

DEAR CAMPER FAMILIES,

Winter Camp is coming soon, and we are so excited to see your children at camp! This letter is written specifically toward your perspective as a guardian sending your camper to Forest Home. It contains all the information you and your child will need to know beforehand to have an awesome time at camp! We hope this letter offers you clear expectations and peace of mind, knowing that your camper will have a great weekend with us! If there is anything else that comes up as you prepare for your weekend at camp, please do not hesitate to contact us!

THEME

This year, Children's Winter Camp is going to be a PARTY! But not just any kind of party. We're going to do some building. We will build relationships. We will build our faith in Jesus Christ. We will learn about the work that God is building in each one of us. And, of course, we will build with some good old-fashioned bricks and blocks...with LEGOS. So, welcome to the BLOCK PARTY at Forest Home!

During their time at camp, your camper will join Brittany and Mason, two friends whose friendship was built on bricks and minifigures. But one day they come across a special brick, the "Brick of Destiny." Together they decide to use the brick, only to be transformed into minifigures themselves! Come join the two friends as their adventure takes them into the suddenly not-so-pretend world of Legos as they seek the instructions from "The Builder" on their way back to "real" life.

Philippians 1:6 says, "being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Through the story of Brittany and Mason, it is our prayer that each one of your children will not only experience the love of Jesus Christ, but also begin to explore the amazing plan God has for each one of us and how He continues to build up each of us for His Kingdom.

WEATHER

Weather at camp can be cold, rainy, and/or snowy! We cannot control the weather, but we do our best to help you prepare for it! It is advised that campers follow the packing list and carry a jacket on the bus so they can wear it upon arrival. Campers will be briefly waiting outside once they arrive so they will want to be prepared. The ground is often wet from melted snow, so we recommend putting sleeping bags and pillows in a waterproof bag.



for all program questions:

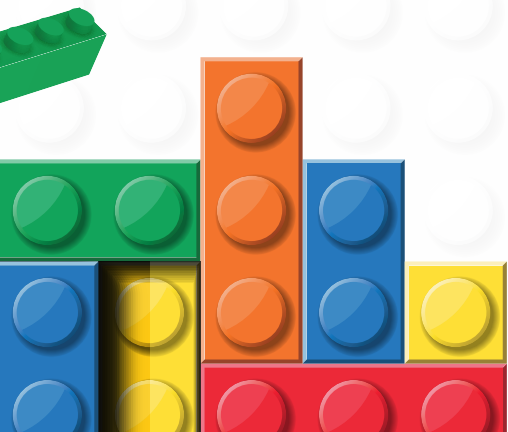
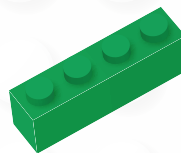
Andrew Newberry - Director of Children's Ministry

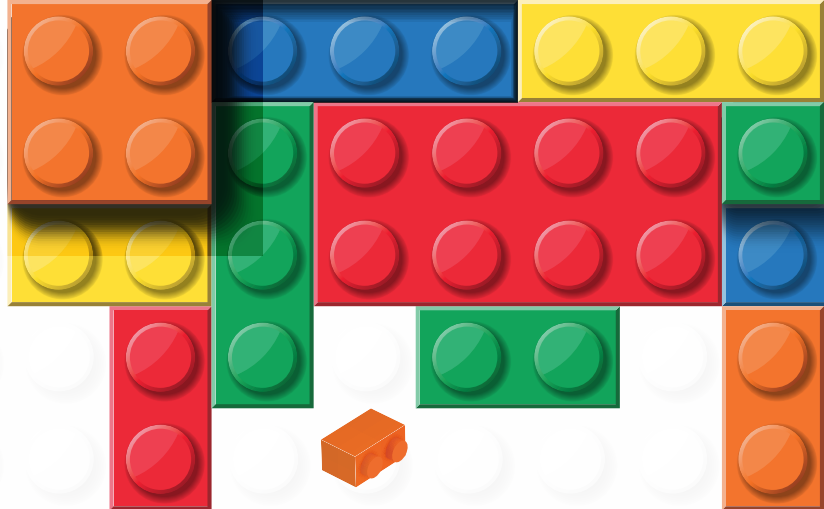
andrew.newberry@foresthomet.org | 909-389-2268

for all registration & retreat questions:

Sarah Bigham - Reservation Associate

sarahbigham@foresthomet.org | 909-389-4320





CELL PHONES

Forest Home is committed to providing a place of sanctuary and solitude. To help facilitate that, we encourage campers to disengage from their electronics as much as possible while at camp. We want students to enjoy the beauty of God's creation and connecting with His people without the distraction of social media and situations happening down the mountain. Undoubtedly, campers will want their phones so they can take pictures. Don't worry though, as you can assure your campers that our camp photographer will be taking photos all weekend, so there will be plenty of photos to share!

Additionally, cell phone service is limited up at camp and Wi-Fi is generally not available to campers (intentionally). If you need to get in touch with your camper, you can call the Roundhouse at (909) 389-2300 and they will assist in getting your camper connected with you.

CHECK-IN/ARRIVAL

Your Children's Pastor / Group Leader will oversee your group's check-in once at camp. To make your camper's check-in go as smoothly as possible, please follow the instructions provided from your camper's group leader. We encourage you to label your camper's luggage with their name and church / group name. That way, if luggage gets misplaced or left behind, we can easily get it back to your camper!

