

Hello Parents and Campers!

Thank you for partnering with the Student Ministries of Palm Valley Church for Summer Camp 2022. Hundreds of hours of preparation and prayer have already gone into this event, and we believe Summer Camp will be a catalyst for life change in our students.

This packet of information has been designed to help you and your student prepare for the big day - July 26th - when we depart, via charter bus, to Camp Tejas in Giddings, Texas. Included in this packet are the following useful tools:

- Behavior requirements for students
- Parent information, frequently asked questions, a packing list and health information form(s)
- Camp Schedule including drop-off and pick-up times

Our goal for all students is that they experience a safe, well-guided camp, where they are free to have the time of their lives and encounter Jesus in life-changing ways. For this reason, every student attending will be assigned to a small group with about 15 of their peers. Each of these groups will be overseen by two of our well-qualified volunteers or staff members. Groups will eat, pray, play, and room together during the week. This will give them the security of close supervision and the opportunity to build friendships within their group.

If you have any questions or concerns about Camp, please contact the Student Ministries staff at Palm Valley Church, or visit the website at: www.palmvalleychurch.com/youth.

We are looking forward to a great Camp!

Micah Crump, Lead Youth Pastor
Student Ministries Staff

956.585.3203

youth@palmvalleychurch.com

Camp Daily Schedule:

July 26

5:00am Departure from The West End, Mission Campus

12:30pm Arrival at camp Tejas/Orientation

1:00pm Lunch

2:00pm Afternoon Recreation

6:00pm Dinner

7:00pm Service

8:30pm Group Time

9:00pm Evening Recreation

11:00pm Lights Out

July 27

8:30am Breakfast

9:15am Morning Service

10:30am Morning Recreation

12:00pm Lunch

1:00pm Afternoon Recreation

6:00pm Dinner

7:00pm Service

8:30pm Group Time

9:00pm Evening Recreation

11:00pm Lights Out

July 28

8:30am Breakfast

9:15am Morning Service

10:30am Morning Recreation

12:00pm Lunch

1:00pm Afternoon Recreation

6:00pm Dinner

7:00pm Service

8:30pm Group Time

9:00pm Evening Recreation

11:00pm Lights Out

July 29

8:30am Breakfast

9:15am Morning Service

10:30am Morning Recreation

12:00pm Lunch

1:00pm Afternoon Recreation

6:00pm Dinner

7:00pm Service

8:30pm Group Time

9:00pm Evening Recreation

11:00pm Lights Out

July 30

8:00am Breakfast

9:00am Load up

10:00 am Departure from Camp Tejas (Lunch on the bus)

12:00pm Sack lunch on Bus

4:30 pm Arrival time at Palm Valley Church

Packing List:

Bible (labeled), pen or pencil & notepad

WATER BOTTLE

Casual clothes

Throw away clothes for mud games/other activities, including modest shorts

Modest bathing suit

Swim shorts (guys & girls)

Tennis shoes that can get dirty

Sleeping bag or blanket & sheets for a twin bed

Pillow

Towels (at least 2) & washcloth

Toiletries - soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, hairbrush, hair dryer, comb etc.

Laundry bag for dirty clothes

Sunscreen

Bug spray

Flashlight

Spending money (optional)

Necessary medications (must be checked with the nurse)

The camp is staffed with two nurses and a fully stocked medical station. All medications MUST be turned in to the Nurse's Desk the morning of departure and will be returned upon arrival to PVC at the end of the camp session. Please be sure to adhere to the following guidelines:

All medications (prescription and over-the-counter medications) must be brought to the Nurse's Desk at check-in the morning of departure. Over-the-counter medications must be in their original, unopened packaging and prescription medications must be in their original prescription containers. This rule applies to all medications except for emergency medication allowed by Texas state law: an inhaler or EpiPen. However, written approval is required for any student who will be carrying an emergency medication. Written approval can be obtained from the camp nurse departure morning. You can expedite this process by pre-filling the medication form(s) and bringing a printed copy with you to the Nurse's Desk on departure morning. All medication will be returned at the end of the camp session.

