

June 16, 2018



Dear Parents & Campers,

We are four weeks away from a fun-filled and memorable week of summer camp at Wesley Woods. In morning chapel and evening vespers we will be learning grace filled worship with God's Ten Commandments. Memories will be made at Archery Tag, Ponies, Horses, Capture the Flag, Skit Night, Bear Hunt, Swimming, Bedlam, Canoeing, Rappelling, Air Soft, and Zip Lining. Some activities will be age specific and/or appropriate.

Drop off and pick up is at Wesley Woods. Directions are below.

Please read through all of this information and call or e-mail at the information below if you have any questions.

In Christ's Love,

Nate Childers
Family Life Director
724-974-9250
nate@bethanymercer.org



Final Balance: The balance of your camp registration will be communicated to you by private e-mail. Please turn in your balance **before** 4 pm on Thursday, June 28. If you need extra time to turn in your balance, if *you have a question or if you need to make a request for scholarship, please contact us.*

Preparing for Camp: (especially first time campers...ahem "IT" or clinically diagnosed as "Homesickness")

Going to summer camp can be exciting, maturing, and fun. Below are some suggestions on how you can prepare your camper for a positive camp experience.

- Plan nights away from home before camp starts.
- Changes in routines while at camp should be anticipated. For example, if camper normally takes bath, practice taking showers. If the camper normal plans his/her own meals or does not sit at a table for some home meals, remind them they will need to cooperate with a structure of 6-8 campers and counseling staff.
- Promise to write and keep that promise. Everyone loves to get mail at camp. Some families mail a letter before camp so the camper will get mail on the 1st and 2nd day. Pack stamped pre-addressed letters or post cards with the camping gear to make it easier for them to write home. **Note:** Telling a camper how much he/she is missing, how much fun the family is having at home, can start "IT" (homesickness). On the other hand, do not worry if your camper sends an unhappy letter, emotional ups and downs can occur while learning to live away from home.
- Encourage your camper to express feelings about going to camp: joys, fears, any concerns! Talk openly helping your camper work through if difficulties are expressed. Don't overdo!
- Please don't introduce the idea of homesickness or any other troublesome possibilities. Assure your camper that the camp staff will answer questions, help campers make new friends, and have fun. Please remember that camp policy does not allow campers to make or receive phone calls except in case of emergencies and then with permission of the program director.

Directions: Wesley Woods Camp
1001 Fiddlersgreen Road
Grand Valley, PA 16420

The camp is off of Route 27, 16 miles northeast of Titusville.

On Rt. 27 east of Titusville, turn left on Enterprise Road near Oil Creek Plastics & Northwest Lumber. Enterprise will rejoin Route 27. Go through Grand Valley, to the Village of Star, turning left at Sanford Rod (at the Wesley Woods sign). Go up from the hill, turn left on Fiddlersgreen Rd. (again at the Wesley Woods sign), and follow the road to camp.

Go past the barn, pool, and parking lot will be west of the camp offices. You will be directed to McKnight Dining Hall (main camp dining hall) for check in.

Drop Off Time: Sunday, July 15 from 3:30-4:30 pm SHARP

Health Forms: **Please register and/or update your camper's medical and insurance information.** If your camp is medical/health history information is all completed online, your time at the registration table should only be a few minutes.

Medical: Wesley Woods provides a Registered Nurse. During Sunday registration, you will have an opportunity to speak with the nurse about your camper's medication and needs. All medicines (except for emergency meds – inhalers, insulin, epi-pens, etc.) are to be left with the nurse to distribute to your camper throughout the week. Please label all medicines with name, camp program, what time to take, and quantity. This must match what is on the prescription bottle and be in the original container.

Additional Program Activities: **Nike and Sr. High Campers** have optional Horseback Riding (1 hour or 2 hour), Air Soft, & Zip Line. Please e-mail nate@bethanymercer.org to know what your camper is planning to participate in these optional activities by Thursday, June 28. There will be alternative activities if campers choose not to do the optional activities.

