

Lutherhaven Ministries
Summer 2021 Youth Camp Health & Safety Guide



NEW! Revised March 22, 2021

Lutherhaven is excited to welcome you back to summer camp, 2021! We've worked closely with our professional Health Care Team to develop COVID-19 protocols to help keep campers, staff, volunteers, and folks back home safe and healthy.

These protocols provide information to help parents and care-givers prepare their children for summer camp at Camp Lutherhaven and Shoshone Mountain Retreat.

This *Health & Safety Guide* is updated regularly. We know regional rates of community spread, public health recommendations, and testing and vaccination scenarios are changing rapidly, and things will look very different by June—for the better! We are especially thankful a growing number of our camp staff, volunteers, family member—and you!—are being vaccinated.

We believe it's vital for us to work with you to be part of the global pandemic solution.

- We have an amazing team of medical and public health professionals helping us make decisions and implement policies based on scientific public health policy.
- We draw campers from around the region and across the nation, so we've written these protocols with our wide audience in mind.
- We are one of more than 7,000 overnight summer camps around our nation, developing similar protocols in conjunction with the 2021 [CDC guidelines for summer camps](#) and the American Camp Association's [2021 Field Guide for Camps](#).

+++++

Lutherhaven Ministries
Summer 2021 Youth Camp Health & Safety Guide

COVID-19 Exposure and Symptoms – Please! Closely observe your camper's health and contacts in the days leading up to camp, and keep them home if they a) have been in contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 within the previous 10 days; b) have been diagnosed with COVID themselves within the previous 10 days; or c) show any symptoms associated with COVID-19. See the CDC Symptom List: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html

What about Vaccines? – ***Lutherhaven's goal: 100 percent of our year-round and seasonal staff and long-term volunteers vaccinated by the start of summer camp, 2021!*** While we urge all staff and adult volunteers to be vaccinated, we know that might not be possible for everyone, therefore, all unvaccinated staff must submit a negative COVID test immediately prior to summer camp. Vaccinations are in addition to other safety steps.

What about Testing? – Based on American Camp Association and Association of Camp Nursing recommended best practices and the recommendation of Lutherhaven’s professional Health Care Team, COVID-19 tests will be part of how Lutherhaven helps reduce the risk of COVID at camp this summer. **Lutherhaven will require testing for all campers and other participants 72 or so hours prior to their arrival at camp, with certified negative test results. Unvaccinated staff and unvaccinated adult volunteers coming to camp a week or more must also be tested.**

COVID testing is considerably less invasive than the early days of testing. **COVID-19 tests are available nationwide at health centers and select pharmacies, FREE to anyone in the U.S., including the uninsured.** To locate a testing location near you, visit: www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/community-based-testing-sites/index.html

Lutherhaven is also exploring having available on camp rapid COVID antigen tests administered by a trained operator, to test for active infection using a nasal swab. The test would provide a positive or negative result in 15 minutes. Those testing positive cannot remain at camp.

Testing is a nearly daily changing scenario. You will receive more information about testing for your camper well before the start of summer camp. Testing is in addition to other safety steps.

If you have a Compromised Immune Systems – Individuals who are immunosuppressed (as defined by their family physician) or live in a home with an immunosuppressed person should consult with their health care provider(s) before deciding whether or not to participate in any summer camp program, and must be cleared to come to camp in writing by their physician. Though we are taking extensive actions to keep camp safe, we are not able to guarantee a person on our sites will not be exposed to COVID-19; thus, participation in any camp program during the pandemic may not be recommended for individuals with known vulnerabilities that put them at greater risk, or with vulnerable individuals back home.

When you Arrive – Campers with a temperature over 100.4 degrees, or exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, or who have been exposed to COVID-19 or tested positive for the virus in the previous 10 days, will not be permitted to enter camp and must return home.

Drop off and Pick-up Procedures – We will implement new procedures for dropping campers off at camp and picking them up at the end of their camp stay, and restricting the number of non-campers on camp at registration and pick-up. We will keep you informed of these as your camp week gets closer.

