

# Lakeview Methodist Conference Center

## **Resident Camp Parent Guide**

Thank you for choosing Lakeview for your child's summer resident camp experience. We understand the awesome responsibility that you have given us to take care of your camper. Our number one priority is to ensure your camper's physical and emotional safety. This Parent's Guide will help you prepare for your 2021 Summer Camp experience. This guide includes important new information on how to make your camper's experience as amazing as possible. Please make sure to read all the following information and let us know if you have any questions.

Pradley Debarty

Bradley Doherty

Director of Program and Ministry

### **LAKEVIEW CONTACT INFORMATION**



Camp Office Phone: 903.538.2711

Camp Fax Number: 903.538.2797

Camp Registrar Email: registrar@lakeviewmcc.org

Camp Address: 400 Private Road 6036

Palestine, TX 75801

Camp Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:00-4:30 pm \*You will find emergency contact information in this guide.

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#### PRE-CAMP CHECKLIST



Here is a Checklist to assist you in preparing for your camper's week at Lakeview!

Specific details will follow in this guide.

Please make sure you have made your final camp payment.

Submit your Cabin Life, Camper Conduct and Health History.

Help your child pack using the enclosed packing list as a guide.

Familiarize yourself with the Parent Curriculum.

Follow Lakeview on social media so that you and your camper can get updates and see new additions to Camp!

## **Paperwork Details**



Three camp forms are required before your camper arrives for their camp session.

- 1) Health History Form- Campers will not be admitted to camp without an accurately completed and signed Health Form by a parent/guardian. A doctor's signature or copy of a physical visit is at the parent's discretion.
- 2) Cabin Life Form- Our counselors really appreciate this information. It helps them get to know your camper even before they arrive. It gives you the opportunity to "talk" directly to your camper's counselor!
- 3) Camper Code of Conduct This is the standard that all campers will be held accountable to. Make sure that you and your camper read and sign this together. It really allows us to avoid potential conflicts when the camp, parents/guardians and campers are all on the same page!

You can find these forms by going back into your camper's registration account.

# **Payment Options**



Final payments are due two weeks before the start of your camper's session.

If you still have a balance, there are a few options for paying your camp fees:

#1- By logging back into your account, additional payments can be made as often as you would like:

www.lakeviewmcc.org and -> Register to log in again.

- #2- By mailing a check or money order to Lakeview. Please assure that you have your camper's name in the "for" line of the check.
- #3- By calling Peggy Jordan (Camp Registrar) at the camp office during business hours and giving your debit/credit card information over the phone.

# **Emergency Contact Information.**

During business hours (8:00 am-4:30 pm) please contact the Lakeview office at 903.538.2711.

After hours please contact in order:

Bradley Doherty at 210.313.6200 Drew Walker at 405.830.4904 Josh Pulver at 405.747.5477 Monroe Walker at 903.724.5553



## **Frequently Asked Questions**



Here are some of the most commonly asked questions. If you have any others please do not hesitate to call our main office at 903.538.2711.

# Cabin Mate Requests - Can my child request to stay in a cabin with a friend?

We make every effort to place campers with requested cabin mates. We set up our cabins by age and gender and ask that cabin mates be no more than a year apart in age. All cabin mate requests must be made by families on their registration form, or in writing to the Camp Registrar prior to arrival. Requests made less than two weeks prior to a session are not guaranteed. If no cabin mate requests are made Lakeview will automatically place campers with a mix of campers from their own and other churches.

# Snack Shack and Camp Store - How do I set up an account for my camper?

We think it is best for campers to not have cash at camp. So we recommend before the session starts, parents purchase Lakeview Bucks for their camper(s) to use in the Snack Shack, Camp Store and Wahula Hut. Funds purchased prior to the Thursday before the session will be delivered on opening day. Cards purchased after this time are not guaranteed to be delivered on opening day. They will be delivered in the order thay they are received. Cards can not be purchased by cash. We have changed our process so that we can get Lakeview Bucks to campers more quickly. Any unused funds at the end of the summer will go into Lakeview's scholarship fund. You can visit www.lakeviewmcc.org to order Lakeview Bucks.

