

# Pine Springs Camp

"providing vital encounters with Jesus Christ since 1948"

SUMMER  
2021

## WELCOME TO CAMP PACKET



SUMMER CAMPS • DAY CAMPS • RETREATS

# Welcome to Pine Springs Camp 2021!

## Important Information

(THIS IS THE FIRST OF TWO PACKETS THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE!)

This Welcome Packet is a little different than in the past. Each camper will receive 2 packets this year. If you are receiving this Welcome Packet then your child(ren) are currently signed up to have a fun filled and awesome week of summer. We are thankful that you have placed trust in the ministry of Pine Springs Camp to care for your camper. This is not something we take lightly and are committed to giving each camper one of the best weeks of their lives!

Here are some details concerning the two Welcome Packets that you will receive.

1. We wanted to send this initial Welcome Packet to introduce you to our camp staff who will be working hard at making camp great for your camper, to explain in part how camp will run this year, and to give you a sense of how excited we are to be able to offer a summer camp experience where campers will encounter Christ in a vital way!

2. **In this packet the only form that is included is the Medical Release Form.** All other forms will be sent in the second packet. We felt that receiving the Medical Form earlier was important because it does require you to have a Physician signature verifying that the camper has been seen by the physician or licensed medical practitioner within the past 12 months. **We will accept the Medical Form anytime after its completion up to two weeks prior to your camper's arrival at camp, at which time ALL forms are due.**

3. Also, in this packet are some of the anticipated COVID precautions that we may implement this summer. However, a revised one will be sent with the second packet and again we are hoping that circumstances may allow for some changes. However, please know that we will operate camp as safe as possible and according to guidelines recommended by the American Camping Association and the CDC.

4. In the Second Packet there will be more information concerning all that you will need to know about preparing for camp including, **details about Drop-off and Pick-Up, Nurse and Health Care information, Packing list suggestions, and other forms such as the Release of Liability, Counselor Communication, Camper Release and Camper Covenant Forms.**

We hope by doing so you will get a sense of the wonderful blessing Pine Springs Camp is, the fun that is in store for your camper and the sense of an incredible community of faith that God forms each summer.



# Welcome from the Executive Director

Dear Camper and Camper Family,

To say we are excited about seeing you this summer is an understatement- we are totally stoked, jazzed, psyched and extremely happy that you are coming to camp! If there was one thing that we all experienced on a daily basis during the Summer of 2020 was that the silence was deafening! We are ready for some noise – laughter, singing, shouting, cheering and praising God is at the top of our agenda for Summer Camp 2021!

Our theme for this summer is, appropriately, **Come Home!** We want campers to come home to a place where they belong- where old and new friendships are nurtured and enjoyed. We want campers to come home to a place where they experience God's goodness in beautiful surroundings. We want campers to come home to a place where they can try new adventures and challenge themselves in a supportive environment. We want campers to come home to a place where they have a vital encounter with Jesus Christ.

Please know that we are currently assessing all the ways that running camp will look like this summer, always keeping the camper's safety as a priority. You will notice some of the protocols we are currently developing are described in this Welcome To Camp Packet but please keep in mind that things may change. You will be receiving additional information in the coming months about our safety protocols as well as additional "Get Ready for Camp" information. But you have our commitment to keep you updated every step of the way!

Please feel free to contact us with any concerns or questions. We can't wait to see your smiling faces drive up Pine Springs Camp Road. Say goodbye to ZOOM and be ready to hear "Welcome to Camp!"

Blessings to you and your family-

Greg Davis



# Welcome from the Summer Camp Director



There are some experiences in life that can be explained by ONE word. Maybe your family has an inside joke that if anyone says a vacation spot everyone knows exactly what they are alluding to and everyone cracks up. Last year is one of those experiences. 2020! In a couple of years, just hearing the word 2020 is going to bring back some experiences that we would soon rather forget. However difficult 2020 was for you and your family, 2021 is a NEW YEAR and an exciting time to be a part of the Pine Springs Camp family! Although this summer will surely be a little different, the things that make PSC unique and an amazing experience will not change. Here are a couple of things that you can look forward to this summer:

1. Vital Encounters w/Christ- This has been our mission over the years, and it will not change. Our prayer is that all our campers will grow in their walk with Christ. All we do is designed to encourage campers to go deeper in their faith and know that the God of the universe loves them and there is hope in that.
2. Making New Friends- Although there will be less campers per cabin, Pine Springs Camp will always be a place that fosters new friendships and creates an environment where every camper can feel like they belong and are a part of something bigger than themselves.
3. Connecting with Old Friends- Our hope is that every summer will be an opportunity for campers to reconnect with old friends and past counselors.
4. Adventure Galore- Our adventure program consists of numerous activities that challenge, shape, and encourage campers as they interact with peers in a safe and positive, Christ-centered environment. Ranging from low intensity on-site activities such as hiking and team building to more high intensity on-site activities such as our climbing tower and high ropes course, every camper will have a chance to engage in some type of outdoor adventure during their week at Pine Springs. Safety is our number one priority. The Pine Springs adventure program incorporates a team building model known as "Challenge by Choice". We have designed an adventure program that builds upon previous experience to help campers gain confidence for their next outdoor adventure.
5. Games, Games, and more Games- We LOVE to play games at PSC! Our hope is that playing games will lead to laughter, joy and fun! From Chicken Wars to Instincts for Survival to Gaga Ball and Nine Square, we believe that play is an essential part of our ministry!

Thank you for signing your son or daughter up for camp! We cannot wait to make this a summer to remember. Please let us know if there are any questions! We want to make sure that we are communicating as clearly as we can how things will be a little different this summer. Please let us know if we can help!

In Christ,  
Mike Hurley



We hope that your camper's week at Pine Springs Camp will be the highlight of his/her summer. We are excited that they are going to have a vital encounter with Christ through our summer theme, interactions with our counselors and have the time of their life! Our desire is that Pine Springs Camp be a place where your camper (s) feel cared for, loved, supported, encouraged and have a better, deeper love for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Getting ready for camp can be a daunting task (even more so this summer)! Here is a list of things to go over with your children to get them prepared for what to expect this summer:

**1. Smaller Cabin Sizes:** Campers are used to have 9 or 10 other cabins in their cabin with them. Make sure your campers are aware that there will only be 5 other campers in the cabin with them. There will still be 2 counselors in each cabin so what an amazing opportunity to get to make some new friends!

**2. Camp may be different:** Make sure to talk with your child about how camp **may** be different this summer. For more information about how things may be a little different, take a look at our COVID Information page.

**3. How is your child feeling?-** The best thing you can do for your child in preparing them for camp is asking them how they are feeling. Campers go through a myriad of emotions as they get ready for camp from excitement and joy to fear and anxiety.

**4. Familiarize yourself with Pine Springs-** We encourage you to start discussing camp with your camper and please go to our website ([pinesprings.org](http://pinesprings.org)) and by going to our Vimeo page ([vimeo.com/pinespringscamp](http://vimeo.com/pinespringscamp)) and watch the many videos we have about camp. We hope by doing so you will get a sense of the wonderful blessing Pine Springs Camp is, the fun that is in store for your camper and the sense of an incredible community of faith that God forms each summer.

We understand that getting prepared for a week at camp (especially this summer) is important for both campers and parents. A more detailed list of registration times and pick up times in addition to other changes and updates will be included in our second confirmation packet coming in April. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at **(814) 243-3398** or e-mail me at **mike@pinesprings.org** We look forward to seeing you this summer.



## **WELCOME FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF FACILITY OPERATIONS AND ADVENTURE EDUCATION JUSTIN SHAFFER**

Hello camp friends!

Summer is fast approaching, and we are so excited to welcome you back to camp! As the weather warms up and the days are getting longer, I have turned my attention from plowing snow to preparing our property for summer camp. And what a beautiful property it is! I am also looking forward to the sights and sounds of campers enjoying the high ropes course, RC trucks, archery and all of our other amazing adventure activities!

See you soon!



## **WELCOME FROM OUR FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR- ELLIE DAVIS**

I can't wait to see our campers come streaming into the Refuge once again this summer! We are so ready to cook for a crowd, hear the lively chatter around the tables and see the smiling faces come through the kitchen. I am prepared to make sure the Refuge dining Hall is a safe and sanitized space for the safety of our campers and staff. There will be crazy amounts of hand sanitizer, a really cool handwashing station (wait 'til you see!), and a few new routines, but you will experience the same great food and fellowship that is associated with mealtime at Pine Springs Camp! Feel free to contact me at [ellie@pinesprings.org](mailto:ellie@pinesprings.org) with any questions. More information regarding food allergies and special dietary needs will be coming in your next packet.