Camp Bank: Wesley Woods staff will be running the camp store which operates on cash system. To help campers safely manage their money throughout the week we will be operating a Camp Bank for juniors and optional for Middle School (Nikes). Camp store will be open afternoons from 2-4 pm. Suggested weekly amount is \$10 plus money to buy a Wesley Woods Shirt (\$10-15).

Camper Mail: Campers love to receive letters and packages. You can also drop off mail for the week at registration for distribution on the day(s) you designate on the outside of the envelope. **Letters from home should be upbeat and positive. Please do not include distressing news or family problems in your letters as these can be upsetting to your child/teen and disrupt their camp experience.**

Mailing Address: Wesley Woods Camp
Attn: (Camper's Name & Camp Name)
1001 Fiddlersgreen Road
Grand Valley, PA 16420

Phone Calls: Campers do not have access to a phone or e-mail. If you must contact your camper, please call the camp office at (814) 436-7802.

Friday Closing Program:

You are invited to our Closing Program at 6 pm (final 6' O'clock News and Vespers) (unfortunately there will be no Friday Family Cookout). **If you would like to join us for Friday dinner, please RSVP with nate@bethanymercer.org or by Sunday, July 15.**

Pick-Up Time:

Fri., July 20th at 7:00 pm

Early Pickup:

Please let us know when you are at registration on Sunday, July 16 if you are planning to pick up your camper before Friday evening at 7:00 pm.

Parents of Under 18 Drivers:

Sr. High Campers & Counselors in Training will not be allowed to drive their vehicles from Sunday to Friday. Keys will be collected. Campers will need a parent/guardian to register them.

What NOT to Bring:

For a less eventful camp experience....Please do not bring flip flops, personal snacks (snacks provided and critters and bugs not wanted in cabins), expensive clothing, jewelry, or watches, water balloons, shaving cream, *any electronic devices for all campers* (phones, iPods/iPads, DS, etc.), fireworks, non-prescription drugs, alcohol, tobacco, (including snuff and VAPE), other illegal substances, or weapons (knives, hatchets, guns, stun guns, etc.).

We reserve the right to take possession of such items during the camping period, store them in a safe place, and return them to the camper at conclusion of the camp session. We also reserve the right to send a camper home at our discretion for major offenses of the above. Wesley Woods and Bethany Church has a zero tolerance policy for any abuse, violence, or property damage.

What to Bring:

(Please label everything with camper's name.)

- Bible (Don't have one? We will provide one)
- Notebook; Pen/Pencils; Stamped pre-addressed letters or post cards.
- Bedding- Fitted sheet, Sleeping bag or blanket(s), pillow & pillowcase
- Clothes for activities, cool, and rainy weather. Long pants (jeans) for horse riding and ropes course.
- Sturdy, closed toe shoes for adventure program and horses. Old shoes or water shoes for creek hikes. Flip flops are only to be used in cabin and at pool, not out and about.
- Modest, one-piece bathing suit (tankinis that cover the midriff are acceptable). Please bring a comfortable pair of shorts and T-shirt for a cover up
- Toiletry Items- Toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, shampoo, deodorant.
- Shower Towel, Wash Cloth, Shower shoes (flip-flops, Crocs, etc.).
- Pool Towel; Swim goggles; Flip flops at cabin and pool, but not in between cabin to pool.
- Cloth or mesh dirty clothes bag (plastic ones invite mildew)
- Insect Repellant, Sun screen, Sun glasses, Hat
- Flashlight
- Medication (must be labeled with name and checked in to the camp nurse)
- Money for snacks and camp merchandise at Camp Store (\$10 recommended).
- Juniors Only-** "Glow in the dark" and "Glow Stick" paraphernalia for our Sunday Block Party.
- Nikes Only-** Old shoes for canoeing; Long pants (jeans) that are worn for horseback riding and adventure program. Extra money for a trip to Frosty Jack's and for optional Horses (\$20).
- Sr. High Only-** Old jeans and shirt for rappelling, high ropes, and air soft; Black pants and shirt and your "bear" mask for the "Bear Hunt." Extra money for a trip to Frosty Jack's and for optional Horses (\$20) and/or Zip Line.