



Claggett Camps 2026 Camper and Family Handbook

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Dear campers and families,

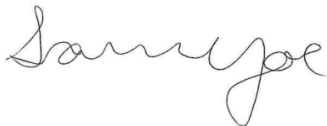
My name is Sara Yoe, and I am your Programs/Camp Director at the Claggett Center! On behalf of the entire Claggett staff, I am so excited to welcome you to camp this summer. Whether you're a first-time camp family or fifteenth, summer camp provides an opportunity for young people to experience life in Christian community, build independence, and make new and nurture existing friendships in a safe and loving environment.

In order to have the best experience, campers and parents/guardians are asked to read and review the following information on policies, packing lists, and what to expect at your camp session. Especially for first-time campers, **knowing what to expect will help set campers, their families, and camp staff up for a successful week.** And while we love our traditions at camp, some things do change each year. I have made an effort to **highlight all new to 2026 information in this color**, but returning campers and families should read thoroughly, too!

If you have any questions or concerns before or during your camp session, please don't hesitate to contact me.

If you have questions or concerns before or during camp, you can reach me at syoe@claggettcenter.org or (301)-874-5147 ext. 4887. During camp sessions, this number can reach me directly 24 hours a day.

God's peace,



Rev. Sara Yoe
Programs/Camp Director



Revised April 27, 2026

Inclusion Statement

We believe that summer camp has the power to change lives through even one week in a community that loves and supports one another unconditionally. Further, we believe that these life-changing camp experiences are for campers and staff members of every race, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and background. We believe that every person is created in the image of God, exactly as they are, with experiences and perspectives that are precious to God.

As an Episcopal ministry, rooted in the Baptismal Covenant, we strive to:

- **Continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship; in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers.** The simple acts of daily life together: prayer, meals, rest, and play, bring us into closer relationship and community.
- **Seek and serve Christ in all people, loving our neighbors as ourselves.** Our staff seeks to listen to others' stories, consider their perspectives, and learn to treat people how *they* would like to be treated according to their needs and abilities. This is the mindset we invite campers into as they navigate daily life in community.
- **Strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every human being by:**
 - Removing as many barriers to participation due to socioeconomic status as we can through:
 - Scholarship and tiered pricing systems
 - Assistance with acquiring necessary items for camp with discretion and without judgment
 - Making camp a safer place for people of color by:
 - Examining and changing practices and systems at camp that were designed with whiteness as the "default"
 - Making camp a safer place for LGBTQ+ campers by:
 - Allowing each person to define themselves. Using the name and pronouns campers ask to be called by, and respecting information that each person chooses to share or not share about their identity.
 - Examining and changing practices and systems that operate on the assumption of binary gender and heterosexuality
 - Supporting transgender and gender-expansive campers' right to use the lodging spaces and bathrooms that are appropriate for them.

Finally, **whenever we fall [short], we repent and return.** If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions as to how we can better live up to these ideals at Claggett, we invite your conversation with camp leadership.

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Logistics



2026 Session Dates

Sassafras Seniors Week: June 21-26 (grades completed: 9-12; general theme)

Wildcard Week: July 5-10 (grades completed: 3-8; unique theme)

Mulberry Middle Week: July 12-17 (grades completed: 6-8; general theme)

Juneberry Juniors Week: July 19-24 (grades completed: 2-6; general theme)

Adventure Camp: August 2-7 (special focus on outdoor skills and activities; grades completed: 4-10)

Generations Gathered: August 8-11 (For families of all ages, shapes, and sizes!)

Arrival and Registration

To ensure a smooth check-in process, please be sure that all forms are completed in your CampInTouch portal before arrival.

Each family will be assigned a check-in time in early June. Assigned check-in times will be at 3:00, 3:30, and 4:00 p.m. All first time campers (and their siblings) will be assigned the 3:30 p.m. check-in time. Returning campers will be split and assigned either the 3:00 or 4:00 p.m. check-in times, based on dorm assignment. You will receive your check-in time by email from the Programs/Camp Director about 10 days before your camper's session. If you are carpooling with someone and get assigned a different time than them, come to whichever time comes first.