What not to bring:

- No clothing with vulgar or suggestive slogans
- No water guns or water balloons
- No valuable items such as jewelry or electronics (PVC will not be held responsible for theft, loss or damage of valuables)
- No prank or gag materials
- No firearms, fireworks, tobacco, electronic cigarettes, vapes, drugs, alcohol, knives, or weapons of any kind*

*Campers bringing these items to camp will be immediately sent home at the cost of the parent.

Policy/Frequently Asked Questions:

Behavior Policy:

Students must obey staff instructions at all times. Students must stay with their assigned group and leader during group times. Students are not allowed in or near the cabins of the opposite sex. No public display of affection is permitted. Students must remain in their cabins once evening activities have finished. No firearms, fireworks, tobacco, electronic cigarettes, vapes, drugs, or alcohol are permitted at camp. Campers bringing these items into camp will be immediately sent home at the cost of the parent. Foul language, fighting, or bullying will not be tolerated. The leadership of Palm Valley Church Student Ministries will handle behavior problems. All parents and students must understand the importance of these guidelines and remain committed to keeping them. The consequences for misbehavior may include the student being sent home early from camp at the parents' expense.

Cell Phone Policy:

Whether or not your student takes a cell phone is your decision. Cell phones can be a major distraction. Students do tend to benefit more from camp if they disconnect from friends at home and focus on growing closer to God. Cell phones are allowed at Camp Tejas with restrictions and at your own personal risk. If cell phone usage becomes inappropriate, excessive, or disruptive, the phone will be collected and returned at the end of the camp session. Please note that phones do run a high risk of being lost or damaged at camp. Also, reception at camp is not dependable. PVC will NOT be responsible for theft, loss or damage of phones.

Lost Items Policy:

If students do not return home with all their belongings, we will have a lost and found box at the West End the first weekend they return home from camp. Items will be kept for one week following camp, then will be washed and donated. It is suggested that you label all items with your camper's name.

Health Information:

We have two nurses on site 24 hours a day in a well-equipped facility. We hope that your campers will never need to experience our Nurse's Station, but if they need us, we are here to help them! We will promptly contact you if there is an issue that affects your child's camp experience.

Health Forms:

If there are changes to your child's health condition or medications after registration has been completed, please contact our office at 956.585.3203 or email us at youth@palmvalleychurch.com to update the information.

Medications:

Campers are not permitted to keep any medications in their cabins or on their person. A nurse will be available to dispense any medications as needed. All medications (prescription and over-the-counter medications) must be brought to the Nurse's Desk at check-in the morning of departure. Over-the-counter medications must be in their original, unopened packaging and prescription medications must be in their original prescription containers. This rule applies to all medications except for emergency medication allowed by Texas state law: an inhaler or EpiPen. However, written approval is required for any student who will be carrying an emergency medication. Written approval can be obtained from the camp nurse departure morning. Unclaimed medications will be held by student ministries staff for one week and then discarded. Please make sure to let us know about all allergies including stings, foods, and /or medicines. We can provide special dietary needs for those campers who are under medical supervision or have food allergies.

- Please Do:
 - Fill out the medication form(s), if necessary.
 - Bring all medications to the Nurse's Desk at check-in the morning of departure.
- Please Don't:
 - Bring opened, over-the-counter, non-prescription medications.
 - Bring your child to check-in if he/she has had COVID-19 symptoms within the previous 24 hours.

Pricing:

How much does it cost to go to camp?

The cost of camp is \$375, and can be paid in full at registration.

If you choose the Payment Plan option, you can secure your spot with \$125 deposit and subsequent payments. If any payment is not made on time, you risk losing your spot at camp.

Financial Policy

In April of 2019, Palm Valley Church updated its database to Realm. All camp registration will happen in Realm.

Cost of Camp:

The cost of camp is \$375. If you choose the Payment Plan option, you can secure your spot with a \$125 deposit and subsequent payments. If any payment is not made on time, you risk losing your spot at camp.

Payment Plan Details:

Deposit of \$125 due at registration to secure your spot.

May 15 \$125

June 12 \$125

After May 15, the total amount required in the payment schedule is due at the time of registration.

Important Notes: If any payment is not made on time, you risk losing your spot at camp. To utilize the Payment Plan, you must create a Realm account if you don't already have one. You cannot access the Payment Plan if you register as a guest.

