

SANDALS CHURCH

SUMMER CAMP

PARENT PACKET



SUMMER CAMP

At Summer Camp, our mission is to create an environment where students can deepen their relationship with the Lord through discipleship, Bible study, and genuine connections with others. We believe camp is more than just a fun experience—it's an opportunity for life transformation. We're so excited that your camper has the opportunity to join us this summer! To help you feel confident and prepared, we've gathered all the essential information you'll need before camp begins. Whether this is your camper's first year or their tenth, please read through everything carefully—each detail is important in helping ensure your camper has the best experience possible.

Emergency Contact Information:

Forest Home

 40000 Valley of the Falls Drive, Forest Falls, CA 92339
 (909) 389-2300  www.foresthomes.org

Sandals Church Summer Camp Staff

 150 Palmyrita Ave, Riverside, CA 92507
 (951) 637-8800  sandalschurch.com/camp
 camp@sandalschurch.com

(*Email is the preferred method of contact. Responses are typically provided within 24 hours.)

Camp Rules & Expectations:

Camp rules are in place to ensure a safe, fun, and positive experience for everyone—they are not just suggestions. All campers are expected to follow these guidelines at all times. Please note that serious violations of camp rules may result in a camper being sent home early without a refund.

1. Attend All Scheduled Activities - You are required to attend all meals, gatherings, games, and scheduled events – no exceptions.
2. Stay in Your Cabin/Yurt After Lights Out - When the lights go out, you don't. Remain inside your assigned sleeping area.
3. Guns, knives, bow & arrows, fireworks, or any other weapon of any kind is strictly forbidden.
 - Possession of anything on the "What Not to Bring" section of the Packing List will not be tolerated, and will result in immediate dismissal from camp.
4. Absolutely no girls are allowed in boy's cabins and no boys are allowed in girls' cabins no exceptions.
 - Breaking this rule will result in immediate dismissal from camp.
5. Treat every counselor/staff member/campers with respect.

Pick-Up & Drop-Off:

Our pick up & drop off procedures take place at each of the 14 Sandals Church campuses instead of one central location. By heading to your local campus, families can enjoy a smooth & efficient check-in and pick-up process. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to spend more time with leaders and peers from their own campus, helping them build stronger connections from the very beginning of their camp experience. The campus you select during registration will serve as your drop-off and pick-up location.

**You can expect more details—including specific times and instructions—from your campus team as the camp dates approach.*

Kids Campers (Grades 3-5) – Checkout Process

- You'll receive a Parent Checkout Card at drop-off. This card will have a matching code with your camper.
- Bring this card physically, hand it to the person picking up your camper, or take a photo of it to use at pickup.
- Checkout is similar to weekend service—must go through a counselor-led process.

Youth Campers (Middle & High School) –

- No counselor checkout required.
- Simply find your camper and their luggage, then you're free to go.

Counselor Information:

Your camper will be assigned to a yurt or cabin along with one or two trained counselors who will lead and care for them throughout the week. These counselors have gone through a thorough screening and background check process and have completed extensive training to prepare for camp. Many have also spent time praying for your camper and eagerly anticipating the week ahead. They've chosen to give up their time to be fully present, and their highest priority is the safety, well-being, and overall experience of every camper in their care.

● **For Kids Camp only**, your camper will receive a phone call from one of their assigned counselors during the week leading up to camp. This call gives counselors a chance to introduce themselves, ask questions to better understand your camper's needs, and begin building a connection before camp begins. They'll also be happy to answer any questions you or your camper may have.

● **For Middle School and High School Camps**, campers will meet their counselors on drop-off day. Unlike Kids Camp, they will not receive a phone call prior to arrival, but they'll have plenty of time to get to know their leaders once camp begins.

Color Teams at Camp!

Your camper will be pre-assigned to a color team for their week at camp. These teams are divided into groups for Rec Games, Challenges, etc. You will receive an email from your campus staff that will tell you your camper's team color. This email can be expected about 1 month prior to camp.

*Important: If you have multiple campers attending, please reply to that email with your child's names so we can let you know which camper is on which team.

*If you would like to send your camper with color gear, some ideas are: bandanas, face paint, streamers, clothing, hats/visors, etc! You can get as creative as you would like, this is optional. In fact, many of your camper's counselors may provide some items as well!

Spending Money at Camp:

All retail stores and extra food/café purchases at Camp operate without cash. At Forest Home, all purchases must be made using Visa gift cards or credit/debit cards. Guests who bring cash can easily convert it to a gift card on site. *Forest Home no longer uses the Store E-Card system, and cash is not accepted directly for purchases. We recommend sending \$20–\$30.*

- If you have questions or concerns about the old Store E-Card system, want to inquire about an unused balance or request a refund please email: refunds@foresthomes.org

Camp Photos:

Parents—we know you'll be eagerly checking the daily photo uploads, hoping to catch a glimpse of your camper in action! Photos are uploaded nightly, and we'll send you a link as soon as they're available so you can begin your search.

Our skilled photography team—including both Forest Home staff and contracted professionals—works hard to capture the fun, joy, and energy of camp life each day. That said, with so many campers and activities happening at once, we can't guarantee that every camper will appear in the gallery daily. We understand that can be disappointing, but rest assured: your camper is having the time of their life! And no number of photos can truly capture the memories and fun they're experiencing firsthand.