This year will be our first year doing these staggered check-in times, with the hope that each family will spend less time waiting in line to check-in. Check-in will always take place in the big red Barn. We have three stations your family will move through during check-in:

- Verifying contact information, paperwork, and payment with the Camp Director
- Health screening and medication drop-off with the Camp Nurse
- Receiving cottage room assignments and directions

Counselors will help you find your assigned cottage and room--families are encouraged to meet staff and help campers settle into their bunks.

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Saying Goodbye: After campers set up their bunk in their rooms, the campers will go with the counselors to make their mailboxes and begin games and activities as others arrive. **Grownups & other family members are asked to say their goodbyes after campers have settled into their dorm rooms.** We know that this moment is often as difficult, or more difficult, for families as for campers. **You can set your camper up for a positive experience with a short, clear, and loving goodbye:** give hugs, remind your camper that you love them and are excited for them to have a great time at camp, and send them to their welcome activities with counselors! **We don't encourage slipping away while a child is distracted, or lingering as they begin activities with other campers.**

Pick-up

Each camp ends at **4:00 p.m. on the last day of the session (for most camps, this is a Friday)**. A closing program starts promptly at 4:00 p.m. in the barn or the pavilion, which families are encouraged to attend. Camp staff will direct you to the location of closing. The program includes music, highlights of the week shared by staff, and a slideshow presentation of the week, and lasts 20-30 minutes.

After the closing program, be sure to:

- Check the lost and found for familiar items
- Check the unclaimed Arts and Crafts display for any masterpieces
- Pick up and sign out any medications with the Camp Nurse
- Sign out your camper with the Camp Director/Assistant Camp Director

After completing all of these, you and your camper will pick up luggage (placed in sections of the Barn by cottage) and say goodbye to camp friends and staff!

Campers will only be released to adults designated on their registration paperwork as permitted to pick up. If there is a need to change this information (either to add or remove permissions for pick up), please contact the Claggett office by phone as soon as you are aware.

Communication:

In a world of instant communication and endless content, camp is an increasingly rare space in which the pace is slower and we're called into a different way of interacting with the people and space around us. We truly believe this is a powerful and important opportunity for young people, which builds independence, resilience, confidence, and can decrease stress and anxiety related to technology dependence.

Still, for digital natives, (and their parents and guardians!) relying on communication outside of cell phones can be a big step. Remember that a week without cell phone contact does not mean a week without communication! Please see page 17 for more information about how a cell phone free week actually creates a safer camp environment.

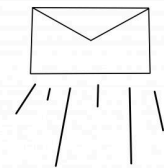
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Mail: First, we encourage campers, parents, and friends to keep in touch with handwritten mail. Your camper will love receiving a note from you that they can hold in their hand, and their letters home can be treasured for years to come! Plan ahead if you want to communicate via USPS; we often receive letters after a camper has already left camp. **The best way to ensure that your handwritten note(s) make it to your camper on time is to prepare them ahead of time and leave them with the Camp Director at check-in.** The same goes for care packages* (limit one per camper).

Mail can be addressed as follows:

Camper Name % Claggett Camp Director
3035 Buckeystown Pike
Adamstown, Maryland, 21710

Parents may also email CamperMail@claggettcenter.org to send an email message to youth. Emails are printed daily and delivered to campers. **Please note that campers do not have computer access and cannot respond by email, and that messages will be printed in black and white.**



We encourage campers to write letters home during downtime, and especially if they are experiencing homesickness. To help, you can send stamped envelopes and make sure your camper knows your address (or write it down for them on paper or the envelopes themselves!).

***A note on care packages:** If you choose to send a care package, please know that it will be opened around other campers and supervised by staff. Do not send food, including candy and gum, or any other prohibited items.

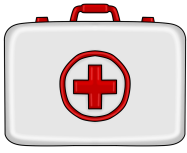
Communicating About Your Child

Camp is both a fun time and a growing experience for campers, and Claggett staff see ourselves as partners with camper families to help your child get the most out of camp. If you have a concern about your camper, you can call or email the Camp Director. Claggett Camps are relatively small, with a maximum of 65 campers, and a high staff-to-camper ratio. The Camp Director, Assistant Director, and all counselors are able to get to know each camper by name, and we will be happy to check in with you.

