



Camp Judson
398 Holliday Road
North Springfield, PA 16430
judson@campjudson.com
www.campjudson.com

PARENT HANDBOOK

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LETTER FROM KEVIN

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are excited that your child or teen will be joining us for summer camp here at Camp Judson!

There are lots of summer camp programs in our region, and we thank you for trusting us to provide your child/teen with a safe and fun camp experience filled with opportunities for personal and spiritual growth and for making friendships and memories that can last a lifetime.

We have put together this handbook to answer many of the most common questions that parents and campers have about camp.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact the camp office at judson@campjudson.com or (814) 922-3834.

We look forward to seeing you soon!



Kevin Saxton
Executive Director

QUICK REFERENCE

How to Contact Us:

Phone: (814) 922-3834
Fax: (814) 474-6016
E-Mail: judson@campjudson.com
Website: www.campjudson.com

Camper Mail/E-mail: Mail and e-mail that is received for campers is distributed once each day.

Mail should be sent to:
(Your Camper's Name – Cabin #)
c/o Camp Judson
398 Holliday Road
North Springfield, PA 16430

E-Mail should be sent to: campermail@campjudson.com
Include your camper's name and cabin number in the subject line.
Each day at noon, we print emails received for distribution.

Check-In time: 3-5 pm on the day that your camp overnight session begins.

Check-Out time: 4:45pm-6pm on the day that your camp session concludes – **please sign out your child from their counselor.**

Come a little early for our closing ceremony at 4:30 pm at the Pavilion to hear about your child's week!

Directions: from I-90

- Use Exit 6 and take PA 215 North.
- Cross US 20 and PA 5 and keep heading north on PA 215.
- After crossing the railroad tracks bear to your right on Holliday Road. (Peggy Gray's Candy Store will be on your left).
- Keep traveling on Holliday Road.
- Camp Judson is at the end of the road by the shores of Lake Erie.

CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT

Before Arriving at Camp

Please monitor your camper and your household for symptoms of illness in the days leading up to your arrival for your camp session. If your camper is not feeling well, please contact the office to either reschedule or request a refund.

Check-in begins at 3 PM and runs until 5:00 PM on the first day of your camp session.

Please note that check-in includes a temperature and symptom check for each camper and each individual that accompanies them to camp.

During check-in, you will leave any medications (except epipens, rescue inhalers, etc) with the Health Center staff and discuss any dietary restrictions with our Kitchen staff.

Luggage

Please leave your camper's luggage in your vehicle until after check in. During check-in, you will receive instructions on taking luggage to your camper's cabin.

Late Check-In

Please contact the camp office to make arrangements for check-in if you will arrive after 5 pm on the first day of camp.

Closing Ceremony and Check-Out

The final day of each overnight camp session concludes with a Closing Ceremony at 4:30 pm followed by check out between 4:45pm and 6 pm. **Please sign your child out from their counselor before leaving!**

Late Check-Out

We reserve the right to charge a fee for late check-outs because they result in staff having to supervise campers in what is their very limited off time, it may result in an additional fee.

Early Check-Out

If you need to pick your child/teen up early before the standard checkout time, please make arrangements in advance with the camp office so that your child/teen is prepared when you arrive to pick them up.

Refund Policy

If you need to cancel your registration:

At least 14 days before the start of your camp session, ½ of your deposit is refundable.

Less than 14 days before the start of your camp session, the deposit is not refundable.

After the camp session starts, the deposit and any additional camp fees paid are not refundable.

COVID Cancellation Policy

If at anytime prior to checking in for your camp session, you must cancel your registration because of COVID-19, you have three choices:

- Transfer your registration (and fees paid) at no cost to a future camp session (including Summer 2023)
- Receive a full refund
- Change your deposit and fees paid to a donation to Camp Judson.

CAMP STORE

The Camp Judson Store is open for each group of campers once each day. In addition to candy, snacks, and drinks, the store also offers a variety of Camp Judson branded apparel and merchandise.

Deposits

Campers can deposit funds into the camp store account through their online account or by making a deposit at the camp store during check in. Campers are not permitted to carry cash during the week.

Refunds

Any unspent funds in a camper's store account at the end of their camp session can either be refunded to them or donated to our scholarship fund.

Unused credits in a camper's store account are not refundable.

Camp Photos

Group pictures of each camp session are available for purchase in the camp store.