BLOB

Health Information:

Forest Home has a fully trained medical staff on site 24 hours a day in a well-equipped facility. We hope that your camper will never need to experience their nurse's station, but if they need to, they are there to help them get back on their feet! We are also committed to calling you if there is ever an issue that affects your student's camp experience.

Forest Home Food Service:

Forest Home's Food Service team is dedicated to accommodating a wide range of dietary needs. To help them best prepare, guests are asked to indicate all dietary restrictions on their Online Health Forms prior to arrival. The culinary staff is trained to provide meals that meet many common dietary requirements, including gluten-free, dairy-free, vegetarian, soy-free, and nut-free options.

However, despite their best efforts, Forest Home cannot guarantee that all food items will be completely free from cross-contamination or airborne allergens. Additionally, retail areas, vending machines, and food brought by other guests may contain allergens that are beyond the camp's control. While the kitchen strives to offer suitable alternatives, direct substitutes for every menu item may not always be available. For this reason, guests with specific dietary needs are encouraged to bring supplemental snacks or desserts to help ensure the best possible dining experience.



Sending Medications to Camp:

Please make sure to follow all protocols listed below. Failure to do so may result in Forest Home needing to contact you directly and as a result may delay your Camper getting medication on time.

Over the Counter Medication:

This includes vitamins, supplements, herbals, cough drops, & pain medication.

- Must be in the ORIGINAL store bought container with dosing on the original label. The dosing on the bottle is our guide. DO NOT write on the label. Your doctor can write a different dosing and we can follow that order. Your child's age must be within the bottle's age/direction. We cannot use a parent note for altered amounts.

Prescription Medication:


- Pills, liquids, powders, & creams that are swallowed or applied.
 - Medication must be in the ORIGINAL container with a pharmacy label, which includes the child's name and dosing instructions. DO NOT write on the label.
 - If your child's dose is different from the written label you MUST get a Doctor's order for the correct dose. We cannot use a parent note to change a Doctor's order.
- Injections – Insulin & Epi-pens
- *Note: That we do not administer growth hormones or allergy shots.
 - Medication must be in the ORIGINAL container (vial) with a pharmacy label, which includes the child's name and dosing instructions. DO NOT write on the label.
 - Injections require a Special Needs Procedure Authorization Form be filled out and signed by your Doctor. Specify the allergy if it is for an epi pen. Your child can carry their epi pen but we MUST still have the label at camp.
 - Please download and return: [Forest Home - Allergy Action Plan](#) (available on our website)
- Inhalers & Nebulizers
 - Medication must be in the ORIGINAL container with the pharmacy label (on the box), which includes the child's name and dosing instructions. DO NOT write on the label.
 - If your child's dose is different from the written label, you MUST get a Doctor's order for the correct dose. We cannot take a parent note to change a Doctor's order. Your child can carry their inhaler but we must still have the label at camp.


NOT ACCEPTABLE MEDICATIONS


- Baggies with loose pills
- Sunday-Saturday containers with pills
- Inhalers & epi pens WITHOUT a label
- Any prescription medications without the pharmacy labels - *Note: Your local pharmacy can print you a label if you have misplaced one.


Preparing Your Child for Camp:


Sending your child to camp for the first time can stir up a mix of excitement and nerves—for both you and your camper. Here's how you can support them through intentional, thoughtful conversations and actions before they head off. Camp can be a milestone in your child's growth—socially, emotionally, and spiritually. A few intentional conversations before they leave can help set the tone for a powerful and positive experience.


 **1. Camp Is a Privilege** – While you, as a parent, may appreciate the more formal language around registration and policies, we encourage you to communicate the heart behind it in a more kid-friendly way. Help your child understand that going to camp is both a responsibility and a meaningful experience—one that has the potential to impact their life in powerful ways. Not every child gets the opportunity to attend camp, so it's important to help them see it as a privilege. Framing it this way can help your child show appreciation, stay engaged, and make the most of their time at camp.



 **2. Camp Is Fun AND Faith-Focused** – Camp is packed with fun—games, friends, activities—but it's also a time for spiritual growth. Help your child look forward to:

- Making new friends and trying new things
- Talking about God and learning more about their faith
- Having space to think, reflect, and grow
-  Conversation Starter: “What are you most excited about at camp? What's one thing you hope to learn or feel while you're there?”

 **3. Set Expectations Together** – Think through the goals and expectations you have for your child's camp experience, and talk about them openly:

- Growing in kindness, responsibility, or leadership
- Being respectful to counselors and peers
- Trying new things and participating fully
- Learning more about the Bible
- Review the camp's rules and expectations together
-  Conversation Starter: “One thing I'd love to see you grow in at camp is _____. What's something you want to grow in?”

 **4. Build Spiritual Habits Before Camp** – Camp is a great chance to build (or strengthen) spiritual habits. You can help by:

- Talking about your child's feelings—nervous, excited, unsure
- Praying with them about their camp experience
- Encouraging Bible reading or journaling before they leave
-  Conversation Starter: “Can we pray together for your time at camp? What's one thing we can pray for specifically?”
-  Suggestion: Start a simple pre-camp journal with a few thoughts, prayers, or Bible verses to help your child prepare their heart.