Everything I Need to Know

About Sending My Child to

Lutheran Summer Camp

Director 5th & 6th Grade Week -- Steve Harrison (692-0116)

Director 7th & 8th Grade Week – Mark Harrison (656-6137)

Email: harrisonkn@charter.net

WHAT TO EXPECT

Attending summer camp is a very exciting experience for campers and parents! It's natural for both to be somewhat anxious about the camper leaving the comforts of home, adopting new routines of daily activities, and meeting many new Christian friends. We want to familiarize you and your camper with our procedures to minimize any anxiety on your part. We want to take time to explain things and to share information with campers and parents. Also take comfort that Lutheran Summer Camp is staffed with Christian volunteers who do their best to make campers feel welcome and at home.

OVERVIEW

The Lutheran Summer Camp at Pere Marquette State Park in Grafton, Illinois, has been offered to our youth for many decades. Throughout these many years, Lutheran Summer Camp has provided and continues to provide a great opportunity for our youth to enjoy a camping experience with other Christian boys and girls. This year's theme is "Keep Singing". The camp is divided into four units, two for boys and two for girls. An "Uncle and Aunt" who are Christian couples from area Lutheran churches oversee each unit of approximately 7 cabins. The Adult Counselors are there to provide comfort, guidance, assurance, and discipline (if needed). Junior Counselors, high school students who are experienced campers, lead activity groups. Other staff members include cooks (who provide all meals at the dining hall), lifeguards, a nurse, and a Bible class leader. Activities include swimming, wiffleball, volleyball, "Ga-Ga", Bible study, crafts, group games and relays, singing and old-fashioned fun. The 2011 Lutheran Summer Camp will be held this year at rustic Camp Piasa located in beautiful Pere Marquette State Park for 5th & 6th grade campers on June 20-June 25 and for 7th & 8th grade campers on June 26-July 1.

****

ACTIVITIES

Each camper is assigned to an Activity Group the first evening of camp. Assignments into Activity Groups are made by the Camp Director. Campers participate in all scheduled activities with their assigned Activity Group. Scheduled activities include swimming, wiffleball, volleyball, "Ga-Ga", Bible study, crafts, group games, relays, and a variety of old-fashioned fun. All campers also participate in nightly singing in the Dining Hall before returning to their units for the evening.

CABIN ASSIGNMENTS

Requests for specific cabin mates will be accommodated when possible but are not guaranteed. Final cabin assignments will be made by the Director. Please be assured that there are plenty of opportunities for friends to see each other throughout the day.

CAMP FEES

The Camp Fee covers: room, board, camp t-shirt, and a store ticket that is good for 15 items of soda and/or candy from the camp store.

Early Registration (received prior to May 15, 2011) is **$120.00**
Late Registration (received after May 15, 2011) is **$150.00** (subject to availability)

Please make check payable to: ***Lutheran Summer Camp***.

We are limited on the number of campers we can register this summer, due to State restrictions on camp capacity. Camp will be filled on a first come/first served basis, so please return your registration form ASAP to reserve your camp spot.

To register, please complete the registration form found at the end of the handbook and return it along with your check to:

Lutheran Summer Camp
c/o Mark Harrison, Camp Director
321 West Lake Drive
Edwardsville, IL 62025

CAMP LOCATION

The camp is in Pere Marquette State Park, just west of Grafton, IL. Follow the Great River Road from Alton to Grafton. Watch for the Lutheran Summer Camp sign on the right about 1.5 miles after you have left Grafton. Follow the signs up the hill until you reach Camp Piasa. If you miss the first sign and you end up by the Lodge, turn right at the lodge and make your way up the hill. From there, watch for the "Lutheran Summer Camp" signs that will direct you to Camp Piasa.

CAMP T-SHIRTS

Camp T-shirts will be distributed to the campers on the last day of camp and campers will be encouraged to wear the camp t-shirts home.

CANCELLATIONS/REFUNDS

Camp fees for registrations cancelled up to and including May 15, 2011, will be 100% refunded. No refunds will be made for cancellations after May 15, 2011.

CHECK-IN

Parents are encouraged to bring their children to meet the camp staff, tour the facilities, and help their child get settled in the cabin. Registration will begin promptly at the Camp Piasa entrance as indicated below:

5th & 6th Grade Week -- 3:00 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 2011
7th & 8th Grade Week – 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 26, 2011

Note: *Please do not arrive before 3:00 p.m. Camp staff will be making final preparations, and we won't be able to focus on checking in campers until 3:00 p.m.*

Only staff vehicles are permitted onto the Camp Piasa grounds for safety reasons. Please park your vehicle on the side of the road at the camp entrance. Junior Counselors will meet you at your vehicle to help carry your camper's gear to the designated luggage drop-off area.

