slide show that highlights camp activities.

III. Evaluation Method

A. Participants

Program participants. Program participants included campers who ranged in age from pre-K through grade 6, and middle school students (grades 7–8).

Marketplace co-directors. Kathy Wolfe and Josephine Schoenhardt organized and led the program. For the evaluation, they provided information about the program, access to registration data, responded to interview questions, and also assisted with answers to many miscellaneous questions about the program.

Program staff. Program staff included high school and adult volunteers who led the camp, along with Dan Kerwin, CPC's Pastor to Youth and Families (the only paid member of the program staff). Dan Kerwin provided input on the parent survey questions. A few adult volunteers were selected as a convenience sample for interviews.

Parents. Parents of program participants were asked to complete a survey.

Evaluator. Doug Wolfe conducted the overall evaluation, including identification of program goals and evaluation questions, design and administration of surveys and interviews, and data analysis. In addition, the evaluator served as the camp set-up and take-down coordinator, spent one day as a substitute artisan, and attended the camp picnic.

B. Procedures

The evaluation followed a goal-based approach and focused on the following questions, drawn from the program objectives:

1. Do children come to know and love Jesus?
2. Do children grow in discipleship?
3. Do children/youth grow in service?
4. How well does the program serve the children of the church (CPC)?
5. How well does the program serve children and families in the surrounding community?
6. Does the program serve all who wish to come?
7. Does the program develop the leadership capabilities of the youth and adult volunteers?

The evaluation was conducted several months after the camp had taken place. Therefore, evaluation procedures consisted of gathering and analyzing existing data, conducting interviews with adult camp staff, and conducting an anonymous, online parent survey. The co-directors and CPC's youth pastor reviewed a draft of the survey questions and suggested enhancements.

In addition, interviews were conducted with Kathy Wolfe (Co-Director), Dan Kerwin (Pastor to Youth and Families), Beth Rotblatt (Coordinator of Disabilities Partners and extensive past experience with the pre-K and K programs), and Jeff Moger (Tribe Leader for grades 5/6). These interviewees were selected based on their ability to provide input on the program as a whole, their perspective on Marketplace over a number of years, input regarding the different age ranges of the campers, and availability.

C. Data Sources

Data sources were selected based on the program objectives and the evaluation questions noted above.

Objectives 1a and 1b. A *parent survey* (see Appendix B) and *staff interviews* (see Appendix C) with selected program staff were used to evaluate program effectiveness and impact.

Objectives 2, 3, 4, and 6. *Registration records* from 2012 were used to analyze the number of children from CPC that participate and the number of children from other churches and the community that participate, as well as the number of participants accepted or turned away.

Objectives 1c and 5. *Registration records* from 2011 and 2012, supplemented with *staff interviews*, were used to examine the number of sixth graders who came back as middle school students to serve, the number of eighth graders who came back as high school volunteers, and the growth in leadership responsibility of the high school and adult volunteers. For purposes of objective 5, moving from an assistant position to a leader position, or from a leader position to a coordinator position was considered an increase in leadership capability.

IV. Results

A. Parent Survey

This section of the report highlights key results of the parent survey. Appendix B contains a complete summary of the parent survey results, including responses to additional questions added at the request of the program staff. The survey link was emailed by the camp co-directors to all 139 parents of campers in grades pre-K through eight. (Note: many families had multiple

children attend camp.) Seven of those email addresses were incorrect, so the net survey invitations were 132. A total of 35 responses were received, for a response rate of 27%. Response rates for parents of campers in grades two through five were higher than for parents of campers in other grades. A few respondents skipped particular questions, so the results may not always add up to a total of 35.

Figure 1 shows a summary of the responses to questions 2 and 3 on the survey. These questions presented a set of identical Likert scales. Parents were asked to rate their child’s behaviors and attitudes in the months before Marketplace for question 2 and in the months after Marketplace for question 3. Responses were overwhelmingly positive both before and after Marketplace, as shown in the summary of responses in Table 1. The table also shows a substantial shift in responses toward *strongly agree* for the period after Marketplace.

