



# 2023 SUMMER CAMP

PARENT GUIDE



## WELCOME TO SUMMER CAMP

We want to start off by saying... THANK YOU!

Thank you for trusting us with your student. We want you to know that we take this very seriously. One of our values as a student ministry is to “partner with parents to help you win at what matters.”

We know it can be daunting to send them to camp with hundreds of people, so we want to walk you through what to expect.

This booklet is your complete guide to how to prepare for Summer Camp. From the morning students leave until the time they get back, we want you to understand what they will experience and help you get them ready for the best week of their lives.

If you have any additional questions, please email us at [summercamp@seacoast.org](mailto:summercamp@seacoast.org).

## WHY WE DO SUMMER CAMP

Why the time, why the resources?

Our desire is to provide a SAFE environment that we can CONNECT students to JESUS and EACH OTHER.

We believe that one of the best ways to do that is through an environment like camp with a few undistracted days that they can spend time with Jesus and each other.

The impact that this week can have on the life of a student may be equal to over a year of perfect attendance at weekly youth services.

Thank you again and we are praying for not only your child but for you as well.

We can't wait to see what God does this week in your student's life.

## BEFORE YOU ARRIVE AT CHECK-IN

### check out the packing list.

- Make sure your student isn't packing too much. We have provided a packing list in this booklet to help them prepare.
- Note: Your student will be carrying their own bag off the bus and into their rooms. Make sure they can carry all of their bags.
- You will also want to make sure that no items on the DO NOT PACK list do not make their way into your students luggage, their personal belongs, or on their person.

### find your departure information.

- On page 7 of this packet you will find departure information for each campus/church. Please make sure you review this ahead of time so you can be at the right place at the right time.

### paperwork.

You have already filled out everything for camp so you do not need to bring anything additional to check-in.

### no cell phones.

We know it can be uncomfortable to feel disconnected from your student. But over the past several years, we have seen so much benefit from removing the distractions that come from texting, social media, etc.

And don't worry—you can reach them if you need to. In case of an emergency, please use the **emergency camp phone number provided in the stay connected section on page 3**. If your student needs to reach you, they can use the phone at the camp office or ask their room leader.

## STAY CONNECTED

You will want to stay connected to what is happening at camp.

### know the emergency number.

**(843) 284-6188**

If you ever need to reach us at camp, please use the camp emergency phone number. It will ring several of the camp staff's phones. You can also reach us via email at [summercamp@seacoast.org](mailto:summercamp@seacoast.org).

### follow us on social media.

Be sure to follow Custom Students on social media. We will be updating throughout camp with lots of photos and videos.

Instagram: @customstudents

### sign up for text updates.

This is how you will know when your student arrived safely at camp and when they are expected to arrive at home. Be sure to sign up for your campus/church text.

#### seacoast campus text numbers.

##### ASHEVILLE + GREENVILLE

**HS Camp:** Text **hsupstate23** to **(864) 400-7341**

**MS Camp:** Text **msupstate23** to **(864) 400-7341**

##### COLUMBIA, IRMO + MANNING

**HS Camp:** Text **hsmidlands23** to **(803) 590-8871**

**MS Camp:** Text **msmidlands22** to **(803) 590-8871**

##### CONWAY, MCCLELLANVILLE

##### MOUNT PLEASANT

**HS Camp:** Text **hsmtp23** to **(843) 606-5134**

**MS Camp:** Text **msmtp23** to **(843) 606-5134**

##### SUMMERVILLE

**HS Camp:** Text **hssvl23** to **(843) 594-4719**

**MS Camp:** Text **mssvl23** to **(843) 594-4719**

##### JOHNS ISLAND, NORTH CHARLESTON + WEST ASHLEY

**HS Camp:** Text **hswst23** to **(843) 203-8779**

**MS Camp:** Text **mswst23** to **(843) 203-8779**

#### other church text numbers.

##### FREEDOM CHURCH

**HS Camp:** Text **@fyhigh23** to **81010**

**MS Camp:** Text **@fymiddle23** to **81010**

##### KINGS CROSS

**HS Camp:** Text **hsmtp23** to **(843) 606-5134**

**MS Camp:** Text **msmtp23** to **(843) 606-5134**

##### NORTHWOOD CHURCH

If you are registered with Northwood, you have been added to their texting group.