Please report to the Registration table at the camp entrance, where you will check in with the Director, receive your registration card with cabin assignment, and meet with the Camp Nurse.

At registration, the parent or guardian is required to "sign in" the camper and designate the individual who has authority to "sign out" the camper at the end of the camp week.

Once you have completed the registration process, you will proceed to your assigned unit where you will meet the Unit Counselors. Please provide your registration card to them. Your luggage will have been delivered to your unit by this time.

CHECK-OUT

Yes, the camper must go home (most want to stay). Check out is as follows:

5th & 6th Grade week – Saturday, June 25, 2011, at 3:00 p.m.
7th & 8th Grade Week – Friday, July 1, 2011, at 3:00 p.m.

(No early pick-ups, please.) Parents (or others designated to pick up campers) should meet their child's Unit Counselor at the luggage drop-off area near the camp entrance and must "sign out" the camper before leaving. Campers will meet their parents at the luggage drop-off area.

CLOTHING

Please send appropriate clothing with your child, taking into account the weather forecast and the camp activities. We encourage you to send clothing with your camper that is appropriate for camping activities. **Note:** There are no laundry facilities at Camp Piasa. Please pack enough clothing for your child's entire stay.

CONFIRMATION OF ACCEPTANCE

Confirmation of the camper's registration will be emailed to you upon receipt of the completed registration form and fee. (If no email address is provided, the confirmation will be sent via postal mail.)

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER

If you need to reach a member of the camp staff at Camp Piasa during the camp week, please call: **618-786-2058**. Please note that this phone is located in the dining hall and is only answered when staff members are supervising activities held in the dining hall. Please call back near mealtime if your phone call is not initially answered.

If you have an emergency and are unable to reach a member of the camp staff during business hours (8 a.m.-4p.m. Monday through Sunday), you may call the Pere Marquette Park Office at **618-786-3323**.

If you incur an emergency after business hours, please contact Jersey County Sheriff's Department at **618-498-6881**.

EMERGENCY TREATMENT PERMISSION/RELEASE OF LIABILITY FORM

This form will be emailed/mailed to you along with confirmation of receipt of your registration form. Please bring your completed Emergency Permission/Release of Liability Form to registration the first day of camp. (**NOTE:** The Emergency Treatment Permission Form ***MUST BE NOTARIZED*** prior to registration.) A registered nurse is on staff full-time to care for our campers. In the event of an injury or illness requiring hospital treatment as determined by the nurse, our staff will attempt to notify you immediately. However, if we cannot reach you, the notarized Emergency Treatment Form is required by the hospital in order to administer treatment for your camper.

FEE REDUCTIONS

Please do not let financial limitations prevent your child from coming to camp. A Fee Reduction Request Form is included at the end of the handbook. All fee reduction requests are kept confidential. Please mail your completed Fee Reduction Request Form to:

Lutheran Summer Camp
321 West Lake Drive
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Upon receipt of your completed Fee Reduction Request Form, a decision will be made by the Board of Directors and written notification of the Board's decision will be sent directly to the parent making the request.

HOMESICKNESS

It is the camp staff's goal to provide your camper with an enjoyable time away from home where they can participate with other Christian boys and girls in fun-filled activities. Please be assured your camper will be cared for and supervised by caring Christian volunteers. If this is your child's first time at camp, please discuss with your child the possibility they may feel homesick and assure them that the camp staff will do everything they can to comfort them and help them to successfully complete the camp experience. Our staff makes a concerted effort to help campers overcome homesickness by helping them learn to accept the natural feeling of missing family and friends. We welcome this opportunity to help youngsters grow in the area. Please **do not** tell them they can call home or that you will call them. There is only one phone at camp and it is for emergency use only. Generally, only in the event of an emergency or dire homesickness will you be contacted. Please do not send a cellular phone with your camper. With proper handling by the staff, campers, and parents, homesickness can be overcome, and the camper can make a big stride in growing up.

Here are some things you can do to lessen homesickness:

- Keep letters cheery and newsy in such a way that they will not make your camper homesick. Don't say you can't get along without them, or ask about homesickness.
- Try having your child do overnights at friends' houses before coming to camp.
- Pack a personal item from home.
- Don't tell your child that you will come and pick him/her up if it isn't fun.
- Don't bribe your child by promising something valuable if he/she makes it through camp. This sends the wrong message! Going to camp fosters confidence and independence and can be an important developmental milestone.
- If there is instability at home, or the child is very anxious, please contact us so that we may prepare the counselors.
- Help your child think of things they can do to *cope* with feelings of missing home.

