



Planning Packet

Summer 2014

Junior Camp ~ June 9-13

Teen Camp Week 1 ~ July 7-11

Teen Camp Week 2 ~ July 14-18



FORT BLUFF CAMP

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Dear Youth Leader,

Since our first camping season in 1976, we have seen thousands come through our gate and see lives changed for Jesus Christ. Thank you for sharing that vision with us as we continue that tradition. Thank you for considering Fort Bluff Camp.

The following information is to make registration simple. If you have any questions, please give us a call. We'll be glad to help in any way we can.

We're praying for the Lord to meet with us this year.

Pursuing the Ultimate Prize,

David J. Sekura

Dave Sekura
Director



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I. Important information

A. Before Arrival

1. **Agreement Form**– indicates your intention of attending; must be signed by the pastor and youth leader and accompany the Camper Deposit.
2. **Camper Deposit** – accompanies the Agreement Form. Deposit is non-refundable. Deposit is due by April 30. Deposit is applied to the Balance at check-in.
3. **Roster** – final head count (individual count for boys, girls, men, and women) submitted to office one week before Registration.

All housing is on a first pay-first accommodated basis

Bunkhouse cabins –good for those requiring more privacy than dorms provide; 12-15 people per cabin; restroom facilities at gym or in the separate bath house immediately behind the cabins.

Dorms – good for those who like meeting new people and do not require their group to be alone; 12 to 27 people per room; restroom facilities located within the building.

Lodge –16-18 people per room; private restroom in each room.

B. Arrival

1. **Check-in** is on Monday from 1pm to 4pm. Orientation (required) is at 4:30pm. Various activities are available during this time. Supper is served at 5pm. If you will arrive late, please call the office.
2. **Balance** due upon arrival if not paid in full before arrival via our website, credit card, cashier's checks, money orders, traveler's checks, or cash. **No church or personal checks accepted in check-in.** The cost is \$240 per Teen Camp camper/counselor in the dorms/bunkhouse cabins; \$280 for lodge. The cost is \$210 per Junior Camp camper/counselor in the dorms/bunkhouse cabins; \$250 for lodge.
3. **Health Forms** – **mandatory** for every person coming to camp *including adults*. Forms must be signed. For each camper under the age of 21 and living with both parents, the form requires all 3 signatures. If under the age of 21 but living with only one parent then just the 2 signatures are required. **Do not use older versions of this form.** Make copies as needed. Once form has been completed and signed, email a copy of each form one week before arrival. Bring the originals with you to check-in. This form can be found on our website at www.fortbluff.com
4. **Roster** – listing of all attending camp. Email a copy of the roster a week before arrival PLUS bring the originals with you to Check-in. This form can be found on our website at www.fortbluff.com
5. **Sign-up Sheets** will be available at Orientation for campers to sign up for different activities, competitions, and sports.

C. Departure

1. **Security and Key Deposit** – a church check (not personal) or cash for \$125 serves for this deposit. It is returned *by mail* at the end of the week provided no damages are found and your room has been swept and cleaned.
2. **Lost and Found** – unclaimed items are disposed of after thirty days. Claimed items are returned at the camper's expense.

II. Camp Operation

Our goal is to create a positive attitude among all campers to enhance the working of God's Word and the Holy Spirit in their hearts. The schedule is varied with times of choice, restful breaks, loud and quiet times, rugged and easy events. Our goal, however, is to make the highlight of camp the spiritual times.

Each leader will be supplied with a daily schedule/daily devotional at Check-in and kept informed during the morning counselor meetings.

A. Procedures/Rules

Fort Bluff Camp is a Christian camp. The standards we maintain apply to every camper. Any camper who is not cooperative is subject to dismissal at his own expense. If a camper cannot control himself, then he cannot stay. Our guidelines will be enforced, in love, but enforced for all.

It is the youth leader's responsibility to communicate our rules, dress code, and standards of conduct clearly before coming to Fort Bluff Camp.

Dress Code – The guidelines stated in the following paragraphs are the acceptable dress code for Fort Bluff Camp. We have many churches whose dress codes differ from each other; however, youth leaders handle the situation very well by explaining to their young people that sometimes it is necessary to practice flexibility. Since our camps are only a week, the change should not be a difficult one.

Guys – Please be modest at all times. No cut-off t-shirts or tight clothing. Evening Chapel Services: church or school attire.

Gals – Please be modest at all times. No see-through, low-cut, or tight clothing. Evening Chapel Services: church or school attire.

No clothing advertising questionable products or people. No jeans with holes, tears, or patches.