You can expect a call or email from the Camp Director if they, or your child's counselor, have a concern about your child's camp experience (such as persistent homesickness, trouble adjusting, major conflict or bullying, or other distress). If we think a camper may need support in processing something difficult from camp, we want you to know!

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Health and Safety



Please do not bring your camper to Claggett if they have had any of the following symptoms in the past 24 hours, and contact us to arrange for a late arrival in the event of: fever, rash, shortness of breath, vomiting, or diarrhea.

Medication

All medication is kept and administered by the health care provider for the week. All medications (prescription [Rx] and non-prescription [OTC]) **MUST** be in original containers, labeled with camper's name and dosage instructions. Campers may not keep any medication, prescription or OTC, including vitamins, with their personal belongings in Powell Hall.

ALL PRESCRIPTION AND NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE "MEDICATION AUTHORIZATION FORM", SIGNED BY THE PRESCRIBING PHYSICIAN.**

****This excludes any OTC meds that are on the standard Claggett health form.**

By law, we cannot administer any medication without this completed form, and we cannot administer any medication that differs from directions given by the prescribing physician on that form. You can find these by clicking **My Account**→**Forms & Documents**→**Medication Authorization**. On the left, there is a down arrow; click that to download the blank form. On the right, there is an up arrow; click that to upload the completed form.

We require all campers to have received the MMR/MMRV vaccine and the Tdap vaccine to attend camp at Claggett. Medical exemptions are allowed for immunocompromised campers. Please upload your camper's vaccine records/medical exemption letter where it says "Upload your Immunization Here" by clicking on the up arrow on the right end of that row.



Over-the Counter Medications and Vitamins: On your camper's medical form, there is a checklist of over-the-counter medications that are kept stocked at Claggett, which you may designate permission for the nurse to administer to your camper. This permission applies only to our supply of medications, and does not give permission for campers to bring these medications with them or to self-administer. If your camper regularly takes

an over-the-counter medication that is not listed, **like melatonin or daily vitamins,** you can bring it to camp **with a completed medication authorization form** for the nurse to administer.

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Emergency medications, such as epi-pens or rescue inhalers, are kept in the nurse's cottage during regular camp operations. Anytime a group goes off campus or to the upper or lower farm areas, a senior counselor will obtain the emergency medications for their campers from the nurse and carry them with the group. **Additional signatures are required for a camper to self-carry emergency medications**; please contact the office to discuss further. Self-carry is **only** permitted by state law for emergency medications.

Medical Staff, Treatment, and Infirmary

The Camp Nurse resides and provides treatment in Shalom Cottage, which serves as our medical center. A Registered Nurse, Licensed Practicing Nurse, or Certified Medication Administrator is on staff at each session, and all senior counselors have been First Aid and CPR certified. A doctor approves the medical team's standing orders and is on call to advise our medical staff. The Camp Nurse distributes medications at meals, bedtime, and otherwise as designated.

Emergencies and Communication: In the event of a medical emergency, the designated parent/guardian/emergency contact will be reached as soon as a call can safely be made (emergency services will be called first, if applicable). **The nearest emergency room to the Claggett Center is at Frederick Health Hospital** (400 W 7th St, Frederick, MD 21701), about 9 miles from Claggett. For nonemergencies, campers may be transported to one of several local urgent care centers.

The Camp Nurse will contact you if your camper has an injury or illness that prohibits them from participating in activities for more than half a day, if it is determined that they need medical attention beyond the scope of the nurse's care (emergency or nonemergency), if their illness, injury, or emotional state presents concerns for them to have a positive camp experience, or if we have any questions whatsoever about their health.

Mental and Behavioral Health

Claggett strives to be a place where every person is taken care of according to their needs, and we know that every child's needs are different. Nationwide and especially since the COVID-19 pandemic began, we've seen a rise in young peoples' mental health diagnoses and concerns, especially relating to anxiety, depression, and sleep and eating disorders. **The more we know about your camper, their needs, and especially strategies that help them cope with anxiety, depression, sensory processing issues, or other mental distress, the better our staff can support them.** Diagnostic information is confidential and accessible only to the Camp Nurse, registrar, and Programs/Camp Director, who will share only what is absolutely necessary to help campers be safe and well, and only with each campers' small group leaders.

