Camp Lutherwood oregon







Summer 2027

Family Welcome Packet

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

541-998-6444

lutherwoodoregon.org

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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. Even if your camper has been with us before, please review this packet as information has been updated and reviewed for this summer.



ABOUT YOUTH CAMP PROGRAMS:

All Youth Camps are carefully planned based on age-appropriate program progression and camp values which are guided by our Christian faith and Lutheran roots. Our values are:

- Generous hospitality
- A welcoming community for people of all ages, abilities, faith experience, race, ethnicity, immigration status, financial capacity, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation.
- Equitable access and diversity
- Balancing play and discovery with reflection and restoration
- Responsible, accountable stewardship of our land, facilities and resources
- Open space for learning and exploration of the natural world
- Fun, play and laughter

FAITH CONVERSATIONS AT CAMP

All are welcome at camp regardless of faith experience! Youth Camp programs include elements of faith formation from the perspective of the Lutheran tradition. Campers are never forced to participate or pushed to accept any form of belief they don't want to, but exploration of faith is encouraged for all as part of acknowledging spiritual aspects of our humanity. At camp we emphasize:

- A loving God who welcomes and accepts us just as we are, with no strings attached. We believe God desires a relationship with each of us.
- Daily faith activities include: both faith and secular songs, meal prayers and gratitude, chapel, sharing of a bible story and opportunities to discuss its application, small group faith conversations and encouragement of asking questions.
- The Gospel message is at the heart of our ministry. We celebrate God's grace to us and we strive to give each person love, encouragement, and hope along with lots of fun and laughter.

WE STRIVE TO WELCOME ALL

We want your camper to have the best possible experience at Camp Lutherwood Oregon. Our staff would love to talk with you prior to arrival about how to make camp a welcoming space for your camper. Informing us of allergies, dietary needs, medical or behavior concerns are helpful for our staff to serve your family best. All information is kept confidential. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us before your child's camp week about any questions or concerns.

A TYPICAL DAY

A typical camp day includes lots of fun and age-appropriate activities! Breakfast is at 8:30am each day. Mornings include time with cabin groups, morning celebration, and small group activities. After lunch at 12:30, all campers have time in the cabin to recharge and rest. Each day includes nature activities, team building games and challenges, choose your own adventure opportunities for campers to choose activities that interest them. Dinner is at 5:30pm each evening and is followed by large group games, evening activities and an all camp campfire (with s'mores!). Middle and High School Campers then have opportunities to explore camp in the dark through night hikes, late night games and sleepouts.



ABOUT OUR SUMMER STAFF

We hire college-age adults who are interested in youth development and providing a fun and safe camp experience for campers and guests. Many of our summer staff are former Lutherwood campers! In addition to intensive pre-summer training, staff are selected through thorough interviews, personal references, and background checks. The summer staff are supervised, mentored, and guided by our program leadership staff and year-round staff.

REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN

Registration is from 3:00-5:00pm on Sunday for youth camps. (If you are going to arrive after 5:00pm, 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 camper is excited to get to camp, our staff may not be ready to help you check-in if you arrive before 3:00pm, as we are preparing camp to give your camper the best experience possible.

Family Camp & Women's Retreat: Registration begins at 4pm on the first day of camp, with dinner beginning at 5:30pm. (Please let us know if you will not be arriving in time for dinner!)

PLEASE 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.



CLOSING AND CHECK OUT

The camp week ends on Thursday with a closing campfire at 3pm followed by a BBQ dinner. Families are invited to join us for the campfire and picnic. An RSVP email will go out two weeks before the beginning of your camper's session to RSVP if you plan to join us for the dinner picnic. You may also RSVP at check-in on Sunday. It is preferred by the chef so they can be prepared for everyone.

Family Camp & Women's Retreat: The camp program will end after brunch with a closing gathering at 11am.

Mini Camp: If your Camper is joining us for Sunday-Tuesday Mini Camp, then there is a closing campfire at 2:00pm on Tuesday with departure at 2:30pm. Families are welcome to join us for the closing campfire. If your Camper is joining us for Tuesday-Thursday Mini Camp, then our closing Camp Fire begins at 3pm on Thursday with the rest of Camp.



WHAT TO BRING

A printable version of the packing list can be found on our website at www.lutherwoodoregon.org/preparing. 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
__Sunscreen (we have extra on site)
__Necessary medications (in original bottles/packaging)
__Water shoes (shoes that can get wet; not flip flops)
__Close-toed shoes
__Rain jacket or poncho
__An Empty Water bottle (or buy one at the Trading Post)
__Flashlight and extra batteries
__Bible (optional)
__Letter writing materials & stamps (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 or tablets, knives or other weapons, vape pens, E-cigarettes, or any other smoking products, drugs or alcohol including marijuana, or any other items deemed inappropriate. Legal items will be collected for safe-keeping and returned at the end of the week. Any items deemed unsafe by Camp staff may be thrown out.
Bringing weapons, drugs, alcohol or any smoking products is a direct community violation and campers are subject to be sent home immediately.