How to register for camp:

1. If you don't already have one, create a Realm account:
 - a. Go to <https://onrealm.org/palmvalleychurch/register>
 - b. Input your email address and create a password
 - c. Check your inbox for a verification email and click on the verification link
 - d. Fill out the "Please Tell Us About Yourself" form to finish creating your account
2. Confirm your contact information is correct and that your student(s) is linked to your account.
 - a. Go to <https://onrealm.org/palmvalleychurch> and log in
 - b. Click on your name and then "My Profile"
 - c. Double check that your contact information is correct, the email listed is what will be used for camp communication.
 - d. On the right hand side, you'll see "Family" with your student(s) name listed below.
 - i. If your student(s) is not listed under "Family", click on "Add Family" to enter their information.
3. On the left side of the page, click on "Events"
4. Type "Summer Camp 2022" in Find Events (on the right side of the page)
5. Click on "Register by July 26"
6. Choose the name(s) of your student(s) and then choose "Next"
7. Under "Registration", choose the registration type you prefer (One Time Payment \$375 or 3 payments of \$125.
8. Complete the registration form with parent and student information. Then choose "Next"
9. Enter payment information and then choose "Register and Pay"

How do I make a payment?

1. Pay in person at Palm Valley Church. Payments can be received at any kiosk on Sundays or the church office Monday through Thursday from 9am to 5pm.

2. Online Payment.

1. Go to www.palmvalleychurch.com/youth
2. Click "Make a Payment"
3. Log in to your Realm account or create a Realm account if you don't already have one.
 - a. To create an account:
 - i. Go to <https://onrealm.org/palmvalleychurch/register>
 - ii. Input your email address and create a password
 - iii. Check your inbox for a verification email and click on the verification link
 - iv. Fill out the "Please Tell Us About Yourself" form to finish creating your account
4. Click "Events"
5. Type "Summer Camp 2022" in Find Event
6. Click "Manage Registration"
7. Click "Make a Payment"

If I need to cancel my child's reservation, will I be refunded?

In the case of illness or positive COVID-19 test prior to departure a full refund will be given. In the case of dismissal due to behavioral problems or homesickness while at camp, camp fees will not be refunded. Camp Tejas and/or PVC will not be held responsible for travel expenses incurred in picking up the child. The camp director reserves the right to dismiss any camper whose conduct becomes in any way detrimental to the best interest of the other campers. No refunds will be given. In case of illness or inclement weather, we will refund any monies that Camp Tejas refunds. Camp Tejas and/or PVC will not be responsible for travel expenses incurred in picking up the child.

Cancellations must be requested in writing.

E-mail: youth@palmvalleychurch.com

Mail:

Palm Valley Church
Attn: Summer Camp 2021

1720 E. Griffin Parkway Mission, TX. 78572

Policy/FAQs Continued:

How does the waiting list for camp work?

Each year we are forced to turn campers away due to lack of space. However, occasionally spaces do become available leading up to camp. Signing up for the waiting list does not guarantee your spot.

If a spot in your student's grade/gender becomes available, you will receive a phone call to the number provided on your camp registration form. Once called, you will have until 10am the next day to make a payment and secure your spot. Failure to do so will result in your spot being given to the next person in line on the waiting list.

You may remove your student from the waiting list and receive a full refund at any time. Refunds will be mailed in the form of a check within 4 weeks of cancellation.

How do I join the waiting list?

The total amount required in the payment schedule is due at the time of registration to register for the waiting list.

If registering for the waiting list before May 15, pay \$125 to secure your spot on the waiting list.

If registering for the waiting list between May 16 and June 12, pay \$250 to secure your spot on the waiting list.

If registering for the waiting list after June 12, pay \$375 to secure your spot on the waiting list.

Signing up for the waiting list does not guarantee your spot.

If a spot does not become available will I be refunded?

Yes. Refunds will be mailed in the form of a check within 4 weeks of cancellation.

Camp Tejas:

Where does camp take place?

We take our students to Camp Tejas in Giddings, TX. For more information on Camp Tejas you can check out their website at www.mytejas.org.

What does a day at camp look like?