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Similarly, if you know of any special situations that may affect your child's experience at camp, such as recent death, divorce, moving, or social or behavioral difficulties, we invite you to contact us to discuss your child's needs in advance of the session.

Please contact the Camp Director if you have questions, concerns, or information that you would like staff to know about your camper's mental or behavioral health, especially if you would feel more comfortable discussing them verbally rather than in writing.

A note about stimulants and other medications: More and more, medications for ADD/ADHD, depression, and other psychological conditions allow children to take full advantage of all that a school environment has to offer. While camp is different from school in many ways, **there are also similarities regarding routines, attention, and socialization.** Some physicians are not aware of these similarities and may take a child off medication for the summer without understanding the full implications. *If your child is on psychotropic medication and you plan to make changes to their medication(s) at any time within six weeks of camp, please be sure to discuss with their doctor. We are happy to speak with you or your doctor to answer questions about what camp might be like for your camper, so that you can make the best informed decision regarding medication.*

Food

Three delicious and nutritious meals are served daily family style, as well as an afternoon snack. Staff will help campers choose food that will keep them healthy and strong for the activities at camp! There are a variety of foods available at each meal.

We are able to accommodate most dietary restrictions, including vegetarian, gluten-free, and most common allergens. **If your child has a food restriction and you would like to discuss further, please contact the camp director before the start of their camp session.** Participants may NOT bring food from home unless special arrangements are made with the Claggett Office; any allergen-safe food for individual campers will be kept in the kitchen. **Food in dorm spaces attracts pests like mice and insects. Any food items found in participant's luggage or dorm space will be confiscated.**



What to Expect at Camp

Staff

Camp is led by an intergenerational team of counselors, hand-picked for their kindness, leadership, and passion for working with children and youth. The counselor team is anchored by **senior counselors**: young adults at least one year out of high school, who are employed for the duration of the summer. Senior staff receive extensive training including First Aid/CPR, safety in all camp activities, child development, group leadership, and more. At least one senior counselor is present with every camper group during every activity.

Staff also includes **assistant counselors**, who are former senior staff or recently graduated junior staff who are looking for an additional level of responsibility and leadership but are not able to attend for the entire summer season. These counselors are 18+ and receive training on safety, skills based activities, and more. They work with the senior staff to lead camp activities and coordinate with the volunteer staff, but are only at camp for one or 2 sessions, rather than being a part of the summer- long team.

The staff team is rounded out each week by a **nurse, chaplains**, and volunteers: high school-aged **junior counselors**, who are older Claggett campers looking to grow their leadership skills and give back the positive camp experience they've had, and **adult volunteers**, who have varied backgrounds and connections to Claggett. Some adult volunteers are former campers or counselors, parents of campers, teachers, or have a special interest or skill to share. All adult volunteers are background-checked. Our program will also have a Mental Health Advocate participating in the life of camp for most camp sessions, who is a qualified mental health professional and will be providing supportive resources to campers and staff alike throughout the summer. They will have also done extensive training with the senior counselors at the beginning of the summer.

Our counselors specialize in creating an environment that is physically, emotionally, and spiritually safe, where all campers are welcomed and invited to participate through "challenge by choice." If you have questions about our staff, or how to become a staff member, contact the camp director.



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Dorms and Lodging

For most camp sessions, lodging is dormitory-style in Doll and North Cottages (see page 20 for information about Adventure Camp lodging). Dorm rooms in these cottages have two bunk beds in each room. 3-4 campers will be assigned per room.

Where do counselors sleep?

Counselor dorm rooms are located adjacent to camper dorm rooms. Except when children are actively changing, counselors are physically present during all dorm time, and dorms have an open-door policy.

A favorite Claggett tradition is counselor-read bedtime stories (Sometimes they're exciting! Sometimes they're veeery boring! Sometimes they're in another language! Sometimes they're the instruction manual for an appliance!). Counselors read and stay present in camper dorms for an extended period of time after lights out to ensure that campers are safe and well, and hopefully asleep. On the first night of camp, counselors will show campers how to locate each counselor dorm room in case of emergency during the night.