## AT CHECK-IN

Camp is about to start! There will be a lot going on, but here are a few things to keep in mind as you arrive at your departure location.

### arrive on time.

It may seem simple, but it is key to starting the week well. Make sure to arrive at your assigned check-in time so that we can depart on time.

### turn in your medications.

There will be a designated spot at check-in to turn in any medications. **All medications must come in the original bottles with the prescription attached.**

At medication check-in, we will go over the information you entered on your registration form to make sure everything is still accurate. You will place the medications in one of our ziploc bags and affix a supplied label to the bag.

Medications are given at camp at four designated times during the day: breakfast, lunch, dinner and bedtime.

Additional details about medications will be emailed prior to camp.

### searching bags.

A big part of ensuring every student is safe is making sure they don't bring stuff on the DO NOT PACK list. When you check in your student for camp, we will be having you search their bags. Because there are some students who like to bend and break the rules we need you take ownership in searching their bags so your child is not that student. On occasion, it may be necessary for us to search bags while your students are at camp. We need you to help ensure the safety of every student at camp.

### don't forget lunch.

Dinner will be provided at camp, but we won't be stopping along the way for lunch. Make sure your student eats lunch prior to arrival or brings a bagged lunch. If you arrive to check-in prior to noon.

## ARRIVAL AT CAMP + ROOMS

Students will find out their leader and their room on the way to camp. They be staying in cabins. Each cabin has a large common space and six bedrooms. There is one leader bedroom and five student bedrooms. The student rooms all sleep four students per room and they will be sleeping in twin bunk beds. Each bedroom has a private bathroom. Make sure to review the packing list on page 8 to see everything your student needs to bring or NOT bring. The volunteer-to-student ratio is 1 to 10. These are trained volunteers who have all been background checked. No leader will be sleeping in the same room as a student. No students will be sharing beds.

Once **ALL** students have arrived at camp, we will send out a text to let you know. Please make sure you have signed up for our texting service. Please be aware that while our goal is that everyone arrives at camp within a short window, we cannot control traffic and we will wait to send out a text from the main text line until all campuses and churches have arrived.

## THE RULES

We like to keep the rules simple.

- Respect the people, respect the place. This includes not being outside after lights out.
- Be on time for all services and activities.
- No romantic displays of affection.

### how do we address discipline issues.

We have a three-strike rule.

- **STRIKE 1:** The Room Leader will address it.
- **STRIKE 2:** The Youth Pastor will address it.
- **STRIKE 3:** Our Care Team will address it with their Youth Pastor. If it reaches this level, you will most likely have to come pick up your child.

## MEALS

We promise to provide good food for your students. However, there are a few things we would suggest:

### let us know about any food allergies.

You should have already filled this out on your students registration form. If you didn't, please email us at [summercamp@seacoast.org](mailto:summercamp@seacoast.org). We need to know this prior to departure for camp. We are able to accommodate most food allergies.

In the case of severe allergies where the camp does not feel they can accommodate your child, our camp director will reach out to you about food arrangements for your student.

### snacks are a good idea.

There is plenty of food at mealtimes, but one thing we know about students is they can eat. A lot. Sending your students with snacks or cash to buy snacks is a great plan. If you do send snacks, please send them in a resealable bag so we can avoid ants in the rooms. Make sure they are **peanut free** and pre-packaged items are best.

## SESSIONS

Every day will have a morning & evening session. Our sessions are an incredible part of camp where we get to worship, see God break down walls in the hearts of our students, and experience some incredible speakers. Each year, we see God do incredible things during these sessions.

## CAMPUS GROUP + SMALL GROUPS

Each day your student will have the chance to meet in both a campus group and a small group.

### why do we have these groups?

- They help reinforce the importance of not doing life alone.
- They are an opportunity for their leaders and their peers to minister to each other and to talk through what they have been experiencing in our sessions.

## HEART FOR PROJECT

Heart For is a heart for the hurting and those who have never heard. It is a student ministry-initiated project that provides much needed supplies, resources and ministry opportunities to missionary partners and communities across the world. The concept is simple: we give so that others can have. Students and youth leaders take on the responsibility to raise funds to make a difference in the church, community, and the world. If our missionaries are going to get to where the lost live, it will be because of the sacrifice and generosity of this generation.

