

**WORD OF LIFE FLORIDA
YOUTH CAMP
INFORMATION PACKET**

Word of Life Florida
13247 Word of Life Dr
Hudson, FL 34669
(727) 379-5005
FAX (727) 379-5063

www.camps.wol.org

Email – vickys@wol.org or landrews@wol.org

Camp Check-In Time – 2-5 pm

Camp Check-Out Time – 8-9 am

WELCOME

Welcome to Word of Life Florida! We know you are making plans concerning your trip, just as we are busy preparing to make sure your week with us is outstanding. We put together this packet to help you along. In order to serve you in the most efficient manner, we have tried to cover all of the basics as thoroughly as possible.

This packet has been designed to answer any and all questions you or your campers may have regarding your week at camp. If after reading through this information you have additional questions, please call us at (727) 379-5000. Registrars are available by phone Monday through Friday 9 am – 4:00 pm.

We look forward to your stay with us at the Word of Life Florida Youth Camp!

The Youth Camp Leadership Team

CHECKLIST

Where to start:

- Register your campers online at www.camps.wol.org. You will need a \$75 deposit per camper when you register. You will not need all of the detailed camper information at this point – just an estimated number of campers.
- Check your email for confirmation and important details.
- Please call Vicky or Lynn at (727) 379-5005 to make room reservations in the conference center for your adults. **You will not be able to reserve adult rooms online.** A leader discount is available if you bring at least 10 campers.
- Download the Camp Information Packet from www.camps.wol.org/about/resources
- Download and print the Camper Health Forms and instructions from www.camps.wol.org/about/resources
- Have parents complete all three pages of the health form. Bring it with you to camp – **do not mail.** Campers will not be admitted to camp without a signed health form.

Two weeks prior to arrival: ★★★★★

- Youth leaders and parents of individual campers** - Log onto your online account and enter the detailed information for each camper.
- Enter special housing requests into the camper information in your online account. If you are a large church and have specific cabin lists (12 per cabin), please email or fax them to us at this time. **Only group leaders are allowed to make any changes to the group reservation.**
- Email or fax to Vicky your **adult** information – names of adults and children in each conference center room. Include ages of children. FAX – 727-379-5063
- Call 727-379-5000 to set up a camper bank account for each camper (may also do upon arrival at camp)

Other Details:

- Deposits are non-refundable if cancelled within 60 days of your arrival.**
- All cancellations are subject to a \$10 **per person** processing fee. You may replace one camper with another without penalty. To change to a different camp week, please contact the camp registrar for availability.
- Collect all medications from campers (prior to check-in). **You will be expected to turn in all camper medications to the nurse at check-in. Youth leaders and chaperones are not permitted to administer medications to campers.** Medications must be in the original container with the correct doses and instructions. Please have each camper's medications in Ziploc bags labeled with the camper's name.

NOTE: Florida State law requires that all medications taken orally must be turned in. This includes: Tylenol, Midol, vitamins, cough syrup etc. Campers are allowed to keep their inhalers, Epi-pins, and medicated creams.

- Campers must be able to administer their own injections.
- Head Lice Check - Word of Life Camp has a “No Nits” policy for head lice, and we use all means possible to hinder the spreading of the lice, including mandatory inspection by our trained personnel on every camper on camp check-in day. We recommend that you check the head of every camper prior to arrival at camp and treat if necessary. (For a detailed description of our head lice protocol, please download the info sheet from our website at www.camps.wol.org/about/resources)**
- If you are a group, setting up camper bank accounts upon arrival, please bring an alphabetized camper list with amounts for each camper and cash or a check for the amount of the total deposit.
- Be constantly in prayer for decisions and commitments by your campers!
- Campers may not have cell phones at camp. Phone cards will be available for purchase at the camp bookstore.**

SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS

The Word of Life Florida Youth Camp is dedicated to seeing each of the young people who set foot on the Youth Camp property make life-changing decisions for Christ. Our goal is to see the campers accept Jesus Christ as Savior, grow closer in their relationships with Him, and demonstrate a desire to share their faith with others. Every element at camp is designed to point in one of these directions.

📖 During the **Opening Night Rally** the gospel is presented and an invitation is given. Most decisions made to accept Jesus Christ during the week occur on this night.