## **WELCOME FROM OUR REGISTRAR- RANDI NEWLIN**

Greetings from Pine Springs Camp! What a quiet year it has been without campers! As a mother myself, I understand that there is a certain amount of nervousness when sending our kiddos off to camp. I know that this nervousness is amplified by the Covid 19 Pandemic. The ever changing climate surrounding the pandemic and vaccines etc can make it difficult to even access how we feel. Camp is such a great place for children, especially with the year they have all has. I can assure you that, as we always have, we will strive to keep everyone safe! I am beyond ready to WELCOME your kiddos back to camp. Please know that, as your registrar and fellow parent, I empathize and I welcome your questions and will happily answer them or find an answer to address your concern. I can be reached via email at [info@pinesprings.org](mailto:info@pinesprings.org), by phone in the office at 814-629-9834 or my cell phone at 814-279-0591. Feel free to reach out as often as you need to.



# Information Concerning Our Response to COVID-19

We are so excited to welcome you back to Pine Springs Camp! Thanks to the generosity of so many individuals and churches we have weathered 2020 and are looking forward to Summer Camp 2021. While camp will look different this year, the essentials remain the same: Campers will once again enjoy an intentional community of faith, they will play and explore God's creation, they will make lasting friendships and learn about God's amazing love.

Please be assured that our number one priority will be the safety of our campers. Below we have listed our current plan for a safe summer camp program. We will provide additional details of our COVID-19 safety protocols in our future communications with our camp community. As you know, circumstances and recommendations are updated on a regular basis. Our prayer is that things will improve significantly by mid-May and we will be able to conduct camp without many of the restrictions associated with COVID.

Currently, we are committed to conducting camp according to the detailed recommendations of the American Camping Association (ACA) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Listed below are some of the changes that we are prepared to implement for Summer Camp 2021.

## 1. **OUR CAMP SCHEDULE HAS CHANGED**

- You will notice that our camp schedule is streamlined this year. We will be offering three camps per week. This will allow for smaller camper groups, a strong recommendation from the ACA.

## 2. **LIMITED NUMBER OF CAMPERS PER CABIN**

- We are anticipating putting a maximum of 6 campers in each cabin. We have spacious cabins with integrated restrooms. By limiting the number to 6 campers we will be able to space bunks 6 feet apart and there will be one camper per bunk set. This setup will allow us to add campers to a cabin if it is deemed safe to do so.
- It will also help with designating restrooms facilities to no more than 3 campers per facility as each cabin has a large restroom with 2 toilets, 2 sinks and 2 showers.

## 3. **INCREASED SUMMER STAFF**

- We plan to continue our policy of assigning two counselors per cabin. This is an ACA standard, and it will enhance the individual attention that each camper will receive.
- We intend to hire more support staff to help with programming, maintenance and increased sanitization needs.

## 4. **LIMIT THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS THAT COME TO CAMP-EXCEPT NURSES, OF COURSE!**

- Pine Springs Camp has valued our Volunteer Weekly Directors as a foundational part of our ministry. Unfortunately, limiting the number of outside people at camp is a strong recommendation of the ACA. Therefore unless circumstances change, we will not be utilizing VWDs at camp this summer but will \ solicit their expertise and energy in planning an epic experience for our campers!
- NURSES will still be present each week at camp. Our nurses will be equipped to regularly monitor the health and well-being of all of our campers.

## 5. **INCREASED SANITIZATION AND CLEANING PROCEDURES**

- We are committed to providing clean and sanitized facilities and establishing protocols in accordance with the ACA and CDC for every building and area used by campers.
- We will operate our dining services with the cleaning and sanitization guidelines from the ACA, CDC, and the Pennsylvania Health Department.



## 6. **SUMMER STAFF PROCEDURES**

- Summer staff will arrive at camp two weeks prior to the first week of camp for training.
- Each staff member will be required to be tested for COVID-19 and receive a negative result before being allowed to start their training period.
- Leaving camp will be limited during the summer.

## 7. **CAMP BASICS**

Based on ACA and CDC recommendations, we are planning to run camp according to the following principles:

- Social distancing will be encouraged as much as possible, especially while inside.
- There will be proper ventilation in all our buildings.
- We will plan as much outdoor programming as possible.
- Mask wearing may be required for some activities. This will be determined by the ACA and CDC recommendations. We believe that campers will still be able to experience the relational ministry of Pine Springs Camp-even if we have to wear masks on occasion.