This year we are going to focus on missionaries getting out to reach the lost, to share the Gospel, and to make disciples. We are partnering with Pioneers Togo once again to focus on raising funds that will help in one of three ways. First, we will partner to purchase motorcycles for missionaries so they can travel the region they are in to begin to work on planning churches, discipling, and doing ministry. Second, we will partner to plant new churches and build church buildings to reach more villages in Togo. Third, we will partner to build homes for missionaries and their families so they can live right in the village where churches are being planted and serve the people every day. Starting in 2023, we are going to change the landscape of Togo by helping invest with our mission partner to see more churches built, more ministry accomplished, and more people choosing to follow Jesus! We would love for students to bring money to camp to donate towards the heart for project.

## HOUSE WARS

Your student will be assigned to one of six "houses" for all of our rec activities. Each House will be competing against each other to win the ultimate title of Camp Champ. You will receive your student's House assignment via email prior to camp. Students love to rep their House and each House is a different color, so once you receive their assignment make sure they pack spirit wear for their House. We will email your student's assignment out a few days before camp.

## FREE TIME

Free Time is a great time for your student to just have fun. From the two pools, canoe races, and mini golf, to tons of games, our free time is completely geared towards having fun. Don't worry, your students are not alone. We have leaders and camp staff stationed all over camp during Free Time to help ensure the safety of your students. Additionally, the pools have lifeguards.

## LATE NIGHTS

Each night after evening session and small groups, we like to end the night with a little more fun. From luaus, to games nights, to theme parties our fun force is ready to provide tons of fun for your student.

We have a few theme parties this year. Dressing up is not required but is definitely a lot of fun.

### high school theme nights.

- **HANGING WITH MY GNOMIES:** Hey there, Gnome enthusiasts! Get ready to rock those red hats and white beards at our Block Party - Hanging with my Gnomies! It's time to embrace your inner gnome and dress up as one of these adorable creatures. So gather your gnome squad and get ready to show off your best gnome impersonation. Will the guys or the gals be the better-looking army of gnomes? Let's find out!
- **NIGHT AT THE NURSING HOME:** We're calling on you Gen Z to come dressed up like your elderly boomer selves and get ready to party like you're living your best life right before turning 100. We're talking about floral mumus, plaid pants, suspenders, white Keds, and any other classic fashion staples straight from the grandparent's closet.

### middle school theme nights.

- **UNDER THE SEA:** Come dressed to impress in your best sea-themed outfits. Are you a singing mermaid or a salty pirate ready to plunder some fun? Maybe you're a fisherman ready to reel in a big catch or just a beach bum looking to catch some waves. So put on your best Hawaiian shirts and skirts, fins and scales, and let's make some waves.

- **NEON NIGHT:** Grab your brightest highlighter yellow, hot pink, electric blue, and any other neon color you can find. The goal is to be so bright that you can light up the entire block. And don't forget to accessorize with glow-in-the-dark bracelets and necklaces to complete the look.
- **NIGHT AT THE NURSING HOME:** We're calling on you Alpha Generation to come dressed up like your elderly boomer selves and get ready to party like you're living your best life right before turning 100. We're talking about floral mumus, plaid pants, suspenders, white Keds, and any other classic fashion staples straight from the grandparent's closet.

## LEADER APPRECIATION

We love our leaders! Without them, camp isn't possible and they have all taken time off of work to be with your students this week. So, we want to celebrate them well. If you want to send something with your student to say thank you, the leaders would love it. And don't worry, we have some fun things planned as well.

## SAFETY + MEDICAL CARE

We take safety and medical care seriously at camp. We have both a security team and nursing team ready to help your students. Our security teams helps ensure all of our students are following the rules and are where they are supposed to be. Our nursing team is ready to take care of your students in case they get injured or sick.

## HEADING HOME

On the last day of camp, we will load the buses and head home. A box lunch will be provided for your students. We will keep you updated via your campus/church text messages about when to pick up your student.

### don't forget.

Once you get your student, make sure you pick up all of their luggage and any medications you sent to camp.

