



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

If you have any questions, or need additional information, contact the Registrar at (410) 556-6900

### **WELCOME!**

Thank you for choosing Camp Pecometh! We know you have many options and are grateful that you will be entrusting us with the care of your camper this summer. Pecometh is open to everyone without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, religious preference, or ability. Our ministry is committed to serving people on an individual basis to provide a meaningful camp experience. We are looking forward to your camper's arrival at Camp Pecometh! Please take a few minutes to review the following information.

Definitely don't miss the **HEALTH HISTORY FORM AND MEDICATION ADDENDUM** section on page 2!

### **FINANCIAL**

Final payments are the responsibility of the parents, even if your church or a sponsoring agency is providing assistance.

- **PLEASE NOTE: Your camper's spot is not reserved until you have made the non-refundable registration deposit of \$50.** At that time, your camper's status will change from "enrolled" to "registered."
- You may make payments at anytime through your camper's online account.
- All final balances are due on or before **June 1**, unless you have called or emailed to make other arrangements with the Registrar.
- Be sure to include the camper's name on all payments submitted by mail.
- If we receive your camper fee payment in full by February 1, we will reduce your camper fee by 10%. If we receive your camper fee payment in full by March 1, we will reduce your camper fee by 5%. The Registrar will make the adjustment.
- If you have 3 or more campers from the same household, please contact us regarding multi-camper discounts.
- Changing programs after confirmation may result in a \$15 processing fee.
- Payments for more than one camper or program can be made with one check.
- Please note that there is a \$25 Returned Check Fee. We also accept Master Card, VISA, Discover, American Express., and ACH.

Make checks payable to Camp Pecometh and mail to:

**Registrar  
Camp Pecometh  
136 Bookers Wharf Road  
Centreville, MD 21617**

### **THRIFTY FIFTY FOR RETURNING CAMPERS**

Help us to register your friends as first-time campers and we'll help you AND your friend. This is a WIN-WIN-WIN: Your friend wins, you win and Pecometh wins. Here's how it works:

- Have your friend who is a first-time camper register for camp, select "Thrifty Fifty discount" and list your name. They'll get a \$50 discount.
- We'll apply a \$50 credit toward the cost of camp for each first-time camper you bring.
- You are eligible for Thrifty Fifty credits up to the total cost of your camper family balance.

### **CANCELLATION / REFUNDS**

The \$50 deposit is not refundable unless a family death or verifiable medical cause prevents the camper from attending. Campers canceling prior to the beginning of the program will receive a refund of payments made, minus the deposit, ONLY if we are able to fill their space. If a program is canceled due to lack of participation, and another suitable program is not available, Pecometh will refund all monies paid, including deposit. If your program choices are unavailable, we will contact you. **No Refunds will be made after June 1.** Campers leaving the program after it begins will not be eligible for any refund.

### **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The Pecometh Campership Fund, supported by donations, provides financial assistance on an individual basis to campers in need in the form of partial camperships. No full camperships are available. Funds are subject to availability. Camperships may only be applied for after the registration deposit has been received with the application. If you are in need of a campership, please send your request with your completed registration form. Local churches and agencies are encouraged to underwrite as much as 50% of camper fees as an investment in our children and youth. Check with your church to see if assistance is available. When submitting funds for this purpose, churches are asked to indicate the campers' names on the check to ensure proper credit. It is the responsibility of the parent to see that the church's payments are received at camp by the due date; each church may have a different procedure, and we are not involved directly in their system. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Pecometh Campership Fund, please send a check or credit card information to the Registrar.

If you are a currently licensed RN in good standing and are interested in volunteering at camp for a week this summer, please call the camp office. You would receive free room and board, as well as a credit of up to \$499 to be applied to any camper account as compensation.

