

JUNE TENTH TO FOURTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR



JUNE 10-14  
@CAMP BUCKNER

# SUMMER CAMP '24

INFORMATIONAL PACKET





## **Parents & Students,**

On behalf of myself, our Regional Leadership Team, and the Vintage Student Team, we cannot be more excited for Summer Camp 2024! We are anxious to welcome each and every one of you to what promises to be an impactful week of personal growth, connection, and discipleship.

Summer Camp serves as an opportunity for students to step out of their regular routine and into an environment that challenges them to grow closer to Jesus.

As a parent, we understand that you want the best for your students. That is why we are taking the time to develop camp programming that is spiritually enriching, emotionally uplifting, and physically engaging. It's a unique opportunity for them to grow not only in faith but also in character, resilience, and independence.

Students, I invite you to come with an open heart. From exhilarating outdoor activities to authentic worship sessions, your time at Summer Camp will not be wasted. Our hope is that camp would not just be an emotional high that fades but a time of equipping and preparation for the challenges of everyday life as a middle school and high school student.

In past summers, we've seen the profound impact this camp has on our attendees. The stories of students restarting their faith, forming lifelong friendships, and powerful personal breakthroughs prove that camp isn't merely an event; it's an experience that catalyzes life change for students.

We hope this information packet will answer any questions you may have. I am available to help answer additional questions or concerns. We can't wait for next summer and look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

**Joshua Brown - Student Pastor, Harker Heights**

Email: [joshua@vintage.church](mailto:joshua@vintage.church)

Phone: 512-221-8660

# ACTIVITIES AND CAMP ELEMENTS

## Services

You can expect amazing worship, practical and relevant teaching, and fun in-service games. Each message aligns with the teaching series and acts as a springboard for deeper conversation during Small Groups & personal Reflect & Write time.

## Tribal Wars

Upon arrival at summer camp, students will be assigned to small groups called “tribes”. These tribes will participate in Tribal Wars (large group games, recreation) and Small Group discussions together, functioning as a team. Throughout the week, each tribe will be earning points and competing for a prize to be awarded at the end of camp. Tribal Wars begin in the Auditorium (Boys Ranch).

## Small Groups

Upon arrival, students will receive a Camp workbook that contains content needed for Small Groups and taking notes during services. During Small Groups, students will be encouraged to engage in a discussion using questions from the workbook, as well as take time to personally Reflect and Write.

## Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

All meals will be provided by Camp Buckner. In order to maintain a food allergy-friendly environment at camp, students are not allowed to bring snacks or candy. Camp Buckner can meet various allergy specifications and requirements for meals, as requested.

## Hangtime

Students and leaders will be traveling and moving “non-stop” between activities. Hangtime provides students with an opportunity to play card games, on-site games, talk one-on-one with a leader, or take a much-needed nap.

## Pool & Lake

Summer camp includes time spent in the sun at the pool and the lake. All students will be given the chance to try “the Blob,” a giant inflatable that launches students into the lake. The Camp Buckner pool includes a diving board and volleyball, as well as plenty of shallow room for casual swimming. *Certified lifeguards will be present for both activities*



# CAMP COST, DISCOUNTS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The total cost to attend Summer Camp 2024 per student is **\$486**. Upon registration, parents must pay a **deposit of \$36**. This deposit will officially lock a student's spot at camp. Although we are accommodating more students to attend this year, space is limited, and we encourage parents to register their student(s) as soon as possible.

This price includes the cost of lodging, meals, and all camp activities (5 Days/4 Nights). *All camp dues must be paid in full by June 1, 2024.*

## **2:52 Discipleship Discount**

A \$252 discount is awarded to students who have completed and graduated from the 2:52 Student Discipleship Course. Students may utilize this discount for 2 Summer Camps, but after 2 uses, they must complete the 2:52 Discipleship Course again. This course is available at all locations, and for more information, contact your local Student Pastor or visit [www.vintage.church/252](http://www.vintage.church/252)

## **Family Discount**

For families with multiple students, it can be challenging to commit to sending them to camp. That is why we offer a Family Discount for parents with more than one student attending summer camp. Here's how this discount breaks down:

- 1st Student - Full Cost
- 2nd Student - \$25 off
- 3rd Student - \$50 off
- 4th Student - \$75 off
- 5th Student - \$100 off

## **Church Fundraising**

Throughout the year, the church provides opportunities for students to get involved and fundraise. After each fundraiser, students who participate in these fundraisers will receive a percentage of the amount earned. Here are a few fundraisers that students can participate in and can expect to see this Fall and Spring:

### **Regional** (All Locations):

- Christmas Ornament Sale
- Valentine's Day Roses & Cards Fundraiser

### **Local** (varies by church location):

- Fireworks Stand (HH, December)
- Food Sale Fundraiser
- Local Business Partnership
- Car-Wash Line

## CREATIVE WAYS TO FUNDRAISE

There are several creative and practical ways for a 6th-12th grade student to raise funds to attend summer camp. With self-initiative and parental support, these methods can be executed to meet financial needs you may have. Here are some options:

**Craft Sales:** Students can create and sell handmade items like jewelry, keychains, or custom artwork. These can be sold to friends and family, or at local events with a booth.