Is there a gender-neutral dormitory?

In 2022, Claggett launched a gender inclusive dorm, the first program of its kind in the state of Maryland. This option is offered in addition to the same-gender housing we have traditionally used. Campers of all gender identities and expressions can opt-in to gender inclusive housing, allowing each camper to stay in a dorm that feels safe and comfortable for them. Gender-inclusive housing creates room for gender non-conforming campers and their allies to fully represent themselves, furthering our mission to be a camp where everyone is seen and treated as a beloved child of God. If you have further questions, you can download the full FAQ sheet on your registration portal. This dormitory is available only during Sassafras Seniors and Mulberry Middle camp sessions, and is in a separate wing of North Cottage.

A Note on Roommate Requests

As you complete your registration paperwork, please note that there is a section where you may request a roommate pairing for your camper. **We will honor one pairing per camper.** Any larger groups of campers that request to stay together in the same dorm will be split up. Camp is a unique opportunity to meet new and different people, build relationships across typical social divides, and experience life in a community that may be a little different from the one you live in at home. While it is understandable to want your camper to have a familiar touchpoint, we encourage you to get your camper excited about the possibilities that arise out of embracing a new experience. Daily activities generally do not take place by dorm group, so there are plenty of opportunities at camp to socialize outside of dorms!

Please note also that for the safest dorm experience, dorm assignments are generally grouped by developmental/age ranges. For this reason we may not always be able to honor sibling roommate requests. And, unless specifically requested in the Camper Application, siblings and known cousins/family members are intentionally split up.

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Sara Yoe at syoe@claggettcenter.org.



Christian Formation

Summer Camps at Claggett are Christian formation ministries of the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland. Camp is grounded in Scripture and tradition, and encourages campers and staff to use their whole selves as ways to explore the Christian story. At least one chaplain is present for each camp to lead worship and support the community. Chaplains are either Episcopal clergy or qualified lay ministers.

Age-appropriate worship is led by our chaplains every morning and evening and includes music, prayer, and scripture. Worship is designed to be age-appropriate, creative, and inviting--campers might see a Bible story in a skit, or learn a new way to pray using art or movement.

Twice a day, campers gather in Small Groups--a safe place to reflect on the day, the world around them, and the Bible. Small Groups are led by counselors and like worship, are tailored to the age group of each camp, involving a range of activities and topics.

By living in Christian community, we are always trying to see and treat each other the way God sees us: loved, accepted, and celebrated, just the way we are.

There is no church membership or religious background required to participate in camp, and camp alumni include people of many (and no) faith backgrounds. Campers and staff all participate in worship and Small Group together, and campers are invited to wonder and reflect through Christian story, tradition, and prayer. Each camp has a Eucharist (communion) service. Campers are invited to receive or not receive communion as they feel comfortable. **We do not practice “altar calls” or place young people in situations where they are pressured to profess a particular belief.**



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A Day in the Life

So what do we do all day at camp? Camp tradition says that while the specifics of each day's schedule are "impossible to say," most days follow a similar pattern--with lots of room for surprises! Here's a simple schedule to give you an idea. Bedtimes and meal times vary by age group.

- Wake up and eat breakfast
- Morning chapel and Small Group
- Morning Recreation
 - *Examples: Field games, Arts and Crafts, hike trips, workshops or special projects...*
- Lunch
 - (some days, groups may take bagged lunches with them on a longer bike or canoe excursion, or when out on the ropes course)
- Refreshment time
 - 20-30 minutes of quiet time in dorms to write a letter home, nap, draw, journal, etc.
- Afternoon Recreation
 - *Examples: similar to morning rec, plus canoeing/kayaking*
- Dinner
- Small Group
- Evening activities
 - *Examples: Skit Night, special games, workshops, CAMPOUT!*
- Evening chapel
- Bedtime

Each camp spends a full day on the ropes course, which includes teambuilding and low ropes elements, a 300-foot zipline, and other adventure elements.

Each camp will go to Greenbrier State Park one day each week for "Lake Day," where swimming, hiking, canoeing/kayaking, and other recreational activities on the beach or around picnic tables are enjoyed.

