



Christian Church of Mid-America Outdoor Ministries (NEOLA CAMPS)

CCMA Registrar PO Box 1 Mexico, MO 65265

[www.mid-america-disciples.org/summer/](http://www.mid-america-disciples.org/summer/)

AND

Missouri Union Presbytery (PC USA)



***Try It Camp will be held at Jo-Ota Camp and Retreat Center***

***1272 Hwy MM Clarence, MO 63437(also Mailing Address, be sure to include camper's***

***Name)***

**CAMP CHECK-IN: Mon, July 15 at 10 am**

**Elem CAMP CHECK-OUT: Wed, July 17 at 5 pm**

**Jr. CAMP CHECK-OUT: Fri, July 19 at 10 am**

**Mission Project:** Bring School supplies or backpacks for mission outreach (don't forget adult size back packs for Jr High and High School Kids)

Dear Camper,

We are Micah McNeal, and Audra West and we are co-directing Elementary & Junior Camps this summer at Camp Jo-Ota. Camp is going to be great fun with lots of crafts, recreation, and Bible study. We are all very excited about camp and are looking forward to seeing you there. Be sure to note the check-in and check-out times for camp, in bold letters at the top of this letter.

We know you are thinking about your time at camp, too. Some of you have been to camp before. Some of you are coming for the first time. Either way, we'll have a great week together.

This year's theme is "Linked in Love". As a camper you will focus on how we are all linked in love. We know that love comes from God, and sometimes we experience it directly. More often, God's love is shown in relationships of all kinds that weave in and out of our lives. We see God's love in close friends and family – those we are born into and those we chose along the way. We see God in quiet moments where we are present with each other and in acts of profound grace when we have been far apart. We hear God in life guiding and life changing words of truth from those who know and love us. We know that such love links our lives, teaching us about commitment, intimacy, grace, and faith. As we seek to create and strengthen life giving relationships, we remember that such love flows from God, links us all together, and we give thanks. Our Mission project is collecting back packs and school supplies for foster children. These packs will be sent to different agencies so they can be distributed as needed.

Before you pack be sure you look over the packing list and other information for campers and their families. Questions?? Call the NEOLA Registrar at 660-641-3412 or the Outdoor Ministries Co-coordinator, Zane Whorton at 660-998-4158, Audra West, or Micah McNeal.

Please note the information about cell phones– do not bring electronic items with you to camp. Do bring sandals or flip-flops for the bathhouse and the pool and closed-toed tennis shoes or hiking shoes for all other walking around camp.

So... pack those bags and get yourself ready for a great experience at camp. See you soon!

In Christ,

Audra West, and Micah McNeal

audraw@fpccolumbia.org    mmcneal@mexicofpc.com

918-519-6789

971-322-8154

***Parents – keep this letter with the director's cell number in case of emergency.***

Dear Camp families, In an effort to minimize illness at camp we ask that you check on the health of your camper daily beginning 14 days prior to camp. The best camp sessions start with healthy campers and this begins at home. Please bring this completed form to camp on opening day.

Please indicate if your camper has any of the following symptoms prior to camp. If any temperature or symptoms are present, please have your camper evaluated by a licensed provider and contact camp for further guidance (Zane Whorton at [zanew78@gmail.com](mailto:zanew78@gmail.com) or 660-998-4158)

Symptoms: • Cough • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • Fever • Chills  
• Muscle Pain • Sore throat • New loss of taste or smell • Nausea • Vomiting • Diarrhea

1. My child has not had a new fever of 100.4 or higher, or a sense of having a fever in the last week.

Initial \_\_\_\_\_

2. My child has not developed a new cough, congestion or runny nose that cannot be attributed to another health condition. Initial \_\_\_\_\_

3. My child has not developed a shortness of breath that cannot be attributed to another health condition.

Initial \_\_\_\_\_

4. My child has not developed a new sore throat that cannot be attributed to another health condition.

Initial \_\_\_\_\_

5. My child has not experienced muscle aches that cannot be attributed to another health condition, or that may not have been caused by a specific activity such as physical exercise. Initial \_\_\_\_\_

6. My child has not developed nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. Initial \_\_\_\_\_

7. My child has not traveled by air or traveled out of state in the 14 days prior to camp.

If so, there were health precautions in place. Initial \_\_\_\_\_

8. My child has not been around anyone with any of the listed symptoms or diagnosis of COVID-19 or Flu in the 14 days before the start of camp. Initial \_\_\_\_\_

9. My child has not been diagnosed with COVID-19 or Flu in the last 14 days. Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Camper Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Session: \_\_\_\_\_

If, within the last 14 days, I have tested positive for COVID-19, I agree to disclose to the organization the date on which I was notified that I was no longer contagious with COVID-19. Documentation may be requested.

