**Camp Lutherwood Oregon**

**Welcome Packet**

## *Camp Lutherwood Oregon creates intentional experiences for people to access the outdoors for restoration, play and growth.*

- Camp Lutherwood Oregon Mission Statement

THANK YOU for choosing Camp Lutherwood Oregon for your child’s summer camp experience! We can’t wait to meet them!

If this is your child’s first time at Camp Lutherwood, this information should answer any questions you have about our summer camp program. If your child has been with us before, use this information as a reminder of what to expect from their camp experience.

**ABOUT OUR PROGRAM**

* Camp Lutherwood Oregon is a place for people of all ages to experience God’s love and grow in their understanding of who they are in the world.
* Our summer camp program is small group based and camper focused.
* We work to enhance the faith development of children, youth, and families through the mentoring of our staff, the fellowship of the community, and most importantly, the sharing of God’s Word in worship, prayer, and exploration.
* We are intentional about spending time in the natural world through experiential education and play, and emphasize being good stewards of the earth.
* The Gospel message is at the heart of our ministry. We celebrate God’s grace to us through the gift of Jesus Christ. We strive to give each person love, encouragement, and hope along with lots of fun and laughter.

**ABOUT OUR SUMMER STAFF**

We hire college-age adults who are called to live and serve in a faith community, many of who are former Lutherwood campers! In addition to an intensive pre-summer training, we also conduct thorough interviews and background checks on each member of our team. The summer staff are supervised, mentored, and guided by our program leadership staff and year-round staff.

**A TYPICAL DAY**

There is a rhythm to a camp day that fosters conversation, fun, and learning. We bookend our day with devotions, a time to set our intent for the day in the morning and reflect on our experiences before bedtime. Mornings include time for all camp chapel followed by cabin conversations and activities. The afternoons bring opportunities for campers to choose their own activity. Whether they want to learn something new, challenge themselves, or simply laugh with friends by the pool, we work to offer activities that will engage everyone. Evenings bring all camp games and a time to gather around the campfire together.

**WE STRIVE TO WELCOME ALL**

We want your child to have the best possible experience at Camp Lutherwood. Whether it is a dietary need, allergy concern, physical limitation, health need, or other question regarding your camper’s experience, our staff will talk with you about how to make camp a welcoming space for your child. Informing us in advance of any medical or behavior issues is helpful for our staff. All information is kept confidential. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to us before your child’s camp week about any questions you may have.

Keep reading for specific details that will help you plan for your child’s stay at Camp Lutherwood this summer!

**REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN**

Registration is from 3:00-5:00pm on Sunday. *(If you will be arriving after 5:00, please contact us in advance.)*

Our staff will help you park and direct you to the start of the check-in process. Making sure you have made your final payment, put money in your camper’s Trading Post account, and completed all health information before your arrival will make the process go more quickly.

While we know your child is excited to get to camp, our staff may not be ready to help you check-in if you arrive before 3:00.

**CLOSING**

The camp week ends on Thursday with a closing campfire at 5pm followed by a picnic dinner. Families are invited to join us for the campfire and picnic. You will be asked to RSVP on Sunday during check-in if you plan to join us for the picnic.

*An important note: Pets are not allowed in the main program area of camp. The registration process can take time, and sitting in the car is not always a good option for pets in the summer. Please take this into consideration when deciding whether to bring the family pet along for the ride.*

**WHAT TO BRING**

*A printable version of the packing list can be found on our website at* [*www.lutherwoodoregon.org*](http://www.lutherwoodoregon.org)*. We encourage you to put your child’s name on their belongings.*

\_\_Pillow and sleeping bag, along with an extra blanket if desired

\_\_Casual clothes (jeans, shorts, t-shirts)

\_\_Underwear and socks (it never hurts to pack a few extra)

\_\_Sweatshirt/jacket

\_\_Personal toiletry items (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, etc.)