Middle School camps and older have the opportunity for bike excursions.



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Homesickness

It's extremely common for campers of all ages to experience homesickness. Our staff are trained to respond with care, providing a listening ear to campers and helping them find ways to connect at camp. Homesickness can be an opportunity for campers to learn to experience their emotions, find coping strategies, and build resilience. **We encourage you to talk with your camper about homesickness before camp, especially if they are feeling nervous. Your positive framing and encouragement has the biggest impact on your camper's outlook on their camp experience.**

In the case of extreme and persistent homesickness, the Camp Director will call parents/guardians to keep them informed of the camper's well-being and determine appropriate steps forward. **In most cases, we do not permit phone calls home between a camper and parent. Please, do not promise that your child can call you or go home if they are not having a good time.** This creates a barrier to your child's full investment in the camp experience and all it has to offer.

Here are a few ways you can help your camper prepare for camp, especially if this is their first time away from home or if they are worried about being homesick.

- Pack a few **photos** of loved ones or a comforting item from home.
- **Send (e)mail to/leave mail for your camper.** Tell them about day-to-day things happening at home that will reassure them that things are going well: what's for dinner, what you did that day. Remind them how excited you are to hear about camp.
- **Some tips to talk about homesickness before your camper's session:**
 - Ask what they're excited about at camp: (ziplining! swimming! new friends! arts and crafts!), and ask if there's anything they're nervous about. Help them plan strategies for when they feel sad or afraid: "It can be hard to be in a new place with new people. What's something you like that you could talk about to make a new friend?" or "When you feel sad because you miss me, hug the blanket from home/practice deep breaths/write a letter and remember that I love you very much!"
 - **Promote secure attachment** by showing confidence that your camper can miss loved ones and enjoy camp at the same time: "I'll miss you, too--we always miss the people we love when we're apart, and that's okay! One thing that will make it easier for me when I miss you is to think about the fun time you'll be having at camp. I can't wait to hear all about it!"

Behavior and Discipline:

Disciplinary issues will be addressed with respect for the camper's dignity, and with the goal of helping campers reach their full potential. Whenever possible, consequences seek to hold campers directly accountable for their words and actions (ex: helping to clean up messes or damaged items, conflict resolution mediated by a staff member). Other consequences may include short periods of time withheld from recreational activities such as pool time. **Camp staff will never use corporal punishment or speak to children in a way meant to embarrass them or that demeans their value as individuals.**

Right to Search: Personal belongings, luggage, backpacks, sleeping space, and pockets are subject to search by the Executive Director, the Programs/Camp Director, or a staff person designated by them.

Sending Participants Home: Our disciplinary policy is to first seek a way to invite campers into reconciliation as members of the camp community. However, in extreme circumstances, staff reserves the right to decide that a camper's behavior poses too great a risk to others for them to remain at camp. These behaviors may lead to a youth being sent home: persistent defiance or insubordination that threaten the safety of self or others, actions that threaten the physical or emotional safety of self or others, continued disruption of community life, and disrespect for community and community property.

The following behaviors will result in the participant being sent home: fighting, use of physical violence, blatant disregard for the rights and welfare of others, possession of weapons, drugs, or alcohol, or sexual activity. At the Executive Director's discretion, and for the safety of other campers, a camper who is sent home for these reasons may be excluded from future camps.

What to Bring (and not bring) to Camp

A note on our electronics policy:

All electronic equipment, including cell phones, smart watches, and personal gaming devices, are to be left at home. Cell phones and any smart devices brought by campers will be confiscated and held in a secure location by the Programs/Camp Director, to be returned to the camper's grown up at pickup on Friday. In the event that a camper drives themselves to camp and needs to bring a phone for security, the phone **must** be turned in for safekeeping at registration.

Why a screen-free camp?

Safety and privacy: In addition to our hope that Claggett can be a place free from electronic distraction, **smart phones and devices pose a risk to camper safety and privacy. It is not possible for camp staff to safely supervise social media or device use for all campers.** Phones used after lights-out can be used for campers to communicate with others outside of their sleeping areas, unknown to counselors. Taking photos in sleeping spaces, using apps that tag users' locations, and/or instantly contacting peers or others outside of the camp community while at camp all compromise the privacy of the camper using a device, and other campers in their vicinity.

