



PARENT GUIDE

Registration

Please make sure your Registration Confirmation receipt is correct. If you find an error or have any questions about your registration, please call the registrar's office at (423) 929-9037.

Be sure you have completed:

- **CAMPER HEALTH FORM**
- **CAMPER PROFILE FORM**
- **and AUTHORIZATION CONSENT**

FORMS on-line by going into your camper's registration account.

We review all health information prior to the start of the session. You may receive a call from the camp office if we would like to discuss the healthcare plan for your child further.

SESSIONS BEGIN AND END

Christmas Camp at Camp Dickenson begins on **Friday** with a **5:30-6:00 pm** check-in. Campers will eat dinner after check-in.

- Health screenings will take place in your vehicle by a member of the camp leadership team. We are asking all family members in the vehicle who are not staying for the program to wear masks.
- After screening, families will then drive directly to the campers housing location. Families with children in multiple age programs will drop off their campers oldest-to-youngest.
- We are asking family members to stay in their vehicle to say goodbye to their child. Counselor staff will help campers move luggage into the cabin.
- Camp staff will be positioned in multiple locations to help guide traffic. Please bear with us, as our site was not laid out with this check-in model in mind.

Please arrive between **2:00 pm and 3:00 pm on Sunday to pick up your camper**. Campers will eat lunch prior to pick-up.

- In a similar fashion to check-in, families will drive directly to the housing location of their child.
- As usual, a photo ID is required that matches a name on your campers authorized pick-up list.
- Family members should stay in their vehicle. Counselor staff will help the campers load their luggage into the vehicles.

WHAT TO BRING

We strongly encourage you to label all items with a camper name or initials.

We strongly recommend campers bring their luggage in hard-sided bins (such as a Rubbermaid storage bin) and pack clothes in sealable bags (ex. A 2-gallon ziplock bag).

- Christmas-themed clothing items are encouraged!
- Clothes suitable for indoor spaces

- Clothes for outdoor fun in Winter, including hats and scarves
- Sleep Wear (PJ's)
- Towel and wash cloth or scrubbie
- Sturdy closed-toed Shoes (Athletic)
- Day Pack/Book Bag
- Sleeping bag or twin sheets + Pillow
- Water Bottle
- Soap and Shampoo
- Toothbrush/Paste
- Deodorant
- Bag for Dirty Clothes
- Bible
- Flashlight
- Multiple reusable face coverings

THINGS YOU WON'T NEED

Here are a few items to leave at home:

- money
- cell phones
- pocket knives, scouting knives, or multi-tools
- electronic games
- pets
- food/snacks
- items of significant value

Tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, fireworks, firearms, and weapons of any kind are prohibited at camp.

We ask everyone not to bring clothing with alcohol, drug, tobacco, or sexually suggestive or highly controversial slogans or logos.

HEALTHCARE AND YOUR CAMPER

PRE-CAMP HEALTH CONCERNS

Does your child have?

- Fever (100°F or greater) or feeling of fever/chills?
- Sore Throat?
- Runny or stuffy nose (not explained by environmental allergies)?
- Sneezing (not explained by environmental allergies)?
- Cough?
- Lack of sense of taste or smell?
- Stomach upset/Diarrhea?
- Vomiting?
- Headaches?

If "yes" for any of these symptoms, PLEASE CONTACT CAMP PRIOR TO BRINGING YOUR CHILD TO THEIR SESSION. Current recommendation is that children remain home for seven days after symptoms start, even if the child is no longer ill. If your child is still sick after seven days, keep your child at home until well for 24 hours. If you have questions about your child's health or symptoms, call your child's healthcare provider. If your child has been diagnosed by a healthcare provider with a different disease or condition – such as strep or lice – follow your healthcare provider's recommendation.

Should any such health concerns arise prior to camp, call the Camp Dickenson office (276) 744-7241 to discuss program participation options.

As stated in the Health Form, **please make sure all prescription and non-prescription medications are in their original containers and clearly labeled with the camper's name and dosages.** Dosage instructions are strictly adhered to unless alternate written/signed Physicians orders are provided.

Camp Dickenson does not require campers to obtain a health exam from a physician prior to their camp session, because of our proximity to health and emergency services.

HEALTH CARE WHILE AT CAMP

A Camper Health Assessment is part of the Check-In procedure that includes checking camper temperatures, discussing recent sicknesses or exposures, and going over the camper Health Form. All medications will be received and logged by camp personnel during Check-In.

All campers are required to have a complete and current health history on file with the camp during the camp session. Information needed includes: allergies, dietary restrictions, medications, past health treatment, immunization information, and any conditions (physical, mental, emotional, social health, developmental, or psychological) requiring treatment, medication or special considerations while at camp. Any activities a camper should not participate in can be listed on this form. **If you did not submit your child's health history when you registered, please complete the online form at least a week prior to the camp session.** Camp staff will be informed of any relevant medical needs of campers who they supervise.