We recommend \$20 for snacks for one week and add any additional amount for souvenirs or extra snacks. These souvenir items are typically priced between \$2.50 and \$20.00. Estimated prices for a few of our most popular items: Lakeview T-Shirts \$15, Stuffed Animals \$10 - \$15, Flashlights \$5, Water Bottles \$4 - \$8, Jewelry \$3 - \$10.

# Medications and Allergies - What if my child takes medication or has life threatening allergies?

All medication (including prescriptions, over-the-counter drugs, and vitamins) must be brought to camp in the original container (as purchased or issued) to turn into the Camp Nurse during check-in.

Prescription containers must detail the child's name, name of medication, dosage directions, and the name of the person ordering the medication.

Life threatening allergies (bee stings, food allergies, etc) need to be listed on the Health Form and discussed with the Director of Program and Ministry or Food Service Director during the check-in process. You also may inform your child's camp counselor about any special needs, but please do not list it on your Cabin Life form. It must be listed on the Health Form. Epi-Pens and Inhalers will be carried by your camper during the day.

At the end of the week all medications will be returned with your camper.



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

# Camper Mail - How should I send mail to my camper?

Mail means so much to campers and we highly recommend it. Parents should avoid talking about missing campers as this may lead to homesickness. Comments like "we are so proud of you" or "see you soon" are just what campers need to hear! Funny cards, post cards, and small care packages are fun, too. Parents can get mail to campers by:

1) Mailing them a few days prior to camp or at the beginning of the week to:

Camper's Name, Camp Session week Grade Level 400 Private Road 6036 Palestine TX 75801

2) Send it up with a leader from your church with the camper's name and what day they want the mail delivered.

# Camp Pictures - Does Lakeview post pictures of camp during the week?

Yes, we do! Lakeview will post camp pictures each day by 10 pm for parents to get a peek of what campers are experiencing that day at camp. This summer, we're excited to let you know about a new photo delivery service where you can get all the photos of your camper delivered straight to your phone! No more searching for hours for proof of fun!

This optional service, offered by Waldo Photos, uses facial recognition to find the photos of your camper, and then sends them to your phone via the Waldo App with notifications when new photos are found.

You can also scroll through and view all the photos for free on the Waldo Gallery.

Need help? Email campsupport@waldophotos.com.

# What are the arrival and departure times this summer?

This summer volunteer counselors, deans and directors will arrive Sunday afternoon. Campers will arrive Monday mid-morning. Specific arrival times will be emailed to you.

# Cell Phones and Electronics - Can my child bring a cell phone or other electronics?

Camp is a place for kids to get "unplugged" from the outside world and enjoy a week of just being a kid. The statistics on how excessive screen time negatively impacts a kid is staggering. We do not allow campers to have cell phones while at camp. If a camper brings a phone it will be collected and kept safe until the camper returns home. Campers will be able to use other electronics at the discretion of the counselors during specific times. We have had problems with adults in the past telling campers to hide phones and lie to staff/volunteers about having a phone. Please do not do this, it can have a significant negative impact on cabin dynamics and diminishes our ability to make life changing impacts.

# Last Day to Pay - When is my last day to pay my final balance and turn in my forms?

We require that all forms are turned in and final payments are made two weeks before the start of the session you registered for. If for some reason more time is needed please contact Peggy Jordan (Camp Registrar) to make arrangements.

