



**NovusWay
Ministries**

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LUTHER SPRINGS SUMMER CAMP 2021

Welcome to Summer Camp at Luther Springs!

Luther Springs Contact Information

264 Vause Lake Rd.

Hawthorne, FL 32640

Phone – 352-546-5554

Email – smendenhall@novusway.org

We are excited your child is joining us this summer! They will discover the joys of camp and explore their faith in an outdoor setting. Camp activities may include swimming, archery, campfires, canoeing, gaga ball, games, low ropes challenge course, hiking, age-appropriate crafts, Bible study, and storytelling. Make sure to like our Facebook page, Luther Springs, where we will post pictures of our week together.

We strive to make the camp experience as happy and worry-free as possible for both parent and camper. If your child is reluctant about camp, keep your conversations with him/her calm and encouraging. Show every confidence that it will be GREAT. (It's true!) Discuss any fears or worries your child has and help your child plan to address each one. Feel free to call us with any concerns. Below are some of the typical questions or concerns of parents and campers:

Camp & COVID-19

As we have moved through this pandemic, we've learned how to welcome guests on-site in life-giving and healthy ways. The past nine months have changed so much in our daily lives: how we gather, how we worship, and how we do school, among other things. We know what hasn't changed is the importance of gathering together and being out in God's good creation. We at NovusWay are, therefore, all the more excited about Summer Camp 2021. We have missed having you at these sacred spaces.

We know that there will be many questions about what camp will look like for your camper in 2021. Will they need to wear a mask? Will they be able to sing camp songs? Will they be able to do group activities and play games together? In any case, we will continue to follow the latest guidance and safety protocols from the **CDC** and the **American Camp Association**. We will keep you updated regularly on what that will look like for your camper. You can expect monthly updates leading up to summer camp beginning in January 2021. Look for the most up to date information on our health guidelines and precautions at novusway.org/summer2021.

Sunday Check-In

Check-in begins at 4:00 PM and ends at 5:30 PM. **We are unable to allow check-ins before 4:00 PM.** Upon arrival, please check-in at Kinports in the Kuehner Center, the last building after you drive through the gate. If campers must arrive after 5:30 PM, please advise us by calling 727-415-9887 to have staff waiting for you.

Check-Out

Check-out is at 12:30 PM Friday, except Mini Camp Half Week, which is Tuesday at 12:30 PM. We invite parents to join campers on Friday for closing circle at 11:00 AM & lunch at noon. Children worry if parents are not on time. Please advise us by calling 727-415-9887 if you will arrive after 1:00.

Mail & Communication

Campers LOVE getting mail! Send mail to 264 Vause Lake Road, Hawthorne, FL 32640. Include your camper's full name and post mail before Wednesday. Send email to LutherSpringsAssist@gmail.com, including your camper's name in the subject line. The best mail is cheerful and newsy – please save disappointing or upsetting news for when the camper returns. While it is OK to mention that you miss them, make sure to follow up with your confidence that they are doing great and having fun. Please don't send gum, candy, or food. Mail is delivered at breakfast and dinner each day.

Spending Money

The camp store has canteen items (candy, chips, Gatorade, ice-cream), t-shirts, sweatshirts, water bottles, hats, etc. Parents will turn in camper money during check-in, and we will debit purchases from this money. We will return the remaining money to parents at check-out. Parents can also make purchases during check-in and check-out.

Directions to Luther Springs

Included in this packet are directions. **PLEASE DO NOT RELY ON GPS OR ONLINE MAP PROGRAM TO GET TO THE CAMP!** They often will NOT direct you to the right place.

Camper Health Form

Please use the health form to tell us about particular needs, issues, and delights that will help us know about your child. Examples include divorce or death in the family, if your child loves swimming, is afraid of the dark, etc. The health form is also a place to share information with us about changes your camper is experiencing in their life, for which we can be supportive. We want to provide excellent support for your child to have the best camp week possible.

Health Care

All staff are certified in First Aid & CPR. There is a licensed medical person at camp who will see every injured/sick child and oversee medication distribution. Campers may not keep any medication in their possession, including over the counter. Please send medicines in the original container and complete a Medication Form. **We cannot deviate from the directions printed on the medication container, whether prescribed or over the counter unless you attach a doctor's note authorizing the change to the Medication Form.** Your camper's counselor will carry emergency medication (epi-pen, inhaler).

Illness and Medical Emergency Protocol

In a medical emergency, the medical liaison will take your child to one of the area's medical facilities. Should this be necessary, we will contact you as soon as possible. Please complete your child's health form with the understanding that we may need to use it to deal with an emergency, as unlikely as that is. Make sure the information you provide is complete and accurate, and all emergency contact information is current.

Phone Calls

Please understand that your camper will not call you. Calls home take away from the camp experience and often makes homesickness worse. If you would like to check on your camper, feel free to contact me at smendenhall@novusway.org or 727-415-9887.

Unplugging

One of the most significant gifts of outdoor ministry is being away from technology like TV, computers, video games, and, yes, CELL PHONES. Being present to ourselves, each other, and the natural world's beauty is a vital part of the fellowship at camp. The single biggest reason camp experiences are so intense and transformational is that we are away from such distractions. God often speaks through nature and community when we truly pay attention! **Please do not allow or encourage your child to bring a cell phone to camp.** Please talk with your child about this policy before leaving for camp and make sure they do not have any electronic devices with them.