**Service Offerings:** Offer services such as pet-sitting, lawn mowing, dog walking, or tutoring for younger children. Parents can help by spreading the word to neighbors and friends.

**Crowdfunding:** Set up a crowdfunding campaign on platforms like GoFundMe, explaining the camp's purpose and why it's important. Share the link on social media!

**Bake Sale:** Organize a bake sale at community events or school sports games. Homemade cookies, brownies, and cakes usually sell well.

**Recycling Drive:** Collect recyclables from the community and turn them in for cash. This can be an ongoing project until the goal is reached.

**Reading or Exercise Challenge:** Get pledges from family and friends for each book read or mile run over a month, turning personal goals into fundraising opportunities.

**Personalized Gifts:** Create personalized gifts for holidays or special occasions like Christmas or Valentine's Day and sell them.

**Yard Work:** Offer seasonal yard work services such as leaf raking, planting flowers, or weeding gardens.

Success in these fundraising methods often comes down to good planning, effective advertising, and reaching out to family and friends. It's also important that any activities comply with local regulations and are done safely with parental guidance.

## **WANT TO SERVE AT SUMMER CAMP?**

We would love for you to serve at Summer Camp 2024! Camp is simply impossible without the help and support of serve team members. From executing fundraisers throughout the year to on-site assistance during camp activities, there's a place for you on this team.

### **Prerequisites and Requirements:**

1. Must attend MembershipU and be an active member at Vintage Church.
2. Complete an online background check provided by Vintage Church.
3. Complete the online Child Protection Training course provided by Vintage Church.

## **Team Positions and Expectations**

### **Tribe Leader**

Tribe Leaders bring energy and fun to Summer Camp. From participating in games to leading Small Groups, Tribe Leaders constantly engage students at camp. The ideal Tribe Leader to help should be "hyped," creative, engaging, and energetic. They must have an inviting, enthusiastic attitude and engage students well.

### **Camp Assistant \***

This role exists to provide general support at summer camp and an easy way for parents to be involved. This position includes various responsibilities like check-in support, pre-camp administration, supervision during activities, and keeping tribes on schedule. Camp Assistants are asked to serve for the entire duration of camp.

### **Check-In and Check-Out \***

This position is crucial in creating a welcoming atmosphere for parents and students arriving at camp and again as they leave camp. These team members are responsible for giving students their Tribe package and using Planning Center Check-Ins to track and manage attendance at camp.



### **Set-Up and Take-Down \***

If you're unable to attend summer camp in its entirety but would like to help us start on the right foot, we invite you to register for set-up and take-down. Set-up begins several hours before camp and includes: unloading our event trailer, setting up tables and chairs, and modifying the event space, preparing cabins and rooms for students and team members.

### **Camp Nurse**

This role is essential to the health and safety of our students attending Summer Camp. The camp nurse is responsible for ensuring all medication is safe and that students are being cared for, based upon instructions given by parents upon registration for Summer Camp. The ideal candidate for this role should have a medical background or career. Nurses can select specific days they'd like to travel and serve at camp.

### **Fundraiser Assistant**

Throughout the year, Vintage Church locations will initiate fundraisers to help students attend summer camp who otherwise may not be able to afford it. The ideal team member in this role carries a galvanizing attitude and is "good with people." They are creative and able to support the local staff and pastors with communication, planning & execution of these fundraisers. If you are interested in serving in this way, please contact your location, Student Pastor or Senior Pastor.

### **Worship & Production**

Interested in attending camp as a Worship team member and playing during our services? Please contact May Brown: 269-352-3829 / [may@vintage.church](mailto:may@vintage.church)

#### **Important Note for Parents at Camp:**

*While your presence as a team member is invaluable and greatly appreciated, we also encourage you to allow your students the space to independently navigate this experience. Summer camp is a unique opportunity for personal growth, building lasting relationships, and developing a sense of autonomy. Trust in the safe and nurturing environment we've created for them to grow, learn, and thrive on their own. By stepping back just a little, you give your child the gift of self-discovery and the joy of creating their own unique camp memories. Thank you for your understanding and support in cultivating this enriching experience for our students.*

\* = This position is ideal for a church member or parent looking to serve in a small way at Summer Camp. Pre-requisites still apply.