Online Store

Camp Judson branded apparel and merchandise is also available for purchase at www.campjudson.com

CAMPER CARE

Cabin Life

Each camper is assigned to a cabin group with at least two counselors and seven to eleven other campers.

Overnight campers who wish to request that a friend or sibling be in their cabin group, can request a friend by listing them on their registration form in the proper location. We do our best to honor these requests.

Activities

Junior and Junior High Campers have the opportunity to select some of their activities in advance during the registration process. Senior High Campers are able to select some of their activities on a daily basis.

Food

We offer a variety of foods in our hot food line at meal times. Additionally, a cereal and fruit bar is available for breakfast, and a salad bar is available at lunch and dinner.

If your camper requires a special diet, please note it on your health form. While we are able to accommodate a wide range of dietary restrictions, please note that because of the groups we serve, we are not able to guarantee that we are 100% free of any particular food item.

Medications

Campers with medications should note them when registering. Please bring enough medication to last for your camper's entire stay, and leave all medications with the camp nurse during check in. The camp nurse is responsible for administering medication. Please remember to pick up your camper's medication before leaving camp during check out.

Behavior

To ensure that all of our campers have a great experience, we ask that they each:

- Remember that camp is supposed to be fun and they bring a good attitude
- Try everything once
- Be willing to serve God and others before serving themselves
- Treat other campers, staff, themselves, and camp property with respect
- Act safely

When a camper's behavior is disruptive to other campers having a great time, and they are not willing to change their behavior, we reserve the right to send them home early at their parent's expense.

Cell phones, Visits, and Homesickness

The Christian Camp experience provides campers with a unique opportunity to unplug and engage with God in the midst of a community of fellow campers and our camp staff. In our experience, cell phones and the social media that often come with them are a distraction to campers to disengage from the world and home, and actually make campers more homesick.

As a result, we do not allow campers to use the telephone except in cases of extreme homesickness when we have spoken with their parent/guardian first to check to see that the parent/guardian feels it is in the best interest of their child/teen.

Visitors tend to have the same effect on campers, while they may be thrilled to see a parent during their camp week, seeing a parent usually causes homesickness to increase after they leave (or causes homesickness in other campers). As a result, while as a parent/guardian it is your

right to check on your child, we do discourage visiting campers during their camp session

That said, we are more than willing to accommodate parents who would like to check up on their child by talking to one of our staff members. You can do this by calling our office at (814) 922-3834. We realize that this can ease your anxiety as a parent, and we are happy to do it!

During check in, each camper will be asked to give their cell phone/electronics to their parent/guardian or to turn them into the camp office during their stay at camp.

Camp staff reserve the right to confiscate cell phones from campers who have them for safekeeping in the camp office until their camp session ends.

Mail/E-mail

Campers love to get mail! Mail is distributed to campers once a day during their time at the camp store.

Please send all mail addressed to:

(Your Camper's Name – Cabin #)
Camp Judson
398 Holliday Road
North Springfield, PA 16430

You can also drop off mail for the week in the camp office for distribution on the day(s) you designate on the outside of the envelope.

You can also e-mail your child at campermail@campjudson.com. Please be sure to include their name and cabin in the subject line. Each day at noon, we print the emails received for distribution to campers.

GETTING READY FOR CAMP

Please be aware that they will not be able to access a computer/cell phone to respond to e-mail they receive during their time at camp.

Please do not include distressing news or family problems in your letters/e-mails as these can be upsetting to your child/teen and disrupt their camp experience.

Social Media

Every day during a camp session, we post pictures and video on our social media accounts. Please feel free to share and tag photos of your child/teen.

The content that we post is intended to provide a snapshot of what is happening at camp. We are not staffed to provide a comprehensive photo diary of individual campers.

Please note that while some campers seek being photographed, others prefer to hide from the camera. If you don't see your child, please don't be concerned. 😊

Dress Code

At Camp Judson, we feel that appropriate dress is important to create an environment that is comfortable, safe, and not distracting to others.

Campers should wear clothing that is comfortable in an outdoor, active, summer environment where they may become dirty.

We require that:

- Campers not wear clothing that is immodest or revealing. Examples that are not permitted include, but are not limited to: tube or halter tops, or spaghetti straps, spandex shorts, shirts with plunging necklines, or immodest cutouts.
- Clothing worn should cover undergarments.
- Bathing suits should be modest and should not have immodest cutouts. For boys, speedo style suits are not permitted. For girls, two piece suits that cover the midriff may be worn.
- Clothing should not have anything printed on them that is obscene, suggestive, or vulgar or that denigrates others, or promotes the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
- Footwear must be worn at all times when outside unless in waterfront areas.
- Long shorts or pants and closed toed shoes are required at the climbing tower/zip line.

