

2017

New England

PRETEEN CAMP

PARENT PACKET



Our vision for the 2017 New England preteen camp is for our campers to have fun, to forge new friendships and to continue to foster their faith in God. This year's theme "The Rock" will emphasize the sure foundation we have in God's trustworthy nature, the loyal friend we have in Jesus and the practical, rock-solid security we can develop from living

out God's word. As the world competes for the hearts of our children, we hope that this year's camp will show the preteens that the Bible and Jesus' example are the best way to build relationships and point us toward the "Eternal Rock".

We are excited and honored to be involved in planning and directing the camp. The opportunity to work with dozens of whole-hearted and talented volunteers that are essential to making the camp an awesome experience is a humbling opportunity. Be sure to thank the coordinators, counselors, medical staff, lifeguards and others who serve in this ministry. Of course, the privilege of getting to know, and being allowed to influence, your children is a sacred trust and honor. Please pray that this year's camp will inspire many towards a lifetime of turning to God and his Word for direction in their lives.

In order to make the most of your preteen's camp experience we have put together this packet. Please take the time to carefully read all the items within and review it with your preteen prior to camp.

With love,

Steve and Sue Shoff

Christopher and Claudia Kidd

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Dear Parents of Preteens attending Camp (August 15th-20th):

The 2017 New England Preteen Camp is quickly approaching! Please join us as we pray for God to move powerfully in the hearts and minds of this next generation of disciples. In this packet, we would like to give you some helpful and important information as you and your preteen prepare for camp.

Bus Departure and Return Information

All campers should have all Luggage/Sleeping Bags labeled with name and region prior to arriving at your departure location.

Boston Buses

Your preteen should be at the back section of the parking lot of the Burlington Mall (Sears area) in Burlington, MA (Exit 32B – Middlesex Turnpike off route 128) on **Tuesday, August 15th at 8:30 a.m.** All preteens will need to be checked in and be on the buses, which will depart promptly, by 9:30 a.m. We are encouraging all preteens to take the bus if at all possible.

PLEASE COME EARLY

Upon arrival at the Mall parking lot, **please look for the coach buses** and a representative from your region. These representatives will help you with the registration and drop-off process. In most cases, it will be here that your preteen will meet his/her camp counselor and receive his/her ID tags, camp T-shirt and materials. Once your preteen has been registered please drop off all medications and supplements with the on-site medical staff.

Buses will return to the same location between 3:30 and 4:30 on the afternoon of Sunday, August 20th.

Hartford Buses

Buses will depart from the Hartford Church of Christ at 1417 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT.

Please arrive by 7:15 AM Tuesday, August 15th. Registration will begin at 7:30 and campers will immediately begin loading the bus. Once your preteen has been registered please drop off all medications and supplements with the on-site medical staff. Buses will depart promptly at 8:00 a.m.

Buses will return to the same location by 5:00 p.m. on the afternoon of Sunday, August 20th.

Driving to Preteen Camp:

There are usually 3 or 4 buses with 200-250 campers and adults arriving in a very small space – all excited to be here. For this reason, if you are driving your preteen from an outlying area or driving yourself to camp as a coordinator, the following rules are in place for the safety of everyone.

There can be **no cars** driven through camp beyond the gazebo. Ideally you should park your car at the top of the hill and walk down to the gazebo area with your child's luggage. Please plan on arriving at camp between 12:00 and 1:00 and having a fairly brief "see you in a few days" farewell. Coordinators will be in the center of camp to check in your preteen and hold their medications until the medical staff arrives. There will be limited staff at camp so your child(ren) will have to stay in the immediate area until their group arrives on the bus. Parents and preteens cannot go to the cabins to drop off luggage, and will need to remain in the immediate vicinity.

Pick-up on Sunday will be from 11:30 – 12:30 in the same area in front of the gazebo. Please park your car at the top of the hill and walk down to the gazebo area. You will need to sign your preteen out of camp with the coordinator at the gazebo and then get their medications from the infirmary. Please feel free to join us for our communion service at the Cove. Again please enjoy the beauty of the camp from this area only as parents are not allowed to go beyond this point.

Directions:

Camp Laurel South

48 Laurel Road

Casco, ME 04015

(207) 627-4334

From Portsmouth NH and Points South:

Take I-95 which becomes the Maine Turnpike in Maine

Get off Maine Turnpike at exit 48 (Riverside Street/Larrabee Road Portland/Westbrook)

Turn right at the light onto Riverside Street and go 1.5 miles to Route 302

Stay on Route 302 for 15.7 miles and turn right onto Route 85 (Webb Mills Road)

Stay on Route 85 for 8.1 miles until you reach the first stop sign.

Turn right onto Route 11. (Poland Spring Road)

Laurel South is approximately 0.2 miles on the right

Laurel Road goes down the hill into the center of the camp

Medical Policy

A camp nurse and licensed medical provider will be available at all times to treat minor injuries and illnesses. If anything unusual or an emergency happens to your preteen, he/she will be accompanied by staff to the closest hospital. Parents/guardians will be contacted if this happens.

