




KIMBALL CAMP
OUTDOOR CENTER
SUMMER 2026
OVERNIGHT CAMP HANDBOOK



KIMBALL CAMP
OUTDOOR CENTER
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Reading, MI 49274

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www.kimballcamp.com

THROUGH THE WILDERNESS

Life is full of unknown paths, complicated questions, and moments that feel like wandering through deep woods. But the Bible shows us that we are never meant to stumble around aimlessly. God goes before us to lead, walks with us to guide and comfort, and stands behind us to protect and strengthen.

The wilderness is not a punishment or a place to fear—it's a journey with purpose, a story with direction, and a chance to discover God's presence in real and life-changing ways. Whether we face challenges, questions, or big decisions, we can trust that God is not only writing the story but walking every step of it with us.

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SINCE 1938...

Kimball Camp has joyfully served the local community and beyond through a diverse range of programs designed to create lasting memories and build strong connections. From educational programs for schools and fun-filled day groups to intimate gatherings of family and friends, Kimball Camp provides an ideal setting for making cherished memories. With a variety of summer camp options for all ages, we cater to everyone's needs, offering both adventure and personal growth.

Our highly qualified and dedicated staff are the heart of Kimball Camp. They bring passion, energy, and expertise to everything they do, ensuring that each participant enjoys an exceptional and meaningful experience. Whether it's helping children develop new skills, encouraging teamwork, or guiding individuals on their own personal journey, our staff members go above and beyond to make every moment count.

Looking ahead to summer, we're excited to introduce our talented team of summer staff. Stay tuned to our website and social media for upcoming introductions and get to know the passionate individuals who make Kimball Camp an unforgettable place for all.

To learn more about our staff, visit: www.kimballcamp.com/our-staff

WHO WE ARE

LEADERSHIP STAFF



Alexandra Gamicchia
Engagement & Experience
Director



Madelynn Whited
Executive Director



Darrell Bryant
Program Director



Shari Presnell
Executive Chef &
Accountant



VISION

To inspire personal growth, connection, and change.

MISSION

Kimball Camp provides a safe and enriching environment for all ages by fostering a connection with faith, community, self and nature.

VALUES

FAITH: Encourage character development through a Christian perspective while respecting people of all faiths.

SAFETY: Ensure ethical conduct and operational integrity through informed and transparent policy and procedures.

OUTDOORS: Embrace nature's classroom for life changing experiences, where the wilderness becomes a canvas for personal growth and connection.

RECREATION: Rediscover the joy of play and shared experiences, fostering vitality, camaraderie, and well-being through diverse recreational opportunities.

ADVENTURE: Answer the call to explore the unknown, challenge limits, and embrace the transformative power of every journey, big or small.

WHAT WE DO

SUMMER 2026 KEY VERSE

I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43:19

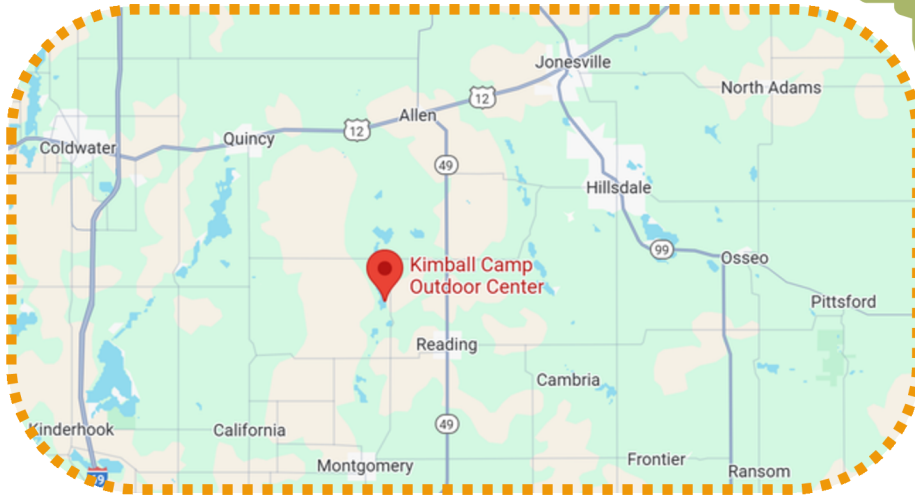


“YOUR FEET MAY LEAVE, BUT YOUR HEART NEVER WILL”

Kimball Camp Outdoor Center manages 101 acres of land that are prime for exploration and discovery! Our campus consists of conifer and hardwood forests, freshwater lake and stream, lawn, and old field ecosystems. We are also stewards of Kimball Pointe, a nearby nature preserve consisting of freshwater lake, hardwood forest, and wetland ecosystems.