Immediately prior to participating in a camp program, I consent to have my temperature taken by Camp staff.

As of 5/26/2022 we are not requiring masks.

Our signature indicates that we completed this health screening daily for 2 weeks prior to camp and to the best of our ability. We understand that arriving to camp healthy is vital to a healthy camp for all campers.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Camper Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Please Bring the Following Necessities to Camp!

1. Flash Light! Water Bottle! Bible ! Proper clothing\*\*\*\*, bedding, sunscreen, insect repellent and shower supplies and other items listed on this page.

### \*\*\*\*\*CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT LIST

Clothing at camp should be appropriate for a church camp setting - no inappropriate words or messages (consistent with school dress codes). Swimsuits need to meet the guidelines below. Camp staff reserves the right to ask campers to change or put on a cover-up if swimwear is deemed inappropriate. (We are following Camp Jo-Otta's dress code)

Camp clothing should be comfortable, older items that are suitable for being outdoors. Closed-toe shoes must be worn at all times in camp; a comfortable pair of tennis shoes works well. Campers should bring a pair of flip flops or waterproof sandals for the shower and pool. *The list below is adequate for Sun. – Fri. camps (adjust for shorter or longer camps).*

**Clothing:** (not including what the camper wears to camp)

- 1-2 pair jeans or light-weight long pants
- enough shorts for week
- 1 pair of tennis shoes for hiking and games (extra pair if available may be a good ideas as well)
- \* t-shirts
- enough underwear and socks for week (couple of extra)
- 1-2 pair of pajamas
- 1 pair of flip flops for shower
- 1 hooded sweatshirt or sweater, light jacket
- 1 rain poncho or jacket
- 1-2 long sleeved shirts

**\*Girls:** shorts need to have at least 2½" inseam; no strapless/tube tops; bottom of shirt must cover the top of shorts or pants;

\*\*\*\*\***1-2 one-piece, modest swimsuits**

\*\*\*\*\*"modest" swimsuit means one-piece suit or tankini without excessive cut-outs, not strapless and which provides adequate coverage.

**\*Boys:** shorts, swim suits, and pants should not expose undergarments, bottom of shirt must cover the top of shorts or pants;

\*\*\*\*\*"modest" swimsuit means trunks with adequate coverage.

**Bedding:**

sleeping bag or blankets, sheet (twin size), pillow with pillow case

**Toiletries:**

toothbrush & paste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, comb/brush, Towels(2 at minimum) and Wash Clothes,

Bag for Dirty Clothes etc.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-medications in original containers</li><li>-water bottle (for water during the day)</li><li>-Items or money for camp offering/mission project</li><li>-Bible</li><li>-stamped envelopes for letter writing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-non-aerosol insect repellent (for ticks, too)</li><li>-sun screen and hat</li><li>-notebook &amp; pencils/pens</li><li>-chapstick</li><li>-flashlight &amp; extra batteries</li></ul>
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**Optional:** sun glasses, camera, **battery operated alarm clock**, musical instrument - guitar, flute, etc, Small Back Pack or Draw string bag

**DO NOT BRING TO CAMP: PHONES AND SMART WATCHES** (*parents if you have to bring them please do not be on them during activities and try to be away from everyone when you do have to use them*)

knives, firearms, valuables, illegal drugs, tobacco products, alcohol, fireworks, radios, electronic games or other devices, cell phones, food items, matches or lighters, expensive jewelry. *Note: some directors may allow campers to use ipod or MP3 players in their cabins after devotions or during quiet time.*

**Other information:**

1. Please clearly label all items with camper's last name, even sleeping bags and luggage.
2. Campers are responsible for carrying and taking care of their own gear - please help your camper by packing things in bags that are easily carried, rolling or stuffing sleeping bags tightly.

**NEOLA Disciples Camps are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items.**

## **Additional Information**

**(Please read thoroughly...many of your questions will be answered!)**

COMING & GOING FROM CAMP – Refer to your child's director letter for check-in/check-out times. Please do not arrive early for check-in; staff will be preparing for your child's week at camp.

**Note:** Campers will only be released to parents or guardians named on registration form, unless authorized in writing by parent/guardian.