# Refunds - What is Lakeview's cancellation policy?

We offer a full refund for any reason if we are notified of a cancellation more than 4 weeks prior to opening day of the session. If a camper cancels between 4 weeks and 2 weeks prior to the session starting, a 50% refund of the total cost of camp is available. If a camper cancels within 2 weeks of the session starting no refund will be issued. Lakeview will offer a full refund prior to a camper checking into camp if the camper can not attend for a medical reason (doctor's note required) or a death in the family. If a camper is required to leave because of medical reason or death during the session a 50% refund is available.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**



# Counselors - What kind of training do the counselors/staff go through?

The physical and emotional safety of your camper is the single most important thing to us. All staff hired by Lakeview are found and vetted by a process that includes extensive interviews, reference checks and background checks. Our staff will go through 1.5 weeks of intensive training. Counselors will check in from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

All Lakeview volunteers are required to:

- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Complete all Safe Sanctuary trainings before camp starts.
- Attend (in person or online) Lakeview's volunteer counselor training.

# Camp Organization - How will ages be divided in 2021?

In order to streamline our schedule, make better use of our resources and more accurately reflect how most of our churches organize youth groups this summer we will have three age levels for all weeks of the summer

Elementary - Campers entering 3rd - 5th grade Mid-High - Campers entering 6th - 8th grade Senior High - Campers entering 9th - graduating 12th

# Church Payments - What if my church is going to pay a portion of my camper's fees?

If your church or district has decided to subsidize the cost of camp they will be able to make a payment on your behalf. Your church leader will provide you with further details as needed. Once a payment is received it will be posted to your account.

## Lakeview Scholarships -Does Lakeview offer financial assistance for campers?

We believe that financial hardships should not be a reason why campers can't participate in our program and services. That's why Lakeview offers camp scholarships for those who financially qualify. Because resources are limited Lakeview is unable to fund 100% of any camp fee. Recipients are expected to participate financially in some way. The scholarship is determined based on the number of household members and total household income.

This assistance is given independent of any assistance that the local church may offer. Families will need to apply directly with Lakeview to be eligible. Families can contact Peggy (Camp Registrar) for an application.

#### Why is camp starting on Monday?

Every year we take a look at our programs and what we can do to make them better. Our desire is to continually evolve so that we can serve our campers in the most effective way possible. This summer adults will arrive the day before campers. Adults will not have to rush to camp to get here in time. It will give us time to answer questions, prepare cabins for campers and complete training's. We are excited about this change and what it will mean for the overall quality and safety of Lakeview.

## **Packing List**



The following is a recommended list. You may pack your camper's belongings in a large duffle bag or trunk. A trunk up to 14" tall will fit underneath a bunk. Lakeview is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen items. Label items plainly with your child's name, have your camper check the lost and found area before leaving camp and check through your child's belongings when he/she returns home. If your camper is missing any items please call camp at 903.538.2711. All unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity 2 weeks after the camp session ends.

#### **Recommended Clothing**

- Tennis shoes (2 pair)
- Long pants (1 pair)
- T-shirts (8)
- ☐ Shorts (6)
- Underwear (8)
- Socks (8 pairs)
- Appropriate swimsuit
- Shower shoes
- Pajamas
- Cap or hat
- Poncho or rain jacket
- Messy game clothing (that might just get too messy to return home)

#### Items to Leave at Home

- Cell phones (Recommended)
- Electronics (iPods, game systems, etc...)
- Money (We recommend Lakeview Bucks)
- Knives, weapons
- Expensive jewelry
- Candy, gum, food and drinks
- New clothes/shoes (campers need to be free to play and not worry about ruining anything while here at Camp)
- Anything intended for pranks
- Bad attitudes

#### **Recommended Items**

- Shower caddy
- Bath towel
- Beach towel
- Dirty laundry bag
- Soap and shampoo
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Sleeping bag or twin sheets with blanket
- Pillow
- Bible
- Journal/notepad
- Pre-addressed stamped cards
- Disposable camera
- Hiking boots
- Backpack

Sunscreen (spray)

Bug spray

Water bottle

Flashlight

Facemask (we recommend bringing 3)
Optional: Costume clothes for
dance/dress up nights (example: silly
hats, fun socks, bright and colorful
clothing...)