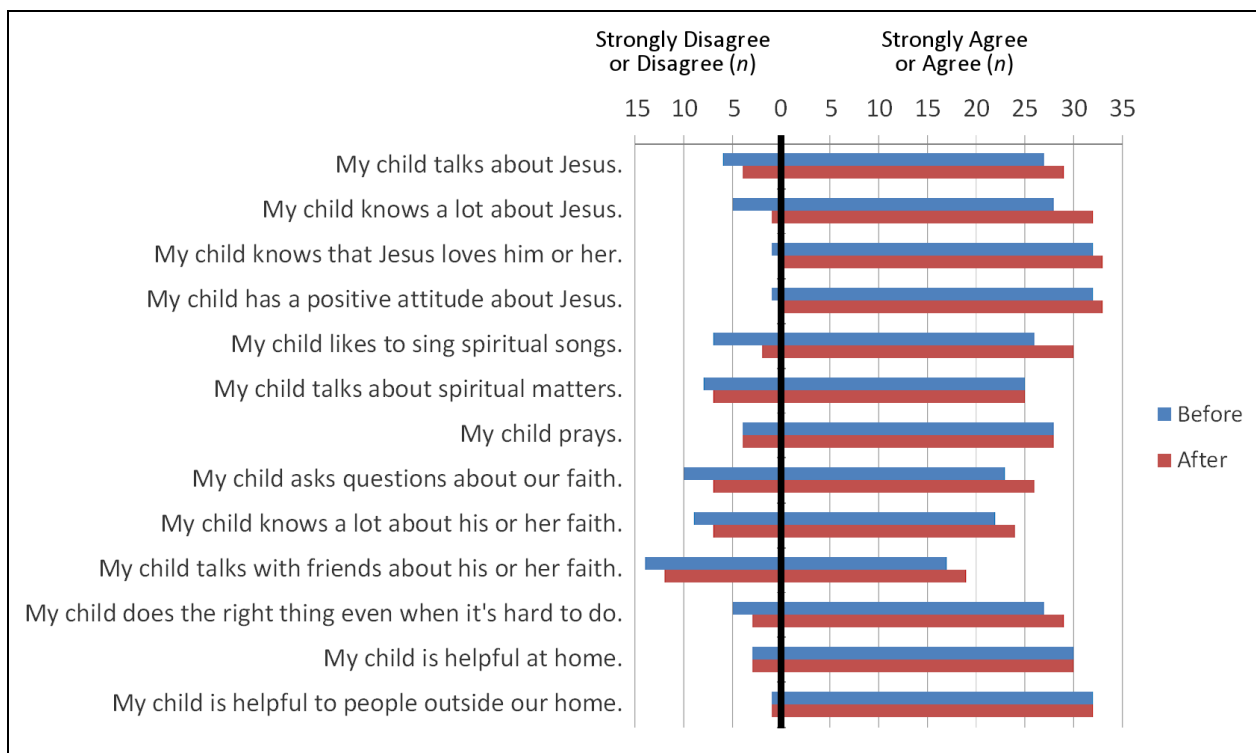


Figure 1. Summary of parent responses to survey questions 2 and 3. The figure combines negative responses (Strongly Disagree or Disagree) on the left of the black line, and positive responses (Strongly Agree or Agree) on the right side of the black line. A shift to the right from Before responses to After responses indicates increased observance of desired behaviors.

Table 1

Total for Each Camper Behavior Response Rating Category

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Before Marketplace	126	223	70	4
After Marketplace	167	203	48	3

Question 5 on the survey was designed to capture parents’ overall impressions of the contributions of Marketplace to their child’s spiritual development. Again, the responses were overwhelmingly positive. The responses are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2
Overall Parent Impressions

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Marketplace 2012 helped my child grow closer to Jesus.	17	16	1	0
Marketplace 2012 helped my child grow as a disciple of Jesus.	17	13	2	0
Marketplace 2012 was a positive experience for my child.	26	8	0	0
I would recommend Marketplace Day Camp to a friend.	28	6	0	0

Question 6 of the survey is an open-ended request for comments. Twelve respondents provided comments, which are included in the complete summary in Appendix B. Most comments were positive, with a few isolated suggestions of areas for improvement. The following comments are particularly relevant to the key questions in this evaluation.

My children are being brought up as Catholics, yet it is your bible camp that they attend every year that continues to help them really know God.

My children...came home every day singing the songs they'd learned and exclaiming about the nice people, both children and adults, that they'd met or talked with. They have told their friends how much fun they have and that it's a loving Christ-centered experience.

I had 2 children in the program and both grew closer to Jesus in that wonderful week.

My kids absolutely love this camp!!!! The music is amazing and they both talk about it for the entire year until the next day camp!!!

B. Registration Records

An examination of the 2012 camp registration records revealed that 254 campers in grades pre-K–8 attended camp. (There were six more that registered but did not show up, and two that left after the first day of camp.) Of those, 34 campers (13%) were from CPC and 220 (87%) were from outside the church. It is difficult to determine an exact number of camper-aged children at CPC, but the best information available from the youth pastor is that the number is 36–38. Based on that estimate, 89–94% of CPC children participated in Marketplace in 2012.

Non-CPC campers came from 27 different congregations. (See Appendix D.) There were also 5 who indicated a denomination, but not a specific congregation. Finally, there were 34 campers (13%) who indicated they are not affiliated with any church, and 15 (6%) who did not respond to

the question on the registration form, for a total of 49 (19%) presumably unchurched campers. No potential campers were turned away, including those who inquired the day before camp started or who showed up with friends partway through the week.

An analysis was also performed of the number of sixth graders from 2011 who returned to serve the camp as part of the middle school program in 2012, and the number of eighth graders from 2011 who returned as high school staff volunteers in 2012. Of the 22 sixth grade campers in 2011, 12 (54%) returned in 2012 to serve. A number of those campers invited friends to join them in 2012, for a total of 19 seventh graders in 2012. Of the 17 eighth grade campers in 2011, 11 of them (65%) returned to serve in 2012. Again, many invited friends, and there were a total of 18 ninth graders serving in 2012.

