

Dear Camp Registrar,

Thank you for agreeing to help your church promote the Camping Ministry we do together as Disciples of Christ in the Upper Midwest. It is this partnership between congregations and the Camping Ministry held at the Christian Conference Center that can change people's lives.

#### Guidelines and Helpful Suggestions for Camp Registrars:

##### 1. Take note of the following Date related information:

- a. May 1, 2009 is the Early Bird Deadline, after that prices increase by \$25 Except for Family Camp (July 30th)
- b. Confirmation for a camp is partly determined by date received.
- c. Start early with camp promo information to allow people to begin thinking about it.
- d. Send a letter to all your youth's parents letting them know about how to get their kids registered including any extra issues that your process may include.
- e. About 1 month before registrations are going to be collected asked campers and counselors who have gone before to share their experience during worship or during youth groups.
- f. About 2 months before registrations are going to be collected begin using bulletin inserts. (See #4)
- g. On each Sunday before campers are heading off to camp on Monday include a blessing service for them in worship (See #10)

2. Together Scholarship Fund Info: Together as Members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Upper Midwest we believe in the value of everyone going to camp. The partnership between Congregations and our Disciples Camping ministry at the Christian Conference Center can change a person's life! So as Disciples Together we promise to make sure that everyone gets the chance to go to camp. This is made possible through local congregational scholarships as well as a Disciples Together Fund supported by individuals and churches across the region. Please consider going to camp, it might be the experience that determines the path of your life! Bottom-Line: EVERYONE CAN GO TO CAMP

3. Summary Sheet: This form is new this year but will help you keep track of who is registered and which camp they chose. This will also help ensure that the final check is the correct amount. If you have youth who need to take advantage of the Disciple's Together Scholarship Fund simply write in DTSF in the Amount line.

4. Bulletin Inserts or Wall Promotion: In the packet this year are several Bulletin Inserts that could help you promote camp by inserting a couple of these each week in worship or if it works better for your congregation, make a Bulletin Board Display with the same purpose. (will follow under separate cover)
5. Reduce the amounts of checks by requesting that campers write their checks to the church. This will help ensure a faster processing time. This does not mean that the church should wait until all camp forms are in before writing their "one check" as some registrations should be mailed in as soon as possible due to some camps filling up early this summer.
6. Information Page: Please circulate the Information page to parents as this has mail addresses on it, policy issues and start times.
7. If you have any questions about anything relating to the camp ministry please give us a call at (641) 792-1266 and ask for Bert.
8. Counselor Recruitment: We provide this camp ministry in the truest "Disciples Together" spirit in that without volunteer counselors from each of our congregations we simply don't have the "people" power to make it all happen. We need between 150 and 200 counselors every year. Though we have many counselors who come back every year, you as Camp Registrar are a critical connection in helping the members of your church see the importance of volunteering one week of their life to change another's life.
9. Other information to remember:
  - Confirmation of campers will come to the camper and to the "Camp Registrar" Email.
  - Check all signatures. A missed signature can hold up registration and may result in a camper being unable to get into their 1st choice.
10. Suggested commissioning service for campers:

During worship or other group gathering invite Youth and Counselors to come forward (you can do this every week or once for the summer):(Have each person place their hand on the shoulder of their neighbor. [All should be facing the congregation] Minister or designee should stand behind all and place their hands on the shoulders of the campers/counselors directly in front of him/her.)

Minister/designee: These are our youth and adults who will go to camp, to Holy Ground. This is a significant time in their lives. I commend all of you to pray for each of them as

they spend time at camp - Pray that their faith journey may be enriched and strengthened during this time away. May we look forward to their return and the stories they will tell .Let us pray: "Campers and Counselors we pray that you will find welcome and strength as you attend the camp this summer. May your experiences there on the Holy Ground of the Christian Conference Center over flow into the experiences of each of us here in this congregation. Blessings be upon all of you! Amen."

## **Start and End Times for Camp**

*Junior Camps 2-5, ChiRho/CYF Camps 7-17*

1:00 p.m. Monday check-in

11:00 a.m. Saturday pickup

*PeeWee Camp*

10:30 a.m. Monday check-in

1:30 p.m. Wednesday pickup

*Junior Camp Mini 6*

3:00 p.m. Wednesday check-in

1:30 p.m. Friday pickup

*Grand Camps begin at 5:00 p.m., end at 3:00 p.m.*

*ADAM Camp*

1:00 a.m. Monday check-in

2:00 p.m. Friday pickup

*Mission Prep Camp*

1:00 p.m. Monday check-in

2:00 p.m. Friday pickup

*Equestrian Camp*

1:00 p.m. Monday check-in

11:00 a.m. Saturday pickup