Each day at camp will include: worship services, Bible study/small group discussion, high energy rec games and a chance to take advantage of all that Camp Tejas has to offer such as zip lines, climbing walls, pool, etc.

Room Arrangements:

How are campers assigned rooms?

Campers are assigned rooms by grade and gender.

What is the counselor to camper ratio?

We maintain a ratio of at least 1 counselor for every 8-10 students.

Supervision:

Who is on "staff" during camp?

Camp is staffed with our PVC personnel, the Camp Tejas staff, trained leaders, and a nurse. Special precautions are taken during water activities and certified lifeguards are on duty.

Are campers always supervised?

Yes - counselors are present 24 hours a day.

How does PVC choose their counselors?

Each applicant is carefully screened and hand-picked by the Student Ministries Staff. We conduct national background checks as well as a Child Abuse Prevention Training Course and Exam (required by Texas Law for any adult attending a camp).

Phone Calls, Mail, and Visitors:

May I call my child at camp?

We do not encourage calls to students at camp. Cell phones are allowed at camp with restrictions. Please see the "What to Bring" list for full cell phone policy. Should campers need to contact parents; calls can be made through the Camp Director's cell phone.

Can I reach someone at camp any time of the day or night in case of emergency?

Yes – The emergency number for 6th - 12th grade students is Micah Crump: 956-792-2895. Emergencies Only, please!

What do you do for homesick kids? Do you let them call home?

Yes – homesick campers are allowed to call home. Campers who become homesick and leave their camp session early are not eligible for refunds.

Can campers receive mail or packages during their stay?

No - due to the short duration of our camp stay, we do not encourage snail mail or packages to be sent to campers.

Policy/FAQs Continued:

Does Camp Tejas allow visitors?

Camp Tejas restricts access to workers and campers. All visitors need prior approval by the PVC staff and must register with the main office upon entering Camp Tejas.

Medical Information:

Is there a nurse available at all times?

Yes – Nurses are on staff 24 hours a day.

Which medications should my child bring to camp?

All medications (prescription and over-the-counter medications) must be brought to the Nurse's Desk at check-in the morning of departure. Over-the-counter medications must be in their original, unopened packaging and prescription medications must be in their original prescription containers. This rule applies to all medications except for emergency medication allowed by Texas state law: an inhaler or EpiPen. However, written approval is required for any student who will be carrying an emergency medication. Written approval can be obtained from the camp nurse departure morning. You can expedite this process by pre- filling the medication form(s) and bringing a printed copy with you to the Nurse's Desk on departure morning. All medication will be returned at the end of the camp session.

Do you give kids pain reliever if needed?

Yes – the Nurse's Station has pain reliever and the nurse is available to dispense medication as needed.

Does my child have to turn in his medicine even if he knows when to take it and how much?

Yes. All medications (prescription and over-the-counter medications) must be brought to the Nurse's Desk at check-in the morning of departure. Over-the-counter medications must be in their original, unopened packaging and prescription medications must be in their original prescription containers. This rule applies to all medications except for emergency medication allowed by Texas state law: an inhaler or EpiPen. However written approval is required for any student who will be carrying an emergency medication. Written approval can be obtained from the camp nurse departure morning. You can expedite this process by pre- filling the medication form(s) and bringing a printed copy with you to the Nurse's Desk on departure morning. All medication will be returned at the end of the camp session.

Are feminine products available at camp?

Yes – the nurse will have a supply of feminine products.

How close is the nearest hospital? 20 minutes.

Activities:

What are specific activities the campers will be doing?

Campers will be involved in a variety of activities including swimming, canoeing, basketball, waterslides, inflatable games, obstacle courses, mud games, water trapeze, zip lines, lazy river, climbing wall, etc.

Spending Money:

How much money do they need to bring?

Spending money is optional. Most campers spend on average \$50 for snacks and souvenirs during their camp stay.

How many times are students allowed to go to the Gift Shop?

Campers are allowed to go to the gift shop during their camp session to shop for souvenirs and snacks each full day of camp.

Do students keep their own money at camp?

Yes – they will be responsible for their own money at camp. PVC is not responsible for lost or stolen money at camp.

For further questions please do not hesitate to contact the Student Ministries staff at youth@palmvalleychurch.com or call 956.585.3203