## DEPARTURE LOCATION + SCHEDULE

### high school dates.

DEPARTING: Saturday, July 22

RETURNING: Wednesday, July 26

### middle school dates.

DEPARTING: Thursday, July 27

RETURNING: Sunday, July 30

### DEPARTING FROM FREEDOM CHURCH

#### FREEDOM CHURCH

CHECK-IN: 9:30 - 10:45AM

DEPARTURE: 11:15 AM

LOCATION: Freedom Church | 1425 Cypress Gardens Road | Moncks Corner, SC 29461

### DEPARTING FROM ASHEVILLE, NC

#### ASHEVILLE CAMPUS

CHECK-IN: 10:00 - 10:30AM

DEPARTURE: 11:00 AM

LOCATION: Asheville Campus | 123 Sweeten Creek Road | Asheville, NC 28803

### DEPARTING FROM GREENVILLE, SC

#### GREENVILLE CAMPUS

CHECK-IN: 11:30AM - 12:15PM

DEPARTURE: 12:45 PM

LOCATION: Greenville Campus Offices | 33 Mall Connector Road | Greenville, SC 29607

### DEPARTING FROM IRMO, SC

#### COLUMBIA, IRMO + MANNING CAMPUSES

CHECK-IN: 11:30AM - 12:30PM

DEPARTURE: 1:00 PM

LOCATION: Irmo Campus | 411 Western Lane | Irmo, SC 29063

### DEPARTING FROM MOUNT PLEASANT, SC

#### CONWAY, MCCLELLANVILLE, MOUNT PLEASANT CAMPUSES + KINGS CROSS

CHECK-IN: 8:00 - 10:00AM

DEPARTURE: 10:45 AM

LOCATION: Mount Pleasant Campus | 750 Long Point Road | Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

### DEPARTING FROM SUMMERVILLE, SC

#### SUMMERVILLE CAMPUS + NORTHWOOD CHURCH

CHECK-IN: 9:00-10:45 AM

DEPARTURE: 11:15 AM

LOCATION: Summerville Campus | 301 E 5th North Street | Summerville, SC 29483

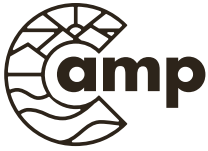
### DEPARTING FROM WEST ASHLEY, SC

#### JOHNS ISLAND, NORTH CHARLESTON + WEST ASHLEY CAMPUSES

CHECK-IN: 9:00 - 10:15AM

DEPARTURE: 10:45 AM

LOCATION: West Ashley Campus | 2049 Savannah Hwy | Charleston, SC 29407



## 2023 PACKING LIST

### TO PACK

- Clothing & shoes for 4-5 days of activities [modest clothing, please no crop tops or cheeky shorts, and be sure to pack stuff to rep your team and for the late night parties]
- Pajamas/clothes to sleep in
- Clothes that can get wet [for House Wars activities]
- Sneakers that can get wet [for House Wars Activities]
- Bathing suit [one piece or tankini that covers the entire mid-drift for girls]
- Flip Flops
- Large plastic bag for dirty clothes
- **Blanket** [sheets and pillow are provided; but you won't want forget this as they are not provided this year]
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Soap & Shampoo
- Shower Towel
- Beach Towel
- Bible [please have name in Bible so we can return it if it should get lost]
- Notebook & pen
- Sunscreen
- Bug Spray
- Water Bottle [please have name on water bottle so we can return it if it should get lost]
- Flashlight
- Watch
- Raincoat
- Medications [Medication must be brought in its original bottles or we will not be able to give it to your child. Bags will be available at dropoff to put the medication bottle in and label with your child's information.]
- Lunch for Travel to Camp
- **OPTIONAL:** Snacks [must be nut-free and pre-packaged or resealable] OR money for snacks [all meals are provided]
- **OPTIONAL:** Spending money for Summer Camp merchandise, snacks and our heart for project [smaller bills please]

**YOUR STUDENT  
NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO  
CARRY ALL OF THEIR  
BELONGINGS BY  
THEMSELVES IN ONE  
TRIP SO PLEASE PACK  
ACCORDINGLY.**

### DO NOT BRING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

- Electronics or mp3 players [this includes iphones, androids, ipads, etc]
- Cell phones
- Firearms, explosives, knives or other sharp objects
- Illegal drugs, alcohol or cigarettes [this includes e-cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, vapes, juuls, etc]

*\*Please note all bags will be searched by the person dropping them off in the presence of our check-in teams. Please look through your child's bag prior to bringing it to drop-off.*