Medication

Our goal is to maintain safety and to promote health and well-being for all preteens. The church policy is that nurses are not permitted to dispense any medications other than those registered for camp or prescribed by an MD during an emergency. Campers should not carry medications with them unless prescribed by an MD and the camp medical staff is informed.

The camp will have over-the-counter medications for aches & pain, allergy, colds, and stomach discomfort. Please sign the medical release form indicating which over-the-counter medications your child should have. Please consult the medical staff with any concerns.

The following guidelines are necessary to ensure your preteen is comfortable during camp.

- Please list any known allergens and reactions.
- Register medication and supplements online and give the necessary items to the medical staff before your preteen gets on the bus.
- All medications/supplements must be in their original container, labeled with your child's name and region in a gallon Ziploc bag.
- Do not put the medication/supplements in a pillbox for each day.
- If your child's prescription is changed from what was originally documented, please provide the doctor's written order of change.
- Any vitamins, supplements or medication you send must indicate dosage and frequency.
- Over-the-counter medication at the camp will not be given without a medical release form signed by a parent /guardian

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

What To Bring

As with previous years, each child should pack everything into **ONE** bag or suitcase. Your preteen should only pack what they are able to carry. Every year many items are left behind, therefore we suggest that all of your preteen's belongings be clearly marked with your preteen's first and last name, phone number and region.

The following is a list of what they will need at camp:

- Bible, notebook and two pens
- Light backpack that will be carried around camp to various activities
- Flashlight or battery operated lantern with extra batteries
- Water Bottle
- Bedding (sleeping bag or sheets & blanket with a pillow).
 - These should be tightly rolled and securely tied.
- Lightweight waterproof jacket
- Sweatshirt – one should be enough
- Lightweight towel and washcloth – one of each
- Toiletries (toothbrush, paste, soap, shampoo, comb, deodorant, etc.)
- Bug repellent and sunscreen
- Clothing for 6 days:
 - Jeans or pants (nights are cool – 60°)
 - Shorts
 - T-shirts
 - Socks and underwear
 - An extra pair of sneakers (and/or water shoes)
 - Bathing suit (no bikinis) and swim towel
 - Two plastic garbage bags in case of rain
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Girls are asked not to wear extremely short shorts or spaghetti strap camisoles without a sleeved shirt layer underneath. All swimmers will be required to wear clothing (t-shirt and shorts) over their swimsuits as they travel to and from the waterfront.

Hairdryers and 'Crocs' or 'Croc-type shoes' are not recommended; open-toe shoes are **not permitted**. ***Electronic devices such as cell phones, radios, CD Players, iPods, iPads, PSPs, DSs, Fidget Spinners/Cubes/Clickers or other such "toys" are Not Allowed. They will be confiscated.***

Please be advised that preteens do not need phones, as they are not encouraged to call home during camp, since this can be emotionally distracting for them. If there is an emergency situation, the leaders will contact the parents. Preteens should take notes and use the Bible in the traditional manner without the use of technology.

Finally, please do not allow your preteen to bring extra snacks, candy or drinks. There will be snacks provided at the appropriate times, including on the ride up to camp.

Per Camp Laurel South rules, chewing gum is not allowed on their premises.

Disciplinary Procedures

We have set up the following disciplinary procedures. We want you to be aware of them and to discuss them with your preteen before camp because they will be strictly enforced. Behaviors that require discipline are:

- Bullying
- Obscenity
- Lewdness
- Disrespect
- Disobeying counselors or blatantly challenging authority
- Disruptive behavior including
 - fighting
 - heated arguments.

This is our procedure:

1. Two verbal warnings given at the counselor's discretion.
(The Coordinator should be involved before a 2nd verbal warning is given and with every additional step)
2. Time out. The disruptive camper is removed from the activity.
3. Isolation. If the disruptive behavior and attitude has not changed for the better, the camper will be separated from his group and his/her parent will be notified immediately.
4. Sent home. If the above measures have failed to produce a positive change in the camper, parents will be notified and expected to come immediately to pick up their preteen. There will be no monies refunded if a child is sent home.

Stealing, physical fighting, property damage, possession of illegal substances, weapons, or any kind of knife (including utility knives such as Swiss Army knives) will result in calling a parent immediately. Our goal is to make sure that everyone has a safe and enjoyable camp. Help your preteen by preparing them before they leave home.



