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WELCOME GUIDE

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Camp Judson

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WELCOME GUIDE

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WHO WE ARE

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WHO WE ARE

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

WHAT WE DO

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

Our Statement of Faith is:

- 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

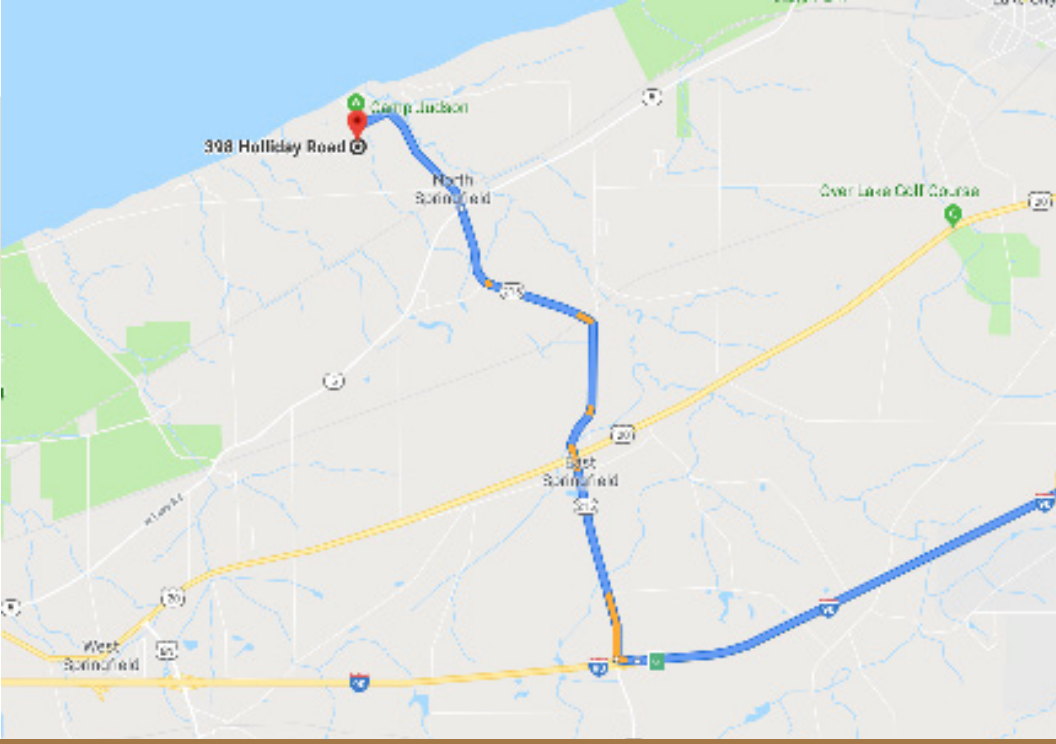
WHY WE DO

The philosophy of ministry that drives our camping and retreat programs is:

- 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, and operation:

- **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



WHERE WE ARE

Address:

Camp Judson
398 Holliday Road
North Springfield, PA 16430

Directions

From I-90:

Use Exit 6 and take PA 215 North.

Cross US 20, and keep heading north on PA 215.

Cross PA 5.

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.

02

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

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OUR CAMPERS

- Are both boys and girls ranging in age from Kindergarten through High School
- Come from urban areas, suburbs, small towns, and rural communities throughout Northwestern Pennsylvania, with the majority being from Erie, Crawford, and Mercer Counties.
- Come from a variety of economic, racial, and ethnic backgrounds. A significant portion of our campers receive scholarship assistance from our Every Kid to Camp scholarship fund.
- Represent a wide range of religious backgrounds including: Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Catholic, Non-Denominational, and those with no church affiliation.

CAMP SESSIONS

DAY CAMPS

Day Camps are for kids in Kindergarten through 4th grade and run from Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm each day. Day Camps offer kids a beginner camping experience without spending the night away from home.

MINI CAMPS

Mini Camps are half week camp sessions for kids in 2nd and 3rd grade. Mini Camp offers campers a beginner overnight camping experience with a variety of camp activities.

JUNIOR CAMPS

Junior Camps come in both 1 week and half week overnight sessions and are for kids in 4th, 5th, and 6th grade. Junior campers get to choose some of their activities.

