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May 16, 2011

To: Camp Bethel Summer Camp Staff
 From: Barry LeNoir, Camp Director & Jenny Steinbach, Assistant Director
 Steph Hare, Beth Haynes & Audrey Presley, Summer Program Coordinators

Greetings from your Camp Bethel!

We're happy and excited to officially WELCOME you to the staff at Camp Bethel. Many of you are returning; many of you are new. Whatever your category and job title, you are now a member of our EXCELLENT summer staff called into ministry to children and youth.

(Adv=Adventure Counselor; SC=Senior Counselor; JC=Junior Counselor; SPC=Summer Program Coordinator)

Anderson, Johnzelle	SC	Hall, Brett	SC	Nolley, Ryan	POOL Coord
Beard, Rebecca	SC	Hare, Steph	SPC	Oaks, Hannah	SC
Benn, Dwayne	SC	Hartman, Tabitha	Super Nanny	Presley, Audrey	SPC
Burton, April	OutMeals	Haynes, Beth	SPC	Robertson, Carter	JC
Chaney, Matt	Adv	Heaton, Clara	Adv	Sardello, Jackson	SC
DeHart, Stephanie	Adv	Hederer, Kerri Lynn	Adv	Sauerwald, Paxton	SC
Dodson, Kendall	SC	Hederer, Tia Marie	SC	Sauerwein, Weslie	SC
Duncan, Bethany	JC	Hinshelwood, Sarah	SC	Schrader, Wesley	SC
Eliassen, Logan	SC	Lowman, Ben	Adv	Simpson, Matt	SC
Eubank, Jonathan	SC	Lucas, Nathalie	JC	Stacey, Jenna	SC
Field, Daniel	SC	Luther, Jordan	SC	Weeks, Dylan	Adv
Friederichsen, Kelsie	SC	Martin, Caryn	JC	Wilson, Dominique	JC
Gearhart, Sarah	High Ropes Lead	Matthews, Kristi	SC	Wilson, Jon	JC
Guisewite, Hannah	Photographer	Morales, Estella	CRAFTS /Counselor	Zach, Maureen	SC

We also have a growing list of several excellent CITs and Adult Volunteers you'll be working with throughout the summer.

We are expecting up to 900 campers spread over our 8 weeks of camp (7 full weeks in June & July with 1 extra adventure week in August). The kids are coming; are YOU getting ready?

Those of you who are Adventure Counselors and Leadership Team will be here this coming Friday through Sunday (May 20-22) for High Ropes Facilitator Training, and this coming Monday through Thursday (May 23-26) for Summer Leadership Team Training & Wilderness First Aid Training. The rest of the Counseling staff arrives Tuesday, May 31 no later than 7:00pm for full staff training through Saturday, June 11.

Depending on your travel needs, we ask that you arrive at the following times:

- Leadership Team (Adv Counselors, all other support staff): Friday, May 20 by 5:00pm: (See Jenny for lodging).
- Counselors & all other staff: Tuesday, May 31 after 5:00pm and before 7:00pm. Go ahead and move into the following cabins: Male Senior and Junior Counselors into Pineview Cottage. Women Senior Counselors into Bethel Lodge; women Junior Counselors into Willoro Cabin.

If you need to arrive earlier than what is listed above (due to travel needs, apartment leases or getting kicked out by mom), contact us at camp_bethel@yahoo.com to make arrangements. If you arrive earlier, plan to WORK and plan to abide by your contract, including Staff Standards and Policies. We have a busy time from now until May 31 with trainings, guest groups and our May 27-30 Memorial Day family weekend here with lots going on including concerts on Saturday and Sunday evenings.

Full Staff Training from May 31-June 11 includes several important sessions, including CPR Certification on Thursday, June 2 5:30pm and First-Aid Certification on Monday, June 6 5:30pm. CPR/First Aid certification received prior OR received on these two nights is crucial, and if you can't be present for both nights due to scheduling conflict (say, graduation...), **you must let us know ASAP**, (we will have to schedule another training date for you). Because of the late Memorial Day holiday this year, our training is condensed down from our usual 14 days to 12 days. Sprinkled throughout our staff training will be other important day-trainings and topics (drivers, canoe update, etc.) for assorted staff duties.

A few of you will be occupied during weekdays by finishing high school into the first week of staff training, and **you should have already sent a separate form to us** indicating all the days and times you will be able to be present from May 31, 7:00pm through June 11 10:00am. We need you high-schoolers to be present as much as you possibly can during Staff Training including evenings, non-exam days if possible, and as soon after school ends (or graduation) as possible. If you have not received this form or reported these dates, contact us soon.

Each of you have received a Summer Staff packet including your Record of Agreement and the Summer Staff Standards and Policies. **Carefully examine your Record of Agreement** and thoroughly read the Standards and Policies. **If you have not yet sent your requested time off during any part of your contract (May 31- July 30) you MUST send those dates to us ASAP at camp_bethel@yahoo.com.**

Most of you have returned your Record of Agreement. Other forms (tax, Health History, etc) were due to camp by May 15. If you have not yet returned your Agreement or any other forms, return them as soon as possible.