Lost & Found

Luther Springs is not responsible for a camper's lost or damaged personal items. Do not bring clothing or items that are expensive or irreplaceable. If we find your item, we will ship it to you via USPS and ask that you send reimbursement for postage cost. We will donate to local charities any useful items unclaimed by September 1st.

Should you have any other questions regarding the program or the camp itself, please do not hesitate to contact me at 727-415-9887 or smendenhall@novusway.org. If you have any questions about registration, please contact the registration office at registration@novusway.org or 828-209-6301.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan C. Mendenhall".

Susan C. Mendenhall, ELCA Deacon
Luther Springs Program Director
NovusWay Ministries



PARENT & CAMPER INFORMATION TO GET YOU READY FOR CAMP

Health Form

Camper health forms and waivers are due by May 15th, 2021.

If you registered online

- You may complete your health form online by logging back into your account and filling out the health form through our registration portal.
- You will then need to upload a copy of a signed physical from your child's doctor. A signed copy is currently mandatory.
- Once you have submitted your online health form, **you cannot make corrections to it.** Please call our office when medical information changes for your camper.

If you registered over the phone or don't want to use the registration portal

- Visit luthersprings.org/camper-documents, download the Summer Camp Health Form. If you are reading this PDF online, [click here](#) to go straight to the form.
- To submit the form:
 - Scan and email to camperhealth@novusway.org
 - Fax to **828-687-1600**
 - Or mail to NovusWay Registration, 2049 Upper Laurel Drive, Arden, NC 28704

Helpful Notes for Submitting Health Forms:

- A new health form is required for each year your child registers for camp.
- A physical exam within the last **12-18 months** must be validated on the health form with a physician's signature or a physician-signed copy of the exam. **A copy of a well-check visit is not acceptable unless electronically signed by a physician.**
- If you completed an online health form last summer, your information will prefill for this summer. You only need to update it and submit a new doctor's physical.
- Please include immunization dates.
- Please keep a copy of the health form and any program waivers for your files.
- Per the American Camp Association guidelines, this form will be reviewed by our health care staff before your child arrives at camp.

- We are unable to access physical exams from previous years readily. However, you may attach a copy of last year's physical dated within **12-18 months** of this year's camp week.
- We cannot admit campers on opening day without a completed and signed health form.

If registering after May 15th, 2020, please submit your child's health form & waivers ASAP - at least two weeks before his/her camper week.

A licensed nurse or EMT is in residence at Luther Springs for the summer. All Luther Springs staff members are First Aid & CPR certified.

General Camp Information

What to Pack

- Sleeping bag & pillow
- 2-3 towels & washcloths
- Soap, shampoo, brush, comb
- Toothpaste & toothbrush
- Raincoat or poncho & headcover
- Shoes—2 pairs: sneakers with treads or closed-toe. Shoes that can get wet are best. Shoes will likely get dirty! Closed-toed shoes are a safety requirement for walking around camp, hiking on the trail, and canoeing.
- Shower shoes or flip flops
- Sturdy clothes that can get dirty or wet
- Swimsuits (2)
- Cards, books, etc. for rest times
- Bible, notebook, pen or pencil
- Flashlight
- Water bottle (refillable)
- Insect repellent
- Sunblock
- Hand sanitizer
- Plastic trash bag (for wet/damp clothing)
- Camera that is not a cell phone (optional)

Additional items for our Adventure programs

- Hair ties for long hair (required for ziplining)
- Shorts to the knee or long pants (Horseback)
- Helmet (Horseback – optional)

Packing Tips

Please do not over-pack! Storage space in camper housing is limited.

Write your child's name on each article of clothing, towels, hats, etc.

Please make certain clothes are in good taste. Shorts should not be too short, and T-shirts should not contain inappropriate language or symbols. Swimsuits must be modest. We will ask that campers change or cover up if clothing is inappropriate.

What not to bring

Alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and drugs that are not prescribed by a physician are not allowed on camp in possession of campers. Violation of this policy results in immediate dismissal.

Transportation home will be at the expense of the parent/guardian. Do not bring CELL PHONES, food (snacks, gum, candy, or drinks), knives, firecrackers, or similar items to camp. Leave at home hair dryers, curling irons, radios, iPods, MP3 players, Tablets, or other electronic items. Weapons of any kind are not allowed.

Directions to Luther Springs

Do not follow a GPS or use directions obtained on-line once you leave the interstate.

From Southwest

Take I-75 north to exit 358 just North of Ocala, turn right on to Hwy 326 for 2.5 miles, turn left onto Hwy 301 for 15 miles, turn right onto Hwy 318E for 12.3 miles, turn left on to Co Rd 315, stay left at the fork on CR 21, continue for 5.4 miles, turn left onto Vause Lake Road and follow the signs on the road to entrance on right.

From Southeast

Take I-95 North to exit 268, turn left onto FL-40, 58 miles to right on Co Rd 315 (flashing yellow light), north for 22 miles, veer left at fork onto Co. Rd 21 for 5.4 miles, turn left onto Vause Lake Rd and follow the signs on the road to entrance on the right.

From Northwest

Take I-75 South to exit 399, turn left onto MLK/SR 20 for 46.2 miles, turn right at the light onto Co Rd 20A for 3.8 miles, turn right at the stop sign onto Co Rd 21, for 1.3 miles turn right onto Vause Lake Rd and follow the signs on the road to entrance on the right.

From Northeast

Take I-95 S to exit 311 (CR 207), travel 19.4 miles to East Palatka, turn right on Hwy 20 for 27.3 miles, turn left on CR 21 for 3.4 miles, then right on Vause Lake Road. Follow signs on the road to camp entrance on the right.