



2024 Parent Guide

Stone by Stone
Luke 6:46-48



(704)716-4330

@ycampharrison

www.ymcacharlotte.org/camps/camp-harrison

Luke 6:46-48

“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock.



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Welcome Parents



We are excited to have your camper joining us this summer at Camp Harrison! We want to make planning for camp as easy for you as possible, so we've put together this Parent Guide to answer all your questions and to help you adequately prepare your camper for this amazing experience. Please note, highlighted text indicates a 2024 update.

YMCA Camp Harrison: Rooting in Faith, Growing in Character, and Building in Confidence

Contact Information

**YMCA CAMP HARRISON
704 716 4330
campharrison@ymcacharlotte.org
campharrison.org**





Guide Contents

- **Registering for Camp**
- **Check-In & Check-Out**
- **Packing for Camp**
- **Communication during Camp**
- **Life at Camp**
- **Safety and Medical Information**





Registering for Camp

We strive to make planning for camp as simple and pleasant as possible for parents and campers. Parents must complete the following before check-in day:

- Registration/Payment
- Medical Forms

Registration/Payment/Cancellations

Rates and online registration are available at campharrison.org.

YMCA of Greater Charlotte members receive \$175 savings per regular week. Payment can be made in full at registration or by utilizing our auto monthly payment plan.

Early Bird Registrations - Take advantage of registering your camper for the following Summer during check-out. This will help lock-in lowest pricing, not worry about waitlists, and receive a complimentary gift!

Changeover- There is no fee for campers attending multiple one week sessions to remain at camp over the weekend.

Early Arrival/Late Pick-Up Fee -as stated above, there will be no fee for campers who are attending the next session to stay the weekend. The \$125 fee will only apply to late pick-ups and early arrivals.





Cancellation Policy

- **Early Bird Rates will be available through November 15. All balances for Overnight Camp sessions must be paid by June 1 to avoid cancellation.**
- **If camp is notified in writing of cancellation by December 31st, all fees paid will be refunded. Cancellations in writing on or after January 1 will forfeit a \$400 deposit fee (per session/per camper). Cancellations within 2 weeks prior to the start date of the camp session will forfeit all fees.**
- **Cancellations will not be accepted via telephone. Cancellations in writing can be emailed to the camp. If needing to cancel due to a medical reason, a full refund will be issued with a doctor's note provided.**



Check-In and Check-Out



Check-In - Sunday, 3:00PM-4:30PM

- Staff will unload camper luggage in front of cabin
- We must be notified of late check-ins (after 4:30PM) in advance via email
- All campers must be checked-in/checked-out by an adult over the age of 18.
- Driving aged campers will not be allowed to drive their car to camp.
- Parents that arrive before 3:00 PM must remain near the Check-In area of Camp

Check-In Tailgate

Some parents like to arrive early, and we love the eagerness. We are going to offer those families a chance to meet some of our camp staff, learn about other events at Camp Harrison, enjoy some light refreshments, ask questions, turn in medication early, use the restrooms, and enjoy our beautiful Nature Center.

Location is at the Camp Harrison at Herring Ridge Nature Center. This will be from 2:15 PM - 3:00 PM every Sunday.



Directions & Location



Directions to camp can be found on our website. Please, use the Main Entrance (off of NC Highway 18). If your GPS directs you to Fall View Rd/Andrews Rd, please, turn around and turn right onto Hwy 18. The main entrance will be just ahead on the right.

**Our address is:
7901 S. NC Highway 18
Boomer, NC 28606**





Check-Out

Saturday, 9:00AM-10:00AM

**Wednesday, 5:00PM-6:00PM for
Mini Campers**

- **Curbside pickup of campers at cabins**
- **Campers must be signed out by a parent or parent approved adult over the age of 18.**

For the protection of all campers and staff, parents must give written permission to campharrison@ymcacharlotte.org for anyone other than themselves to pick up their camper(s).

Anyone other than parent/guardian picking up camper must provide a passcode. Those passcodes will be given to the parent/guardian.



Packing for Camp



What to bring



Camp provides the necessary equipment for all activities. Please remember, Camp is not responsible for personal items brought to Camp, including recreation equipment.

All items should be labeled with your camper's name.

Bring only items that you don't mind getting dirty or lost.

Refrain from bringing any valuables.

Please make sure you have all your child's items when you pick them up (See Lost & Found Policy).



Camper Packing Checklist

Camp provides all the necessary equipment for all activities. Please remember, Camp is not responsible for personal items brought to Camp including recreation equipment. Please make sure you have all your child's items when you pick them up. All items should be labeled with camper's name. The number suggested is the minimum needed for one session of camp. Campers staying for multiple sessions will need to plan accordingly.