The analysis of staff records revealed that there were a total of 198 high school and adult staff in 2012. (While many staff served directly in the program, some provided support services such as registration assistance, set-up, picnic planning, bookkeeping, etc. before, during, or after camp.) Of the 198 volunteers, 134 (68%) had served in 2011. Based on the criteria stated under Data Sources above, 40 volunteers (30%) increased their leadership responsibilities in 2012. Another 87 (65%) served in the same or similar capacity, and 7 (5%) served in a lesser leadership role.

C. Interviews

All interviewees were asked the following two questions:

- What evidence have you seen that children come to know and love Jesus through Marketplace Day Camp?
- What evidence have you seen that children grow in discipleship through Marketplace Day Camp?

In addition, some interviewees were asked additional questions specific to their areas of responsibility and were permitted to add any additional comments they wished.

Regarding the first question, all respondents said that many of the older children and the youth mention the influence that Marketplace has had in their lives in helping them understand the love of Jesus. These children and youth cite the model of Jesus' love that they saw in their tribe leaders and assistant tribe leaders. Some also related specific instances of tribe leaders and assistants explaining matters of faith to younger children. One recounted overhearing a high school student say to a child, "When I was little, this is how someone explained it to me."

The worship time at camp is also noted by some of the respondents. "For young kids, the large group worship is important. Younger kids are watching the older kids, they are imitating and following their modeling. It makes the idea of knowing Jesus more concrete." Regarding the older children, one respondent mentioned "the visual evidence of watching them worship." This respondent also cited "overwhelming anecdotal evidence from stories that parents share about their kids when they go home." The youth pastor mentioned that his grades 3–5 boys Sunday school class and the students in the youth group all refer back to day camp when discussing ways that Jesus has impacted their lives, where they learned something about God, or where they enjoyed worshipping God.

Regarding the second question, all respondents noted the difficulty of assessing regular, daily discipleship habits of children, given that they don't see many of the children for 51 weeks out of the year. It is also hard to determine the impact of Marketplace given that it is just one influence of short duration, and children have many other influences, particularly their family life. However, many cited evidence in their own children, and all noted the visible evidence when you see the same children over a period of years. One respondent also noted that "there's something about the habit of coming to day camp year after year. It's part of people's advance planning. Part of planning to follow the Lord."

Co-Director Kathy Wolfe also provided information about efforts to serve the community and to "serve all who wish to come." Marketplace is publicized widely in the community. While there is a registration cut-off date, that is to help facilitate planning, and in reality, latecomers are welcomed, including those who may show up partway through the week. A growth area in recent years has been the inclusion of special needs children, including the provision of personal Disability Partners for some of these children. This has allowed a new segment of the population to come that hadn't come before.

Finally, Kathy Wolfe also provided information on leadership development efforts. She noted that the organizational structure is designed to have more experienced leaders who then recruit, train, and work with less experienced or younger volunteers, who may bring along a friend to work with them. Training is provided for the different ministry areas, along with basic training in understanding children and the spiritual development of children. Finally, the co-directors and the youth pastor look for people who may be ready to take a step up in leadership responsibility.

V. Discussion

The primary purpose of this evaluation is to determine the impact of the Marketplace Day Camp program and to evaluate the degree to which it is meeting its objectives. The evaluation results provide substantial evidence that the program is successfully meeting all objectives, and that it is having an impact on the spiritual life of children in the church and in the community.

Questions 5 and 6 from the parent survey revealed that parents overwhelmingly believe that Marketplace helped their child grow closer to Jesus and to grow as a disciple. Questions 2 and 3 about their child's behavior also provide some limited support for this conclusion. However, because a large number of ratings were *agree* or *strongly agree* for the period before Marketplace, there was not much room to show an increase in the ratings for the period after Marketplace, which leaves the data from these questions somewhat inconclusive. However, information obtained from staff interviews reinforce the conclusions that children come to know and love Jesus and grow in discipleship. But it is also clear that a program such as Marketplace is just one small component of discipleship growth, and that other factors such as family spiritual practices at home play a larger role.

The registration data revealed that nearly all the children at CPC participate in Marketplace. Combined with information from the survey and interviews, this report concludes that the program is doing an excellent job of serving the children of CPC. The registration data also reveal that the program is doing an excellent job of serving the children and families in the surrounding community—87% of the participants are from outside CPC. The fact that the

program draws so many unaffiliated families (19%) indicates that the program is successfully meeting the objective to provide a point of entry for people without a church home to connect with the church.

The registration data also reveal that a significant number of campers come back to serve as they cross critical age thresholds, indicating that the youth do grow in service. In addition to growing in service, both youth and adults show strong year over year gains in leadership responsibilities.

The interview with the camp co-director also provided confirmation that current registration practices enable successful attainment of the objective to serve all who wish to come. Efforts to include special-needs children particularly underscore this point. Finally, the co-director’s explanation of the leadership development process, when combined with the evidence of leadership growth from the registration data, indicate that the program is meeting that objective.

A few things noted above particularly stood out in the evaluation. One is the broad reach of Marketplace into the community. The fact that so many participants come from outside of CPC is a remarkable testament to the program’s success in meeting some of its core objectives. Another thing that stood out is the significant impact of Marketplace on the spiritual lives of children who participate year after year, as noted in every interview and also in several parent comments. Finally, interviews and parent comments noted the impact of the love shown by the tribe leaders and tribe assistants on the younger children. This was cited by both children and teens as a significant way that they began to understand the love of Christ for them.