Camp Lutherwood does not conduct bag searches during registration, and would only ever conduct a bag search if we believe there may be a safety issue. Please feel free to double check your campers' bags to ensure their safety, and just in case you forget the toothbrush.



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. ALL prescriptions must be current and contain detailed instructions from the provider or pharmacy for proper dispensing to the camper. For youth camps, all medications will be collected and kept in a locked cabinet and only administered by qualified camp medical staff. Participants in Family Camp and Women's Retreat will keep their own medications, but please still bring original containers.

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 health form so our kitchen staff can plan accordingly. If your child needs to bring personal food items for dietary reasons, it will be kept in the dining hall. No food items may be stored in the cabins.

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 6-10 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. Campers in some Jr High and High School programs are given the option to choose “boys” cabin, “girls” cabin or “all-gender” cabin which offers additional housing options. All-gender cabins are a good option for campers who prefer to bunk with friends or cousins of a different gender or for those who are most comfortable in a cabin with all genders. Campers will never be assigned a cabin they didn’t choose without talking with the camper family first.

Privacy and safety are of utmost importance at camp. All bathrooms have individual, locking toilets and showers. Changing tents are provided for each cabin building. Campers are encouraged to change in private and staff are instructed to always use the restroom or changing tent.



MAIL AND EMAIL

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. Please note that campers will not be able to email you back. Emails and mail are generally delivered once a day. We cannot guarantee that emails sent after 4:00pm a day before 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. Consider sending mail several days prior to your camper's arrival to allow for ample time for the USPS to deliver it.

Some families send a letter or two during the week, and up to 1-2 pieces of mail per day is appropriate. It's important to keep in mind that some campers don't get any mail during the week. If you are really set on sending lots of mail to your camper, please consider sending letters or cards to the whole cabin!

PLEASE NOTE: Mail from home can remind campers that they are still connected to their family even while at camp. Tell them what you've been up to, remind them to wear sunscreen and that you can't wait to hear about all their cabin group and favorite meal. Keep in mind that mail can also make missing home worse! Avoid sharing upsetting news, emphasizing how sad the cat is when they are away or what they're missing at home. Instead, focus on all the fun they're having at camp and remind them how proud you are that they're learning to be independent. Focusing on the positive goes a long way and sets your camper up for success.

VISITS OR PHONE CALLS

Camp provides an opportunity to develop independence and personal responsibility; therefore, we do not allow families to visit campers during their stay. Interruptions from family members can detract from the experience and potentially increase missing home and feelings of missing out.

Campers are not permitted to use the phone unless advance 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.

MISSING HOME

Homesickness, or missing home as we call it at camp, 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. We have provided videos to prepare for camp at lutherwoodoregon.org/preparing.

If your camper is missing home, 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 campers who choose to leave camp due to missing home.

INJURIES OR ILLNESS AT CAMP

Every effort is made to provide a safe environment for campers. Our Camp 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.

UNWANTED OR UNSAFE BEHAVIOR

Camp Lutherwood Oregon is committed to being a safe and inclusive space for all to enjoy the camp experience. All campers and staff are asked to participate in creating a community of love, support and inclusion. Our staff are trained in behavior management and positive reinforcement to proactively prevent unwanted behavior. Our leadership and year-round staff will assist if any serious issues arise. Staff will make every effort to provide the necessary support and guidance for all campers to thrive in the camp community. Parents/guardians may be contacted and asked to pick up campers early who, despite appropriate intervention, repeatedly cause harm to others or themselves. This includes physical or verbal behaviors.

THE TRADING POST/CAMP STORE

The Trading Post is filled with clothing, souvenirs, snacks, and frozen treats with prices ranging from $0.25 to $45. Campers will 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 or at check in on Sunday. As your child makes purchases throughout the week, their account will be deducted accordingly. No refunds will be given from unused camp store credit. All remaining balances will be donated to the camp's scholarship fund.

A list of items and prices will be sent prior to arrival so you can decide on the appropriate amount of store funds for your camper.



GOALS, PHILOSOPHY AND EXPECTATIONS

Camp Lutherwood Oregon Philosophy

• Camp is a place of discovery and hospitality where all are welcome!
• Camp is a caring and safer place for all to come together and participate in 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 protect 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 86 acres of camp's physical property.



GOALS, PHILOSOPHY AND EXPECTATIONS CONTINUED:

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 example of Christ through:
...an openness to a relationship with God
...an affirming and respectful relationship with self
...genuine relationships with others where diversity is celebrated and other's voices are heard
...a caring relationship with the earth

Goal for all Campers
Camp Lutherwood Oregon will be a safe and more caring environment for all campers and guests to:
... discover and try new things
... participate in a welcoming and respectful community
... laugh and have fun
... learn about God's grace and love and who Jesus is
... experience nature in ways that will encourage life-long stewardship of the earth

Behavioral Outcomes for All Campers & Guests
- Join in service and hospitality to the greater camp community
- Practice kind and respectful actions towards self, others and the natural world
- Willingness to participate in camp activities and try new things
- Show respect for all people, their diverse backgrounds and ensure everyone's voice is heard

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 at lutherwoodoregon.org/preparing or contact the camp office:
Phone: 541-998-6444
Email: office@lutherwoodoregon.org