Clothing

- T-Shirts (6)
- Shorts (6)
- Long pants (1)
- Undergarments (8)
- Hat
- Sandals/ Flip flops
- Socks (8)
- Long Sleeve Shirt (1)
- Pajamas
- Closed-toe shoes
- Rain Coat
- Hoodie or sweatshirt

Toiletries

- 2 towels
- 2 wash cloths
- Shower shoes
- Toothbrush
- Shampoo
- Soap
- Deodorant

Bedding

- Sheets/blanket (Twin)
- Sleeping bag
- Pillow and pillow case

Optional

- Camera (disposable preferably)
- Sunglasses
- Book or magazines
- Playing cards
- Hiking shoes
- Bible
- Devotional Items
- Bandana
- Snacks (no peanut products)
- Hammock
- Crazy Creek Chair

Additional Items

- Medication in Blister Packs
- Backpack
- Water bottle
- Stationary/stamps
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Small flashlight
- Water shoes
- Tennis shoes
- Swimsuits (2)
- Swim towel
- Laundry bag



Packing for Camp



Dress Code

- **Shoes must be worn at all times. Closed-toe shoes are required for land activities.**
- **One piece or tankini style swimsuits are required for female campers.**
- **We take pride in our healthy, safe and appropriate camp environment, according to our core values. We ask that your camper refrain from wearing clothing that references drugs, sex, or alcohol. We also strongly suggest no tube tops, crop tops, etc. We reserve the right to ask any camper who does not abide by our dress code to change or cover up.**



Packing for Camp



What **NOT** to Bring

- Knives
- Cell phone
- Money
- Tobacco Products
- Firearms
- Alcohol
- iPad
- Nut Products
- Fireworks
- Laptop Computers
- CD Players/Radios/Speakers
- Animals (Pets)
- Drugs
- Electronic Games/Ebooks
- Smart Watches
- Vapes/Juuls/Electronic Cigarettes

If any of these items are found, they will be confiscated. Electronic items will be locked up in a secure location and returned at check-out. Some items could result in having camper sent home prematurely at parent's expense. YMCA Camp Harrison is not responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged items.



Communication during Camp



Email

Campers may receive one way emails through CampWise for no additional cost. Emails are printed Monday - Friday by 11:00am. Emails are not printed on Saturdays or Sundays. Email Subject line must include Camper's First/Last Name and Cabin # to ensure delivery.

Photos

Campers are welcome to bring their cameras with them to camp, but we will also take pictures around camp throughout the course of the week. Each day, our pictures will be uploaded to our CampWise platform to be distributed. You can opt into a new software called Waldo.

Waldo

"Waldo Photos is a photo delivery service where you can get all the photos of your camper delivered straight to your phone! No more searching for photos of your camper!

This optional service is free and uses facial recognition to match your camper's face to photos in our gallery, and then sends them to your phone via text message or through the Waldo app with notifications when new photos are found. Only one parent enrolls per camper. You can then share photos with as many other family members as you'd like!





WE'VE GOT WALDO!



YMCA Camp Harrison at Herring Ridge is excited to announce we're offering Waldo's facial recognition powered mobile app this summer! You'll be able to sit back and relax while Waldo delivers YOUR photos to you and your family members!

★ HOW TO ENROLL

Text this code to 735-343:
HARRISON24

or

Scan here with your
phone camera!



NOT INTERESTED IN PHOTO DELIVERY?

View your photos at our free web gallery! Head to waldophotos.com/galleries and enter our join code:

HARRISON24



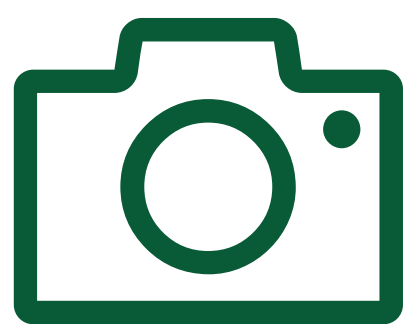
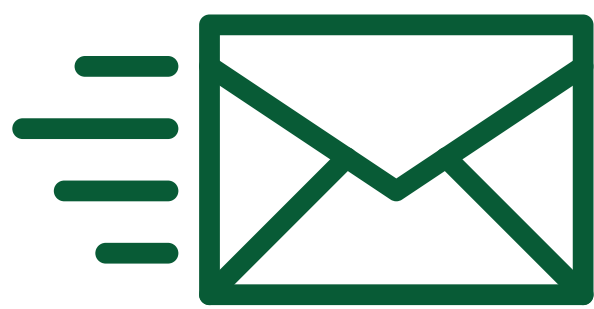