Overall, Marketplace Day Camp meets all of its objectives. The results of the evaluation demonstrate that children grow in their love of Jesus. While growth in discipleship is difficult to measure based on a single program, there are clear signs that Marketplace is an important piece of the discipleship picture for many children. (This is an area that the program leaders may wish to further investigate to better define the program’s discipleship goals and to determine effective methods of measurement.) In addition, high participation rates by youth as volunteers show evidence that the youth grow in service. Strong registration data show that the program serves both CPC and the surrounding communities, including those without a church home. Finally, substantial numbers of volunteers grow in their leadership capabilities from year to year.

VI. Project Cost

Item	Days	Rate	Total
<i>Personnel</i>			
Evaluation Services-D. Wolfe Evaluation design and planning, survey development and administration, interviews, data analysis, prepare evaluation report	9	\$500.00	\$4,500.00
<i>Operations</i>			
Supplies, printing, survey expense			\$75.00
Total Cost			\$4,575.00

VII. Appendices

Appendix A: Marketplace Day Camp Mission Statement

Covenant Day Camp, a ministry of Covenant Presbyterian Church, seeks to proclaim the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ in such a way that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, children come to know and love Jesus and are given opportunities to grow in discipleship and service. We believe God calls us to do this not only for the growth and benefit of our own children (those within CPC), but also as an outreach to the children and families in the surrounding communities. Therefore, we walk by faith in community, trusting Him to supply everything we need in order to minister to all who desire to come.










Appendix B: Parent Survey

The online parent survey has been closed to preserve the data collected. However, the survey may be viewed in preview mode at the following link:

<http://tinyurl.com/CPCParentSurveyPreview>

The following pages provide a complete summary of the survey results.

1. What grade is your child in?

		Response Percent	Response Count
K		2.9%	1
1		8.6%	3
2		14.3%	5
3		11.4%	4
4		22.9%	8
5		22.9%	8
6		8.6%	3
7		5.7%	2
8		2.9%	1
answered question			35
skipped question			0

2. Please rate the following based on your child's behaviors and attitudes in the months BEFORE Marketplace 2012.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Rating Average	Response Count
My child talks about Jesus.	24.2% (8)	57.6% (19)	18.2% (6)	0.0% (0)	3.06	33
My child knows a lot about Jesus.	21.2% (7)	63.6% (21)	15.2% (5)	0.0% (0)	3.06	33
My child knows that Jesus loves him or her.	48.5% (16)	48.5% (16)	3.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	3.45	33
My child has a positive attitude about Jesus.	51.5% (17)	45.5% (15)	3.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	3.48	33
My child likes to sing spiritual songs.	33.3% (11)	45.5% (15)	21.2% (7)	0.0% (0)	3.12	33
My child talks about spiritual matters.	27.3% (9)	48.5% (16)	24.2% (8)	0.0% (0)	3.03	33
My child prays.	40.6% (13)	46.9% (15)	9.4% (3)	3.1% (1)	3.25	32
My child asks questions about our faith.	24.2% (8)	45.5% (15)	30.3% (10)	0.0% (0)	2.94	33
My child knows a lot about his or her faith.	22.6% (7)	48.4% (15)	25.8% (8)	3.2% (1)	2.90	31
My child talks with friends about his or her faith.	19.4% (6)	35.5% (11)	38.7% (12)	6.5% (2)	2.68	31
My child does the right thing even when it's hard to do.	18.8% (6)	65.6% (21)	15.6% (5)	0.0% (0)	3.03	32
My child is helpful at home.	18.2% (6)	72.7% (24)	9.1% (3)	0.0% (0)	3.09	33
My child is helpful to people outside our home.	36.4% (12)	60.6% (20)	3.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	3.33	33
answered question						33
skipped question						2

3. Please rate the following based on your child's behaviors and attitudes in the months AFTER Marketplace 2012.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Rating Average	Response Count
My child talks about Jesus.	36.4% (12)	51.5% (17)	12.1% (4)	0.0% (0)	3.24	33
My child knows a lot about Jesus.	33.3% (11)	63.6% (21)	3.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	3.30	33
My child knows that Jesus loves him or her.	54.5% (18)	45.5% (15)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	3.55	33
My child has a positive attitude about Jesus.	57.6% (19)	42.4% (14)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	3.58	33
My child likes to sing spiritual songs.	50.0% (16)	43.8% (14)	6.3% (2)	0.0% (0)	3.44	32
My child talks about spiritual matters.	37.5% (12)	40.6% (13)	21.9% (7)	0.0% (0)	3.16	32
My child prays.	46.9% (15)	40.6% (13)	9.4% (3)	3.1% (1)	3.31	32
My child asks questions about our faith.	36.4% (12)	42.4% (14)	21.2% (7)	0.0% (0)	3.15	33
My child knows a lot about his or her faith.	32.3% (10)	45.2% (14)	22.6% (7)	0.0% (0)	3.10	31
My child talks with friends about his or her faith.	22.6% (7)	38.7% (12)	32.3% (10)	6.5% (2)	2.77	31
My child does the right thing even when it's hard to do.	25.0% (8)	65.6% (21)	9.4% (3)	0.0% (0)	3.16	32
My child is helpful at home.	33.3% (11)	57.6% (19)	9.1% (3)	0.0% (0)	3.24	33
My child is helpful to people outside our home.	48.5% (16)	48.5% (16)	3.0% (1)	0.0% (0)	3.45	33
answered question						33
skipped question						2