ILLNESS

A CHILD WHO IS SICK AND/OR CONTAGIOUS BEFORE CAMP BEGINS SHOULD BE KEPT HOME FOR HIS/HER OWN SAKE AND THAT OF OTHERS. If a camper becomes ill during camp, he/she will be seen and treated, if appropriate, by the Camp Nurse. Routine scrapes, cuts and minor illness will be treated by our Camp Nurse. In the case of serious illness or accident involving your child, the Camp Nurse will contact you directly. In the event you cannot be reached, your authorization signed on the Emergency Treatment Permission form allows us to secure prompt treatment.

ITEMS TO BRING TO CAMP

Please mark all belongings!!

- Emergency Treatment Permission/Release of Liability Form (signed and notarized)
- Bible
- Pencil or pen
- Casual clothing (There is a "Dance" on the last camp evening, and some campers like to bring a special outfit for this activity—optional.)
- Flashlight
- Bedding – sheets, pillow, sleeping bag or blanket (a cot and mattress are provided)
- Rain wear
- Bug spray
- Sunscreen
- Swim suit
- Towels
- Soap
- Stationery/envelopes
- Stamps
- Toothpaste and brush
- Goggles
- Deodorant
- Backpack
- Plastic bags to carry wet swimsuit and towel
- Jacket/sweatshirt
- Rope for clothesline

LIFEGUARDS

Several of our high school volunteers hold current lifeguard certificates. A certified lifeguard will be on duty during each swimming activity.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost and found items will be placed on tables near the camp entrance at the time of check-out. Please make sure your camper checks the lost and found **BEFORE YOU LEAVE CAMP** to retrieve any items belonging to your camper. After check-out, all unclaimed items will be **immediately** donated to charity or otherwise disposed of. Lutheran Summer Camp is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged clothing or equipment.

MAIL (please allow at least two business days for mail)

Campers love to receive mail, and letters to your camper are encouraged. If you would like for your camper to receive a letter or package while at camp, please consider mailing the letter or package prior to the beginning of camp. This will guarantee that your camper will receive at least one letter/package from home while he/she is at camp. Please address mail this way:

Your Camper's Name
c/o Lutheran Summer Camp
Camp Piasa
Grafton, IL 62037

Campers will be encouraged to write one letter home. We suggest that you send pre-addressed envelopes addressed to family and friends to encourage your camper to write. Don't forget to secure the appropriate postage! Do not be alarmed if the letters are brief as the campers are busy at camp and "no news is good news" as far as campers are concerned. Also, early letters may sound upsetting, but usually by the time you receive the letter some days later, the camper has adjusted and often forgotten what he/she wrote.

Whether it is your child's first or fourth summer at camp, mail call is a fun part of every camper's day. Here are some hints to make corresponding with your child more successful.

DO'S

- Send letters – they don't have to be long. Postcards are great!
- Ask a few questions and you are more likely to get a response.
- Send a letter before your camper leaves for camp to make sure it arrives for the first day.
- Provide your child with self-addressed, stamped envelopes for sending letters home.

DON'TS

- Don't encourage homesickness by emphasizing how much you miss your child
- Don't write how much fun you are having on vacation while your child is at camp
- Don't dwell on negative happenings. You can discuss real problems with your camper when he/she returns home.

MEALS

The first meal at camp will be the evening meal (5:30 p.m.) on the first day of camp and the last meal will be served at noon on the last day of camp. All meals are prepared by our Cooks and served in the Dining Hall.

MEDICATIONS

All prescription medication brought into camp must be either in the original prescription container or accompanied by written orders, signed by a physician. They must include the camper's name, dosage, and time. All medications, including over-the-counter (vitamins, creams, lotions, etc.) must be turned in and dispensed by the Camp Nurse. Lutheran Summer Camp stocks most over-the-counter medications needed at camp, so it is not necessary that you bring these items. At check-in, each camper will meet with the Nurse and will give all medications to the Nurse at that time. **DO NOT PACK MEDICATION IN LUGGAGE**.

MAKE SURE THAT MEDICATION HAS BEEN PICKED UP FROM THE NURSE BEFORE DEPARTURE!

PROPERTY DAMAGES

Parents are financially responsible for damage to the facilities caused by their camper.

REGISTRATION FORM

The Camper Registration Form is included at the end of the handbook. Please mail your completed form and camp fees **prior to May 15, 2011**, to:

Lutheran Summer Camp
c/o Mark Harrison, Camp Director
321 West Lake Drive
Edwardsville, IL 62025

Confirmation of the camper's registration will be emailed to you upon receipt of the completed registration form and fee. (If no email address is provided, the confirmation will be sent via postal mail.)

