



Join us at The Still Place...

**BE BOLD, GO GOLD**

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

At The Still Place we continue to learn more and more about the challenges of childhood cancer as we meet and play with some of the bravest heroes you can imagine. Once a child is diagnosed with cancer that family's whole world turns upside down and will never, ever be the same. Our hope at The Still Place is at the very least we can offer families sanctuary from the storm and as the years go by precious memories, hope and resilience to become not just heroes or survivors, but conquerors living a big, full life of love and adventure.



### Become Aware

Childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children.

1 in 258 children will be diagnosed with cancer before the age of 20.

1 in 5 will not survive.

Every day almost 700 cases of childhood cancer are diagnosed around the world.

Only 4% of the billions of dollars that are annually spent on cancer research and treatments are directed towards treating

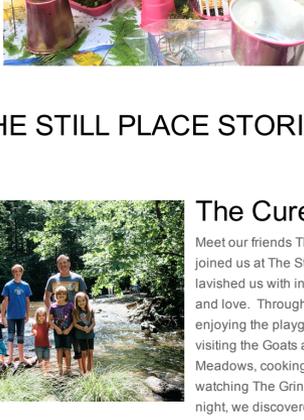
childhood cancer.

More than 95% of childhood cancer survivors will have a significant health related issue by the time they are 45 years old. These issues are side-effects of either cancer or more commonly the result of it's treatment.

For more information on childhood cancer visit [cancer.gov/type/childhoodcancer](http://cancer.gov/type/childhoodcancer) and [nationalpcf.org](http://nationalpcf.org).

**Join The Still Place Team today!**  
**Together we can gift these families with something more precious than GOLD...time together as a family!**

[Donate Now!](#)



### THE STILL PLACE STORIES



The Curell Family  
 (Photographed by Emilie Gates of Appalachian Wedding Photography)

### The Curell Family

Meet our friends The Curell family! They joined us at The Still Place in June and lavished us with infectious smiles, giggles and love. Through tubing at Fire's Creek, enjoying the playground at Lake Chatuge, visiting the Goats at High Mountain Meadows, cooking for Iron Chef, and watching The Grinch on Netflix for game night, we discovered that this amazing family is fighting the good fight. Josh and Amy Curell have been blessed with six amazing children; Asher, Amelia, Aubrey, Avery, Alison and Adam. Right in the middle of this family you will find Avery

who is battling Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL). The length of treatment is typically 2 to 3 years with a 90 percent remission rate. This brave little warrior is scheduled to complete her treatment in January 2020. The Curell family is a great example of how the whole family becomes the armor for a child fighting for their lives. Avery exudes a wisdom beyond her years, and the family shares love and joy with all they meet. It was a great pleasure to have The Curell's visit The Still Place.

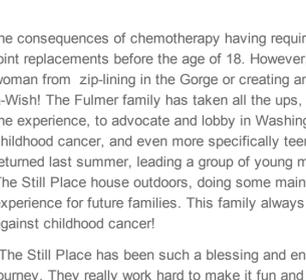
### The Welch Family

The Welch Family visited with us in May. This sweet family is more about what you give than what you get. Just one example of this can be seen in the time they spent in Equador serving the community together as a family. Their servant hearts are contagious! This family is also informed! From fruit, to marine biology, to "The Office" TV show and everything in between, they know about it. Craig and Celeste have four beautiful young daughters; Valerie, Natalie, Courtney and Brooke. The youngest daughter, Valerie, is fighting Astrocytoma, a type of brain tumor. After surgery at 10 months old, she is considered legally blind, but that doesn't stop her from anything! The Welch family has since added one special, four legged member to the family. Micky is Valerie's new friend and guide dog. Welcome to The Still Place family, Micky! One of their favorite activities at The Still Place was looking for heart shaped rocks, and they were able to find many! Their visit to The Still Place left us with full hearts and big smiles!



