

Chi Rho & CYF Camp @ Texoma Christian Camp June 17-21, 2018

**Let's Learn to Celebrate Our Differences Together!**  
**God made us different with a purpose.**  
**So, let's embrace each other because of those qualities!**



Dear Campers and Parents,

We have assembled a great staff who has been preparing a week of deep learning about  
*RECONCILIATION.*

Wendy Sparks (Purcell FCC), Kathy Standridge (Sulphur FCC), & Travis Carlson (Cyril, FCC) will be directing this year's camp; each have been involved with youth and church camp for 10+ years each.

**Camp begins Sunday, June 17 at 6:00 pm with check-in at Cabin A1\***. Please do not plan to arrive any earlier than 5pm for check-in, as your counselors will still be making final preparations for a very exciting week. This year will not only have a different check-in place, but we will have a unique style of day-to-day scheduling. Please check-in with medications in original packaging, \$15.00 your money for canteen, donation or offering of your choice to support our camp, , cell phones, camp forms, etc. Once check-in is completed, you will get your cabin assignment. Please be very swift in making your bunk and putting your suitcases away. We will need to begin promptly at 6:30 in the Lodge.

With this letter, you will find:

- A list of things to bring and not to bring to camp.
- Camp Commitment Form (complete and bring with you to check-in)

This week will be one of our most challenging, yet most impactful camps that we have shared. We will be digging deep into difficult subjects, so we expect each of you to come prepared to be engaged and to have an open mind & heart.

What if... we could love each other no matter how they treat us?

What if... we don't immediately jump to hatred as a response?

What if... you and I can celebrate our differences together, rather than separate because of them?

*Daily themes include Reconcile (def):*

1. to cause (a person) to accept or be resigned to something not desired
2. to win over to friendliness; cause to become amicable
3. to compose or settle
4. to bring into agreement or harmony; make compatible or consistent
5. to re-consecrate
6. to restore

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### Check-In Process

- When you arrive at camp look for signs directing you to Cabin A1; not in the Lodge as in the past.
  - Leave Luggage in Vehicle

### Bring with you to Check-In Area:

- ✓ Prescription Medications the campers will take during the week. These will be given in the original bottles. Please include dosage instructions.
- ✓ Completed Camp Commitment form signed by parent or legal guardian
- ✓ A week of camp is best experienced if it is unplugged. Note: Any camper with a phone in his/her possession after Check-in on Sunday is violating the "Camp Commitment" that was signed during registration, and may be sent home, or complete penance at camp, at the discretion of the Directors.
- ✓ Money for Canteen account (\$15). Campers may choose 1 snack item and 1 drink per day.
- ✓ Offering money for closing worship. This will be collected and placed in an envelope anonymously and at your discretion. This year our closing offering will go towards a charity or group(s) decided upon by the campers.