US Mail

- **We do NOT accept care packages by mail during each week.**
- **We encourage you to send messages to your camper through the CampWise**
- **Letters by mail are allowed (but sending emails is preferred)**

Phone Calls

- **Campers do not make phone calls home during camp.**
- **Counselors make phone calls to first time camper parents on Tuesday evenings.**
- **The call is intended to give new parents an update on their campers' activities and wellbeing during the week.**



Life at Camp



- **Bunk Info**
- **Typical Day**
- **Activities**
- **YMCA Raggers Program**
- **Laundry**
- **Lost and Found**
- **Dining Hall**
- **Canteen**
- **Birthdays at Camp**
- **Discipline**
- **Missing Home**





Life at Camp

Bunk Information

Campers are assigned to cabins by sex, age and grade level. New campers are intentionally placed with a mix of other new and returning campers. Our cabins are fully equipped with modern conveniences, including electricity, a/c, indoor bathrooms (with private stalls for changing), and hot water. All beds in the cabins are twin sized bunk beds.





Life at Camp

Campers Typical Day

- **7:00 AM Rise & shine and cabin clean-up**
- **8:00 AM Breakfast - Morning watch**
- **9:00 AM Activities**
- **12:00 PM Lunch**
- **12:45 PM BOB time (rest period)**
- **2:00 PM Activities**
- **5:45 PM Return to cabins prepare for dinner**
- **6:00 PM Dinner**
- **7:00 PM Evening program**
- **8:30 PM Vespers**
- **9:30 PM Return to cabins - cabin devotions**
- **10:00 PM Lights out**



Life at Camp

Activities

Campers select their activities every day from a diverse menu that balances their personal preferences with a dash of adventure. This method fosters a sense of autonomy and encourages them to step out of their comfort zones, blending familiar pursuits with new challenges in the spirit of adventure and camaraderie.

- **Adventure Hiking**
- **Aerial Adventure (high ropes)**
- **Arts & Crafts**
- **Farm to Feast**
- **Fishing**
- **General Athletics**
- **GellyBall**
- **Lawn Games**
- **Mountain Biking (beginner or advanced)**
- **Paintball (Ages 12+)**
- **Performing Arts- Dance, Drama, and Rhythm & Beats**
- **Sporting Clays (Ages 12+)**
- **Archery**
- **Paddle Sports: Canoes, kayaks, paddleboards, sailboats**
- **Lake Extreme- The blob, wet willie waterslide, water zip line and black mamba waterslide water inflatables**
- **Pool with waterslides**
- **Creeking**



Life at Camp



Spending Money & Camp Store

- **No spending money is needed at camp. Campers will be provided with canteen (snack and drink) each afternoon.**
- **Each camper will receive \$60 in store bucks to spend while they are at camp. All cabins will be given the opportunity to visit the camp store during the week.**
- **If you want your camper to have additional spending money to use in the camp store, you can purchase more store bucks during check-in.**
- **Store bucks are non-refundable and non-transferable, but we do our best to make sure campers spend their store bucks while they are here.**
- **There will also be an opportunity to visit the store during check-out.**



Life at Camp

YMCA Riggers Program



The YMCA Riggers Program is a goal-setting program for campers age 12 and up, in which campers challenge their personal and spiritual growth. This program is designed to help staff and campers take a closer look at themselves in relationship to their own strengths and weaknesses, their religious beliefs, and the people around them. The rags are outward symbols of the acceptance of an inner challenge for Christian/personal growth.



Life at Camp



Laundry

Laundry service will be offered to campers staying for multiple sessions. We will provide laundry bags during the laundry services (but will not take bags home). The essentials to be washed will be collected from your camper mid-week. You will still need to pack extra and enough clothing for your camper's stay, but this will provide them with an opportunity to have their essentials washed.

Lost and Found

Please label all of your camper's items. All unclaimed Lost and Found will be available for parents to look through during check-out located at your camper's cabin front porch. Lost items are not the responsibility of Camp Harrison. We will no longer hold unclaimed items. All lost items will be discarded or donated to charity. Unused medication will be placed in camper luggage prior to check-out.



Life at Camp

Dining Hall



A variety of fresh fruit, hot & cold cereals, vegetables and kid-friendly options are offered at every meal. At mealtime, mature and knowledgeable counselors gently guide campers towards healthy and appropriate choices. Food will be served cafeteria style and family style, by cabin. Vegetarian options are always available. Products that contain peanuts and tree nuts are not served in the dining hall. Other special dietary needs should be indicated on the camper health history and directed to the Camp Harrison office. The dining hall is successful in accommodating campers with most food allergies.