Mission: Camp is a place where we strive to be fully present to God and each other. For this reason, we give up some of the familiar comforts of home to live simply in community. In a world where we have constant access to entertainment and information, [screen time has been linked to adverse mental health conditions in young people](#), and camp provides an opportunity to slow down and focus on what's around us. **A screen-free camp allows campers to build closer friendships with other campers, to think in new and creative ways, to be attentive to their surroundings, and to have some time to simply be.** It isn't easy to stay engaged with our surroundings in this way when we have smart phones and other devices, *and*, we believe it's worth it.

What if I need to reach my camper during the week? Sleepaway camp is a milestone experience for campers and parents alike as a safe environment for children to practice independence. It is a big step for both campers and families to give up the security of immediate contact. **We ask for your trust in our expertise in creating a safe environment, which includes preventing covert smart device use. It is our honor to be trusted with your camper, and we do not take it lightly. Please do not put your and other campers at risk and encourage rule-breaking by sending them to camp with contraband electronics you have instructed them to hide.** See page 5-6 for more about communication.

What about pictures? We are all used to our phones doubling as our cameras, and we encourage taking pictures at camp! We highly recommend planning ahead to go old-school: if there's an old digital camera at home, dig it out of the drawer and send it with your camper! Disposable cameras ([yes, you can still buy them!](#)) are another great option--be sure to label with your camper's name. **We will also share a link with you before you camper's session with a link to the Google Photos folder where photos will be uploaded throughout the week, and after your camper's session to access the slideshow shown at the Closing Program.**

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Packing List

Please label ALL belongings with your camper's first and last name.
Use a permanent marker.

The following items are essential:

- Sunscreen
- Water bottle (labeled with camper name)
- Daypack or string bag for daily essentials (water bottle, sunscreen, etc.)
- Beach towel
- Bath towel
- Toiletries
- Medications **in original packaging, with authorization forms signed by doctor**
- Twin sheets, pillowcase, and pillow
- Sleeping bag
- protective hairstyles (*protect your hair from heat, chlorine, river water, and other elements, and save time in the shower!*)
- preferred period care products (*if applicable*)

Clothing for the week: comfortable, casual, and camp-appropriate.
Please bring at least one set of clothing that can get messy/stained.

- T-shirts, tank tops and long sleeve T-shirts
- Shorts, jeans, pants, etc.
- Sleep wear
- Bathing suit (2, *if possible*)
 - *UV protective swim shirt helps if prone to sunburn!*
- Underwear and socks (*extras in case yours get drenched*)
- Raincoat or poncho
- Light jacket/sweatshirt (2)
- Sturdy Tennis shoes/
Sneakers/Athletic shoes (no cleats)
- Old tennis shoes/boat shoes/Water shoes or closed-toed swim shoes
- Shower shoes or flip-flops
- Cap or hat with a brim, sunglasses
- Bandanna, headband, hair ties

And these are some things that it can be nice to have:

- Tissues
- Flashlight or headlamp with fresh batteries
- Musical instruments
- Sports equipment or fishing rod
- Journal/book/other activity for downtime
- Stationary and stamped envelopes to write home
- Bible
- Disposable or digital camera
- White t-shirt or other cotton article of clothing for tie-dye
- Edge control or other protective hair products
- Photos of your family/ friends

Claggett is not responsible for lost or damaged belongings or valuables. If you are concerned about loss or damage to an item, it is best to leave those items at home.
There will be no need for campers to bring or use money at camp.

Revised April 27, 2026

What Not to Bring (Prohibited items)

When we come to Summer Camp, we all leave behind some of the comforts of home so that we can focus on our faith, our neighbors, and our surroundings. We also agree to respect the safety of everyone at camp. **The following items can interfere with life in community**, either by separating and isolating us from one another, or because of inherent dangers. Prohibited items will be confiscated, and parents/guardians will be notified.