STAFF

The Camp Director oversees a volunteer staff consisting of Adult Counselors, a Camp Dean, a Camp Nurse, Camp Cooks, and a group of Junior Counselors. An "Aunt and Uncle" who are Christian couples from area Lutheran churches oversee each unit of approximately 7 cabins. The Adult Counselors are there to provide comfort, guidance, assurance, and discipline (if needed). Junior Counselors, high school students who are experienced campers, lead activity groups. Those who hold current lifeguard certificates also serve as Lifeguards. The Camp Cooks prepare and serve all meals in the Dining Hall. The Camp Dean leads the daily Bible study.

STORE TICKETS

Store tickets for 15 beverage and/or candy items will be distributed to campers prior to the first "Store" on Monday evening. "Store" is usually held each afternoon and again in the evening before campers return to their units.

VISITORS AND TELEPHONE CALLS

At Camp Piasa, we strive for campers to develop independence. An integral part of the growing process is the extended experiences away from home. In keeping with this, **WE DO NOT PERMIT PHONE CALLS AND VISITS TO CAMPERS UNLESS THERE IS A FAMILY EMERGENCY**. Also, please do not ask your child to call home. There are no public phones available for campers to call home. Parents will be contacted in the case of an emergency or illness. **We do not allow cell phones at camp. All cell phones will be confiscated until check-out.**

WHAT NOT TO BRING

The following items are **NOT ALLOWED** at camp:

- **Cell phones**
- Candles
- Knives
- Matches
- Lighters
- Water balloons
- Fireworks
- Silly string
- Tobacco

Also, please keep in mind that items can get lost or accidentally broken. New and expensive items should be kept at home!

2011 LUTHERAN SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION FORM

(PLEASE CHECK ONE:)

☐ 1st Week (for campers in **Grades 5 & 6** during the 2010-2011 school year)
Monday, June 20, 3:00 p.m. -- Saturday, June 25, 3:00 p.m.

☐ 2nd Week (for campers in **Grades 7 & 8** during the 2010-2011 school year)
Sunday, June 26, 3:00 p.m. -- Friday, July 1, 3:00 p.m.

CAMP FEES

The Camp Fee covers: room, board, camp t-shirt, and a store ticket that is good for 15 items of soda and/or candy from the camp store.

Early Registration (received prior to May 15, 2011) is **$120.00**
Late Registration (received after May 15, 2011) is **$150.00** (subject to availability)

Please make check payable to: ***Lutheran Summer Camp***.

We are limited on the number of campers we can register this summer, due to State restrictions on camp capacity. Camp will be filled on a first come/first served basis, so please return your registration form ASAP to reserve your camp spot.

To register, please complete the registration form and return it along with your check to:

Lutheran Summer Camp
c/o Mark Harrison, Camp Director
321 West Lake Drive
Edwardsville, IL 62025

PLEASE PRINT:

Name _____

☐ Boy ☐ Girl

Address_____

City _____Zip Code _____

Phone:_____ E-Mail Address: _____

Church or School You Attend _____

Grade in school during 2010-2011 school year: ☐5th ☐6th ☐7th ☐8th

Have you been a camper with us before? ☐ Yes ☐ No

T-Shirt Size (Adult Sizes) ☐Small ☐Medium ☐Large ☐X-Large

To request specific cabin mates, please list names of other campers below (up to 5 in one cabin) and mail registration forms/fees for entire cabin in one envelope, if possible:

_____ _____

_____ _____

(PLEASE NOTE: Final cabin assignments will be made by the Director. Requests will be accommodated when possible but are not guaranteed.)

LUTHERAN SUMMER CAMP
FEE REDUCTION REQUEST FORM

TO: PARENT(S) OF CAMPER

FROM: LUTHERAN SUMMER CAMP

Thank you for your interest in Lutheran Summer Camp. We are excited about the "Keep Singing" camp that will be held at Camp Piasa this summer, and are very glad that your son /daughter has expressed an interest in attending. It is our desire that every child who wants to participate in Lutheran Summer Camp has the opportunity to do so, and we are happy to work with you to find an appropriate fee reduction that will enable your child to attend.

The current fee is $120.00, which includes room, board, store tickets and a camp t-shirt. Please indicate on the form below the reduced fee you are requesting and a brief explanation of the circumstances that cause you to request the reduction. The Board will review the request as soon as conveniently possible and send you a written commitment regarding the fee reduction so that your child will have plenty of time to send in his/her Registration Form.

Camper's Name:_____

Parent's name(s) and address:_____

_____

Please consider my request to reduce the camp fee of $120 to the following amount: $_____

Please consider the following circumstances when considering my fee reduction request: (*use back of form, if necessary)*

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Please return form to:
Lutheran Summer Camp
321 West Lake Drive
Edwardsville, IL 62025