4. Please rate how much your child enjoyed each of the following Marketplace activities.

	Enjoyed very much	Enjoyed somewhat	Neutral	Did not enjoy much	Did not enjoy at all	Not sure	Rating Average	Response Count
Worship/singing	73.5% (25)	20.6% (7)	0.0% (0)	5.9% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	4.62	34
Crafts	82.4% (28)	11.8% (4)	5.9% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	4.76	34
Drama	64.7% (22)	23.5% (8)	5.9% (2)	5.9% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	4.47	34
Devotions	47.1% (16)	38.2% (13)	8.8% (3)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	5.9% (2)	4.41	34
Games	85.3% (29)	11.8% (4)	2.9% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	4.82	34
answered question								34
skipped question								1

5. Please rate each statement.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Rating Average	Response Count
Marketplace 2012 helped my child grow closer to Jesus.	50.0% (17)	47.1% (16)	2.9% (1)	0.0% (0)	3.47	34
Marketplace 2012 helped my child grow as a disciple of Jesus.	53.1% (17)	40.6% (13)	6.3% (2)	0.0% (0)	3.47	32
Marketplace 2012 was a positive experience for my child.	76.5% (26)	23.5% (8)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	3.76	34
I would recommend Marketplace Day Camp to a friend.	82.4% (28)	17.6% (6)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	3.82	34
answered question						34
skipped question						1

6. Please use the box below to provide us with any comments you may have about Marketplace Day Camp.

**Response
Count**

12

answered question

12

skipped question

23

Page 3, Q6. Please use the box below to provide us with any comments you may have about Marketplace Day Camp.

1	Day Camp is a blessing to our family. Thank you	Nov 27, 2012 9:25 AM
2	For the older kids who volunteer, it should not be a forum to scare them. We have two who volunteer at the middle and high school level, and to use that week to shock them is wrong. We are church going family, teach and live our faith. We are not sure if we will send them next year based on those sessions with the pastor. We will have three in that age group, love camp. But the pastors approach is extreme and inappropriate.	Nov 24, 2012 3:12 PM
3	My daughter really loved the songs. Her counselor was really patient and great with the kids. Thanks for all of your hard work.	Nov 18, 2012 7:07 PM
4	My children are being brought up as Catholics, yet it is your bible camp that they attend every year that continues to help them really know God. My 10th grader says it's the highlight of his summer!	Nov 17, 2012 8:16 PM
5	We have been to Market place for 4 years in a row and we love it very much. As a mother, the only thing I would be more aware of is as the children get older there should be more awareness of personal space between the male leaders and young females. I am sure nothing bad was happening it is just an important thing to teach our children in this day and age. We did enjoy ourselves and appreciate all the camp does.	Nov 17, 2012 11:39 AM
6	Thank you for having Marketplace every year. Wonderful Camp!	Nov 17, 2012 11:03 AM
7	My children love Marketplace. They almost come this year because they could not attend the first day. We are thankful that they were allowed to attend for 4 days. They were upset that they might miss the whole experience, but they understood that they shouldn't take a space away from a child who could attend for the entire week. They came home every day singing the songs they'd learned and exclaiming about the nice people, both children and adults, that they'd met or talked with. They have told their friends how much fun they have had and that it's a loving Christ centered experience. We attend a different church, but we asked the Youth Director from our church to attend a closing session, so she could see how wonderful it was and perhaps pick up a few ideas. We appreciate The Barn for providing this experience for so many children. Thank you!	Nov 17, 2012 10:51 AM
8	It's us, the Weakley's, answering for Johannah. So these are predictable answers!	Nov 17, 2012 8:02 AM
9	Fantastic camp. The attention to detail in each area is amazing.	Nov 17, 2012 7:26 AM
10	I had 2 children in the program and both grew closer to Jesus in that wonderful week. We LOVE the program and are so thankful to have been a part of the worship.	Nov 17, 2012 7:02 AM
11	My kids absolutely love this camp!!!! The music is amazing and they both talk about it for the entire year until the next day camp!!!	Nov 17, 2012 6:50 AM
12	The Day Camp is great, but a little unorganized and chaotic. No body knew where to send the older kids who were supposed to be helpers. I think pick up is	Nov 10, 2012 5:15 AM

Page 3, Q6. Please use the box below to provide us with any comments you may have about Marketplace Day Camp.

very chaotic trying to get through the crowds of people to get your child. There should be a better way to sign-out.

Appendix C: Staff Interview Questions and Notes

All interviewees were asked questions 1 and 2. The additional questions were asked of the co-director only. Notes from the interviews are below.

1. Have you seen evidence that children come to know and love Jesus through Marketplace Day Camp? If so, what evidence have you seen?

