

## **Letter to MSWSBA Churches Regarding 2014 Camper Registration**

Dear Church:

Greetings in Christ JESUS. Enclosed you will find the forms with which to register your church's campers and camp staff for the upcoming **MSWSBA Bible Camp 2014**. The Camp Team has been enlisting staff to fill leadership and support staff positions. The most difficult position to fill continues to be that of "Cabin Leader." The Camp Team has arrived at the difficult decision to *require* churches of the Association to assist in the staffing our camp if they plan to send campers. Recognizing that some churches have some members who are more suited as camp staff than others, the Camp Team also recognizes that Association churches could *share/partner* in the responsibility of providing camp staff. This is to ensure that campers are adequately supervised, safe, and that the spiritual needs of our campers are met.

Please to pray about how the members of your church can be used of God to meet the needs of campers that will be attending from your church. We are requesting that you encourage members of your local Body of Christ to seek how God could use them in the ministry of our camp.

If you will be sending campers to camp this year, please enlist camp staff to accompany your campers. Alternatively, begin now to communicate with other churches to share/partner in sending enough staff to meet the required staffing ratio of one cabin staff of the same gender per each seven (7) children; and one cabin staff of the same gender per each ten (10) youth.

**OUR REGISTRATION FEE FOR 2014 IS \$80.00, AS THIS WAS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT THEIR QUARTERLY MEETING IN JANUARY 2014.** An increase was required due to costs being increased by the Bethel Association for our usage of their camp facilities.

**ALL REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE POSTMARKED ON, OR BEFORE, MAY 1, 2014.** This is an ABSOLUTE DEADLINE. Registration forms received after that date will be returned to the churches, as this is a very "firm" registration deadline! Our deadline is necessary in order to make appropriate cabin assignments/plans, and to facilitate meal planning and food acquisitions, as well as to allow time for staff background checks and assignments. ***If a child wants to attend camp, fill out a registration form and submit it before May 1, 2014—it's easier to cancel a registration and refund a camper fee than to try to fit a camper into a schedule that is already full.***

A change in the scheduling of our Camp dates was made in December 2013. **MSWSBA Bible Camp will be June 2-6, 2014.** Additionally, the team was granted permission by the Executive Board in October 2013 to combine the previous "Junior Camp" and "Youth Camp" into one week. Campers will be grouped into both younger and older groups, and likewise for their cabin assignments. These changes were due to our declining camper numbers and the minimum number of campers Bethel required to rent the camp facilities for the week. We further believe that a major part of our declining numbers was due to conflicts with school local district(s) scheduling band and football camps during the same weeks as our previous camps. The name of our camp ministry program was changed to more closely reflect its overall purpose of teaching and discipling campers with the Word of God, and also leading them to both commit to Him and to worship Him according to its teachings. Hence, the camp name was changed to "**MSWSBA Bible Camp**" earlier in the Association year.

**CAMPER/STAFF REGISTRATION FORMS SHOULD BE MAILED TO MARTHA EWART AT PO BOX 143, WAYLAND, MISSOURI 63472.** Alternately, **you may scan them to e-mail** and send to our Camp Registration Clerk at **martha\_ewart@hotmail.com** (note the "underscore" in her address). *Registrations sent via e-mail will receive an electronic receipt notification—forms received by mail will not receive a receipt.* **CAMPER FEES**, however, **SHOULD BE MAILED TO BRO. RUSSELL BROWNELL, ASSN. TREASURER, AT 29044 STATE HWY V, MAYWOOD, MO 63454, VIA ONE CHECK WRITTEN BY THE CHURCH WITH AN ATTACHED MEMORANDUM DETAILING THE CAMPERS NAMES.**

Thank you for your cooperation and your patience as we strive to make a quality Christian camp experience for our young people. God bless.

MSWSBA 2014 Camp Team