\_\_Towel (two if possible - one for showering, one for the pool)

\_\_Swimsuit

\_\_Necessary medications (in original bottles/packaging)

\_\_Creek walking shoes (shoes that can get wet; not flip flops)

\_\_Close-toed hiking shoes or tennis shoes

\_\_Rain jacket or poncho

\_\_Water bottle (or buy one at the Trading Post)

\_\_Flashlight and extra batteries

­­\_\_Bible (we have extras to borrow if you don’t have one!)

\_\_Letter writing materials (optional)

*If your camper returns home without something, call us! We ask for you to cover the cost of mailing if we need to ship something to you. We keep lost and found until the end of the summer season. Any unclaimed lost and found is washed and donated to a local charity by October each year.*

**WHAT NOT TO BRING**

Cell phones, personal sports equipment, any valuables, electronic games, knives or other weapons, drugs or alcohol. Such items will be collected for safe-keeping and returned at the end of the week.

If your child needs to bring personal food items for any reason, they will be kept in the dining hall. No food items may be stored in the cabins.

**MEDICATION**

Camp Lutherwood Oregon is an American Camp Association (ACA) accredited camp. This requires that all prescription and/or over the counter medications be brought in their original containers or packaging. Any prescriptions must be current and contain detailed instructions from the provider or pharmacy for proper dispensing to the camper. All medications will be collected and kept in a locked cabinet and only administered by qualified camp medical staff.

**FOOD ALLERGIES AND DIETARY CONCERNS**

Food can make or break a camp experience, and we want meals to be a positive experience for all campers. Our kitchen staff can accommodate most diets and food allergies, but it helps to know them in advance. Please include this information with their registration and/or health form so our kitchen staff can plan accordingly.

**SUPERVISION AND CABIN GROUPS**

We abide by the standards of the industry according to the American Camp Association when it comes to supervision and cabin group size. Campers are assigned to a cabin group of 6-9 campers and led by one of our trained staff. When not doing an activity as a cabin, campers are under the supervision of another trained Lutherwood staff member.

In an effort to encourage campers to meet new friends during their time at camp, we can honor only one cabin mate request.

**MAIL AND EMAILS**

Everyone loves mail while at camp! You can send letters to our camp address with your camper’s name and cabin listed. You can also email your camper at camper@lutherwoodoregon.org with your child’s name and cabin in the subject line. Any postal mail received after your camper has returned home will be forwarded to the return address.

Emails and mail are generally delivered once a day. We cannot guarantee that emails sent after 4:00pm on the last day of camp will be delivered. Any postal mail received after your child has returned home will be forwarded to the return address.

Since campers are not able to respond to email messages, we encourage them to send letters and postcards. Stamps and envelopes are available for purchase at the Trading Post/Camp Store.

**VISITS OR PHONE CALLS**

Camp provides an opportunity to develop independence and personal responsibility, therefore, we discourage families from visiting campers during their stay. Interruptions from family members can detract from the experience and potentially increase homesickness.

Campers are not permitted to use the phone unless arrangements have been made for specific needs. In the event of a family emergency, we will facilitate a conversation between you and your child as needed.

**HOMESICKNESS**

Homesickness can be a difficult situation for campers, counselors, and parents. It can affect the experience of entire cabin groups. Spend time talking to your child about what a camp experience is like so that they are prepared before they arrive.

If homesickness does occur, our staff will do all they can to comfort and encourage the camper. Phone calls home by the camper are discouraged, though our staff may contact you for advice or options if the camper is truly struggling to engage with their group and camp activities. Campers are sent home only as a last resort. Those who leave often regret it. We don’t want any child to miss out on the fun of Camp Lutherwood! Refunds are not provided for homesickness.

**INJURIES OR ILLNESS AT CAMP**

Every effort is made to provide a safe environment for campers. Our nurse/medic is on site 24/7 to assist with any health care needs. We will not hesitate to call emergency medical personnel if warranted. We will make every effort to contact parents/guardians immediately if any serious injuries or illness occur. In cases of prolonged illness parents will be asked to take their child home.

**DISRUPTIVE CAMPERS**

Our counselors are trained in behavior management and positive reinforcement to proactively prevent disruptive behavior. We attempt to keep campers too busy having fun to think about misbehaving! Our leadership staff will step in if any serious infractions occur. Campers will be sent home if they are a continual disruption or danger to other campers.