Respondent A

With younger kids, most evidenced by the fact that the person playing Jesus at the camp becomes the very most popular person with the young children. They will go up to him and ask him questions.

For older kids, you see it as they return each year especially when they start to be on staff and they can talk about what they learned about Jesus from camp, but more what they learned by watching the leaders and the other youth who lead, the servant leadership, and then they want to do that, too.

Respondent B

Year over year is one category. See a lot of the same kids coming back and enjoying the whole process of worshipping God and learning more about Jesus. This would be the most trackable.

What I see of the kids who come to the Barn. When I taught SS last year, when I looked for examples of certain Bible stories we were going through, or where Jesus impacted their lives, the grade 3-5 boys referenced back to Day Camp. They looked at it as a time when they learned something or enjoyed worshipping God. Skits, worship, small groups—that's where they reflected back the most.

HS and MS students do the same thing with Camp Berea, Peru. Day camp is also a highlight for them when they were younger. They were formative years, and kids reference it often in their testimonies, both in the recent past and further past. Six girls at Jr. High group—rather than worship band, wanted to watch YouTube videos of songs from Marketplace so that they could do the hand motions.

Respondent C

Overwhelming anecdotal evidence from stories that parents share about their kids when they go home. Repeat kids, you see the evidence of kids who come in as campers and come back as workers. They may not be Barn kids, but they come back to work. At least for that week, they're loving Jesus. Don't know if they're doing it elsewhere. But they're demonstrating the love of Jesus to little kids. Past two years, daughter's boyfriend came. Not a strong follower of the Lord. But for that week, he was leading well. So there is evidence. Repeat kids. He teaches older campers. Many come in with answers and an enthusiasm, love for Jesus that is nurtured by the camp. Visual evidence watching them worship. There are kids who don't, but there are kids who do. But there are lots of anecdotal stories from parents.

Respondent D

Talk to Jxx Cxxxxx. She tailored her lesson intensively toward impacting kids.

Teenagers talking about loving Jesus themselves as they work with kids. Sidebar conversations, etc. Kids might bring up content knowledge.

From arts & crafts standpoint, always been a challenge to make it more impactful.

“When I was little, this is how someone explained it to me.”

Could we be more effective? Probably.

Kids with no knowledge of Jesus: the worship time tends to hang with them the most.

Had a boy from St. Catherine’s—impacted in major way. Became a home discussion...whole family talking about whether faith might mean more than they were living.

Could use more training.

Did talk with kids about it. Could we provide some standardized support material like flannel boards, to help kids see and build the story over a couple of years.

For young kids, the large group worship is important. Younger kids are watching the older kids, they are imitating and following the modeling. Makes the idea of knowing Jesus more concrete.

Coordinating disabilities...demonstrates the love of Jesus...serving those who are in need.

Was hard with the one we couldn’t support.

Timing and training are issues.

We may not be so good at loving the unlovable.

2. Have you seen evidence that children grow in discipleship through Marketplace Day Camp? If so, what evidence have you seen?

Respondent A

Given that it’s only a week, and the majority of kids are not from CPC, I’m a little bit limited, but during the week, early in the week, the journaling time is not very focused, or it’s not, you know some kids are participating and some don’t really know what to do, but by the end of the week, the kids are much more engaged in what they’re doing in their journals and in discussions with the leaders. For the kids who do come to CPC, it’s more of a long-term thing, a combination of avenues from Day Camp to Sunday school to family, that you see them growing over the years in their maturity. By the time they get to the older grades, they’re the ones who are maybe helping newer kids figure out what’s going on, or asking deeper questions about how to apply this to their life. They’re not asking so much what the Bible says, as how do I live if I want to follow what Jesus wants.

Respondent B

Harder to pin down, outside of the more in-depth conversations he’s had with youth. They can point back to different people, mostly tribe leaders, that they felt showed them (key discipleship category)—the love that Day Camp leaders, particularly tribe leaders, showed them. It’s always how they’re loved by the tribe leaders and assistants. (I should recommend more focus on this.) Good to put your best tribe leaders in a position to succeed.

Respondent C

Not sure I’m in position to say that, other than in my own children. I’ve seen it in my own kids. Seen their love for the lord and relationship to the lord altered, either as campers or as

counselors working at the camp...more so through working. I've seen it in all 3 kids. I think I see it in some of the other adults who volunteer there. Don't see it as much in the campers, because I just see them for a week. There's some growth, but I don't see them the other 51 weeks of the year. Some of my kids friends, I've definitely seen growth in discipleship, and for the HS and MS kids. For the campers, maybe some of the repeat ones. Sees some of them in 5th grade and again in 6th.

Respondent D

If you're talking about regular habits, then day camp does help. Kids from young all the way through, there's something about the habit of coming to day camp year after year. Part of people's advance planning. Part of planning to follow the Lord. This is sort of corporate level.

By participating, builds sense of identity of as a Christian.

As far as daily habits, it is hit or miss...depends on the family.

Teenagers were sacrificial in their giving, but untrained in how to communicate with the kids.

3. Part of the camp's mission statement is to serve all who wish to come. How successful are you in carrying that out? How do you go about carrying that out?