## **HEALTH HISTORY FORM and MEDICATION ADDENDUM**

The Health History Form in your camper's online account **MUST** be completed prior to their first day of camp. Without the completed form, campers will not be permitted to stay at camp. Campers must have had a tetanus shot within the past **ten years** before attending camp, and it **must** be documented on the health history form. If your camper is not vaccinated, please contact camp to discuss.

**\*\*\*Campers who will be taking medication during their time at camp must complete a [Medication Addendum](#) SIGNED BY A PHYSICIAN\*\*\***  
[This form must be downloaded from our website](#) and may be submitted between May 1st and the camper's first day of camp. "Medication" is any substance a person takes to maintain and/or improve their health. This includes vitamins & natural remedies.

By law, all prescription medications must be brought to camp in their original containers, with the doctor's instructions. Do NOT pre-dispense, place in daily pill holders, wrap in outer materials, or ask us to dispense by other than doctor's orders as marked on the original container. Medications not in original container will not be held or dispensed at camp. Please do not send expired medications to camp. (Don't forget to pick up remaining meds from the health center when you collect your camper!).

If your camper will require dietary or behavioral accommodations while attending camp, please [complete our online form](#) or call the Camp Programs Coordinator at x103. We are happy to discuss the accommodations we are able to provide to create a safe and successful experience for your camper, or to provide information on alternative options if our camp is not the right fit for your camper.

## **DROP -OFF AND PICK-UP TIMES**

Campers in weeklong programs are to arrive on the Sunday of their program between 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Check-in is **NOT** available until 2:00 p.m.; late arrivals must be authorized in advance with the Registrar. Please be aware that the office is closed on weekends, and telephone messages may not be received. Campers arriving later will miss out on valuable bonding and activity time with their group, so we do recommend that they arrive at the specified time.

Please do not bring your pet with you to drop off your camper on Sunday or to pick up your camper on Friday.

All campers must be picked up between 1:00 – 1:30 pm on Friday afternoons. Early pickup must be arranged in advance. Please do not leave your camper and our staff waiting. Staff is excused from duty at 2:00 p.m. to complete their own checkout procedures, and no day care is available. Please make sure that your camper is claimed by that time.

At the time of check-in, we will ask for the name of the person collecting your camper on Friday. If you find that this must change, please call the camp office as soon as possible so that we can notify your camper and their counselor. Counselors are only permitted to release campers to the person designated by the parent or guardian checking them in.

**Mini Camp** A campers arrive Sunday between 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. and are picked up on Tuesday between 1:00 – 1:30 pm. Mini Camp B & C campers arrive Tuesday between 3:30 – 4:00 pm and depart Friday between 1:00 – 1:30 pm.

**Day Campers** check-in at the Woodside cabins by the Dining Hall on Monday of their week between 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. and depart no later than 5pm, Monday through Friday. For an additional fee, Early Care is available from 7 am and After Care is available until 6 pm. Both **MUST** be arranged in advance. During Week 8 only, Day Campers will need to be picked up by 3:00 pm on Friday.

## **WRITE TO YOUR CAMPER**

- Please write to your camper at least once during the week. It's always good to hear from loved ones!
- Please do not dwell on how much you miss them, for this may trigger homesickness. Instead, encourage them to enjoy their week, make lots of new friends, and tell you all about their experiences when they return home!
- You may send traditional letters via snail mail. You may also send emails to your camper using the One-way Email system in your online account. Emails will be printed and delivered to campers daily along with the snail mail.
- Address your letters as follows:

(Camper Name)  
(Program Name)  
Camp Pecometh  
136 Bookers Wharf Road  
Centreville, MD 21617

- Please do **NOT** call or visit your camper, or tell your camper that he/she may call you from camp, as this is against camp policy. We will contact you if there is a problem, or if your camper is unhappy. **We promise!**
- Remember that in the case of rain, storms, or other weather emergencies, we have standard procedures to keep campers safe, dry, warm, and entertained. We monitor the local weather conditions at all times.

