

## VOLUNTEER INFO PACKET - MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP 2025



# Middle School Camp

### **RESLIFE YOUTH VISION**

Every Student Known. Every Student Discipled.

### **GOAL OF MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP**

Create an environment for students to ENGAGE in relationships with each other and leaders, to ENCOUNTER God in a life-transforming way and to be EQUIPPED as totally committed followers of Jesus Christ.

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## **IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION**

**Saturday July 12, 2025 | 8:00 AM Volunteer Check-In & Mandatory Training | At Camp Harvest**

**Tuesday, July 15, 2025 | 12:00 PM Volunteer Check-Out**

Questions? Email or call: [youth@reslife.org](mailto:youth@reslife.org) | (616) 249-3714

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**Volunteer Age Requirements:** Cabin Leaders (counselors) must be 18 years or older; this is the main role at Middle School Camp. Age exceptions and adjusted volunteer placements may be made for volunteers actively serving with us and for pre-assigned worship team members.

**Volunteer Application Process:** After registering online, you will be contacted by the ResLife Youth Staff. Upon acceptance of your initial registration, there are further steps to complete your application process. These will include filling out several forms and documents that we will provide for you. ***Failure to complete the provided forms in a timely manner may result in you being unable to volunteer at Camp.***

**Grade Breakdown:** Middle School Camp is open to students going into 7th-9th grade in the fall of 2024.

**Cost:** ResLife Church covers the cost for volunteers to serve at Middle School Camp.

**Location:** Camp is being hosted at Camp Harvest in Newaygo, MI.

**Transportation:** Volunteers are responsible for transportation TO and FROM Camp. Feel free to independently coordinate carpooling, if necessary.

**Volunteer Campers:** If you are bringing a camper(s) with you during volunteer check-in, they will be required to stay with you through all of volunteer training (3 hours) and up until they are checked into their cabin at 1:00pm. Please inform us in advance if you are planning to bring your child or family member with you.

### **EMERGENCY NUMBERS:**

Emergency phone calls will be received at the Camp Harvest office: (231) 652-8020

### **For ResLife Youth Staff Contact:**

Pastor James Hall (734) 502-2560

Nicki Van Abbema (616) 862-1606

Ayden Rycenga (616) 540-6220

*(Please be aware that cell phone reception varies)*

# **CHECK-IN INFORMATION**

**Volunteer Check In Date/Time:** Saturday, July 12, 2025 | 8:00 AM

**Student Check In Date/Time:** Saturday, July 12, 2025 | 1:00 PM

- **Camp Harvest:** 6829 East 72nd Street, Newaygo, MI 49337

## **Check-In Information:**

- Please use the main entrance to Camp Harvest. There will be greeters who will direct you to the designated parking area. Once you have parked, please go to the field to check-in.
- All volunteers with medications need to see the nurses. For a faster registration process, please have your medical information completely filled out and updated on your online registration form. Please have the medications you bring to camp in a plastic bag and in their original bottles with your name and birthdate on them.
  - **Medication Policy:** The State of Michigan requires that all prescription medications and over-the-counter medications be in their original bottles with only the amount needed for the length of stay. All prescription bottles should come in a Ziploc bag with the persons name on it and will be turned in to the Nurses upon arrival.
- All luggage should be clearly labeled with their first and last name. Luggage is placed on a Camp Harvest trailer and brought down to the cabin area. Having luggage clearly marked will eliminate your items being misplaced.
- You will be given your volunteer materials, a lanyard and a free t-shirt at check-in.
- After registration you may go directly to your cabin and unload your luggage. Please move your car to the designated volunteer parking lot before 12:00pm.

## **Volunteer Training:**

- Volunteer training will be in the Lodge. This training is mandated by the State of Michigan. Please allow enough travel time to make sure you will be on time for training.
- **If you are unable to attend this training, you will not be able to volunteer at Camp.**

## **OVERVIEW OF VOLUNTEER ROLE**

*With the exception of pre-assigned worship team members, all accepted volunteers will be placed in a 'Cabin Leader' (counselor) role during camp.*

### **CABIN LEADERS**

- Must be 18 years or older
- Responsible to Ministry Leader
- Should be able to share their own conversion story with others and be familiar with Scripture in order to lead others to Christ
- Have a solid understanding of God's Word in order to disciple others
- Responsible for their cabin of campers. Develop strong relationships with each camper meeting their needs in love
- Monitor the physical well-being of the campers in your care: teeth brushing, proper hygiene, water intake, adequate sleep and buddy system.
- Monitor the emotional and spiritual well-being of the campers in your care: watch for signs of loneliness and bullying, watch for opportunities to share the good news of the gospel.
- Strive to continue relationships with your campers after Camp
- Consistently supervise campers
- Must attend in-service training (3+ hours)

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## **PERSONAL CONDUCT STANDARDS**

In addition to the basic camp rules, every individual on camp property is responsible for personal holiness. As such, Camp Harvest does not accept conduct such as:

- Premarital sexual relationships
- Substance abuse
- Theft
- Extramarital sexual relationships
- Abusive behavior
- Criminal activity
- Homosexual relationships
- Breach of trust
- Dishonesty
- Use of pornographic material
- Sexual assault/harassment

# CAMP HARVEST RULES

## **Boundaries of Camp:**

- There are no boys in girls cabins and no girls in guys cabins at any time for any reason.
- Please do not go out of camp by going up Dorothy's Hill – the big wood gate, by leaving the valley, or crossing any fences unless FOR an official activity.
- Only the kitchen staff and cleaning crew are allowed in the kitchen area unless authorized by Kitchen Manager/Head Cooks or Camp Director.
- All maintenance facilities and equipment are for authorized personnel only. Let the staff know if there are maintenance issues or broken items that need attention. The Camp Director must authorize operators of maintenance equipment.
- Do not go in any of the water bodies or water attractions without permission from program staff
- The elevator is off limits to all campers.