Included on page 3 of this letter is the suggested gear list. **Please note our change in swimsuit policy.**

Here's some ways YOU can prepare for your summer of service:

1. Be in prayer for the campers, the volunteers, the staff as the Body of Christ, and for yourself.
2. Send any time off dates to us ASAP. Depending on your dates away, we may need to revise your Record of Agreement to reflect the correct dates.
3. Inform us if you plan to arrive earlier than your contracted dates. This way we can arrange housing, meals and work duties for you.
4. Returning Staff: come prepared to teach your favorite Bethel songs, games and traditions. New Staff: come prepared to share games, songs and traditions from your past experiences at camps, churches or home. **We always welcome new songs, games and ideas! Bring lyrics and chords!** Everyone: there's lots of great "stuff" out there on the web to learn and bring to make Camp Bethel even better. Start at: www.ultimatecampresource.com/ and www.acacamps.org/knowledge/program/.
5. Read through the enclosed gear list thoroughly and come prepared.
6. Re-read your (a) Summer Staff Standards and Policies, (b) the 2011 Summer Camps Brochure, AND (c) the Program Philosophy, all available at: www.campbethelvirginia.org/summerstaffapplications.htm. Also read (d) a few Sample Camper Response Packets for each type of camp, all available at: www.campbethelvirginia.org/summer.htm.
7. Sleep. Come to camp on Tuesday, May 31 rested and prepared for an intense, fantastic 2-week training.
8. Complete and send or bring any forms due.

We're looking forward to meeting many of you for the first time, seeing each of you and learning and working together this summer!

Peace, in Christ our hope,

Barry LeNoir & Jenny Steinbach,
Steph Hare, Beth Haynes & Audrey Presley



2011 Camp Bethel Summer Staff Gear List:

What to bring? We recommend you plan for maximum simplicity. Go extra light and bring only the bare essentials. You can get by with only 5 tee shirts, 2 pairs of shorts, 1 warm outfit, a poncho, hiking/running shoes and sports sandals, Bible, notepad, a good flashlight and your swimsuit. You could also bring things that make camp even better (instruments, storybooks, costumes, props, fun stuff) even though it may be a lot to pack. Your personal facility space this summer is fairly small, so plan to simplify. Please read over the gear list below for ideas on what you might need or want to bring. **Also, consult the Summer Staff Standards and Policies for additional gear information.**

Please realize that the job of Summer Camp Staff is one that's active, dirty, sweaty, smiling and on the go all week. Leave your designer, expensive clothes and gear at home. At Camp Bethel, practicality is fashion. **Absolutely essential** items are marked with an *asterisk. **Write your name on everything you bring!**

Definitely bring:

- *Light-weight and small, pack-able/carry-able sleeping bag or blanket/sheets for cabin bunk and camp-out use.
- Small pillow for cabin bunk or camp-out use.
- Bath towel(s), washcloth & beach/pool towel.
- Personal articles: toothbrush; toothpaste; soap; etc.
- Clothing (6 days) including: - 1 pr. long pants* - long sleeved shirt - shorts* - tee shirts* - underwear* - sleepwear - socks - light jacket (Remember, we have hot days & cool nights.) Quick drying shorts are best!
- *Swim suit (appropriate for active playing in the pool and for children to climb and pull on; bikini wear at camp has become too revealing so we are moving to more conservative tankinis & one piece swimsuits - thanks for helping with this!)
- A plastic bag for dirty clothes or wet shoes.
- *Pair of everyday, closed-toe, active dry shoes (for running, hiking, & games).
- *Pair of strap-on sandals, water shoes or old shoes to get wet (for creek play, rain hikes or pool; NO flip-flops or crocs).
- *A day backpack/fanny pack (all staff must carry first aid kit provided by camp, water bottle, etc.)
- *Rain gear (poncho or rain jacket); we don't stop for rain!
- *Folding small pocket knife or multi-tool.
- Hat (with brim to block sun) or bandana.
- *Small flashlight & extra batteries (headlamp is best)
- *Sunscreen (waterproof and at least 30 SPF).
- *Small or old Bible, small notepad, pen or pencil.
- *Notebook/paper and pen/pencil for note-taking during training sessions and staff meetings. We provide your staff manual.
- *2 quart-sized, non-glass, screw-top water bottles
- *Watch with alarm (don't be late). You may NOT use your cell phone as your time-piece (see Staff Policies for details).
- Laundry bag/basket & detergent (if you don't like the detergent we provide)

Highly recommended, but not required:

- Camera (if digital bring card reader to share photos)
- Children's books to read your kids to sleep at night
- Musical instruments
- Bike and helmet (highly recommended for weekends)
- Bug repellent/lotion (ticks especially bad this spring)

Suggested, but not essential:

- Sleeping pad for camp out nights
- Worship or devotion books and resources
- Tree/plant/flower ID books
- Game props like bandanas, rubber chickens, etc.
- Silly skit props
- Adventure equipment (storage area may be limited)
- Electric Fan (in addition to fan in cabin)
- Journal
- Laundry detergent
- Multi-tool

For weekend use:

- Sunday/Church Clothes
- Laptop computer for weekend only (limited wireless DSL)
- Games for weekend fun
- Recipes and cookware for weekend "soul kitchens" (special staff dinners)
- Cell phone for weekend use (see Staff Policies)

We provide a staff laundry house behind the A-Frames open for your use, with 3 washers (cold water only) and many drying lines and clothespins. Camp Bethel provides all necessary program and safety gear and a staff shirt to wear on the opening day of each camp session.

Things NOT to bring:

- pets
- expensive electronics, games, i-pods, DVDs, etc.
- alcohol, tobacco, drugs, weapons, fireworks
- R-rated DVDs, M-rated games or music
- anything inappropriate for Christian community living

Call or e-mail Barry LeNoir or Jenny Steinbach with questions at 540-992-2940 or camp_bethel@yahoo.com.