JUNIOR SPECIALTY CAMPS

These camps offer campers in 4th to 6th grades specialized activities in Backwoods Camping (Trailblazers) along with traditional camp activities.

JUNIOR HIGH CAMPS

Junior High Camps are for kids in 7th and 8th grades and are week long overnight camps that offer more activity choices than younger campers receive.

SENIOR HIGH CAMPS

Senior High Camp is a week-long overnight camp for kids in 9th to 12th grades and offer campers the chance to customize their schedule on a daily basis.

ELITE

Short for Emerging Leaders in Training Experience, ELITE is for high school age campers and is designed to develop leadership skills and provide opportunities to put those skills into practice. The program consists of a three day camp training experience, one or more weeks volunteering as a counselor or support staff member, and getting involved in a service opportunity at home.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Seeking to help campers to encounter Jesus and grow in relationship to Him is at the heart of what we do. While we offer many different activities, the purpose of those activities is to engage and connect with campers so that we can also engage and connect with them spiritually.

All our camps have daily Bible Studies, our overnight camps have nightly Vesper Services (with singing and Bible teaching) as well as Cabin Devotions.

Speakers present the Biblical lesson/message at each Bible Study and Vesper Service (with summer staff leading worship and singing) while counselors lead Cabin Devotions in their cabin.

We want to be intentional about helping campers learn about prayer and reading the Bible, so that they can develop and continue these spiritual habits in their lives after they leave camp. We want to help campers to learn not just how to do these things, but also why we do them.

Some ways we seek to do this are:

- Talking about why we pray before meals and at other times of the day
- Inviting campers to pray for meals and at other times of the day
- Including at least one Bible verse in every Bible Study, Vesper Service, and Cabin Devotions
- Having campers open their Bibles during each Bible Study and Cabin Devotions and inviting them to read from their Bible
- By using a Bible in book form rather than electronic form

SCHEDULE

Our summer schedule consists of two weeks of Staff Training and seven weeks of Summer Camp sessions. Each camp session starts on Sunday.

Each session begins with a staff meeting in the Dining Hall at 2 PM. Staff are required to have a health check each week prior to staff meeting at 1 pm.

Camper check in is between 3 pm and 5 pm. The rest of check in day consists of Dinner, Get-to-Know-You Games, swimming, snack and Vespers.

The daily camp schedule varies somewhat with the age of the campers, but generally looks something like this:

8:00 - breakfast	Campers and staff share tables in the Mack Dining Hall and eat meals together
9:00 - cabin cleanup/ staff meeting	Junior counselors meet at their cabins to help tidy up, and senior counselors meet in the Mack Dining Hall to discuss the days schedule
9:30 - elective 1	Campers choose their activities when they register/check-in. Counselors and activity staff are assigned to lead electives or take scheduled time off.
10:30 - elective 2	
11:30 - elective 3	
12:30 - lunch	Campers and staff share tables in the Mack Dining Hall and eat meals together
1:30 - elective 4	

2:30 -	afternoon activity/ swimming	Campers and counselors participate in large group games and a large group swim time
3:30 -	swimming/ afternoon activity	
4:30 -	rest time	Campers and counselors have one hour every day that they spend relaxing in their cabin
5:30 -	dinner	Campers and staff share tables in the Mack Dining Hall and eat meals together
6:30 -	store time	Campers visit the Camp Store each day to purchase snacks and treats.
7:00 -	evening activity	Campers and staff participate in a large group activity
8:15 -	snack	Campers have an snack every evening before vespers
8:30 -	vespers	Campers and staff participate in a campfire worship service consisting of singing and a Bible lesson/message/testimony
9:30 -	cabin devotions	Counselors lead campers in a brief Bible lesson and prayer before lights out
10:00 -	lights out	

At the end of the week, campers check out and staff complete a variety of tasks to get camp ready for the next session. Staff have a staff meeting before being dismissed for their time off.

ELECTIVES
& ACTIVITIES

In addition to camp elective activities, each camp session also includes program elements such as:

- Games (like Capture the Flag, Ultimate Frisbee, Kickball, etc)
- Other Activities (like Service Projects, Talent Shows, Musical Productions, etc)
- Theme Dinners (like Superhero Night, Monk Lunch, Twin Dinner, Wacky Wednesday, etc.)

