

Summer Camp FAQs

1. How much does Summer Camp cost?

This year, our summer camp is six days and five nights.

Early bird registration is open until May 19 for \$499. Regular price is \$599, but students who serve at VBS get \$50 off regular registration. Payment plans are available for both early bird and regular pricing. Scholarships are also available upon request. Registration closes when the camp sells out.

Please note: the church doesn't make money from camp--in fact, the opposite! The church pays for transportation, a portion of the Forest Home camp fee, and for adult volunteers--without passing costs onto students.

If you would like to support our Event Scholarship Fund, please call or email Matt McGill, the high school pastor, at mmcgill@marinerschurch.org or 949-750-6057.

2. Where is Forest Home?

Forest Home Camp is located around 2 hours away from Mariners Church in Forest Falls, several miles south of Big Bear. The camp is located at 40000 Valley of the Falls Dr, Forest Falls, CA 92339.

3. Why a different location for Summer Camp?

Lost Canyon is an amazing camp! Forest Home is also a great camp and it had two advantages over Lost Canyon. First: it's much, much closer. We drove there in 90 minutes by car from Mariners church on a Monday. Second, the only week available to us at Lost Canyon was the first week of August. This time wasn't ideal because it's at the very end of summer. We aren't taking a step back in quality with Forest Home, it is an awesome place!

4. Who can attend Summer Camp?

Everyone from current 8th graders to graduating seniors. Normally we don't take graduating seniors, but this year we are making an exception.

5. Can my high schooler attend even if they don't go to Mariners Irvine?

100% Yes! We love to have new people join us!

6. Can my child bring their phone?

No phones will be allowed at Summer Camp. We hope students can take this week to get away and focus on connecting with God and others. There is so much to do at camp so we don't want students being distracted!

7. What are the COVID safety protocols at Forest Home?

Forest Home will adhere to all county COVID guidelines. At Forest Home, all services, dining, games, and activities will take place outside. All bathrooms and lodging will be indoors.

If anyone at camp is not feeling well, then they will be short term isolated to check symptoms and get rapid tested. For students who are sick, they will be asked to return home--which will be much easier to accommodate since we will be much closer to home!

8. How will my student get to Forest Home?

Mariners will provide transportation to and from Summer Camp. Meet us at Mariners and we will either ride up on a bus or van!

9. What will the worship time look like?

Each morning and evening we will worship together in their newly built outdoor amphitheatre--not gonna lie, it's pretty sweet. There will be live worship music, biblical teaching, and small group discussions led by adult volunteers.

10. What will my child be learning?

The theme is based on Ephesians 3:17-19. God's love is so big that it surpasses our knowledge – His love is deep and wide. This summer, we will begin exploring the depths of God's love and what it looks like for us to truly experience it. Pastor Joe Barsha from La Mirada Church will be speaking!

11. What will they be eating?

Forest Home provides a different menu each week for Summer Camp. If your child has dietary restrictions or allergies, please let us know and we will accommodate accordingly.

12. Where will they be sleeping?

Forest Home has cabins with bunk beds that can house 12 and 16 people with 2 bathrooms included. Don't forget to bring a sleeping bag and pillow!

13. What if my child has medications they need to take?

There are 2 nurses and a team of health techs on site at all times during the week of camp. The nurses will do a med call at breakfast, lunch and dinner. All medications will also be tracked online.

14. Will I be able to contact my child?

We will be taking phones and any other distractions away from students during the camp. However if you need to contact your child, you can call a leader at Forest Home or a High School Ministry staff member and we can connect you.

15. Will my child have internet access?

No. For communication purposes and emergencies, we will be able to reach parents but we will not give students internet access.

16. Can my son or daughter arrive late or leave early?

We hope not! But we understand that sometimes mega-super-ultra important things come up. If this once in a million year event comes up for your family, you'll probably need to arrange for your own transportation. Email Erin at eferree@marinerschurch.org to let us know what your mega-super-ultra important issue is, and we'll figure it out.

17. What exactly happens at Summer Camp?

Here is a sample of the Summer Camp schedule from Forest Home.

SAMPLE CAMP SCHEDULE					
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Counselor Coffee/ Optional Worship	Counselor Coffee/ Optional Worship	Counselor Coffee/ Optional Worship	Counselor Chapel	Cabin Move-out
	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
	Gathering	Gathering	Comps	Gathering	Gathering
	Solo Time Regroup	Solo Time Regroup	Regroup	Solo Time Regroup	Departure
	Comps	Comps	Forest Center Takeover	Comps	
	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	
Arrivals + Check-in	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	
Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
Team Meetings	Team Meetings	Team Meetings	Team Meetings	Church Debrief	
Gathering	Gathering	Gathering	Gathering Worship Experience	Gathering	
Cabin Time / Debrief	Night Activity	Cabin Time	Cabin Time	Cabin Time	
Cabin Checks	Cabin Checks	Cabin Checks	Cabin Checks	Cabin Checks	
Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	Lights Out	

18. Who are the volunteers and adults going up?

Our adult volunteers going up are people who love Jesus and love working with high schoolers. All of our volunteers have been interviewed, background checked and equipped to help, counsel and care for students.

YES! We need cabin leaders--we would love for you to come, or for you to encourage someone to come. If you are interested, or know anyone, please email Erin at eferree@marinerschurch.org.

19. What are the activities at Forest Home?

There are many recreational activities to choose from! On the water, there are waterslides, blobbing, kayaking and inflatable obstacles. On land, there is volleyball, basketball, hiking, hatchet throwing, dodgeball and laser tag. And in the air, there is ziplining, big swings, sky trails and climbing walls. On top of that, we will organize some exclusive Mariners HSM activities for all those who are in our group!

20. How can I help with Summer Camp?

Thank you for asking! You can help by encouraging your son or daughter to go and by telling others about camp. You can also volunteer with us by coming along as a counselor for the week or help with registration. And of course, you can pray for God to work in the lives of students. A parent prayer guide for camp will be shared so we can cover our camp in prayer. We want camp to be a time where people can put their faith in Jesus, grow closer to Him and build friendships with other students.