WHERE WE ARE

4502 Berlin Drive Reading, MI 49274



THE LODGE

The camp office is located inside Herrick Lodge. Drop-off and pick-up will take place inside the Lodge. All visitors, including early pick-up or late-drop offs, must check in at the office. Please have your ID ready at pick-up.



VILLAGES & CABINS

Overnight campers will reside in one of our two villages, each equipped with four electrified cabins and modern bathhouses.



CAMP THEMES

JULY 5-10: GAME ON [AGES 8-17]

Race to the top of Goliath, paddle across Long Lake, or become the card game champion! Campers will have the choice of game-based morning and afternoon clinics, participate in all-camp competitions, and experience classic evening activities during a week of teamwork, confidence-building, and play. Clinic options may include: card & table games, teambuilding, sports, and water games.

JULY 12-17: WONDERS OF THE WILD [AGES 8-13]

Flora, fauna, and fossils - oh, my! Dig into our natural world through forest study, rockhounding, animal tracking and plant identification. Campers will develop observation skills and knowledge through progressive workshops and projects, while developing a lasting appreciation for the outdoors. Areas of focus include: biology, ecology, geology and botany.

JULY 19-24: LONG LAKE ADVENTURERS [AGES 12-17]

Level up your summer during this week of daily adventures designed just for teens: challenge your limits with rock climbing, giant swing, and the high ropes course; canoe to Kimball Pointe and dive into hands on forest study at our nature preserve; learn survival essentials like shelter building, fire making, and wild plant identification; and compete in the Ultimate Team Challenge, a high energy experience focused on teamwork, problem solving, and confidence building.

AUGUST 2-7: WILDCRAFT WORKSHOP [AGES 8-17]

Get wildly creative through hands-on art experiences designed for all skill levels. Campers will work together to plan and create large-scale projects such as murals, sculptures, and simple carpentry pieces. Along the way, they'll build confidence, practice teamwork, and develop creative problem-solving skills while contributing meaningful projects that become a part of camp for years to come.



CHECK-IN: SUNDAY 3-4PM

We will have stations set up in the Lodge to facilitate a quick process:

- **Camper Check-in**
 - Verify camper information & payment
 - Add funds to camp store account
 - Receive cabin assignment
- **Health Officer Check**
 - Drop-off & discuss camper health and medication
 - Temperature & Lice check
 - Discuss allergies
- **Program Director FAQs**
 - Discuss any questions regarding the program
 - Learn more about our activities
 - Get excited about your week at camp
- **Camp Store**
 - Check out what we have in store
 - Purchase any forgotten essentials
 - Pick up a camp shirt or souvenir

CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT



After completing the check-in process, our Counselors in Training (CIT) will escort you and your camper to their cabin to meet their counselor.

CHECK-OUT: FRIDAY 4-5PM

You must be listed on the camper's registration form as an individual authorized for pick-up and show valid photo ID to check-out a camper.

After presenting your ID and picking up any medication at the check-out station, you will receive a check-out ticket signed by a staff member. This ticket must be given to your child's counselor before you can take their belongings and leave camp. Counselors will be stationed near the camper's belongings, which will be laid out on the basketball court or, in case of bad weather, inside the Lodge.



HOW TO REGISTER

Sign up for camp by visiting our website:
<https://kimballcamp.com/summer-camps>

Please confirm all your information and camp selection are correct. If you need to make a change or cancellation, contact our office. Spaces are not reserved until a \$50 non-refundable deposit is made for each week of camp.

HOW TO PAY

Payments can be made online at:
<https://kimballcamp.com/overnight-camps>

Full payment is due by June 1st, 2026.

If you register after June 1st, please pay in full to reserve your child's space. Cash or check payments may be delivered to the camp office.

Week Rates:

Full-week camp: \$400

FUNDRAISING

Register online:
<https://form.jotform.com/242835156996976>

Raising money for camp is easy with our fundraising options!

Many campers fully-fund their own camp experience through our World's Finest Chocolate and Country Meat Snack sales. Generated funds may only be applied to Summer Camp 2026 programs and do not carry over to other programs or years. Unspent funds are non-refundable and will automatically be applied to our general camp scholarship fund.

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT



REFUND POLICY

Payments may be refunded in full if the participant cancels before arriving at camp, minus the \$50 non-refundable deposit.