Generally, we basically have tried to publicize it as widely as possible in the area, we encourage people to invite friends or family. While we do have a sort of cut-off date for registration, that's more for our logistics. Even during the week, if they want to bring a friend or neighbor, that's encouraged. There's always room for one more. In the past, we haven't had to charge a fee. While that may change in the future, we will provide scholarships for those who aren't able to pay. One of the things we've done recently is trying to meet the needs of disabled children or special needs kids. We actually have to provide one-on-one assistance with some of them. For the most part, we've been able to do that, we have people willing and eager to do that, and we've provided training for them. That has allowed a new segment of the population to come that hadn't come before.

4. Are there any other ways that you serve the community?

Many families want to expose their kids to a spiritual world. Some of them go to church, some of them don't. This provides a high-quality, focused week that the kids enjoy that opens them to some spiritual thoughts they hadn't been exposed to, or gets them excited in ways their regular church experience doesn't. Not every church can provide a camp like this. There are many camps around, although not all kids can go to everyone, or they're more focused or limited. We try to do it in August when there are fewer outdoor activities.

5. Another goal you mentioned is developing the leadership capabilities of the volunteers. How do you go about doing that?

There's a lot of layers to that. The organizational structure is designed to have more experienced leaders who then recruit and work with less experienced or younger folks who

then maybe just also bring along a friend to work with them. We provide training for the different ministry areas: games, tribe leaders, artisans. That training is not just in what they're doing, but also in understanding children, understanding spiritual development of children, in catching the vision for this being something where we're trying to build relationships with people and bring them in, in terms of people feeling like they belong rather than on the outside...this can increase their feeling of belonging. To give people a chance to discover what they're good at, what their gifts are. Especially over a several years, they may move from responsibility to responsibility to find what that is, what they're gifted to do. We have some people who do the same thing every year, because they've found their niche, but we're always, as I recruit each year, I look for those people who may be ready to take a step up in responsibility, and start to provide leadership to a layer below them. I know the youth pastor does the same thing as he works with the youth. As he brings them alongside him, as he's going, explain what he does and how he does what he does.

Appendix D: Participating Churches and Towns

As noted in the main report, Marketplace Day Camp draws participants from 27 different congregations. Figure D1 shows the congregations and number of campers from each.