**If circumstances improve, we are prepared to loosen restrictions at the first opportunity to maximize the camp experience.**

## 8. **100% REFUND POLICY**

- We understand that as things change, parents and/or guardians may reconsider sending their child to camp. Therefore, campers can receive a 100% refund if the parent or guardian decides they are uncomfortable sending their child to camp due to COVID-19 concerns.

## 9. **COMMUNICATION IS KEY!**

- Inevitably, things will change concerning the best COVID-19 response. Our hope is that things will change for the better by the time that camp starts. We will provide updates and explanations on a regular basis via email and our confirmation packet. We are prepared to adjust our schedule and programming to provide our campers with the quality experience that they have come to expect and enjoy from Pine Springs Camp.

As we make plans for our 74th Summer Camping Season our top priority is to make camp as safe as possible while remaining true to our mission- providing every camper with a vital encounter with Jesus Christ! We believe that, NOW MORE THAN EVER, kids need camp. Our hope is that Summer Camp 2021 at Pine Springs Camp will be a place of belonging and celebration for hundreds of campers.



# Medical Release Form

Without this completed form your child will not be allowed to participate in any camping event.

## Personal Information

Name of camper: (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (MI) \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
1st Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph #: \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Physician Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Is the participant covered by family medical hospital insurance? YES NO  
If yes, please indicate carrier \_\_\_\_\_ Policy or Group #: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*Please provide a copy of the front and back of the health insurance card and attach to this form.**

## Health History

Date of last Tetanus shot: \_\_\_\_\_ Are immunizations current? \_\_\_\_\_  
If No, which one(s) are not current? \_\_\_\_\_ Able to take Tylenol or Advil: YES NO  
Are you currently on any medication? Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please list Medications that you are bringing to camp: (All medications must be with the Nurse)  
Medication \_\_\_\_\_ Dosage \_\_\_\_\_ x Daily \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Medication \_\_\_\_\_ Dosage \_\_\_\_\_ x Daily \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Medication \_\_\_\_\_ Dosage \_\_\_\_\_ x Daily \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Medication \_\_\_\_\_ Dosage \_\_\_\_\_ x Daily \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_  
Prescribing Physician (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Does camper have any allergic reactions to?

Bee Stings \_\_\_\_\_ Poison Ivy/Oak \_\_\_\_\_ Drugs \_\_\_\_\_ Foods \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any reactions \_\_\_\_\_

Has camper had any illness, injuries or surgeries? \_\_\_\_\_

Any special restrictions or considerations while at camp? \_\_\_\_\_

Has camper had a recent exposure to a contagious or infectious disease? \_\_\_\_\_

Any concerns we should be aware of, such as health habits, health conditions, menstruation, recent loss or trauma? \_\_\_\_\_

## THIS BOX MUST INCLUDE THE SIGNATURE OF A LICENSED PHYSICIAN OR CERTIFIED

### NURSE PRACTITIONER.

I have examined the above camp applicant within the past 12 months and in my opinion, this camper's health is stable enough to participate in an active camp program.

Please Print or Stamp Physician's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Licensed Physician's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Form Completion: \_\_\_\_\_

Form Completed by\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*Initial if completed by nurse or physician's assistant. Must be signed within the 12 months prior to the beginning of the camp season.

## IMPORTANT: This section must be completed for participation in camp activities

Parent/Guardian Authorization: This health history is correct and complete as far as I know. The person herein described has permission to engage in all camp activities except as noted. I hereby give permission to the camp's health care provider to provide routine health care; to administer medication; to order x-rays, routine tests, treatment; to release any records necessary for insurance purposes; and to provide or arrange necessary related transportation for me/my child. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the physician or dentist selected by the camp to secure and administer treatment, including hospitalization, for the person named above. I affirm that the camp, its staff and volunteers are held harmless from any liability claims, judgments, and costs incurred during my/my child's stay at the facility or involvement in the camp experience. This completed form may be photocopied for trips out of camp.

Signature of Parent/Guardian or adult camper: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I also understand and agree to abide by any restrictions placed on my participation in camp activities.

Signature of camper: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Week: \_\_\_\_\_

*For office use only*