**THE CAMP STORE/TRADING POST**

The Trading Post is filled with clothing, souvenirs, snacks, and frozen treats with prices ranging from $0.25 to $30. Campers generally have the opportunity to visit the Trading Post each afternoon. We have a $3.00 daily limit on the purchase of food items.

In order to make purchases at the Trading Post, campers must have funds in their store account. Funds can be added on your online registration account prior to the week or at check in on Sunday. As your child makes purchases throughout the week, their account will be deducted accordingly. Any remaining balances will be donated to our designated charity. No refunds will be given from camp store credit.

**GOALS, PHILOSOPHY AND EXPECTATIONS:**

Summer Staff Goal

The summer staff of Camp Lutherwood Oregon will be a community that shares and models with all campers and guests what it means to follow the leadership of Christ through:

…a growing relationship with God

…an affirming relationship with self

…genuine relationships with others

…a caring relationship with the earth

Goal for all Campers

Camp Lutherwood Oregon will be a safe and caring environment for all campers and guests to:

… discover new things

… share in community

… laugh and have fun

… learn about God’s character, love and our response

… experience nature in ways that will encourage life-long stewardship of the earth.

Camp Lutherwood Oregon Philosophy

* Camp is a place of discovery and hospitality, where all are welcome!
* Camp is a caring and safe place for all to discover and share their gifts with the community.
* Camp Lutherwood is a clean place. We are ready for our guests at all times, providing a place of rest and renewal. We provide good, nutritious meals so that no one will go hungry.
* Camp Lutherwood provides safe, fun and age-appropriate games and activities that are intentionally programmed for all to participate.
* Camp Lutherwood is a community that offers grace, love, kindness, and compassion. We live lives full of gratitude because of all our Creator God has done for us through the life-giving gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ.
* Camp strives to care for and steward the earth because we understand our connection to the earth as God’s good creation.
* Camp Lutherwood builds relationships and partnerships with local communities and regional congregations beyond the 71 acres of camp’s physical property.

Behavioral Outcomes for All Campers & Guests

(in addition to specific camp objectives)

* Join in service and hospitality to the greater camp community.
* Practice caring & affirming relationships with God, others, self and the earth.
* Willingness to participate and try new things
* Show respect to staff, fellow campers, property and self.

**HOW DO WE GET TO CAMP?**

Camp Lutherwood is located in the foothills of the Coast Range, 15 miles west of Junction City and 25 miles from Eugene on Highway 36.

*Please note: You will most likely lose cell service within 5 miles of camp.*

From Eugene:

* Take the Beltline West, towards Junction City
* Take exit #6: signs for Hwy 99 and Junction City
* Turn left/north onto Hwy 99
* At the first stoplight after passing Jerry’s, take a left onto Clear Lake Road
* Pass Fern Ridge Reservoir, to a stop sign at Territorial Hwy: go straight through the stop sign (the road will become Lawrence Rd)
* After 10 miles Lawrence Rd comes to a “T” intersection with Hwy 36: turn left on Hwy 36 • Continue through the curves for 5 miles: Look for Alderwood State Park on the right
* Continue for a mile past Alderwood and look on the left for a wooden fence and sign for Camp Lutherwood Oregon. Turn left into our parking lot at mile marker 37

From Portland:

* Head south on I-5, and take exit #216 (Hwy 228 to Sweet Home/Halsey)
* Turn right onto Hwy 228 (West, towards Halsey)
* Go left/South on Hwy 99 and continue through Junction City.
* Look for a stoplight outside of Junction City and turn right onto Hwy 36
* Follow Hwy 36 for about 17 miles
* Look for Alderwood State Park on the right and continue for a mile past the park
* You will see a wooden fence and sign for Camp Lutherwood on your left at mile marker 37

If you have additional questions about any of this information, please visit the FAQ page on our website or contact the camp office:

Phone: 541-998-6444

Email: office@lutherwoodoregon.org

Website: http://lutherwoodoregon.org