## **CONTACTING PARENTS**

As the saying goes, "no news is good news!" The camp nurse, Program Assistant, or Camp Programs Coordinator will contact you if:

- Your camper has a fever over 100 degrees F.
- Your camper is/reports vomiting.
- Your camper reports to the camp nurse two times for the same complaint.
- Your camper requires off-site medical care (i.e., needs to see doctor or go to hospital/urgent care).
- Your camper is experiencing extreme homesickness.

We may also contact you if your camper exhibits behavior which is inconsistent with the Camp Pecometh guidelines for living. Campers agree to the Full Value Commitment: physical and emotional **safety**; 100% **effort**; honest and appropriate **communication**; and **respect** for others and our environment.

Please do not contact camp during weather emergencies, as the telephone lines will need to be kept open for emergency information. We will contact you if for any reason your camper needs to be picked up during (or before) a weather emergency.

We will call you if the need arises. If you have a special reason to be concerned about your child, please talk with the camp nurse during check-in.

## **ROOMMATE REQUESTS**

Campers may request one roommate on their registration forms. The campers must be registered for the same week and program. Since one of the goals of the camping program is to live in a Christian community and make new friends, **roommate requests must be mutual**. This means that we generally cannot place more than two campers together as roommates in the same cabin. Roommate requests are met whenever possible, but **are not guaranteed**. Roommate placement is at the sole discretion of the Camp Programs Coordinator.

## **AGE AND GRADE GROUPS**

Campers must have completed the appropriate grade as of June as listed for each program. As each program is structured toward a grade-specific, rather than age-specific level, we will not mix grade groups for any camper. Campers who are not registered properly will be moved to an age appropriate program.

## **LEAVING CAMP**

Interruptions to a camper's week such as leaving camp for sports tournaments, family events and vacations, etc., make it difficult for campers to develop friendships and fully experience the benefits of camp. It also can interfere with the programmed activities and affect other campers. We ask that you schedule other summer activities around their time at camp so that they do not need to leave during their camp session.

## **INSURANCE COVERAGE**

Your program fees include insurance for each camper while participating in camp programs. This insurance covers accidents suffered at camp up to a period of one year for a maximum of \$3,000; and for any doctor/hospital visits made while the camper is in attendance in a camp program for a maximum of \$1,000. Pre-existing conditions are not covered under this policy. You will be responsible for any fees incurred over the maximum limit. Camper personal insurance information must be listed on camper registration forms.

## **CAMPER CONDUCT AND RESPONSIBILITY**

In order to provide an atmosphere of Christian community, it is necessary to provide guidelines for living. These include, but are not limited to: participation and cooperation in activities; refraining from profane language or abusive behavior; destruction of or damage to camp property or the property of other campers; use of tobacco, alcohol, or illegal substances. If a camper is unable to function within these guidelines, our staff will take actions in the best interest of the campers and the program. Campers will be held responsible for their actions and/or any damage to property of camp or others. If your camper presents challenging behaviors, or requires special attention, please advise us of those needs prior to arrival at camp.

**The more information we have, the better equipped we are to help your camper to have a successful camp experience!**

## **MULTI-WEEK CAMPERS**

Campers may register for more than one week of camp. Campers attending back-to-back weeks of camp are not permitted to remain on the property for the weekend between sessions. Only one check is necessary for multiple program payments or multiple camper fees.

## **PUBLICITY**

Photographs and videos of campers and activities may be used for program or publicity purposes unless otherwise requested in writing by parents. Parent and camper quotes may be used in a similar manner, but remain anonymous. In accordance with privacy regulations, Camp Pecometh does not give out personal information regarding campers such as name, address, telephone number, etc.

## **CHALLENGE / ROPES COURSE PARTICIPATION**

Your camper may be participating in the challenge course here at Camp Pecometh. Trained and certified instructors supervise all challenge course activities. We will consider registration of your child as your consent to allow him/her to participate in this activity. If you do not wish for your camper to participate, please return a written notice to the Registrar prior to arrival.

