

## **Machon 2012 Alternative Tefillot:**

Different movie clips were shown that mirrored some of the messages we find in specific prayers. For instance, A clip from Groundhog Day was shown for Modeh Ani, because each day Bill Murray essentially wakes up with a clean slate and strives to have that one perfect day, and every morning we wake up with a cleansed soul and have the opportunity to go to bed at night without and blemishes on it. Other clips: The Incredibles for Aleinu (being special).

Small pieces of prayer- the maamad handed out small slips of paper to campers as they entered the moadon with instructions of things to pop up and say at various points in the service. Instructions included: say something you are thankful for, worried about, something that inspires you, something beautiful in nature that you saw, etc. it was a small touch that really enhanced tefillot.

Makom Kadosh- campers were split into groups and went with counselors to their (counselors) own personal mekomot kedoshim in camp. Counselors shared the story of their own connection with the place and encouraged campers to share their own places. They discussed why mekomot kedoshim exist in Judaism when most rituals can happen anywhere and we believe that god is everywhere. Groups then davened an abbreviated service.

Cantor Gaston came and led a musical tefilah much like that which rami and I led with him during shavua Hachana. We placed emphasis on chant and repetition and invited campers to bring instruments o play along (we even had a trumpet!). We sat with the benches in a circle to keep the sound in the middle. Campers participated somewhat, a big feat for them.

Ami Margolis came and did a musical tefilah in the gagarena He had them hooked from the start with a high energy service with lots of singing and storytelling. It was by far the best tefilah of the summer!

Yoga- Gal led a yoga session on the tzad bet Agam based on birkot hashachar working with the theme of body awareness. Though there was much giggling, campers participated and enjoyed it. We then did an abbreviated tefilah looking out at the Agam.