### Important things to note as you pack:

- ✓ Theme nights:
  - \*Sunday is 'Let's go to the MOVIES' Night (Since you won't have time to change after arrival, come to camp dressed as a movie character, in a movie t shirt, movie theme, etc. Get creative, but keep it Church camp appropriate.)
  - \*Monday is 'Red, White, & Blue- United We Stand' Night (Anything USA themed, RW&B, or get creative with United We Stand—BE mindful that we will be lakeside and you may want a cover up t-shirt or trash bag for the painting part)
  - \*Tuesday is 'Retro' Night (Bring on the neon and bell- bottoms or whatever makes you think Retro!! We will be dancing and having game night at the lodge!!)
  - \*Wednesday is 'Emoji' Night (Let's get all emoji-fied and paint your face, wear your favorite T or favorite smiley socks. Tonight will be Senior Appreciation Night followed by the talent show; so plan on the emotions to fill the lodge all night long!) \*\* Parents, please RSVP by Sunday at Check-in time if you will be planning to attend the Senior Appreciation Dinner. There will be a limit of 2 special guests per senior this year. Thank you for understanding.
- ✓ We are having a "Texoma's Got Talent" Show, so bring anything you might need to share your talent and gifts with the camp. (It will be indoors, therefore musical instruments, dance props, etc. are welcome, but keep in mind that space may be limited at camp. If you are in doubt that your talent showcase is appropriate for camp, feel free to contact one of the directors for clarification. All talent showcases will have to obtain approval for safety and integrity purposes.)
- ✓ Cell Phones will be checked in at registration, if necessary to send for transportation purpose.
- ✓ Expensive electronics such as cell phones, iPods, MP3 players, etc. tend to be a distraction at camp, as well as a temptation. Leave them at home, we are not responsible for lost/stolen items.
- ✓ **Swimsuits** are to be modest (read the attached packing list for more details.) You may be asked to put a t-shirt or other coverup on if you fail to prepare for this. Options will be given for those that do not wish to swim any or all of camp time.
- ✓ **ALL SHORTS/SKIRTS** will be required to be no shorter than fingertip length when standing. In years pasts, we have had campers that have not had appropriate and/or modest clothing; it

does not promote a healthy, safe, and Christ-like environment. This also **includes pants/shorts** to be worn at the waist and not excessively baggy & shirts to be full length. Tank tops are okay; just use good judgement. We will ask campers to change, if guidelines are not met.

- ✓ Each camper **NEEDS TO BRING: Bible** (any translation is fine, but we will be utilizing scripture from NRSV), **Flashlight** with fresh batteries, **CLOSED TOED SHOES** (sandals and flip flops will be allowed for swim time and shower time only. No exceptions! All of God's creatures enjoy coming to church camp, too, so safety is of utmost importance), **Sunscreen & Insect repellent** (again, a safety thing).
- ✓ We will have many opportunities for game time. Bring your own, church camp appropriate games at your own risk.

#### Brief Summary of Events:

As you can tell, we have lots of stuff going on and we need your help to make things go as smoothly as possible.

If you plan to send mail to your camper, we suggest you begin that no later than Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>; experience tells us it will be delivered after camp ends ☹️. We like to make mail time fun for everyone, so the more the better 😊. (You can also avoid the snail mail faux pa, by having predated letters upon check-in...This works out really well and saves time and stamps.) Mail will be picked up and delivered every day at camp. Letters from family and friends should be addressed:

(Camper's Name)

c/o Texoma Christian Camp

4558 Texoma Christian Camp Rd

Kingston, OK 73439

Camp will end Thursday, June 21st at 12noon. We will have our closing worship at 10:00am at the Chapel.  
Parents and/or whomever is picking you up are **WELCOME & ENCOURAGED** to join us. Please plan to be at the Dining Hall between 9:30 and 9:45, but not earlier, as we will still be setting up. This closing will be like none we have had ever in the history of Texoma Christian Camp (at least to my knowledge). Campers will work on projects all week long, TED Talks, poems, songs, interpretive dance, stories, spoken words, artwork, monologues, and such. We want to give each camper an opportunity to express themselves in a way that shows their own understanding of **RECONCILIATION**. You won't want to miss this! We will try to record the event, but I am afraid to promise this right now.

Lastly, please make sure your camper has eaten supper prior to dropping off at camp Sunday evening.  
We will have a snack that evening, but not a full meal.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give any of us a call. We look forward to learning about  
Reconcile with you at Chi Rho Camp!

Wendy Sparks (405)574-2112—Kathy Standridge (580)618-0349—Travis Carlson (405)933-0461

Please note that cell service is not guaranteed 100% at the camp ground, but we will return any  
calls/texts as soon as possible. If it is an **emergency** and the above numbers are not helpful, contact  
camp caretakers, Marsha or Gene at (580)564-2630.



The counselors, directors, Texoma Christian Camp, nor the Christian Church in Oklahoma are not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen personal items. Please plan accordingly.

Time to get packing for camp!!