Daily dispensing of prescribed medications, basic first aid, and health monitoring are provided while at camp. Families will be notified if your camper vomits, has a persistent condition (i.e. headache, nosebleed, fever, homesickness), or needs to be taken to the doctor or emergency room (Twin County Regional Hospital, Galax, VA).

All medications will be received and logged by camp personnel during Check-In. These medications will be stored securely with the Healthcare Supervisor. Prescription medication will only be administered in accordance with the instructions printed on the label. Over the counter medications will be administered in accordance with the dosage recommendations of the manufacturer, or as instructed by the camper's parent/guardian or physician.

THE CAMP EXPERIENCE

Camp is designed to be an exciting and meaningful experience for our campers. This year, activities will take place in “cohort groups,” organized by age-group and living quarters. An extra emphasis is being placed on having activities and worship outdoors, using physical distancing.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Christmas Camp activities will be done in rotations, with Older Elementary and Younger Youth cohorts moving to separate locations during rotations. Activities will include crafts, relay games, singing, recreational sports, and archery. Activity locations will vary, depending on the weather.

FAITH FORMATION



This is Year 2 in our four-year rotation through the pillars of Advent. Our focus this year is LOVE! We are thrilled to be joined by Rev. Danny Nettleton (Bridle Creek UMC Circuit) as our Minister-in-Residence for the weekend. We will worship together Friday evening, Saturday evening, and Sunday morning (communion will be included on Sunday), and also hear a morning watch message Saturday morning before activities.

MEALS AT CAMP

Each cohort will eat on a side of the Dickenson Lodge with their age-group. Campers are served three meals and one snack each full day. Meals are served cafeteria style, so everyone will be offered the same entrée, sides, and desert (at dinner). Alternative food items can be made available for some special dietary needs. We obtain all our ingredients from a professional food service provider. Information on all ingredients, including allergens, is kept in the camp kitchen.

If your child has extensive dietary needs, we may ask you to provide supplemental food items.

While Your Camper Is At Camp

Your camper will be active and busy during the weekend program. All campers should leave cell phones and other connected devices at home, in order to connect fully with the camp community. If there are any problems, camp staff will call the parents/guardians listed on the emergency contact sheet.

Living in Christian community with each other means all campers are expected to be kind and respectful towards each other. Language and actions which are abusive towards others are not acceptable. Parents, please prepare your child for these expectations. Staff will work with campers to navigate the conflicts that sometimes occur while living in community together. Parents will be

notified if a camper is unwilling to change an inappropriate behavior, or if a camper has put another child or staff member in danger.

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP DICKENSON

(If you have any problems finding us, please call (276) 744-7241.)

From the North and Northeast (Wytheville, Bland, Pulaski, Dublin, Radford, Christiansburg, Blacksburg, Roanoke) - Use Interstate 81, take Interstate 77 South (Exit #81). Going south on I-77, exit to the west toward Galax, VA at the Galax/Hillsville Exit #14 onto Hwy 58. On the west side of Galax, turn right onto Hwy 94 toward Fries, VA. In 2.4 miles, turn right on Lime Kiln Road, Rte. #638. In 1.5 miles, turn right on Camp Dickenson Lane, Rte. #640 (gravel road). In about 1 mile, you will arrive at Camp Dickenson, turning left up the hill to check-in in the main parking lot.

From the West (Independence, Mouth of Wilson, Whitetop). Take US-58 West. Turn left onto Hwy 94 toward Fries, VA. In 2.4 miles, turn right on Lime Kiln Road, Rte. #638. In 1.5 miles, turn right on Camp Dickenson Lane, Rte. #640 (gravel road). In about 1 mile, you will arrive at Camp Dickenson, turning left up the hill to check-in in the main parking lot.