ACTIVITIES	GRADE 2-3	GRADE 4-6	GRADE 7-8	GRADE 9-12
Bible study	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
evening vespers	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
archery		🔵	🔵	🔵
canoeing	🟢	🔵	🔵	🔵
climbing	🟢	🔵	🔵	🔵
crafts	🟢	🔵	🔵	🔵
STEM		🔵	🔵	🔵
fishing	🟢	🔵	🔵	🔵
hobby farm	🟢	🔵	🔵	🔵
jet ski		🔵	🔵	🔵
kayaking		🔵	🔵	🔵
low ropes		🔵	🔵	🔵
nature discovery	🟢	🔵	🔵	🔵
outdoor games	🟢	🟢	🟢	🔵
paddleboarding		🔵	🔵	🔵
sailing			🔵	🔵
swimming	🟢	🟢	🟢	🔵
zip line			🔵	🔵

🟢 indicates that there will be dedicated time for the marked activity

🔵 indicates that a camper or a camper's cabin may elect to participate in the activity

CAMP RULES

AND HOW TO REMEBER THEM

In an effort to help campers (and staff) easily remember rules and help them to figure out what the rule should be when they aren't sure, we have adopted five basic rules to serve not just as rules. Each rule is assigned a finger to assist in remembering:

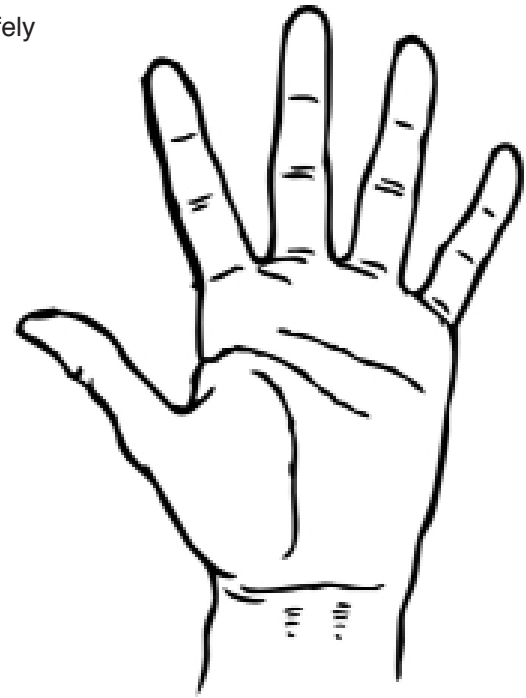
Thumb Remember that camp is supposed to be fun and they bring a good attitude

Index Try everything once

Third Be willing to serve God and others before serving themselves

Ring Treat other campers, staff, yourself, and camp property with respect

Pinky Act safely



03

BEING A STAFFER

OUR TEAM

Kevin Saxton

Executive Director

Kevin is responsible for all of the operation of Camp Judson.

Ruth Pocock

Director of Programming

Ruth oversees our camping and retreat programming.

Tim Fenton

Director of Maintenance and Grounds

Tim oversees the care of our facilities and grounds.

Julia Bird

Guest Services/Office Manager

Julie runs our office, handling registrations and rentals, processing donations, recording employee paperwork, and answering the phone.

PAPERWORK

Prior to starting work, you MUST have turned in all your employment paperwork. This includes:

- Employment Contract
- W4
- I-9 (with photocopies of your forms of required identification)
- Local Tax Form
- Signed copy of personnel policies
- Affidavit
- Health Form

Additionally, as an employee of an organization that works with minors in Pennsylvania, we are required to have on file for you the following clearances that are less than 60 months old:

- PA State Police Criminal Record Check
- PA Childline Child Abuse Clearance
- FBI Fingerprint Criminal Record Check

If you have questions about paperwork or clearances, **DON'T WAIT**, contact the camp office immediately!

LIVING QUARTERS

Counselors live in cabins with their campers. While cabins vary in location and layout, all cabins have electricity and bathrooms with hot water.

Non-Counseling Staff share a room with 1-3 other staff (depending on the room) in Shreve Lodge or Cabin 4 with shared bathrooms. Both buildings have electricity and hot water.