HIGHLY Suggested Packing List (Please label ALL items—Bolded items are “Must-Bring” items):

- **Pillow, sheets, blanket, or bed roll** (bunks have mattresses)
- Small personal fans, if needed to sleep (outlets available)
- Cooling towels for daily use (ex. Frogg Toggs chilly pads)
- **Pair of socks per day**
- **Change of clothes per day** (shorts, jeans, T-shirts)
- Clothes and/or accessories for talent show & theme nights
- **Change of under garments per day**
- **Comfy, Closed-Toed Shoes (2 sets)**
- Light jacket or hoodie
- Hat and/or cheap sunglasses
- Camera
- Swimsuit: *Intentional Christian community requires persons to think of others as we make choices. Your young person may be comfortable in a speedo, or revealing swimsuit at the pool or waterfront, but others may be uncomfortable with that attire. Please consider modesty when packing appropriate swimwear for camp.*
- Rainy-day clothing
- **Cover- up t-shirt or trash bag** (may get paint, or stained--to be worn during lakeside event)
- Tissues for allergies and discussion time
- **Bath towel** (no more than 2)
- Beach Towel or Swimming Towel (1)
- **Personal Toiletries** (shower shoes, soap in a container, shampoo, toothpaste, brush, etc.)
- **Insect repellent**

- **Sunscreen**
- **Robe & pajamas (showers and toilets may be a short walk from the cabin)**
- **Smiles (camp is no place for crabby people)**
- **Flashlight**
- **Bible (suggested NRSV, but any version is good to have ☺)**
- **Water Bottle!!!**

- **Small backpack/tote for daily use**
- **Letters-to-home kit (paper, envelopes, pen, & stamps)**
- **Money: Canteen (cokes, fruit drinks and candy bars are sold). Offering to help with a charity/mission project. {All \$\$ will be collected at check-in}**

**\*\*Leave at Home \*\***

- Consider camp as a short “digital sabbatical.” Digital connections have become a distraction at our camp experiences. Church camp experiences are meant to be time away. Directors will lock phones in a safe place for the week and return them at the end of camp.
- Computers or Tablets
- Electronics (hand held gaming systems)
- Fireworks
- Prescription Drugs: Unless listed on registration form and Director is informed.
- Illegal Substances, Alcohol, or Tobacco, Smokeless Tobacco. All camps are tobacco free zones.
- E-Cigarettes / Vapor Cigarettes
- Knives or Weapons of any kind are against camp regulations and you will be sent home at your own expense if you have them in your possession.
- Pets
- Expensive Jewelry
- Junk Food (including candy)
- Large Sums of Money

Camp Commitment Form- This additional form is needed because we intend to dig into deep, yet sensitive, topics this week.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, will remember that hatred and hurtful terms, words, phrases, and others of the like are not conducive to a safe space, nor is it Christ-like. I promise to come to camp with an open mind and open heart. There will be a zero-tolerance against any intentional harm to another, whether physical or emotional. I understand that any action done with intent will require immediate dismissal from camp at the parent's/guardian's expense. I also understand that camp is not a place for romantic relationships, however deep friendships are highly encouraged. It is my intention to have an 'unplugged sabbatical' and give my full attention to the people that are here with me and for me. I am important and so are they. I understand that if I have not turned in all electronic devices that I may have seek penance or risk getting sent home. Furthermore, I will respect the camp property at all times. I will pick up after myself and if I see trash cluttering the campground, I will pick it up and dispose of it, even if it is not mine.

Camper Signature \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS, we would like to take photos throughout the week. We need your permission to utilize these photos for communication and advertisement purposes for Texoma Christian Camp and the Oklahoma State Regional Christian Church. This release will be good for all photos taken while at camp all camps during the 2018 Summer Camps and the release authorizes use indefinitely.

○ YES! Signature \_\_\_\_\_

○ Not this time. Signature \_\_\_\_\_