



Crystal Springs Methodist Church Youth Ministries

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CONGRATULATIONS 2027 PLATOON & SQUAD LEADERS! Thank you for applying to be on MARINES leadership – I am so grateful you are stepping up to be a servant leader!

THE COMMITMENT OF LEADERSHIP

Serving on MARINES Leadership is incredibly rewarding and a lot of fun— but it also carries added responsibility. Leadership isn't simply about getting an extra day of MARINES or having a different role during the week. **You are committing to help prepare, serve, lead, and set the tone for everyone else.**

Because of that, being present for our leadership meetings and Leadership Overnight is an important part of accepting a position on the Leadership Team.

We will have three leadership meetings before MARINES:

- Wednesday, March 3 at 7:15 p.m.
- Sunday, March 17 at 7:15 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 31 at 7:15 p.m.

These meetings aren't just informational. We use them to prepare spiritually, work through responsibilities, build our leadership team, and make sure everyone understands what will be expected of them during MARINES. **If you apply for Leadership, you should plan to make these meetings a priority.** We understand that unavoidable conflicts occasionally happen, but repeatedly missing leadership preparation makes it difficult to effectively serve as part of the team.

LEADERSHIP OVERNIGHT

Our Leadership Overnight at Camp Wesley Pines is especially important and should be considered **a required part of serving on MARINES Leadership**.

This is not simply an optional extra night at camp. It is when we prepare the camp, set up our worship space, work through final responsibilities, spend time together as a leadership team, and—most importantly—prepare our hearts to serve the students who will arrive on Sunday.

Most leaders should plan to arrive around 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. We will also need several people willing to come earlier to help set up the stage and sound equipment, which is always our biggest setup job.

Saturday evening will include time together as a team, preparation, and worship. Sunday morning, we will worship together and help lead worship at CSMC, have lunch at the church, and then return to camp to welcome everyone and officially begin MARINES!

Please take this commitment seriously before applying for Leadership. If you already know that you cannot attend the Leadership Overnight or that other commitments will prevent you from participating consistently in leadership preparation, please talk with Jana **before applying**. Being on Leadership means being willing to prioritize the responsibilities that come with it—not just the parts of MARINES you don't want to miss.

We aren't looking for perfect leaders. We are looking for students who are **committed, dependable, teachable, and ready to serve**. Your presence matters because the rest of the Leadership Team—and the students you are leading—are counting on you.

A SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT LEADERSHIP NIGHT

Because of liability requirements with our insurance, **once we arrive at camp, no one will be permitted to leave camp**. That means NO late-night food runs! Please plan accordingly and bring extra snacks with you if you think dinner won't be enough.

Here's what you need to know to be ready on SATURDAY: April 3 ...

Arrive (Camp Wesley Pines) 1pm! Be prepared to turn in your permission forms (emailed to you or you can download off our website) and any balance owed.

Come to Durr Wise! There will be LOTS to do so we want to get going ASAP!

You will want to bring clothes for church on Sunday – you can wear nice pants/jeans/skirt and a former MARINES shirt. We want all the leadership to be in a former MARINES shirt for check-in on that Sunday.

Have ALL your homework done for Monday & any other projects that you know about for the week! You will be glad you did!

WHAT TO PACK ...

- your Bible ... you will want an actual Bible since you will not have your phone to use a Bible app.

- *** if you want to bring mirror chalk or pool noodles - anything for encouragement or ways to up your game as leaders – go for it!

*** * * COMPLETED health/permission form!!!**

- Any money owed
- Bedding: sheets and/or sleeping bag, blanket, pillow for twin bed
- towels (bring enough for the whole week!)
- toiletries (what you need to get ready for school)
- **UNIFORMS** ... you will need ALL your uniform stuff – except shirts (you will be wearing your “IN TRAINING” shirts): have enough for all 3 days
- your backpack and books for school
- a camera if you want
- work-out clothes (note: it can and probably will be COLD in the mornings)
- tennis shoes - there will be running
- one outfit that can get dirty – this includes the shoes * * * just in case
- what you need for your after school activities
- any medicine you need
- a heart and mind that's ready for a great week

* * A note about ENO's or hammocks: bring these at your own financial risk! There is no guarantee that they won't get broken or destroyed.

* WHAT YOU CAN LEAVE AT HOME

- your cell phone (this includes back-up phones/trap phones, etc)
- ipod, music player, gaming system, dvd player, tablets, etc ...
- this includes smart watches (fit bits or other activity trackers are ok – as

long as all they do is track activity

- junk food/snacks/cokes ...
- anything that could be considered a weapon of any kind
- No alcohol/tobacco products (this includes jules)/drugs
- Nothing to prank or negatively single out others (this includes foul smelling sprays)

Basically – when in doubt – LEAVE IT OUT!

If you have a laptop or tablet and IF you will need to use it for homework, you may bring it ... but it's ONLY for school work! That's about it for now ... we'll go over everything else at our meetings!

Again, I am so excited that you have chosen to serve on leadership for MARINES this year! Let me know if you have any questions!

In His Name, JANA



DIRECTIONS TO CAMP WESLEY PINES

On Gallman Road, across from the Gallman Baptist and Gallman UMC churches, you will turn onto Cleveland Street. Stay on Cleveland and you will go under the interstate. Go right at the fork. You will come to the entrance to Camp Wesley Pines on your left ... as you turn into camp, you will come to a stop sign – go STRAIGHT and follow that road to get to Durr Wise.