B. Items to Bring

- Pillow and sleeping bag or bed sheets
- Towels and washcloths
- Soap and shampoo
- Alarm clock
- Bible, notebook & pen
- Several changes of clothing (no laundry services available)
- Closed toe shoes
- Swimming suits (guys – boxer style; gals – modest one-piece suits)
- Tennis shoes for playing on the gym floor – shoes worn outside are not permitted on gym floor
- Jacket, coat, or hoodie (temperatures can drop at the Bluff)
- Spending money for Canteen and General Store; fishing gear; softball glove (all optional)
- Basic First Aid Kit (by Counselors)

C. Items to Leave at Home

No gaming devices, iPods, computers or other technology - if these items are brought by a camper the youth leader will be responsible to collect them and lock them in their vehicle. We do not want these distractions at camp. This is a great opportunity for God's Spirit to have the undivided attention of our young people.

No contraband (knives, firearms, fireworks, etc)

III. Competition

Some competitive events are planned each week for both teen and junior camps. Team and individual events are planned, including Bible, music, and athletics. Awards will be presented to the winners on Friday morning.

Competition is not required of either individuals or groups. The following events listed provide enough information to help your campers prepare. Awards (medals and plaques) will be presented to the individual winners, along with some team trophies for churches. Special times will be set aside each day for certain competitive events, entered by choice only.

A. Athletic Events

“Grade” designates the school grade just completed. Younger ages/grades may compete in senior high categories, if needed, but not vice versa. If a church does not have enough players to make up one full team, they will be placed with another church to make a combined team.

1. Basketball

Entries: up to four teams allowed per division, per church.

- a. Boys Team - grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12
- b. Girls Team - grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

2. Softball

Entries: limit four teams per church

- a. Boys Team – junior and senior high division
- b. Girls Team – junior and senior high division
- c. Co-ed – senior high division

3. Water Activities

These activities are optional. Parental/guardian permission for their child to participate in any/all water activities is given by signing the Health form.

Showers are required before entering swim areas (pool and waterslide). Everyone is required to be fully clothed when walking to and from swim areas.

a. The Blob

The Blob is an air-filled canvas in which a person sits at one end while another person jumps off a platform onto the opposite end of the Blob. By the weight of the second person, the first will fly up into the air and land in the water.

b. The Water Slide

The Monster Water Slide is a twisting, turning, 250-foot water slide that drops thirty-three feet from beginning to end, landing you into the pool at the bottom.

c. The Aqua Trampoline

This is a 23-foot trampoline floating on the water.

4. Ultimate Frisbee – this is a co-ed event.

5. Volleyball

Entries: up to four teams allowed per division, per church

Boys team – grades 7-9, 10-12

Girls team – grades 7-9, 10-12

6. Track and Field

a. 40 Yard Dash – any and all may enter

Boys grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

Girls grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

b. Ironman/Ironwoman Race (teens only) – a swim-run-bike race

c. *The RHO-HEX* – campers represent their team by signing up for different legs of the 18 station relay race. Each leg is different (running, putt-putt, waterslide, etc) but must be accomplished while carrying a raw egg and not breaking the shell!

d. *THE BIG BAD BLUFF RUN* – a ½ mile race up and around the bluffs for the most adventurous.

7. Miniature Golf

Our 18-hole golf course is popular with young and old alike. The course has proven to be a favorite place to visit with other campers and visit the Golf Shack.

8. Fishing Contest
Most fish caught at specified times and largest fish caught.

B. Music Events

1. Entry Categories

Solos

Duets/Trios

Small Ensemble: four to six members

Large Ensemble: seven to twelve members

Choir: thirteen or more

Instrumental: any and all may enter

Christian Song Writing: must have at least two verses and a chorus/refrain and submit a lead sheet with lyrics, melody and chords

2. Divisions

Juniors – grades 1-3, 4-6

Teens – grades 7-9, 10-12

3. Guidelines

Plan to use our piano, if necessary

Classical or Sacred (religious-themed) music only

No folk, rock, or country/western

No electrical instruments allowed

CD accompaniment subject to approval; turn in to office during check-in

C. Art Events

1. Entry Categories

Paintings – oil, acrylics, tempera, watercolor, colored pens, pencils. No color-by-number.

Drawings – pencil, charcoal, chalk, ink, felt tip, and markers.

Crafts – macramé, embroidery, original ceramics, wood carvings, sculpture, three dimensional, and original sewing.

Photography – nature scenes, original and creative shots. Limit two pictures per entrant.

Gospel Comic Strip – a Christian theme story in ten frames or less, incorporating humor.

