



Parent Packet

Welcome to Lake Michigan Camp and Retreat Center! Whether this is your child's first time or whether they have been coming for ages – we are excited to have them here! We are set for an awesome week of summer filled with fun, faith and fellowship.

Lake Michigan Camp and its summer camp programs is owned and operated by Michigan Area United Methodist Camping.. We offer a Christ-centered program and welcome campers of any denomination or affiliation, or of no religious background at all.

Arrivals and Departures

Camper check-in is on Sundays at 2pm-3:30pm Please do your very best to arrive on time. If you arrive early, you may have to wait until everyone is ready and in place. If you are arriving late – please call ahead : **231.715.8787**

Camper Check-out is on Saturdays 10am (unless a mini camp, then Wednesday at 10am)

Please be sure to bring photo ID. If the person picking up your child is not listed on your application, please call ahead. Parents who arrive before 10am may be asked to wait in their cars until our closing ceremony is to begin.

Address: 5807 Ridge Rd, Pentwater MI 49449. Some mapping apps having the address 500 ft north of our actual entrance. Watch for the sign on the east side of Ridge Rd., opposite the camp driveway.

Forms

We strive to follow the best practices of our industry and try to ensure the very best care for your child. Our forms help us be the best we can, are consistent with best industry practices, and are required as a licensed childcare provider in Michigan. That said, we must have them for your child to attend camp. Essentials forms:

- Camp Registration Form (unless completed online)**
- Health History (unless completed online) (and copies of insurance cards where applicable) doctor's dosing instructions to give to nurse at registration)**
- doctor's dosing instructions to give to nurse at registration)**
- Camper Release (unless completed online) (who we can send your child home with)**
- Liability Release**

Additionally requested but not required:

- **Parent letter to Counselor**
- **Camper letter to Counselor**

Lake Michigan Camp and Retreat

Physical address and Mail: 5807 Ridge Road, Pentwater, MI 49449

Registrations to: PO Box 120007, Grand Rapids MI 49528 517.212.5442 registrar@umcamping.org



Packing List / What to Bring

Please keep in mind when packing that your child is going to camp and their cloths may never look the same. A good water bottle is essential. Please clearly make all items with your camper's name.

- Bible & Pen or Pencil
- Water bottle**
- Pillow, twin sheets and bedding
- Sleeping Bag for possible campout
- 6 Clothing Outfits (including underwear & socks)
- 3 Pair of Long Pants
- Jacket/Sweatshirt
- Pajamas
- 2 Pairs of comfortable "closed-toed" Shoes
- 2-3 Swim Suits (girls: one piece or tankini, boys: swim trunks)
- Rain Gear (poncho, rain jacket, etc.)
- Daypack / backpack
- Towel (Bath & Beach)
- Soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Toothbrush
- Deodorant
- Flashlight w/extra batteries
- Sunscreen**
- Items for tie dying
- Bug Spray
- Stamped self-addressed envelopes
- Plastic Bag for wet items
- Prescription Medications (bring separately in prescribed bottle with label)

DO NOT BRING...

- Negative Attitude
- Cell Phones / i-Pods / breakable electronics
- Food, gum, or candy
- Pets
- Firearms or any weapon
- Fireworks
- Knives
- Alcohol
- Non Prescription Drugs
- Tobacco Products

Cancellation Policy

- To cancel a registration, please call us at 517.212.5442. Our guidelines for refunds are as follows:
- 30 days before camp – we'll refund your deposit paid minus \$50
- There will be no refund for cancellations 30 of the camp event
- The director reserves the right to dismiss any camper whose conduct becomes in any way detrimental to the best interests of other campers. No refunds will be given in these cases. (We all want a camp to be a place for your child to have the time of their life, feel accepted, and share in fun faith and fellowship.)

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Health, Safety, and Medications

Please ensure that we have all your forms prior to your arrival at camp. This allows our medical personnel time to review information about your child. If you are not completing your forms online, please mail them to: Lake Michigan Camp & Retreat, 5807 N. Ridge Rd., Pentwater, MI 49449.

Please make sure that all prescription medications are labeled and in their original containers.

Our Medical staff will collect these and administer them. They must be in their original container AND must follow the doctor's orders to be dispensed. Many parents have found it to be a good idea only to send the required amount of medication to camp in the original container. That way it is impossible to forget to bring medications home. Over the counter medications will be available for campers through our camp nurse.

Camper Contacts – E-mail / Mail / Phone

E-mails – you are welcome to send your child e-mail. Please address it to lakemichigancampstaff@gmail.com and put your child's first and last name in the subject line. We print E-mails once a day. Please no more than two e-mails per day. Campers will be unable to send return e-mails. In the rare event that a camper is homesick, we may request that you send more

Mail – Everyone loves mail regardless of his or her age. Please send camper mail to 5807 Ridge Rd, Pentwater MI 49449 ***please note this is different from our registration office address. If you want your child to write you back – good luck. We recommend sending them with pre-addressed stamped letters that are easy and effortless for them to send off. :

Visiting / Calling -It is a bad idea and we both know it. Camp is about making new friends, growing in self-esteem, developing independence, and growing. Even the best kids who are having the best time of their life at camp cannot say no to the secure comfort of the parents / people they love most in life. So, if you need to call – please call us and we'll be more than happy to check in with your most prized possession. At the same time, please do not promise your camper that he / she can call home if ever they want.

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Parent's Letter to Counselor

Camper Name: _____ Session & Dates: _____

My child is coming to camp to:

- Make new friends
- Grow in his / her faith
- Have fun
- Get out in God's creation
- To be in their favorite place ever
- Other: _____

What grade is your child entering?	_____
Is this your child's first overnight camp	YES / NO
Is your child coming with a friend?	YES / NO
Have they been to Lake Michigan	YES / NO
Do they have a birthday during camp?	YES / NO
If so, date: _____	

My Child is most excited about:

Is there anything that they are nervous about?

The perfect counselor for my child would have these qualities:

What would you like your child to gain from coming to Lake Michigan Camp

What should we know about your child?

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Camper's Letter to Counselor

Camper Name: _____ Session & Dates: _____

How would you describe yourself? (please check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A morning person | <input type="checkbox"/> Artistic | <input type="checkbox"/> Quick to make friends |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A night person | <input type="checkbox"/> Quiet | <input type="checkbox"/> Careful in making friends |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Loud | <input type="checkbox"/> Like the outdoors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peaceful | <input type="checkbox"/> Shy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic | <input type="checkbox"/> Outgoing | |

I am coming to camp to:

- Have fun
- Make new friends
- Spend time with friends
- Grow in my relationship with God
- Spend time on at the beach
- Other: _____

I am from:

My favorite movie is:

In my free time I like to:

This is my _____ year at Lake Michigan

My friends would describe me as:

What should your counselor know about you?

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