## **CAMP POLICIES & EXPECTATIONS**

## **Dress Code**

While at camp, we ask students and team members to:

- Wear modest shorts. When hands are extended to the back or the front, fingertips must touch the fabric. Sleeveless shirts and tank tops are now allowed during daytime activities. Shirts with spaghetti straps, cropped shirts, open backs, or excessive armpit cutouts which expose the torso and undergarments are NOT allowed. Large (oversized) T-shirts cannot completely cover shorts.
- Wear closed-toe and closed-heel shoes during all services/activities, with the exception of our time at the pool and around the cabin.
- Wear modest, one-piece bathing suits OR two-piece suits covered with a dark-colored t-shirt, during pool time and Water Wars (Tribal Wars).
- Wear modest shorts, pants, jeans, or dresses for worship. Dresses with spaghetti or small straps, open backs, and excessively short lengths are unacceptable.
- Do not dress in a way that calls attention to underwear (sagging your pants, rolling down your waistbands, etc.) or wear pants or shorts with lettering on the bottom.
- If a student is wearing leggings, yoga pants, or biker shorts, a shirt must cover their bottom.

Make sure your students do NOT pack anything that:

- Advertises alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
- Explicitly or implicitly promotes racism, sexism, or hatred of any group or person.
- Explicitly or implicitly refers to sexual actions or situations.
- Has spaghetti/small straps or open back, except for sleepwear.

NOTE: All team members have the responsibility of modeling and monitoring their group to ensure students are dressing appropriately.

## **Cell Phone Policy**

Summer Camp is designed to help students step out of normal routines & habits, and step into a distraction-free environment to connect with God, and other students and leaders. We hope to do this by restricting cell phone usage/access during camp for all students.

***Students are not allowed to bring a cell phone device to Summer Camp.***

Upon arrival, parents will be given a take-home sheet that includes contact information of our team members, and the leaders of the specific tribe the student is a part of. Inversely, Tribe Leaders will be given parent contact information for all students in their tribe. In the event of an emergency, Tribe Leaders will easily be able to contact parents, and parents will easily be able to contact our team members. Thank you in advance for partnering with us as we aim to help each student fully embrace the summer camp experience.

### **Transportation**

Transportation will not be provided for Summer Camp. Students must plan to be dropped off at Camp Buckner between 4:30pm -5:00pm on Monday, June 10th and parent pick-up will begin at 9:00am on Friday, June 14th. Students that are old enough to drive are welcome to drive themselves and leave their car in the parking lot during summer camp. Students with vehicles will not be allowed to visit their vehicle unaccompanied by a team leader during camp.

### **Safety & Supervision**

One of our highest concerns is ensuring camp is a safe environment for students to take steps closer to Jesus. We do this by requiring all of our team members to complete a background check and Child Protection Training. This training gives our team members "eyes to see" and keeps your student(s) safe in our care. In fact, all adults on-site at Camp Buckner are required to complete a background check and child protection training before working/serving on the campus. Secondly, your student(s) will be supervised for 100% of their time at camp. When traveling across the campus, students must remain in minimum groups of 3 and have at least one adult leader present. Lifeguards will be present for all water-based activities at the pool & lake.

### **Contact Information**

All team members and leaders will be reachable by phone or email at all times during Summer Camp. If you need to contact your student, you can contact your student's tribe leader. If there's an emergency involving your student at Summer Camp, you will be contacted by Pastor Joshua Brown.

*(Contact information will be provided here as we get closer to Summer Camp 2024.)*

# PACKING LIST

Feel free to print off this document and use it as a checklist.

## Clothes & Bedding

Bed sheets (for twin-size mattresses) OR  
Sleeping Bag  
Pillow(s)  
Blanket(s)  
Closed-toe, closed-heel shoes (These shoes will be needed for all activities/services. We recommend bringing tennis shoes that are "ok to get dirty" and not "nice shoes".)  
Open-toe shoes (for "around the cabin" and pool-time ONLY, Crocs, flip-flops, sandals, etc.)  
7 x T-Shirts (tops)  
7 x Shorts/Pants/Leggings  
Undergarments (Bring 5+ days worth. It's better to have too much than not enough!)  
7 x Socks (pairs)  
Pajama's (comfy, sleeping clothes)  
Bath towel & Beach towel  
Optional: Tribe-themed t-shirt (All students will be given a tribe-themed bandana, but are welcome to bring a t-shirt that matches their tribe. This is not required).  
Bathing suit (see dress code for details)  
Dark-colored T-shirt (for Water Wars games)  
Plain, white- T-shirt (for Color Wars)

## Toiletries

Toothbrush  
Toothpaste  
Shampoo  
Conditioner  
Body Wash  
Loofa or scrubber  
Sun-screen  
Comb/Brush  
Deodorant  
Body mist/spray or perfume, cologne  
Optional: shaving cream and razor  
Optional: hair-ties  
Optional: chapstick

## Others

Water bottle you can refill and carry with you  
Bible (physical, paperback)  
Pen  
Empty trash bag or sack (for dirty clothes throughout camp)  
Optional: \$5-\$10 for candy or snack at camp store

***Please do not bring:*** Alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, fireworks, water guns, or any kind of weapon. Items that may be used for pranks such as water balloons, shaving cream, and silly string. Phones, iPads, iPods, gaming devices, rollerblades, or hoverboards.