

Advent Day Camp Parent Information

Summer Camp at Advent

Our goal for the summer is simple: for campers to be safe, have fun, explore and to learn more about God and themselves.

What to Bring

Please make sure campers are dressed for the weather in clothing that can get dirty.

Campers will need to bring:

- Closed toe shoes (tennis shoes are best)
- Packed lunch that does not require reheating - (we will provide 2 snacks)
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Swimsuit and towel (Fridays only)
- Car seat/Booster seat (if under 9 years old) (Wednesday through Friday)

Please do not bring:

- Cell Phones/headphones/earbuds/smart watches (unless previous permission given by camp director)
- Anything that can be reasonably considered a weapon

Camp staff will hold any “not allowed” items for the day and return them to parents at pick up.

Check In & Check Out

A parent/guardian listed on the submitted forms must be present to check in campers on the first morning of camp.

On the first day of camp, you will be asked to provide a list of people who can check a camper or campers in or out. Camp staff may also ask for identification from any adult at check out to ensure the safety of campers.

Camper Expectations

Campers will be encouraged during the week to explore and try new things. We know camp can be tiring and attitudes can be challenging. Camp staff members are well-trained and experienced in working with many children in many different settings.

Our expectations for campers each week are to be kind and to be safe. Kindness and safety are displayed in a few different directions: to themselves, each other and camp staff.

Camp has clear rules and expectations and campers will receive redirection and encouragement as needed.

If your camper consistently struggles to follow the rules, becomes disruptive to the camp experience for others, or becomes threatening or physically aggressive, camp staff may send your camper home for the day without a refund.

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A Typical Camp Day

8:00am	Camp Day begins <i>(Doors open 15 min. before)</i>
8:00am - 12:00pm	Morning Activities
12:00pm	Lunch (packed from home)
12:30pm - 4:00pm	Afternoon Activities
4:00pm	Camp Day ends <i>(Doors open 15 min. before)</i>

A typical day at camp will include activities like: worship, learning about the weekly topic, quiet time, crafts, games, free time and playing outdoors.

Because our days are packed with activities, please be sure to drop your camper off for an 8:00am start and wait to pick them up until 4:00pm. Dropping off after 8:00am or picking up before 4:00pm must be cleared ahead of time with camp staff. Early Check In and Late Pick Up are available upon request.

Wednesday afternoons are theme-specific outings. You will get more detailed information about your camper's outing the week before each camp begins.

Every Friday afternoon, we will head to the West St. Paul Pool for swimming and fun!

Emergencies

A camper's safety and well-being are the top priorities at camp and are reflected in our camp policies and throughout our schedule.

If an emergency like a severe illness or injury occurs, camp staff will notify parents immediately.

If you need to contact a camper or camp staff member during the camp day, please contact the church office at 651-454-3944. If it is an emergency and you need to speak to camp staff directly, you can reach Lindsey Nuehring, the camp director at 651-485-3971.

First Aid and Medications

All Camp Staff are CPR and First Aid certified. We will have the most basic of over-the-counter medications on-site.

Please make sure to list all medications your camper takes (even if they take them before or after camp) on the Medical Information Form as well as any over-the-counter medication your camper cannot take.

Any medication that your camper might need to take during the day (both prescription and over-the-counter) **MUST** be administered by camp staff and be given to camp staff in the original prescription bottle or packaging.

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Activities & Travel

We love getting out of the church building and exploring the community around us! From our weekly theme-based outings to our quest to find the best park within walking distance of church, we can't wait to explore this summer with campers!

All driving travel will be done by qualified Advent staff members or volunteers who are over the age of 25. All vehicles used will be insured passenger vehicles with seat belts for every camper.

When we are transporting campers, we follow the Minnesota law for car seat and booster seat requirements. With the change in Minnesota law last summer, we now require every camper under the age of 9 to be in a car seat or booster seat on driving days (Wednesday through Friday) unless we have a signed doctor's note excusing them from using one. Please plan to drop off a car seat or booster seat for your camper those days.

We ask your camper to wear their complimentary camp t-shirt on Wednesdays so they are easily identifiable during our outings.

Before Camp

Before your camper's first day of camp, there are a couple things you can do to help make this the best experience possible.

- Prepare your camper - talk through their expectations, encourage a good night sleep and a filling breakfast
- Fill out camper forms: Completed Medical Information and Release of Liability must be on file before your camper can attend camp (1 set per camper for the summer)

Any Questions?

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Lindsey Nuehring, Minister of Children's Faith Formation and Camp Director this summer!

kids@advent-umc.com or 651-485-3971.