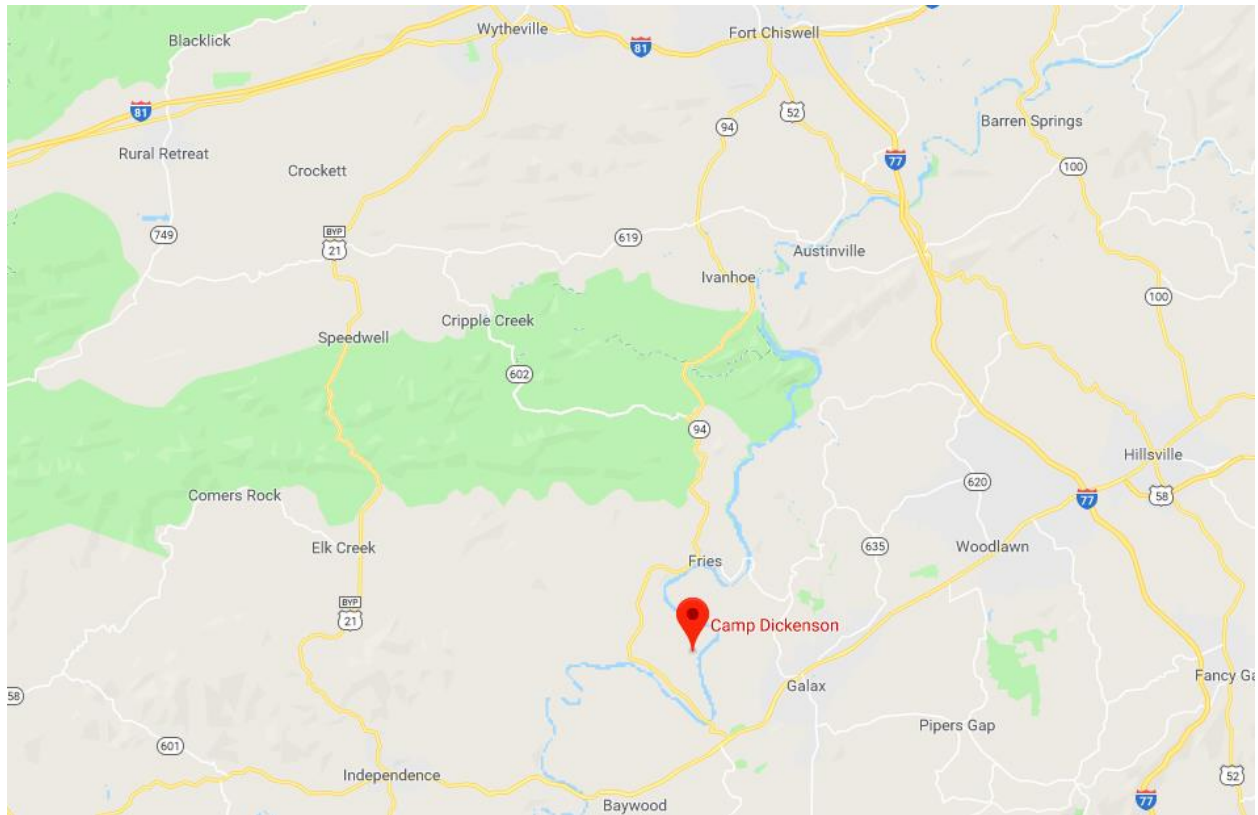
From the East (Hillsville, Dugspur, Laurel Fork, Meadows of Dan, Floyd, Stuart)- Take US-58/US-221 West through Galax. On the west side of Galax, turn right onto Hwy 94 toward Fries, VA. In 2.4 miles, turn right on Lime Kiln Road, Rte. #638. In 1.5 miles, turn right on Camp Dickenson Lane, Rte. #640 (gravel road). In about 1 mile, you will arrive at Camp Dickenson, turning left up the hill to check-in in the main parking lot.

From the South-

From the Mt. Airy area- Take W Pine Street (89) West over the VA state line. Turn left on State Route 618 (Mt. Vale Rd.) Turn sharply right on SR 607 (Meadow

Creek Rd.) Turn left onto US-58 West. Turn right onto Hwy 94 toward Fries, VA. In 2.4 miles, turn right on Lime Kiln Road, Rte. #638. In 1.5 miles, turn right on Camp Dickenson Lane, Rte. #640 (gravel road). In about 1 mile, you will arrive at Camp Dickenson, turning left up the hill to check-in in the main parking lot.

From the Sparta Area- Take NC-18E (E Whitehead St.) through Edwards Crossroad and Ennice. Turn lefts onto SR-624 (Delhart Rd.) Cross the VA state line, then bear right onto SR-622 (Delhart Rd. continues). Turn right onto US-58E, followed shortly by a left onto Hwy 94 toward Fries, VA. In 2.4 miles, turn right on Lime Kiln Road, Rte. #638. In 1.5 miles, turn right on Camp Dickenson Lane, Rte. #640 (gravel road). In about 1 mile, you will arrive at Camp Dickenson, turning left up the hill to check-in in the main parking lot.



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OUR MISSION

The mission of Camp Dickenson is to provide a place where people of all ages can come and experience the love of Christ and enjoy God's creation in a camp and retreat setting.

OUR VALUES

We are a **Christian** camp.

Everything we do is driven by our **Mission**.

We put the needs of **Those We Serve First**.

We believe **Relationships** are the key in making a difference in the lives of those we serve.

We are committed to providing a **Safe & Healthy Environment**.

We believe camp should be a **Fun & Active** place.

We practice good **Stewardship** of our resources.

We are committed to **Excellence** in everything we do.

We actively practice and model **Servant Leadership**.