No full refunds will be provided after a camper arrives at the camp, except under extenuating circumstances as determined by a camp director. No full refunds will be provided if a camper goes home early due to homesickness or behavioral issues. If a camper goes home less than 24 hours after they arrive at camp, a 67% refund may be issued. If a camper goes home more than 24 but less than 48 hours after they arrive at camp, a 50% refund may be issued. If a camper goes home more than 48 hours after they arrive at camp, no refund will be issued. Camp store deposits are non-refundable.

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MAY BE AVAILABLE. PLEASE REACH OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION.



DAILY SCHEDULE

ALL-CAMP ACTIVITIES:

Each evening the whole camp comes together for our traditional activities which include:

S/M: All-Camp Game - changes weekly

T: Staff Hunt - hide & seek, camp style

W: Bead Ceremony - celebrate your time at camp

Th: Kimball Capers - camp skit night, may be followed by a night hike

CABIN ACTIVITIES:

Chosen by cabins & counselors, may include:

High Ropes, Giant Swing, Goliath (Rock Wall), Crafts, Archery Tag, Creek Exploration, Sports, Swimming, Canoeing, Teambuilding & more!

SUNDAY	MON - THURS	FRIDAY	
Early check-in is not permitted without approval from a camp director.	BREAKFAST		
	Chapel	Chapel & Clinic Awards	
	AM Clinic	Cabin & Camp Clean-up	
		All-Camp Swim	
	LUNCH		
	God & I Time	All-Camp Activities	
	PM Clinic		
	3:00-4:00PM - CHECK-IN	Free Time	4:00-5:00PM - CHECK-OUT
	Swim Test		Our daily schedule may vary due to weather or special events
	DINNER		
Camp Tour & Cabin Bonding	Camp Store		
All-Camp Activity	Cabin Activity		
Opening Campfire	All-Camp Activity		
Reflections & Devotions			
Get Ready for Bed			
Lights Out			



WHAT TO BRING

A GREAT WEEK AT CAMP BEGINS AT HOME

Set your camper up for success by bringing what they'll need and leaving behind what they won't. Since most of our day will be spent outdoors, unless there is severe weather, appropriate clothing is required. Closed-toed athletic shoes are preferred in all areas of camp aside from the Waterfront and are **required** for some activities.

PACKING & PREPARING

Bible	Pants (1-2 pairs)
Backpack	Pajamas (2-4 sets)
Reusable Water Bottle	Socks & Undergarments (6+ sets)
Bugspray & Sunscreen	Shower & Toiletry Items
Closed-Toed Shoes	Bath Towel & Washcloth
Water Shoes or Flip Flops	Fitted Twin-sized Sheet
Sunglasses & Hat	Sleeping bag/Blankets
Swimsuit & Cover-up	Pillow
Beach Towel	Laundry bag
Jacket/Sweatshirt (2)	Medication in Original Container*
Raincoat/Poncho	
Short-sleeved Shirts (6-8)	
Shorts (5-6 pairs)	

*(given to Health Officer at Check-in)

DO NOT BRING:

ANY Electronic Devices (disposable & non-internet connected cameras are allowed), trading Cards, toys, etc., food, weapons or flammable Items, money or valuables (Camp Store money must be deposited at check-in)

LOST & FOUND

Please make sure that your camper's items are labeled with their first & last name. If you discover your camper has lost an item, reach out to the main office. We are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items. Unclaimed items may be donated after 30 days.



SLEEPING & SHOWERING

REST AND HYGIENE ARE ESSENTIAL FOR AN ENJOYABLE CAMP EXPERIENCE

Each camper is assigned their own bunk, providing them with a space for rest and relaxation. We ask that campers respect each other's need for quiet time and privacy, ensuring that the cabin environment remains peaceful and conducive to rest. Campers are not permitted to enter or occupy the counselor's bunk area. This space is reserved for staff only to maintain privacy and ensure that counselors are available to supervise the campers.

We encourage all campers to shower daily and change into clean clothes to maintain good hygiene and feel refreshed. Campers will have designated shower times based on their cabin's schedule. Staff will assist in ensuring that everyone follows their assigned times and that the shower facilities remain safe and clean. To respect the campers' schedules, counselors will have their own designated shower times, separate from those of the campers. This ensures that supervision is always in place and that campers have the support they need when using the shower facilities. Overall, we aim to create a comfortable and respectful environment where every camper can focus on enjoying their camp experience while maintaining personal privacy and hygiene.

At Kimball Camp Outdoor Center, we prioritize the safety and well-being of every camper. Our staff is trained to provide proper supervision at all times.

CABIN SUPERVISION AND STAFF RATIOS:

Our employee-to-camper ratio for cabin areas is 1 staff member for every 14 campers. At least one adult staff member will be present throughout the night to supervise the campers.