📖 **The Morning Rallies** are when the speaker of the week brings a powerful, engaging message built on a Scriptural book study or a study on the life of a Biblical character. These are times of growth for both new believers and established Christians. Exciting dramas emphasizing the camp theme are presented during the junior camp weeks.

📖 **The Evening Rallies** are specifically geared toward preparation and follow-up from the Campfire Dedication Service. We believe that once one gives himself over to Christ, the next natural step is dedication. These rallies give practical steps toward living out this decision.

📖 One of our evening meetings (during Teen Camp only) has a theme or focus on the **Word of Life Bible Institute**. During this meeting we give the campers an opportunity to consider spending a year of their lives after high school studying the Scriptures in great detail at our Bible Institute. Staff counselors who are about to graduate from the Institute share the various aspects of campus life and one of the Deans opens the Bible and shares a message on the importance of knowing God's Word.

📖 One night is set aside for the **Campfire Service**. During this time we give the campers an opportunity to dedicate their lives to Christ and to be used by Him – placing all that they are, all that they have, and all that they ever hope to be under His control. This is a very special time for the entire camp.

📖 During the **Closing Night Rally** we have **Cardboard Testimonies**. It is our final meeting with the campers, and we give them an opportunity to share with the entire camp what Christ has done in their lives throughout that week. We also send them off with a message about staying true and strong to the things they were taught at camp and using those things to make a difference in the world around them.

📖 Campers are given a **Quiet Time Diary** to use during their time at camp – stressing the importance of a daily time with the Lord.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

We are hard at work preparing a program for this summer that will be exciting for each camper who joins us. While the final details of this program will not be laid down until just before camp, we can give you a general picture of what a typical day will look like. The following elements will be part of each day at the Florida Youth Camp:

Breakfast: Every meal at camp is served family style and contains a variety of hot food, fruit, and cereal. For campers with allergies, please check our website for a list of food ingredients and a weekly menu.

Quiet Time: For one half-hour each morning, the entire camp will stop as everyone spends time alone in God's Word and in prayer. Campers will be taught how to do an effective Quiet Time, taught the importance of Quiet Time, and will be helped in the formation of this important discipline.

Morning Rally: Each day one of our dynamic Bible teachers will open the Word in a practical way. **Youth leaders, parents, and chaperones are welcome to attend any of the morning or evening rallies.**

Morning Activity: Team competition will fill the remainder of the morning as the program team delivers games that are fun, engaging, and challenging.

Lunch:

Afternoon: Every afternoon is filled with numerous activities for the campers to enjoy. They may choose to play in sports tournaments; enjoy the swimming pool, water slide, snack shack, and gift shop; or participate in things such as paintball, water tubing, climbing tower, archery tag and target shooting etc.

Dinner:

Evening Rally: Each evening a pumped up rally gets everyone excited about what it means to live for Christ as various speakers cover important topics such as salvation, dedication, and service. Great music, thought-provoking drama, and even some competition will complement the message.

Night Activities: A flurry of activities is planned for the remainder of each evening. There will be team games or special events for camper participation. Then before lights-out, each cabin will be led in devotions by one of their counselors, ending the day with God's Word and prayer.

DAY CAMPERS – Please follow the registration procedures on the Check List on Page 1. Check in between 2 and 5 pm. You will meet your counselor at the housing station. Hours for day camp vary. Most day campers meet their counselor at breakfast each morning in the dining hall and depart after the evening activities. You may arrive later or depart earlier. Confirm drop-off and pick-up time with the counselor upon arrival. Day campers may bring a back pack containing items they will need for the day – Bible, notebook, swim suit, towel, sun screen, spending money, medication, change of clothes (just in case) etc. Day campers will be placed in a group from a cabin and may change to an overnight camper mid-week (additional fee) if a bed is available.

UPON YOUR ARRIVAL

Camp Check-In Time – 2-5 pm

Camp Check-Out Time – 8-9 am

What exactly are you supposed to do when you get here? It's simple and easy.

Go to the **George Theis Assembly Center** between 2 pm and 5 pm. – located on the left after you pass the RV Park entrance and the maintenance building.