2. Divisions – grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

3. Guidelines

All work must be original to the entrant.

All works should be supported with a stiff backing and clear protective cover (excluding crafts).

Entrant's name, church, and grade just completed should be included on the back.

D. Writing Events

1. Entry Categories

Gospel Tract – limit one tract per entrant. The tract must be designed for leading someone to Christ. Tract must include author's original cover. Tracts will be evaluated on the basis of originality, clearness of content (step-by-step presentation), and conclusion.

Christian Essay – limit one per entrant. The essay must be no longer than 350 words, including any Scripture verse written out. All entries must be neatly printed or typed. The theme for the essay is, "What makes a strong youth group."

Patriotic Poem – limit two per entrant. Poems may be of any length, patriotic in theme, rhyming not necessary, written entirely by the entrant, and be typed or printed.

2. Divisions – grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

3. Guidelines

Adults may type the finished copy, but words, thoughts, or original work must not be changed.

Name of participant, church, and age must appear on work (on back is fine).

Youth Leaders Note – gather all entries before leaving for camp. Check to see that the entrant's name, age and church name are printed on back to identify each piece. Bring these to the Chapel at the Monday evening service.

E. Bible Events

1. Entry Categories

Clearest Presentation of the Gospel

Storytelling

My Testimony

Preaching (guys only)

2. Divisions – grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

3. Guidelines

Clearest Presentation of the Gospel – any form may be used as if teaching a class, witnessing to someone, passing out tracts, etc. Maximum time limit is seven minutes.

Storytelling – theme should teach a Christian principle. Maximum time limit is seven minutes. At least one visual aid must be used.

My Testimony – should include (1) why I received Christ as Savior, (2) what Christ did to save me, and (3) how I received Christ as Savior. Maximum time limit is seven minutes.

Preaching – topic should be on Christian living. Outline must be submitted and original to entrant.

IV. Closing Notes

The group's unity, enthusiasm, participation, cooperation, and camp spirit will depend largely upon the leaders. In turn, we want to be an asset to your leadership.

Fort Bluff Camp prefers that as many leaders as possible come with your campers, roughly one leader for every ten campers. Men leaders will stay with the boys each night, and the ladies will stay with the girls. Throughout the day leaders should motivate campers to be on time. The services and meals should find you counting noses and occasionally checking dorms.

Our main emphasis is to turn the hearts of young people toward things of the Lord. We have both morning and evening services to heighten a spiritual emphasis. We ask that all leaders be ready to help during invitation times; remind your group to bring their Bible, Devotional Guide (we supply), and a pen to services.

We will have special sessions for just the youth leaders. These sessions will cover topics relevant to today's Christian young people how to develop youth ministry.

Also, please be sure to check the health status of your campers before coming. It times past, we've had campers arrive who should not have come (e.g. fevers, lice, etc), and it affected those in their room.

Thank you for coming! We believe this is going to be a great summer and we're excited to see how the Lord will continue to show Himself through all of our efforts together at Fort Bluff Camp.

V. Directions

From Atlanta, Georgia

Drive I-75 N towards Chattanooga, TN. Take Exit #4 (Highway 153) for 12 miles to 27 N. Turn right onto 27 N and drive 28 miles into Dayton. At traffic light #7 turn left onto Highway 30 W. Drive for 4.8 miles to the top of the mountain. Turn left onto State Road 443 W (Ogden Road). Drive one mile to the Fort Bluff Camp entrance on the left and follow the signs to the office.

From Nashville, Tennessee

From I-40 E, take the Highway 127 Exit in Crossville. Take 127 S into Pikeville. Follow signs to Highway 30 E. Take 30 E for 12 miles to State Road 443 W (Ogden Road). Turn right, drive one mile to the Fort Bluff Camp entrance on the left, and follow the signs to the office.

From Knoxville, Tennessee

From I-40, take I-75 S to Exit #49 (Athens/Decatur). Turn right onto Highway 30 W and drive 28.5 miles into Dayton to the top of the mountain. Turn left onto State Road 443 W (NOT 443 E). Drive one mile to the Fort Bluff Camp entrance on the left and follow the signs to the office.

From I-40 take Hwy 27 S (Harriman/Rockwood exit). Turn south onto Hwy 27 S, and drive several miles (about a 45-60 minute drive) into Dayton. At traffic light #7, turn right onto Hwy 30 W, following the signs through town to stay on Hwy 30 W, and 4.8 miles to the top of the mountain. Turn left onto State Road 443 WEST (not 443 EAST). Drive one mile to the Fort Bluff Camp entrance on the left and follow the signs to the office.

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