## **SWIM CHECK**

After arrival, all campers participate in a basic swim check to determine their swimming ability. The check consists of the following:

- Getting into the shallow end of the pool and swimming down to the deep end (any stroke, above water), then flipping over and floating on their back for a few seconds.
- Jumping in the deep end of the pool and treading water for one minute.

If the camper meets these requirements, they are given a string to tie around their ankle; this string allows them to swim in the deep end of the pool, use the slide at the pool, and access specialized equipment at the waterfront. All campers and staff must wear PFDs at all times in the river, regardless of their swimming ability. Some programs may not be suitable for campers who cannot pass the swim check. Read program descriptions or contact the Registrar for more information.

## **CAMPER PACKING LIST & DRESS CODE GUIDELINES**

Packing lists are available on our website at [www.pecometh.org/photos-forms-more](http://www.pecometh.org/photos-forms-more)

**We ask that all staff and campers dress practically for camp**, meaning clothing that allows them to be comfortable and covered while being very active outdoors. For this purpose, we enforce a dress code that includes the following tenets:

- Shorts, a t-shirt and a hat with a brim is an excellent everyday outfit! Camp clothes are likely to get a little dirty, so old clothes are best.
- Campers should wear clothing that fully covers all private areas and all undergarments (underwear, boxers, bras/bra straps) at all times.
- Campers should wear bathing suits that are secure and provide appropriate coverage for very active aquatic programming. We ask that boys wear trunk-style bathing suits and girls wear one-piece or tankini style bathing suits with shoulder straps.
- All genders are encouraged to consider "rash guards" or "swim tees" as a way to help prevent sunburn and skin damage from UV exposure.
- Guidelines for clothing to leave at home: strapless or thin-strap tank tops, boys' speedo-style and girls' bikini/cut-out/strapless swimsuits, sheer clothing, very short shorts that would be uncomfortable for sitting on rough surfaces or wearing a challenge course climbing harness, any clothing that doesn't completely cover your underwear or bra at all times, and clothing with images or messages that are inappropriate for a safe and welcoming Christian youth environment.

## **DOES MY CAMPER NEED TO BRING MONEY TO CAMP?**

Campers are encouraged to contribute to an offering taken during the Galilean service (\$1-\$5 is typical). This offering goes to the Central Congo Partnership, a partnership between local United Methodist churches and those in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Your camper will receive two items per day at the Canteen - this cost is included in the registration fees. Campers cannot purchase additional items. You may want to consider shopping for Pecometh gear in the Trading Post with your camper during check-in or check-out. The Trading Post will also be open during the week if you would like to leave money with your camper, but please note that camp is not responsible for cash left with campers.

## **PLEASE DO NOT BRING**

**Campers are not permitted to have cell phones**, smartphones, or smart watches at camp. These items are disruptive to the goals of the camp program (and may actually *increase* the likelihood of homesickness!). **Help us to help your camper grow in independence** by not packing or allowing them to bring their phone call-making or texting enabled devices. When found, these items will be confiscated and returned to camper guardians at pick up.

Please do not bring electronics such as iPods, tablets, radios, or TV's; comic books, video games or gaming systems, aerosol spray cans, weapons, food, animals, alcohol, illegal drugs, personal sports equipment, vehicles, or valuables. These may interfere with the program and are subject to confiscation until the last day of camp.

**Please do not pack or mail candy, gum, or other foodstuffs** for your camper. Gum is not allowed on camp, and snacks are available at the canteen. Food is not allowed to be stored in cabins or tents due to the potential risk of insect and/or animal problems!

Please alert the Registrar should a family decide to allow a camper to drive themselves to camp. The camper will park and lock the vehicle in the staff parking lot. The keys will be turned in to camp staff until the end of the camp session. Pecometh will not be liable for any loss or damage to the vehicle.

Have a question you didn't see an answer for in this packet?

Check out our website at [www.pecometh.org](http://www.pecometh.org), read our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page, or get in touch!

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