Life at Camp



Birthdays at Camp

Many campers celebrate their birthdays while at camp. Campers with birthdays are recognized in front of the entire camp at either lunch or dinner. Reminding us at check-in of your child's birthday is appreciated. Parents are welcome to send cake/cupcakes/cookies during check-in to share with the cabin, but any edible treats must be store-bought with listed ingredients. Due to food allergies, products that contain nuts cannot be served.



Life at Camp



Discipline

Camp rules are designed to enhance the happiness and safety of all campers. Head counselors will contact parents to let them know if there is an on-going behavioral problem. Children who do not demonstrate appropriate behavior, in the judgment of the Directors, will be sent home. Early dismissal from Camp will not be granted refunds.



Life at Camp



Cabin Requests

We make every effort to honor up to 2 mutual cabin mate requests when campers are within one year of each other in age and one grade level.

Requests must be made at least two weeks prior to your camper's check-in via this online form. If there is an issue with your camper's cabin assignment, please speak with a camp director in the dining hall during check-in. Please note: If your camper is attending a multi-week program such as Middle School or Teen Camp, they will be in a set cabin with other participants in that program.



Life at Camp

Missing Home



Parental support and encouragement are crucial to a child's successful camp experience. Parents can help set campers up for success by:

- **Being enthusiastic and positive about a camper's time at camp**
- **Encouraging campers to stay the entire session**
- **Helping campers set goals for camp (meeting people, learning something new, etc.)**
- **Not promising that a camper can come home if they do not like camp**

Head Counselors will keep parents in the loop if their camper is missing home. Campers do not make phone calls home to parents, but letters and emails are great ways to communicate with your child. Encouraging comments in letters are also helpful. Though it is common for young or first-time campers to miss home, it is usually short-lived due to all the fun people and dynamic activities at Camp Harrison! Our Staff is well trained to help campers adjust to camp by immediately involving them in goal setting, team building and engaging activities.



Camper Medications



Please, read this section carefully, as this information has changed.

Medication Policies

- **We administer meds four times daily; breakfast, lunch, dinner, and bedtime. If your child takes medications that are administered outside of these times and cannot be adjusted to our administration times, please email campnurse@ymcacharlotte.org.**
- **All medications must be checked in with the Health Center team during check-in using the process outlined in the Medication Preparation section below. No medication is allowed in the cabins (exceptions: epi-pens and inhalers).**
- **All medications must be prescribed by a physician. Please do not bring any over-the-counter medications with your child. We stock our health center with the most common over-the-counter medications (See “Over the Counter Medications” section below)**
- **Appropriate documentation from your camper’s medical provider must accompany all medication.**
- **All inhalers and injections should be sent to camp in the original container with the camper’s first and last name, DOB, dosage, and time of administration.**
- **Please refrain from sending liquid medications for medication with chewable versions. Chewables are much simpler, cleaner, and easier for camp use**
- **Medication information must be documented in the camper’s CampDoc health profile prior to check-in.**



Over-the-Counter Medications



- **Our health center is stocked with the most common over-the-counter medications, including but not limited to: Aleve, Allegra, Calamine Lotion, Claritin, Cough Drops, Cough Syrup, EmerGen-C, Eye Drops, Hydrocortisone, Ibuprofen, MiraLAX, Motrin, Mucinex, Pedialyte, Pepto-Bismol, Throat Coat, Tums, Tylenol, and Zyrtec. We usually have some form of chewable or liquid available.**
- **Over-the-Counter medication taken on a DAILY basis requires an accompanying Over-the-Counter Medication Request Form. This form requires the signature of the doctor, so we can treat it like a prescription medication. This form is needed for campers taking daily allergy medication, nightly melatonin, daily vitamins, etc. Print and Sign.**



Over the Counter Medication Request CAMP HARRISON

The following OTC Medications are requested to be administered as a **daily OTC** to:

_____, for the duration of _____
 (Camper First, Last Name) (Session #)

OTC Med Name _____ Reason for use _____ Dose to be given _____ To be given (circle) Breakfast Lunch Dinner Bedtime	OTC Med Name _____ Reason for use _____ Dose to be given _____ To be given (circle) Breakfast Lunch Dinner Bedtime
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The following is REQUIRED for all daily over the counter medications:

Daily Over the Counter (OTC) Medications are described as over the counter medication taken at the same time daily to prevent symptoms and illness. An example of this includes OTC allergy meds for allergy symptoms.