Because living quarters are shared, staff are not permitted to keep medications (aside from fast acting inhalers, insulin, and epipens) in their quarters, and instead must be left with and administered by the camp nurse.

WHAT TO BRING

Bedding – Pillow, pillowcase, sleeping bag (or sheets), maybe a blanket

Clothing – Weather at camp during the summer ranges from daily highs between 60 and 90 degrees during the day, and daily lows from the upper 40s to the 70s at night.

In packing, bring clothes and footwear appropriate for the weather, your job assignment, and that are in keeping with the following dress code:

We require that:

- Clothing not be immodest or revealing. Examples that are not permitted include, but are not limited to: tube tops, halter tops, spandex shorts, shirts with plunging necklines, or immodest cutouts.
- Clothing worn should cover undergarments.
- Tank tops need to have straps that are at least 1” in width, and not have sagging armpits.
- 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. Closed toed shoes must be worn at the climbing tower.

Appropriate dress is important to create an environment that is comfortable, safe, and not distracting to others.

Don’t forget to pack things like a bathing suit, boots, jacket, boots, hat, or sunglasses!

Toiletries – Soap, shampoo, towels, washcloth, brush, comb, and other bathroom accessories

Miscellaneous – Bible, notebook, pen/pencil, flashlight, alarm clock, watch, an umbrella, backpack, whistle, laundry basket, laundry detergent, sunscreen, bug spray, and costume clothing (for special events and theme meals).

MORE PACKING TIPS

- Laundry facilities are available at camp for staff use.
- Please remember when packing that clothes can and will get dirty as a result of camp activities. No staff space is completely secure and Camp Judson is not responsible for anything lost or damaged.
- You should not bring anything that you are concerned about being lost or stolen. If you must bring something of value to camp, you may request that the Managing Director place it in secured storage in the camp office.
- Also please remember that you are not permitted to carry or use your cell phone, tablet, laptop, etc in areas where campers are present, and that they should only be used in your time off (unless the Managing Director gives permission for a work related use).
- So don't forget to bring an alarm clock and a watch, if you are used to using your cell phone as those items.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

As a summer staff member, your own spiritual growth is important to us.

To facilitate your growth, we require that you attend a worship service each weekend. Additionally, when camp is in session we have mandatory weekly devotions for staff.

We strongly encourage that you develop and maintain a daily practice of spending time in prayer and reading your Bible each day while at camp.

UNPLUGGED

LEAVING THE WORLD BEHIND

Connections Are Made When We Disconnect

One of the things that makes camp a unique place is the community that develops when we step away from the world and engage with God and with one another without the distractions of the outside world.

To facilitate this, except for work related uses (which must be approved by the Executive Director), staff are not permitted to possess or use technology like cell phones, tablets, laptops, or handheld gaming systems in areas where campers are present. Unless use is required to perform work duties, these items are only to be used during time off.

This means that your phone should not be your alarm clock or watch, and you should bring those items with you to camp.

Additionally during Staff Training, our staff participate in a technology fast. This means forsaking social media, video streaming, etc. in favor of spending time connecting and engaging with people face to face rather than virtually through electronic devices.

04

APPENDIX

glossary

shiney miney

GLOSSARY

Shiney Miney	The name of the Camp Judson Anthem
Vesper Service	The evening campfire worship service consisting of singing and a Bible lesson/ message/testimony

SHINEY MINEY

THE CAMP JUDSON ANTHEM

Shiney miney, einey miney, eye-schnick-noo, kwi-kweye-a, kwui-kweya-a

Shiney miney, einey miney, eye-schnick-noo, kwi-kweye-a, kwui-kweye-a

O nick-o-dame-o, O shiney-miney oompah,

O nick-o-dame-o, O shiney-miney oompah, oompah, oompah, oompah

Kill-ee, kill-ee, kill-ee, kill-ee, wash wash key-a, key-a, ki-a,

Kill-ee, kill-ee, kill-ee, kill-ee, wash wash key-a, key-a, ki-a,

Hail to Camp Judson!

To thee, our hearts will e'er be true!

Hail to Camp Judson!

To thee, our hearts will e'er be true, will e'er be true, will e'er be true!

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