DAYTIME CABIN MONITORING:

Even when campers are participating in other activities, cabin villages are supervised whenever campers are present. Campers must travel in buddy pairs and remain within sight of staff. If staff members need to accompany campers to their cabins during the day, they will follow the "Rule of 3" (at least two staff members and one camper, or one staff member and two campers) to ensure safe and appropriate supervision.

RESTROOM USE DURING THE DAY:

Campers will primarily use The Lodge bathrooms, which are private, single-person, and gender-neutral. Campers must always travel in buddy pairs and stay within sight of staff when traveling to a restroom. When staff members need to accompany campers to the restroom, they will follow the "Rule of 3," and staff will remain outside the restroom.

SHOWER SUPERVISION:

Campers will be assigned either morning or evening shower times based on their cabin. Campers will travel in buddy pairs while adult counselors supervise both the cabins and bathhouses. A staff member will be in the cabin, and another will be outside, listening and observing campers as they move between the bathhouse and cabins. Staff will primarily supervise using auditory cues, and will only enter the bathhouse if necessary, with a second staff member present. Campers who are not showering will be supervised in the cabins.



PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS REGARDING YOUR CAMPER'S PHYSICAL OR MENTAL HEALTH AT CAMP.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

MEDICATION

- **All medications will be checked in with our Health Officer during the drop-off and registration process.**
- Prescription medications must be in the original bottle with the name of the individual and directions for administration.
- **All medications regularly taken by your camper, emergency or maintenance, must be brought to camp.**
- Medications will be kept in a locked, secure area unless otherwise specified.
- Medications will be distributed as directed by the Health Officer.
- Campers are not allowed to keep any medication, prescription or over the counter, on their person, except for authorized emergency self-carry medication as prescribed by a physician.



FOOD & DRINK

Campers must consume food and stay hydrated while at camp. Limited alternatives are available at meal times. Please consider providing lunch and snacks for your child if they are a picky eater. Children who refuse to eat or drink will sent home for their wellbeing.

WE WILL CONTACT YOU IF YOUR CAMPER...

- Refuses to eat or drink
- Has a fever of 100.4 or higher
- Has diarrhea
- Has been vomiting
- Has symptoms of any communicable disease
- Has an oozing wound or sore
- Is unable to actively participate in camp activities due to feeling unwell

CAMPERS MAY RETURN WHEN THEY HAVE BEEN SYMPTOM FREE FOR 24 HOURS, HAVE BEEN ON AN ANTIBIOTIC FOR 24 HOURS, OR HAVE BEEN RELEASED BY A PHYSICIAN.

ALLERGIES

- **Food allergies must be identified via the camper health form during registration;** our Food Services Director will work with families to ensure safety in the dining hall and, with advanced notice, provide allergy-safe meals.
- Campers requiring an EpiPen for anaphylactic reactions to insect stings, foods, etc. must follow the above instructions.
- Skin sensitivity and environmental allergies must be documented via the health form.

ILLNESS

In the event that your camper becomes ill at camp, we will contact you to pick them up within the hour. If you are unable to arrive within an hour, we ask that you have another emergency contact pick them up. We appreciate your understanding in providing a comfortable place for your child to recover.

EMERGENCIES

In the event of a medical emergency, we will call 911 to have your camper transported to the closest facility for care. Two of our employees will accompany your camper and we will call you to meet us at the emergency facility.



PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE POLICY

Kimball Camp is committed to each camper's success in learning within a caring, responsive, and safe environment that is free of discrimination, violence, and bullying. Our team works to ensure that all campers have the opportunity and support to develop to their fullest potential and gain the skills to create personal and meaningful bonds with people in camp and the community. Intentional, data-driven instruction and approaches are used to create an environment that fosters curiosity and social-emotional wellness. Communicating consistent, clear expectations and using appropriate guidance lays a foundation for campers to build positive life-long relationship, decision making, and resiliency skills. We strive for our program to create caring individuals who are kind to others as well as themselves. Our team ensure safety and empower our campers to take responsibility in their wellbeing; because of this, we can supply quality opportunities for exploration that strengthen our camper's sense of self and confidence.

CAMPER BEHAVIOR

In order to maintain a safe and welcoming environment, campers are expected to:

- Encourage and uplift fellow campers in all camp activities
- Respect the physical boundaries of other individuals
- Respect camp property by using facilities, spaces and objects appropriately
- Speak to fellow campers and adults with appropriate words and tone
- Only enter and occupy spaces which they are permitted
- Remain in designated, supervised program spaces
- Regulate emotions as developmentally appropriate
- Independently use the restroom and changing facilities
- Communicate needs and concerns to camp staff

IF YOUR CHILD REQUIRES ADDITIONAL SUPPORT TO MEET THESE EXPECTATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT US.