Parent Responsibilities

1. **Make sure all necessary information required has been completed**, including providing medical insurance information and contact information.
2. **Provide written authorization for administration of medications**, which is done during the registration process by completing the medication release for over-the-counter medication dispersed by our camp staff. If your child has prescribed emergency medications (i.e. inhalers or EpiPens) please provide a written statement prepared by your child's primary care provider including name of the child, the medication, dosage, frequency, time to be given and side effects. If your child is able to carry and self-administer his/her **emergency** medication a note is required signed by his/her provider and the parent/guardian. Please contact your Coordinator if you have any concerns and the medical staff will assist you.
3. **Help to spiritually prepare your preteen for camp**, including the various challenges the child may face, such as conflicts with others and how to resolve them, not being able to participate in the sports/activities they want, living and sharing with other people, the possibility of injury, etc. Talk about your child's character and study out scriptures that deal with issues such as overcoming selfishness, homesickness, being grateful, being humble, being a servant, being joyful and persevering. Get them spiritually ready for a great camp.
4. **Stress the importance of respecting others, being polite and following the rules at camp**. Your preteen needs to know what you and we expect in terms of their behavior and obeying the people in charge. Please be sure to go over the Disciplinary Procedures with your child.
5. **Make sure they are properly packed with comfortable clothing** and the items on the list. Do not allow them to 'over-pack.' They will be carrying their own luggage to and from their cabins. Remember: kids lose stuff so please label everything. Be mindful of what is packed.
6. **Please refrain from mailing items to camp** (i.e. cards, gifts and care packages...). While it is intended to encourage your child; it can also lead to homesickness and discourage other kids who did not receive an item. It can be a great welcome home.
7. **Encourage your child to get the most out of camp** by making new friends, trying different activities, and being open to sharing their hearts. We suggest that the children use their own creativity to raise at least some of their own funds to pay for camp. This helps each child take personal responsibility for their camp experience.
8. **If your child has medical, behavioral or emotional challenges**, please discuss how these needs will be best met with your preteen coordinator and set up a plan with your child, their counselor and coordinator prior to camp.
9. **Help to spiritually debrief and process with your preteen after camp**. You will be provided with a written summary of the lessons and highlights from camp. Please take the time to have family devotionals on these lessons and the scriptures that your preteen memorized. Allow time for your preteen to share with you the things that they learned, about the friends that they have made and the many new and different things that they did. Also help them to discuss the challenges that they faced and conquered and those that they may still need help to work through. Your child's counselor and coordinators are incredible resources and are available to help you and your preteen.

Camp Schedule Overview

A Day In The Life Of A Camper! Every day is different; there's always something more to do! Here is a sample schedule of your preteen's day at camp:

7:00am - Wake up and shower

7:30am - Breakfast

8:15am - Quiet Times

9:15am - Morning Devotional

10:00-12:30 - Activities

12:30pm - Lunch

1:15pm - Cabin Time

1:45-4:15pm - Activities

4:15pm - Free Time

5:30pm - Dinner

7:30pm - Evening Devotional

8:00pm - Evening Activity

10:00pm - Lights Out

Activities

Arts and Crafts
Basketball
Dodgeball
Fishing

Camp games
Rock Climbing
Kick ball
Moosehead Relay

Gaga
Archery
Water guns
Theater

Kayaking
Canoeing
Swimming
Camp fires

About Camp Laurel South

Camp Laurel South is located near Portland, Maine in the heart of the Sebago Lake Region. Its 150 unspoiled acres include woodlands, sports fields and open lawns. The Camp's 2500 feet of private shoreline along sparkling Crescent Lake features a magnificent natural sandy beach and access to more than 3 miles of exceptionally clear waters. The area is famous for warm, sunny days and cool, comfortable nights. Its location in the southern part of Maine makes Laurel South a most inviting summer retreat for campers, counselors and summer vacationers.

The campground offers hours of fun for the athletic as well as the daydreamer:

- North Athletic Field - used for soccer
- South Athletic Field - used for soccer, water guns
- Two regulation "Little League" baseball fields
- Two "Gaga" courts
- Two Basketball Centers with competition-level courts
- Archery range
- Beautiful Crescent Lake - perfect for swimming, splashing around in the water and/or water-sliding
- Canoes and kayaks
- The Trout Pond - with poles for fishing and boats for paddling around
- Climbing Tower
- Arts & Crafts Center
- Moose Point - a former barn that serves as the backdrop for camp special events
- Down East - serves as the game room for ping pong and board games

For more information on Camp Laurel South please visit their website at:

www.camplauresouth.com

Camp Laurel South, 48 Laurel Road Casco, Maine 04015, 207-627-4334



PRICING & REGISTRATION

This year's price is \$365 per preteen, not including bus transportation, for five nights at Camp Laurel South.

Buses from Boston: \$45

Buses from Hartford: \$75

\$100 Deposit + Bus Fee Deadline: May 31st, 2017

(After May 31st, there may be a waiting list, depending on availability.)

No new Registrations will be accepted after June 7th.

Final Payment Deadline: August 1, 2017

Refund Policy: Prior to August 1, full refund. August 1st-12th full refund except for initial deposit and bus fee, if any. No refunds after August 13th.

Registration is online at the website below:

<https://bostoncocweb.myshelby.org/default.aspx?page=3357&eventId=30>.

This is a secure site that makes registering much easier. With this online registration you can update information if needed and it will give the parent full access to his or her child's registration information. There is also some flexibility to choose a payment plan that fits your needs. This process will allow for a more efficient registration process. You will receive an email confirmation after you register. **SAVE THIS EMAIL. IT CONTAINS THE UNIQUE LINK BACK INTO YOUR CHILD'S RECORD, SHOULD YOU NEED TO EDIT ANYTHING.**

We are very excited about this year's preteen camp as it promises to be life changing for all who attend. Much hard work is being put into this camp and every ounce of energy is worth it. We love seeing God work at camp and bringing hundreds of preteens closer to God after camp.