Temperature Checks & Daily Health Screening – Campers and staff will have a health screening and temperature check upon arrival at camp, and a daily health screening during camp.

Cabin Groups – **NEW!** Campers will live, eat, and do most camp activities together in cabin “households” of ten or fewer. **Cabin campers are NOT required to wear masks** when with their cabin group! (Exception: times indoors in other camp buildings—NOT in their camper cabin.) Campers will directly intermingle only within their cabin “household”. When programming has cabin “households” coming together for large group activities, campers and staff will maintain

physical distancing between other cabin groups, and wear masks whenever physical distancing cannot be maintained. See **Masks** and **Physical Distancing**.

Who needs to Mask Up? – NEW! Cloth mask wearing is one of several best practices to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. **Cabin campers are NOT required to wear masks** when with their cabin group! **Cloth face masks will be worn by campers when indoors—except when inside their camper cabin—and outdoors with other cabin groups when physical distancing of at least 3 feet cannot be maintained.** Campers should plan to bring one cloth mask for each camp day. Camp will also have masks available. Summer staff will generally wear masks when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

What about Physical Distancing? – NEW! Physical distancing of at least 3 feet will be used by all camp participants at all possible times when interacting with others outside their cabin “household” to allow for safe social interaction at camp.

Be Outdoors! – Lutherhaven Ministries will take full advantage of our magnificent outdoor spaces to help mitigate the risk of COVID. Campers will spend as much time outdoors as possible—weather permitting—to greatly reduce the risk of spreading COVID.

Hand Washing – Our camps will have increased hand washing among campers and staff, with additional hand washing stations and hand sanitizing throughout the day.

Cleaning/Disinfecting – There will be an increase in cleaning and disinfecting around camp, from equipment to facilities.

Eating Out! – Weather permitting, all meals will be eaten outdoors. Campers will wear masks as they are served through our serving line. In the event of bad weather we may stagger eating times.

Sleeping Arrangements – Summer 2021 may see modified cabin sleeping arrangements so that campers can sleep with their heads at least six feet apart, head-to-toe fashion. In addition, thanks to grant funding, camp is upgrading ventilation and filtration systems in cabins and other indoor spaces to optimize air filtration and outside air circulation. We’ll have the windows open! **Campers should bring an extra blanket for cool camp nights!**

All-camp Gatherings, Worship, & Games – One of the most special parts of summer camp is when the whole camp comes together for song, worship, and activities. Lutherhaven’s long tradition of large camp gatherings will continue—with only slight modification to lessen the risk of COVID. Campers can count on all the fun of every camp summer, with increased emphasis on health and safety of all.

Camp Activities – Certain familiar camp activities could be changed up to avoid too much contact with other people or equipment. You can count on swimming, the challenge course, the climbing wall, all sorts of other favorite camp activities... and the best week of your summer!

Visitors – Visitors will not be allowed on main camp when campers are present, to ensure the extended “household” we create at camp remains COVID free.

Off-camp Trips – Older campers in traditional summer camp programs will still have overnight campouts this summer—just in smaller “household” groups with increased health guidelines. If lake or river tubing is a regular part of your camp program, bring your swimsuit! *Idaho Servant Adventures* participants will continue serving others in the community—on an enhanced precaution-aware basis to keep everyone healthy.

Isolation – Camps will have facilities reserved for campers, staff, and volunteers who may develop COVID-related symptoms during camp, for use until they can return home to recover or test COVID-negative.

Staff & Camper Interaction – Our goal is 100 percent of our staff, vaccinated for summer camp, 2021! COVID vaccination is a game-changer for our staffing, programming, and health and safety precautions! You camper may notice our summer staff adopting certain best practices to help prevent the spread of COVID.

Youth Groups Coming to Camp – Some of these protocols and procedures will be modified for youth groups from the same congregation coming to youth camp or *Idaho Servant Adventures* as their own “households”.

Questions? Contact us! registrar@lutherhaven.com