EXPECTATIONS & DISCIPLINE

**AT KIMBALL CAMP
WE ENCOURAGE,
NOT DISCOURAGE!**

SUSPENSION & EXPULSION POLICY

If the camper and family are unresponsive to implemented supports and interventions, It may become necessary to temporarily (suspend) or indefinitely (expel) remove the camper from the program. At times it may be necessary to suspend a camper from the program for their safety and/or the safety of others.

Suspensions will be immediately communicated to the family. After careful consideration by the support team and with administrative approval, the decision to expel will be communicated to the family.

Campers who have been expelled or suspended must be picked up within one hour of family contact.

CAMPERS WHO EXHIBIT PHYSICAL OR VERBAL AGGRESSION, STEAL OR DESTROY PROPERTY, BULLY, OR CAUSE FREQUENT DISRUPTIONS MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE CAMP PROGRAM PER OUR SUSPENSION & EXPULSION POLICY.



CHILD SAFETY AT CAMP

We believe that every child deserves a safe environment to grow, and feel an immense collective responsibility in providing our campers with safe adults at Kimball Camp.

Employment at camp is contingent upon receiving a clear background check and positive reference calls. Every adult staff member is background checked through the Central Registry Clearance (CRC) system. Additionally, all staff, guests and volunteers 18+ must consent to iChat checks through the Michigan State Police.

As mandated reporters, we take child abuse seriously. Our counselors are trained in child abuse recognition and are required to report any incident that may intentionally, recklessly and/or knowingly cause harm to a child. We have a stringent Code of Conduct that all employees are required to abide by. Additionally, we have guidelines for appropriate interactions with, and among, youth in our programs.

APPROPRIATE PHYSICAL INTERACTIONS

- Side hugs
- Shoulder-to-shoulder hugs
- Pats on the shoulder or back
- Handshakes
- High fives
- Pats on the head when culturally appropriate
- Arm around another person's shoulders
- Holding hands (with younger children in escorting situations)

INAPPROPRIATE PHYSICAL INTERACTIONS

- Full-frontal hugs
- Kisses of any kind
- Showing affection in isolated areas
- Lap-sitting
- Wrestling
- Piggy-back rides
- Tickling
- Clinging to an adult's leg/body
- Touching bottom, chest, or genital areas
- ANY form of unwanted affection

ABUSE PREVENTION

**RULE OF THREE:
NO MINOR SHALL
BE ALONE WITH AN ADULT UNDER
ANY CIRCUMSTANCES; ANOTHER
ADULT OR MINOR MUST BE PRESENT**



APPROPRIATE VERBAL INTERACTIONS

- Positive reinforcement:
 - That was a good choice, I'm proud of you!
- Appropriate jokes:
 - How do you know a dad joke is a dad joke?...it will be apparent!
- Encouragement and praise:
 - Great job! Keep it up!

INAPPROPRIATE VERBAL INTERACTIONS

- Name-calling
- Secrets
- Cursing or derogatory remarks
- Off-color or sexual jokes
- Shaming, belittling
- Oversharing personal history
- Compliments relating to physique or body development
- Discussing sexual encounters or in any way involving campers in the personal problems or issues of employees, minor staff, or volunteers



CAMP OFFICE

HOURS: Monday - Friday: 9am-4pm

Executive Director

Madelynn Whited

director@kimballcamp.com

(517) 283-2168 ext. 4

Program Director

Darrell Bryant

program@kimballcamp.com

(517) 283-2168 ext. 2

Executive Chef & Accountant

Shari Presnell

foodservice.kimballcamp@gmail.com

(517) 283-2168 ext.

Engagement & Experience Director

Alexandra Gamicchia

outreach.kimballcamp@gmail.com

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

 [FACEBOOK.COM/KIMBALLCAMP](https://www.facebook.com/kimballcamp)

 [@KIMBALLCAMP](https://www.instagram.com/kimballcamp)

REACH OUT



CONTACTING YOUR CAMPER

You can contact your camper throughout the week via email, mail or packages. Phone calls are discouraged.

Camper Email:

office@kimballcamp.com

Our office assistant checks email every morning and delivers messages during lunch.

Camper Mail:

[Camper's Name]
Kimball Camp Outdoor Center
4502 Berlin Dr.
Reading, MI
49274

Mail arrives mid-morning and will be delivered during lunch. Packages vary on arrival time.