The Welch Family

"At home, we are always so busy- appointments to make, bills to pay, jobs, home business, homeschooling. Spending time at the Still Place was one of the rare opportunities our family has had to spend quality time together without having to about all of the things which keep us so busy at home." -Celeste Welch



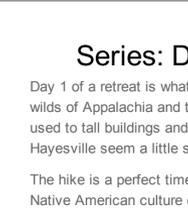
The Fulmer Family  
 (photographed by Maggi Secrest)

### The Fulmer Family

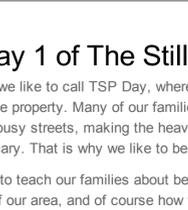
Meet our friends the Fulmer family! The Still Place was blessed to see this family again for their second visit in July. The Fulmer's love to share their stories! From their college classroom experiences to time spent climbing waterfalls, the stories never disappoint, and neither do the laughs that follow. Philip and Judy have four wonderful children; Julia, Aaron, Caleb, and Jonathan. Julia, who was in treatment for ALL from 2014-2016; she is now a cancer survivor! Julia now lives with

the consequences of chemotherapy having required multiple orthopedic procedures and joint replacements before the age of 18. However, that didn't stop this amazing young woman from zip-lining in the Gorge or creating an award-winning short film with her Make-a-Wish! The Fulmer family has taken all the ups, downs, and in between that come with the experience, to advocate and lobby in Washington, DC and South Carolina, for childhood cancer, and even more specifically teen cancer. Caleb, Julia's big brother returned last summer, leading a group of young men on a working mission trip, painting The Still Place house outdoors, doing some maintenance and giving back to enhance the experience for future families. This family always leaves us inspired to fight the good fight against childhood cancer!

"The Still Place has been such a blessing and encouragement as we travel through this journey. They really work hard to make it fun and memorable." -Julia Fulmer



Avery, the master Iron Chef preparing a delicious meal for family and volunteers



Valerie, the expert on heart shaped rocks teaching Kayla, our Program Director



Julia, showing off that sweet smile in her family photoshoot (photographed by Maggi Secrest)

### Series: Day 1 of The Still Place Retreat

Day 1 of a retreat is what we like to call TSP Day, where we acclimate the family to the wilds of Appalachia and the property. Many of our families come from cities where they're used to tall buildings and busy streets, making the heavy woods and dirt roads of Hayesville seem a little scary. That is why we like to begin the day with a fun hike!

The hike is a perfect time to teach our families about how to spot and poison ivy, the history and Native American culture of our area, and of course how to skip rocks on the underwater bridge. It's also the perfect time for Dr. Craig, The Still Place comedian, to share those infamous stories of his.

By the time we return from the hike, our amazing volunteers have a lunch feast waiting for us, and boy is it delicious! Especially when Mrs. Shirley makes her homemade mac and cheese! The good food, many laughs, and sweet stories make lunch the perfect time to establish those deep connections The Still Place is all about.

Next up, quiet time! At this point, we like to leave and give our families time to relax together, enjoy the calming sounds of Compass Creek, and be still.

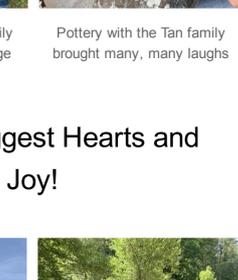
The final activity of the day is art. Thanks to Jeannine Mazza, our volunteer Art director and her squad of incredibly talented volunteers, we are able to do the coolest projects with our families! From felting to guided painting, and pottery to wooden race cars, they do it all, and the results are amazing. Our families are so talented! There is nothing like seeing a child's imagination come to life. That concludes Day 1 of a Still Place Retreat, but don't worry, the fun only gets better each day! To be continued next month...



Austin and his amazing straw painting masterpiece

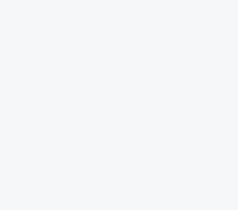
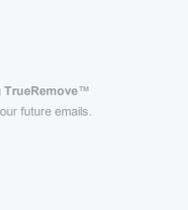
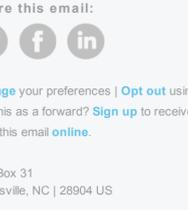


The beautiful Brooks family after their hike up the ridge



Pottery with the Tan family brought many, many laughs

**Our Volunteers have the Biggest Hearts and Sprinkle Serious Joy!**

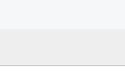


[Become a Volunteer!](#)

[Visit our website for more information](#)

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