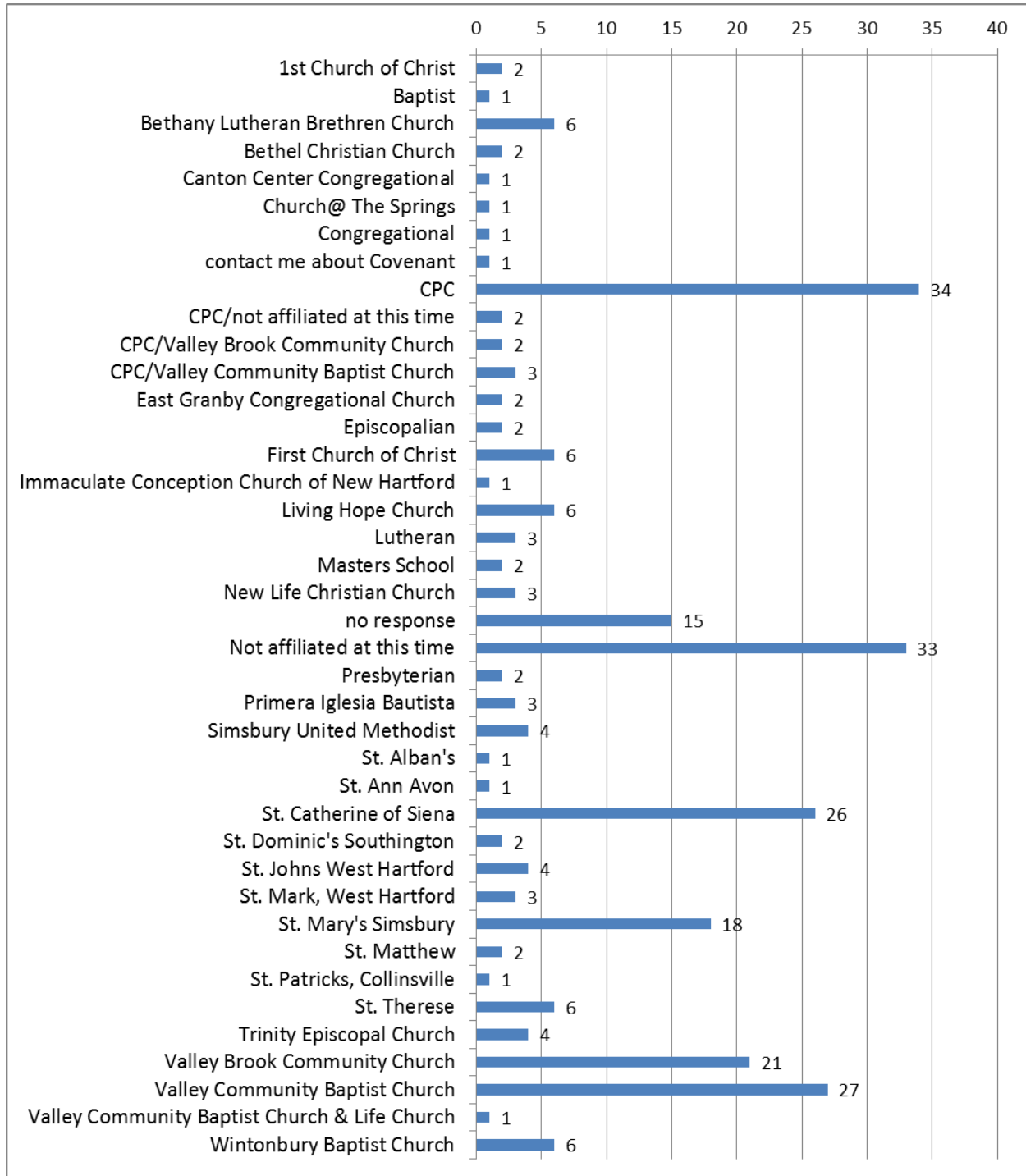


Figure D1. Congregations represented at Marketplace Day Camp. The bars show how many campers came from each church.

Campers also came from many surrounding towns. Figure D2 shows the distribution.

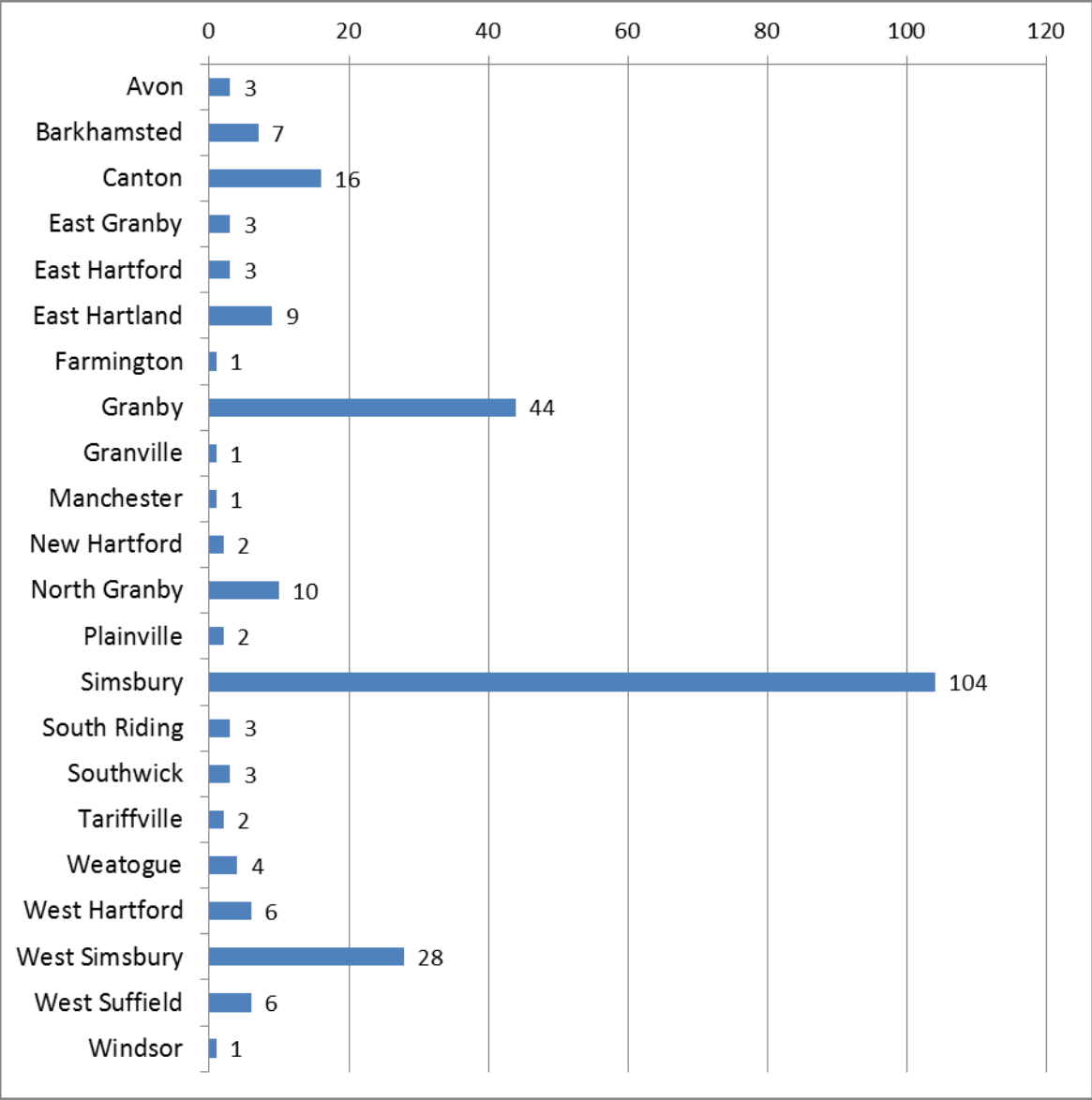


Figure D2. Towns represented at Marketplace Day Camp. The bars show how many campers came from each town.