What to Pack

You should plan to bring the following items with you to camp:

- **Bedding** - Pillow, pillowcase, sleeping bag (or sheets), maybe a blanket
- **Clothing and Toiletries** - Underwear and socks for the whole camping period, jeans, sportswear, swimwear, sweatshirt or jacket, pajamas, rainwear, 2 pairs of shoes, towels and washcloth, shampoo, soap, comb/brush, toothpaste, and toothbrush.

See dress code above for guidelines on what clothes and footwear are necessary to pack.

- **Accessories** - Bible, notebook, pen/pencil, flashlight, stationery, hand sanitizer, sunscreen, mosquito repellent, and face masks.

Please remember when packing that clothes can and will get dirty as a result of camp activities.

What Not to Pack

A good rule of thumb is to leave at home anything you don't want to risk being lost or broken.

Additionally, please do not bring:

- Clothing that does not meet the dress code
 - Cell phones, iPods/mp3 players, CDs/DVDs, audio/video equipment, electronic games, or knives/weapons/fireworks.
- * Should a camper bring such items to camp, Camp Judson reserves the right to take possession of such items during the camping period, store them*

in a safe place, and return them to the camper at conclusion of their camping session.

- Food, as it attracts mice and insects into the cabins.
*** If you have special foods that you need to bring, please leave them with our Food Service Staff in the Mack Dining Hall, and make your counselor aware.*
- Alcohol and/or illicit drugs are not permitted.

Lost and Found

As campers regularly leave things behind all over camp, we are always collecting them!

As a parent, it is to your advantage to check in your camper's luggage before you leave camp.

All items not claimed at the conclusion of each camp session are collected and held for two weeks before they are donated to local charities.

If you discover your child/teen lost/left something at camp, please call us and we will take a look through our lost and found. Items that we are able to locate can be picked up at camp or mailed to you at your expense.

WHO WE ARE

Mission, Vision, Values

Camp Judson is a Christian Camp and Retreat Center with roots in the American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania and Delaware. Located on Lake Erie in North Springfield, PA, we offer a variety of camping and retreat programs throughout the year.

We exist to:

- Create opportunities for children, youth, and adults to experience the life changing love and power of Jesus and draw closer to Him
- Foster the development of lifelong healthy relationships and a biblical community of people united around Jesus
- Train and develop Christian leaders
- Support and encourage families and local church ministries

We are a member of the Christian Camp and Conference Association and are in agreement with their statement of faith:

- The Holy Scriptures as originally given by God, divinely inspired, infallible, entirely trustworthy and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct
- The Triune God- Father, Son, Holy Spirit
- The deity of Lord Jesus Christ, His substitutionary atonement for sin, His bodily resurrection and His personal, visible return to Earth to reign in righteousness and glory

- The person of the Holy Spirit and His work of conviction, regeneration and sanctification, who indwells every believer equipping them with gifts for service and witness
- The necessity of new birth, in salvation by Faith in Jesus Christ alone and the importance of a life fully committed to the will of God in Christ
- The Church as the one universal body of Christ who is the head, called to be the God's redeemed people

The philosophy of ministry that drives our summer camp program:

- A biblically based Christ-centered focus
- Modeling and fostering the growth of healthy relationships
- Making campers, parents, staff, and volunteers feel loved and valued while helping them to discover God's purpose for their lives
- Positive experiences and opportunities for growth and leadership development
- Connecting campers, parents, staff, and volunteers with God's creation

The following values guide our planning, decision-making for, and operation of our summer camp program:

- Community: seeking to live in relationship with others by loving them as Jesus loves them.
- Modeling: seeking to be examples for others of what it looks like to follow Jesus
- Servanthood: rather than looking to our own interests, we seek to follow the example of Jesus.
- Hospitality: seeking to make our campers and guests feel welcome and cared for
- Stewardship: taking care of what God has entrusted to us.
- Courage: willingness to step out in faith
- Creativity: willingness to think outside the box
- Integrity: living lives of honesty and faithfulness to Jesus in everything that we do.

MISCELLANEOUS

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