- (1) Send all campers to the head check station. - Word of Life Camp has a “No Nits” policy for head lice, and we use all means possible to hinder the spreading of the lice, including mandatory inspection by our trained personnel on every camper on camp check-in day. These inspections are done privately in a curtained area. We also strongly suggested that parents or youth leaders check every camper’s head a few days prior to arrival at camp and treat if necessary.**

If nits (eggs) or lice is detected, we will inform the youth leader or parent who brought the camper to camp. We will then allow one chance for the camper to get treated and return to camp. For instructions concerning treatment, please see the downloadable form on our website – www.camps.wol.org/about/resources

If your camper has to be sent home because of head lice, we will allow a 100% refund or admittance to a different week of camp if possible.

- (2) Send a youth leader or parent through the registration process. Do not unload any luggage until after registration is complete.**

Proceed through the following registration stations:

Station 1 – Camper Welcome – Confirm the number of campers and make any camper or leader name changes.

Station 2 – Registration – Check in campers and pay balance for campers and youth leader rooms if needed. You may also pay for camper bank and camp activities at this station if you are paying with a credit card.

Station 3 – Camp Nurse – Turn in health forms and **ALL** camper medication. Forms must be completed correctly and signed by parents or legal guardians. If this is not done, you will be responsible for calling the parent. Group leaders – please put health forms in alphabetical order by last name. Do not separate boys and girls.

Station 4 – Housing – Your campers may join you at this time to meet their counselors. Remember that special requests for housing/counselors must be made prior to registration with your online reservation. Junior campers are housed according to age groups (ages 6-8 and ages 9-12). If you have campers in both groups and request for them to be housed together, they will be place in the younger group. We do try to house church groups together. The counselors will direct you as to where to unload your campers’ luggage.

Station 5 – Camp T-shirts – Purchase a camp shirt here or at the camp bookstore.

Station 6 - Camp Activities – Sign up for paintball and water tubing. Cash or check only or use wristband if money already in camper bank. If paying with credit card – visit Station 2.

Station 7 – Camper Bank. Put money in camper bank account – cash only. If paying with credit card or check – visit Station 2.

Adults who are staying with us for the week may now proceed to the front desk of the conference center to check into their rooms.

CHECK-OUT – Between 8 and 9 am.

NOTE: If you will be arriving later than 5 pm, or if it is necessary to suddenly change your arrival plans (vehicle troubles etc.) please notify the Conference Center Front Desk immediately at 727-379-5000.

F.A.Q.

Are there any additional charges for campers?

We try to keep our additional charges to a minimum. A list of additional charges can be found in the *Camp Activities* section of this packet.

What if a camper is coming in by plane?

Round trip van shuttle from Tampa International or St Pete Airport is available. Please call the conference center front desk at least 48 hours in advance to reserve your transportation. (727) 379-5000. The charge is \$25 per person per way.

What are the cabin facilities like?

Campers sleep on bunk beds in air-conditioned cabins with bathroom facilities inside each cabin. Each room houses 12 campers and 2 counselors. Groups are automatically housed together as much as possible unless requested otherwise.

What is the food like?

The food served is the finest quality and is prepared under strict supervision. A well-balanced diet is planned for each day. Campers are served family style and are free to eat as much as they desire. Candy and snacks are available at the Snack Shack. Campers are also welcome to bring their own snacks.

What is the Camper Bank?

We recommend that campers put their spending money (for activities, pizza, snack shack, camp store, etc) in the Camper Bank. The amount of spending money your camper brings is up to the parent. Word of Life is not responsible for any money or items not deposited in the bank. You may call 727-379-5000 to set up a camper bank account prior to arrival.

What if I forget things at camp?

Please put your name on every item you bring to camp – including clothing. Lost and found articles are returned COD upon claim by parents, up to **30 days** after the end of their camping week. Call 727-379-5020 for lost items.

Can I call my camper?

Please limit calls to campers for emergencies only. The Camp office can be reached by calling (727) 856-7575 or (727) 379-5600. A message will be taken, your camper will be informed, and they may return your call. No calls after 10pm unless it is an extreme emergency. **Campers may not have cell phones at camp.** Phone cards are available for purchase at the camp bookstore.

Who are the counselors?