Please do not check in OTC medications that are taken on an as needed basis (i.e. ibuprofen in the event of headache). Our health center stocks the most common over-the-counter medications and we give OTCs as needed from our supply.

All medications, including daily OTC meds, must be packaged in a blister pack. Please only pack the amount needed for your camper's time at camp.

All blister packed medications must be accompanied by an attached photo of the original container. **Blister packs without accompanying photos of the written prescription or original packaging will not be administered.**

All medications, including daily OTC's must be submitted to your campers CampDoc Health Profile.

Please print this form and submit it with your camper's medications at check in.

Provider/physician signature: _____
 Date: _____
 Phone: _____

office stamp:

I give permission for my child to receive medication during camp session. This medication has been prescribed by a licensed provider. I hereby release YMCA Camp Harrison and their agents and employees from all liability that may result from my child taking the prescribed medication.

Parent signature: _____

Date: _____



Medication Preparation

- **All medications should be blister-packed before arrival at camp. Your pharmacy may offer this service as a convenience to you.**
- **If you cannot pack your camper's medication before arrival, a blister pack will be provided to you at check-in so you can do so.**
- **All blister packs must be accompanied by photos of original prescription labels of all meds included in the blister pack. Please upload these images to your camper's CampWise profile.**
- **If your pharmacy is not packaging your camper's meds, we ask that you purchase This pack which includes 6 blister packs.**
- **Package all medications for the same time of administration together (e.g. package all breakfast meds in the same blister pack, all lunch meds in the same blister pack, etc.).**
- **Please label your camper's blister packs as follows:**
 - **Camper Name (First and Last)**
 - **Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)**
 - **Any notes to the Nurse regarding medication**
- **All PRN (as needed) medications should be clearly documented by the provider with parameters for providing the medication. Do not include PRN medications in the blister packs.**



Health Center



Campers who are not feeling well have the opportunity to visit the Health Center, as needed. The health center is staffed and open 24 hours a day for urgent medical situations. All camp nurses are Registered Nurses (RNs) and work under doctor's orders. Our camp doctor is on call for consultation, as needed.

Emergency contacts will be notified for any of the following:

- **Summer Camp Doctor recommends a prescription medication.**
- **Off-site treatment is required or recommended.**
- **Deep wounds and lacerations.**
- **Medical emergencies resulting in 911 calls.**
- **Severe allergic reaction/anaphylaxis.**
- **Fevers over 100.4.**
- **Camper staying overnight in the health center.**
- **Mental health crises.**

Parents will not be notified for the following:

- **Regular first aid treatment for bug bites or minor cuts.**
- **Camper resting in the health center during an activity period.**
- **Basic treatment for common colds, coughs, stomach ache, etc.**



Safety Information



To ensure a safe camp experience, we maintain a 1 to 4 counselor to camper ratio. All of our summer staff are certified in Basic First Aid and CPR. Cabin counselors check camper's daily cleanliness, cuts, sunburn, insect bites, etc. Staff and camper temperatures will be taken daily and symptom questionnaires will be conducted each evening. Accident insurance is not included in the camp fee.



Safety Information



Response to Illness

- **Monitoring and Preparing** If fever is suspected, temporal thermometers will be used to check. If fever is present (100.4), we will confirm with oral thermometer and notify parent/emergency contacts to pick up the child, if needed.
- **In the event of fever or other symptoms of illness, the child will be allowed to rest in the health center away from other children while waiting for parent to pick up.**
- **Staff will continue to follow our wellness policy and call parents to pick up if any of the following conditions exist.**
- **The illness prevents the child from participating comfortably in camp activities.**
- **The illness results in greater need than the YMCA staff can provide without compromising the health and safety of other children.**

The child has any of the following conditions:

- **A fever 100.4 degrees or higher. Children must be fever-free for at least 48 hours without fever-reducing medication before they can return to camp programs.**
- **Continuous and/or colored nasal drainage. A current note from a physician can be provided if drainage is caused by an allergy.**
- **Diarrhea. The child cannot have more than two loose stools in a 24-hour period.**
- **Vomiting within a 24-hour period.**
- **Communicable diseases. Examples include, but are not limited to, pink eye, head lice, skin rash, and strep throat.**



Heat and Sun Precautions



Water stations are located at every activity to ensure proper hydration. We encourage campers to bring their own water bottles and sunscreen, but we also provide hypoallergenic sunscreen for campers and staff who need it.





We are looking forward to a fun summer with your camper. Please let us know if you have a questions with any of the information from the parent guide.

**campharrison@ymcacharlotte.org
or (704) 716-4330**



See You Soon