## **Behavior: Respect Each Other:**

- **Respect the property of others** - just as you wouldn't want someone to touch your stuff or invade your privacy, please respect their things as well:
  - If it is not yours don't touch it
  - No one is to "raid" cabins,
- **Build others up** - we should avoid tearing others down with our words or actions and never put them in any dangerous/uncomfortable situation not of their choosing.
  - No pranks
  - No dare games
  - No games involving punishments

*These are not played here at Camp Harvest and are a violation of state law*
- **No weapons of any kind** - Some maybe non-obvious examples include airsoft guns, pocket knives, homemade spears, utility knives, razor blades, etc.
- **Keep your hands to yourself** – Some maybe non-obvious examples include wrestling, horseplay, towel popping, hazing activities of any kind, even threats of harm.
- **Respect the Camp property** - Please stop kids from drawing, writing or carving on camp buildings, equipment or natural surroundings.
- **See Something, Say Something.** Silent bystanders are also guilty.
- **Be on time to meals** - Our kitchen staff does their absolute best to accommodate the program timeline, but we need to show up on time!
- **Cabin time/Quiet time at 11:00 pm** - We have a noise ordinance with the city and would like to remain great neighbors. Please help your kids understand the need to quiet down at 11pm. Also, the goal of camp is compromised by kids falling asleep during the program, so encourage adequate sleep.

## General Safety:

- **Shoes and shirts are required at all times.** For safety reasons shoes must always be worn by everyone around the Camp including going to and from the waterfront, unless for program reasons as directed by the Camp Director. For high adventure activities, and most large group games, closed-toed shoes are recommended (i.e., zipline, obstacle course).
- **Campers should not keep food in cabins.** The food will attract animals and insects. This can cause a safety problem for people in the cabin.
- **Do not block exits** of cabins or buildings for any reason
- **Candles or open flames are not allowed** in any accommodation at Camp. This includes the use of "PIC" insect repellent coils unless they are contained in an approved non-combustible container.
- **Everyone will wear an identifiable marker** to show that they are someone who is approved to be on campus:
  - All authorized campers will wear colored wristbands.
  - All Ministry Leaders, Cabin Leaders, and other full week church volunteers who have been screened and approved prior to arrival will wear their lanyard or other identifying marker at all times.
  - All Camp Staff will wear their staff apparel at all times.
  - Leaders, parents or other members visiting camp must check in with the Camp Director or Lead Health Officer and receive a visitor's badge and be escorted by a screened and approved chaperone while on campus.
  - If you see anyone without one of these markers, please bring it to the attention of a camp staff member immediately.
- **Siesta Fiesta** - Camp Harvest highly recommends a 1-hour break directly after lunch. All campers and cabin leaders spend this quiet time in their respective cabins. We have found that the fruit abounds when campers get adequate rest. This quiet break midday helps avoid many behavior issues with problematic campers who just need a few minutes to reset.

## Not Allowed at Camp:

- No alcohol, nicotine or drugs of any kind
- No pornography of any kind
- No weapons of any kind
- No electronic media

*Please turn anything in- there is a grace period though day one dinner.*

## **VOLUNTEER PACKING LIST**

Camp Harvest provides food and lodging for you while you are at camp. You will share a cabin with your small group and share bathroom facilities with the campers as well. You will have a bunk in the cabin.

Please mark all luggage with your name. Also, label all belongings with your first and last name. These simple measures will help prevent items from getting lost or misplaced.

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### **WHAT TO PACK**

- Sleeping bag or other bedding
  - Pillow
  - Towels
  - Toiletries
  - Clothes for warm & cool weather
  - Athletic shoes/2 pair
  - Hat
  - Swimsuit (modest, lined, one piece)
  - Boots & Rain Gear
  - Jacket, sweater, fleece
  - Alarm clock
  - Watch
  - Flashlight
  - Bible and Devotional materials
  - Insect Repellent
  - Sunscreen
  - Water bottle (with your name on it!)
  - Backpack or a beach bag
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### **WHAT IS NOT ALLOWED**

- Alcohol, nicotine or drugs of any kind
  - Pornography of any kind
  - Weapons of any kind
  - Electronic media
  - Over-the-counter medications (If you have particular brands you use, please check them in with the health officers when you arrive). *No meds of any kind are allowed in the cabin.*
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### **COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATIONS (NOT REQUIRED)**

- Décor for your cabin. (please bring your own scissors, tape, etc)
- Name cards for bunk beds to help remember names.
- Glow sticks, headbands, facepaint, etc for your campers.
- Fans and/or noisemaker for sleeping.
- Portable speaker for playing music.
- Large sheet to make a changing room inside the cabin.
- Guitar/ukele's if you play or want to create opportunities for others to.
- Card games, coloring books or other activities for cabin and free time.

# MAP OF CAMP HARVEST