The counseling staff at the Word of Life Youth Camp is of the highest caliber. They have been carefully selected and specially trained. Each counselor has just completed a school year at the Word of Life Bible Institute filled with extensive training in the Bible and the camp ministry. They have also completed first aid classes and were subject to state and federal background checks.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Water Slide
Swimming Pool
Climbing Tower
High/Low Ropes Course
Basketball/Volleyball/Gaga Ball
Inflatables
Paintball Target Shooting – Jr Camp
Arts & Crafts – Jr camp only
Archery Target Shooting/Archery Tag
Gift Shop/Snack Shack
Lots of fun games and team competitions

Paintball Course - \$10 – Teen Camp only
Water Tubing - \$15 ages 9 & up
Camp T-Shirt - \$10
Pizza in Cabins - \$10 per pizza
All-you-can eat Pizza - \$10 – Teen Camp only

Climbing Tower: Each camper may try his or her hand at our 40 ft, three-sided climbing tower. Available all afternoon and in the evening under the lights. The tower can be tackled by a beginner, while still proving to be a challenge for the most experienced climber. Word of Life Florida provides all safety equipment and all our facilitators are properly trained and certified.

Paintball Course: \$10 - Teen Camp Only – Each paintball session lasts 1 hr and can include up to 40 campers at once. Two teams are formed and various types of games are played on our large wooded field. Campers are required to wear proper clothing. Masks and paintball markers are provided as well as 100 paintballs. Extra paintballs are available for purchase in increments of 100 for \$5. Campers are not permitted to bring their own paintballs. Campers may bring their own guns which will be kept in the youth camp office between paintball sessions. Target practice is available for junior campers – first round is free – additional paintballs are \$5 per 100.

Water Tubing: \$15 - Ages 9 and up – Campers may go water tubing at an area lake in the afternoon (transportation provided). Equipment and life vests are also provided.

Pizza in the cabins: Price for whole pizza is **\$10**. Delivered to the cabins after the evening activities. Campers may combine their money to purchase a whole pizza.

All-you-can-eat Pizza Party by the pool: \$10 – available during teen camp only.

A swim test is required for junior campers who would like to use the pool. Certified lifeguards are on duty when pool is open.

Payment and sign-up for the above activities will be made upon arrival at camp after you have proceeded through the camp registration lines. **Please bring separate checks for camp registration and camper activities.**

CONFERENCE CENTER GUESTS

Adult guests/youth leaders are welcome to stay in one of the conference center rooms. The package price is for room and meals - per person. A continental breakfast will be served at the conference center, and lunch and dinner will be served at the youth camp dining room.

Conference Center Room – first or second floor – 1 double bed, 1 set of twin bunk beds, Private bath.

Exec suite – living room with queen sleeper sofa, king bed in bedroom, Private bath. Limit 4 people

Villa – house with 2 bedrooms (1 queen, 1 king), 2 bath, living room (sleeper sofa), dining room, full kitchen, back porch. Limit 6 people.

Child Care – Available at no charge for children of conference center guests (except Sunday evening)

Ages 0-5 – during morning and evening meetings - all camp weeks

Ages 6-12 – hours vary – Teen weeks only (Bible lessons, songs, games, crafts, snacks etc)

Adult Activities - optional – sign-up sheet in conference center lobby. Vary each summer – bowling, beach trip, mall, golf, canoeing, mini golf, paintball, climbing tower etc.

Please call 727-379-5005 to reserve your room.

DISCOUNTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS – (one discount per camper)

Early Registration Discount – \$30 off for each camper registered by April 1.

Multi-week Discount – 25% off for additional weeks of camp

Military Discount – 15% off for children of active soldiers or veterans

WOLBI Alumni Discount – 15% off for children of WOLBI alumni

Sibling Discount – 1st camper in family regular price, 2nd camper (sibling) 15 % off, 3rd camper (sibling) 20% off, any additional siblings 25% off.