Campers are expected to remain at camp for the entire camp session. Leaving camp for even a few hours is disruptive to camp community, promotes homesickness, and brings traffic into camp, which is a safety concern. **For the safety of all campers, unless there is an emergency, plan for your camper to stay at camp without interruption.** Early departure requests must be provided in writing before or during camp check-in.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS – In an emergency, call your child's Camp Director on his/her cell phone (# in Director Letter. If you can't reach the Director, call Zane Whorton (660-998-4158).

Campers have access to a phone **for emergencies only**. Please do not ask your child to call you; this prompts homesickness in your child and others.

CAMP VISITORS - Families are welcome to visit camp before your child's camp, and to tour camp and meet the staff when you are checking in for camp. **For the safety of all of our campers, visitors are not invited into camp during camp sessions, except for scheduled activities. ALL visitors to camp must check in at the camp office.**

SMOKING & TOBACCO USE – Our events are non-smoking and tobacco free. Staff and campers are expected to refrain from using tobacco products while on camp property during camp sessions. **Violating this expectation may result in participants being sent home at their own expense. Parents of campers will be notified by event leadership.**

SWIM TESTING – all campers are swim tested on the first day of camp and issued a "swim band" to be worn while at camp which indicates their swimming ability.

CABINS – Cabins are air-conditioned depending on the campsite the showers may be in the cabin as well or in a separate bathhouse. Adults sleep in the cabins with campers

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR CAMPER – There are two ways to communicate with your camper at camp:

1. **Send a letter or a card.** Please send regular mail BEFORE your child gets to camp to ensure delivery. Mail sent after camp begins often arrives after camp is over, so send your letters early.

**CAMPER MAILING ADDRESS:** *Listed on director's letter! Campers are encouraged write home, too. Please pack pre-addressed, stamped envelopes/postcards.*

**CELL PHONES** and Smart Watches– **Please do not send a cell phone or smart watches to camp with your camper.** Here are some important reasons we ask campers to leave cell phones at home:

- 1. Most cell phones have cameras and campers like to take photos of friends and activities at camp. However, there are some campers whose parents do not give permission (for safety or custodial reasons) for their picture to be taken at camp. If campers have cell phones, we cannot guarantee that an individual's photo will not appear on another camper's Facebook page or be made public in some way.**
2. One of the significant faith experiences of camp is becoming part of an intentional Christian community. Cell phones and smart watches pull us away from the camp community, when we receive/send a text or respond to a call. This pull to "back home" relationships can be enough of a distraction that it can be difficult to stay present with the new relationships forming at camp.

In case of emergency, our staff will contact you. If your high school camper must drive to camp, she or he will be encouraged to call and let you know of their safe arrival, then to turn in their phone along with their car keys, both of which will be returned on the last day of camp.

MEDICAL CARE AT CAMP – Most weeks our staff includes a camp nurse and we always have at least two staff certified in First Aid/CPR. Rickman is located within minutes of hospital facilities, should a medical emergency arise. Camper Health Forms are reviewed prior to camp so that staff are aware of any special health concerns. *Campers are covered by a camp accident policy, however this plan is secondary medical coverage.*

**CAMPER MEDICAL CHECK-IN at CAMP – Medications must be in their original or prescription containers. This includes over the counter medications like Tylenol, decongestants, vitamins, etc. Medication to be taken during camp must be turned in to the Camp Health Staff when your child checks in.**

All campers receive a health screening, head lice and temperature check before going to cabins. Anyone found to have lice, a persistent temperature of 100° F or higher, or signs/symptoms of a communicable disease will not be admitted to camp. Program and supply expenses are incurred based on the campers registered for an event; campers sent home for health reasons do not receive a refund of fees.

**ADDITIONAL CAMPER INFO and MEDICAL FORMS** – Please complete the forms below as needed and bring them to check-in.

**Medication Record:** Complete this form and bring it to check-in if your child will be taking medication or vitamins at camp, Bring meds in a gallon Ziploc bag.

- 1. Food Allergy Action Plan: Complete only if your child has food or other serious allergies.** Bring the completed form (including a current photo of your child) with you to check-in.
2. **"About Me" Page:** Complete and bring to camp or return to the Registrar before camp to help director and counselors get to know your camper.

CAMP MISSION PROJECT – One of our traditions is to come together as a camp community to support a ministry outside ourselves. Look for details about this year's mission project in your director's letter

**LOST & FOUND – Clearly label your child's clothing and items so we can get them returned to you!**