MEDICAL FORMS

Please be advised, Camper Medical Forms are online and **MUST** be completed prior to campers arriving on our grounds. Campers who do not have a completed medical form will not be able to participate in camp. It is recommended that you log-in to your online account and verify that your camper has their medical form completed **PRIOR** to departure. We must strictly enforce this policy, as it is not only the law, but also ensures the safety of all our campers. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please use this link for our Medical Postcard:

<https://www.foresthome.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/MedicationSlip-11x8.5In-SV-27-July-23-V1-R6.pdf>



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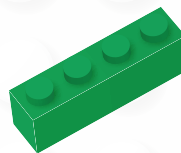
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BLOCK PARTY

FIRST AID

Your group leader will have a Health Screening form. Each camper is required to undergo a health screening before arriving to camp. Please note that any ill campers or counselors should not come to camp until they are symptom free for 24 hours; if they are at camp and ill, they may be sent home at the discretion of the camp nurse according to the first aid policies.

All medications must be in their original containers, including both prescription and over the counter (OTC) store-bought medications. All prescriptions must have their correct prescription labels. Place all medications in a Ziploc bag with the camper's and church's name on the bag. Please refer to the "Sending Medications to Camp" page on our website for more information on how to send medications – foresthomethompson.org/forms. PLEASE NOTE: If medications are not in the original containers, we will NOT be able to administer them.

FOOD ALLERGIES

Our Guest Dining team is passionate about providing for your camper's dietary needs during your stay and our online registration system makes that process easy and streamlined. Please ensure that all dietary requests are indicated on your camper's online registration forms. Our chefs will provide gluten, dairy, egg, and nut free options as well as vegetarian and vegan options at every meal. Our chefs are trained to accommodate for the following common dietary needs: gluten free, nut free, dairy intolerances, egg allergies, vegan, and vegetarian diets. If you have a dietary need other than those listed above, we require that you bring your own food items to satisfy your dining needs during your stay.

Additionally, we understand many allergies can be severe, and we cannot fully guarantee that every item served is 100% free from airborne particles or other means of food allergy cross contamination. If you have a severe or life-threatening food allergy (such as Celiac) we require that you bring your own meals in pre-portioned microwave safe containers. Bringing your own food will help limit the chance of any allergen cross-contamination. There are microwaves located in all dining facilities available for use by guests, as well as refrigerators that can be used to store food for guests with allergies. If you are bringing your own food, please bring an appropriate container for safe storage that is clearly labeled with your name.

Upon arriving at Forest Home, notify the Program Team of your need to store food items and they will direct you accordingly. Lastly, there are other areas in camp that may cause allergic reactions that are out of our control (retail food locations, vending machines, snacks that other campers bring, etc.) Please be mindful of this. Our desire is that every guest has a wonderful dining experience at Forest Home. If you have any questions, please contact us directly!



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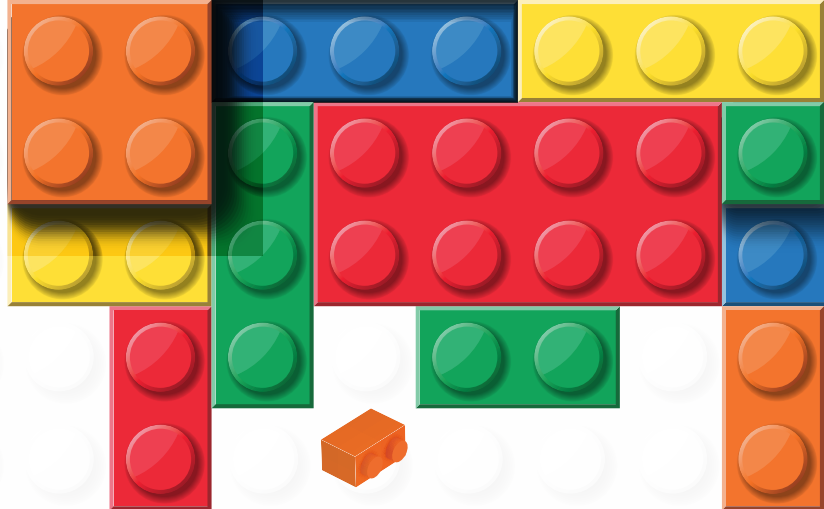
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SPENDING MONEY/RETAIL OPTIONS AT CAMP

Forest Home is completely cashless! All retail purchases must be made either by using a credit card, a debit card, a Forest Home gift card, or an "eGiftCard". You can visit foresthometeam.org/storecard to complete the process of loading money onto camper's eGiftCard account. Funds are accessible by providing the linked phone number at the register, so that campers can easily make purchases. Accounts can also be accessed with a first and last name (of the individual that set up the account). Accounts are reloadable and refundable upon request!

Items your child can purchase while at camp include drinks and snacks, Forest Home merch, and projects in the craft cabin to name a few. \$20-\$40 is usually a sufficient amount of "spending money," but keep in mind that some items (like sweatshirts and water bottles) can run a little more expensive.

A SAFE PLACE

At Forest Home, we deeply care about the safety of our campers in every regard. For this reason, we have a closed campus. Because of space and liability issues, please do not invite anyone up to camp who is not a registered guest. Day passes are not available unless prearranged with the Program Director. Your cooperation with this will be extremely helpful in keeping our campers safe.

EMERGENCIES

If there is a serious family emergency and a parent needs to contact their child while at camp, they may contact the Forest Home Roundhouse at (909) 389-2300 and they can put them in contact with the Program Director. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to seeing your campers this winter!

Blessings,

Andrew Newberry, Director of Children's Ministry

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