Youth Leader Discount – discount on room reservations for leaders who bring at least 10 campers

Variety of newspaper coupons and radio giveaways

Needy Camper Scholarship Fund – full and half scholarships are available. Based on financial need. To apply, please fill out the application available on our website – www.camps.wol.org/about/resources . Mail to the address on the form or fax to 727-379-5063. The scholarship committee will meet in the spring to consider the requests received. You will be notified by email of the decision. **Apply early.**

Electronic Media Policy – Please do not bring cell phones, music/media players, laptops, ipods, ipads, *knives, gaming devices, magazines, books, e-readers etc.* *If these items are brought to camp, the camper should give them to the parent or youth leader for safekeeping.*

DRESS CODE/PACKING LIST

Camper Checklist

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| _____ Bible | _____ Notebook |
| _____ Pen/Pencil | _____ Sleeping bag or sheets and blanket |
| _____ Pillow | _____ Bath/Pool Towels |
| _____ Toothbrush/Toothpaste | _____ Soap and Shampoo |
| _____ Hairbrush/Comb | _____ Deodorant |
| _____ Sunscreen | _____ Bug Repellant |
| _____ Camper bank money | |

_____ Casual Clothes (T-shirts, jeans, shorts, jacket etc.)

Shorts must be fingertip length (mid thigh). Skirts knee length. Sleeveless shirts and tank tops must cover at least half the shoulder. **NO** tight fitting shorts, pants, or tops. **NO** spaghetti strap tank tops.

_____ Bathing Suit: modest beachwear. One piece suit for girls – trunk style for guys. No brief style or spandex suit for boys. No tankini and bikini for girls.

_____ Shoes (comfortable sneakers or sandals)

Make sure your name is on every item you bring to camp, including clothing. Any clothing that does not meet the above standards will not be permitted.

A coin operated laundry facility is available for teen campers staying for more than one week.

Please do not bring cell phones, music/media players, laptops, ipads, ipods, knives, gaming devices, books, magazines, e-readers etc.

DIRECTIONS

From US 19 South:

Head north on US 19 to Hudson Ave. Turn east (right) on Hudson Ave. Bayonet Point Hospital is on the right. Go 8 miles to the Word of Life entrance. Turn right into the drive.

From US 19 North:

Head south on US 19 to Hudson Ave. Turn east (left) on Hudson Ave. Go 8 miles to the Word of Life entrance. Turn right into the drive.

From US 41:

Head toward State Road 52. Turn west onto SR 52. Head west about 4 miles to Hays Rd (at a stop light). Turn north (right) onto Hays Rd for 2 miles. Turn west (left) onto Hudson Ave. Word of Life entrance is ½ mile on the left.

From I-75:

Exit to State Rd 52, exit number is 285. Head west 15 miles to Hays Rd (at a stop light). Turn north (right) onto Hays Rd for 2 miles. Turn west (left) onto Hudson Ave. Word of Life entrance is ½ miles on the left.

From Tampa Airport:

Follow the signs to the Veteran's Expressway North (also called Sun Coast Parkway when you get further north). This is a toll road. Approx \$5 each way. Take the State Rd 52 exit (exit 27). Head west (left) for about 1 mile to Hays Rd (stop light). Turn north (right) onto Hays Rd for about 2 miles. Turn west (left) onto Hudson Ave. Word of Life entrance is ½ mile on left. It will take about 40 min. from the airport.

About ½ mile down Word of Life Dr on the right side is the Jack Wyrzten Conference Center building where the adults will reside and eat their meals. The next building on the right is the Harry Bollback Performing Arts Center. Youth camp registration takes place in the George Theis Assembly Center located further down the drive on the left – past the RV Park and Maintenance building. The dining hall/health center is behind the Assembly Center. Cabins are also in this area.

PHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES

Word of Life Florida
13247 Word of Life Drive
Hudson, FL 34669

Conference Center: Front desk - 727-379-5000. To contact youth leaders who are staying here with their youth groups.

Youth Camp Office: 727-379-5600. This number can be utilized by parents leaving messages for their campers.

Health Center: 727-379-5034 or 727-379-5680. To contact camp nurse on duty.

Camp Registration: Register online at www.camps.wol.org or call 727-379-5005. Campers may be registered online. Please call to register your youth leaders. You will not be able to register your adults online. vickys@wol.org or landrews@wol.org

Email your camper: floridacampermail@wol.org or flregistrar@wol.org

You may contact your campers via email. Upon receipt of any email correspondence, our camp office staff will print the email and deliver it to the camper. Please send it with the camper name and camp week in the subject portion of the email.

Camper mail:

Regular mail is accepted and well received by the campers. Please use the address below for any camper mail:

Camper Name
Week/Date of Camp
Word of Life Florida
13247 Word of Life Drive
Hudson, FL 34669