Leave these behind:

- Skateboards, hoverboards, scooters, sneakers with wheels, and the like
- Electronic games, game cartridges
- Money
- Food, gum, drink powder additives
- Cell phones, iPods/Mp3 players, smart technology of any kind, etc.
- Toy guns or fake weapons
- ANY medications not in original containers, non-prescription drugs in personal belongings
- Pocket knives (even for kids who are scouts)
- ***Tobacco products, including vapes and juuls, *alcohol, *controlled dangerous substances, *illegal drugs, including marijuana, *firearms, *fireworks, *any other type of weapon or illegal item.**

***These items are illegal. If a camper has these in their possession, we will contact in the following order:**

- 1. the local authorities (if legally required)**
- 2. the camper's parent or guardian**
- 3. the priest of the camper's parish, if applicable**

Revised April 27, 2026

Adventure Camp

The following information applies to all campers registered for Adventure Camp!

Adventure Camp is a weeklong experience designed for a small group of 8-12 campers seeking a higher level of physical challenge and an opportunity to learn outdoor skills.

Adventure Campers camp out in tents at our rustic campsite for the entire week (except in the event of severe weather) and spend each day on an outdoor adventure activity: biking, canoeing, a full day on the ropes course, and an overnight hike on the Appalachian Trail on Thursday night. After each day's trip, campers have time to relax with field games, slip & slide, and occasionally with our big inflatable water slide before showering and heading back to the campsite to cook dinner, worship, and gather around the fire.

Adventure Camp is a beginner-friendly, welcoming environment, and a perfect opportunity for those who would like to try out or build new skills in the outdoors. No camping or boating experience is required.



Adventure Campers check in at 4:00 p.m. Sunday in the Barn. We'll have a short closing program at 4:00 p.m. Friday in the Chapel or Barn.

What to Bring to Adventure Camp: Clothing, Essential, Optional, and Prohibited items from page 18 are largely still relevant to Adventure Camp, with some exceptions and additions noted below. Please be mindful of space that will be shared in tents.

- **All Adventure Campers need a sturdy, large water bottle (we strongly recommend at least 32 oz capacity)**
- Sleeping bag and pillow (twin sheets are not needed). Sleeping pad may be desired.
- **Sturdy backpack or day pack** to hold essentials on trips (sunscreen, water, lunch)
- Campers who have a backpacking pack, life jacket, bike, bike helmet, or other rec equipment are welcome to bring their own if desired. We will have plenty to share!
- Pocket knives are still not allowed for Adventure Campers; counselors have what is necessary.

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Junior Counselor Program

Are you a high school camper who would like to be part of creating the “camp magic” for younger campers? Visit our website to learn more and apply to be a junior counselor (“J-staff”)! A few fast facts about eligibility for the junior counselor program:

- Junior staff must have completed 9th grade and be at least two grade levels older than the oldest camper at a session
- Junior staff must be registered to attend High School Camp.
- Junior staff are volunteer members of the counselor team. There is no cost to staff a week as a junior counselor (room and board are provided). If the junior counselor position meets requirements for your school’s service learning hours, we are happy to sign for them.
- A two-night training for all volunteer staff is held each summer. **Junior staff are required to attend.** Makeup trainings can be organized if there are significant conflicts. There is no cost to attend training.
- **Being a junior counselor is an extremely rewarding leadership experience--and different from being a camper!** You can expect to have a lot of fun, grow as a leader, and work hard! Because of the responsibilities and learning opportunities in this role, we take the following seriously:
 - **Applications:** though this is a volunteer role, junior counselors have a position of trust and responsibility for children. A completed application (found on our website) is required, including references. You can contact the camp director if you have questions about the application or choosing references.
 - No experience is required to be junior staff, and in general, all applicants are given the opportunity to volunteer for a week. **Being a junior counselor is a privilege, not a guarantee. Conduct and attitude as a counselor or camper can affect future opportunities--**in other words, being J-staff once does not guarantee placement in the future, and major disciplinary issues as a camper can disqualify you for a junior staff position that year. Junior staff are role models for younger campers, and are expected to take that responsibility seriously.

Revised April 27, 2026

We can't wait to see you at camp this summer!



Follow us for pictures, announcements, and more!



Camps at Claggett



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