



Summer Link

Heartland Presbytery Summer Camp

June 16-20, 2025

Parent's Packet

Table of Contents

Letter to Parents	3
General and Contact Info	4
Camp Rules and Policies	5
Cellphone Policy	6
RH Cono Allergy Procedure	7
Camp Schedule	8
Schedule Description	9
Team Spirit	10
Liability Waiver/Medical Form	11
RH Cono Student Release Form	12

Letter to Parents

Dear Parents,

We thank God for your faithful and continual shepherding of His children under your care. We also thank Him that, while this primary responsibility rests upon you, you recognize that it is not something you can do alone. Your humble reliance on the whole body of Christ to support you in various ways is a testament to your faithfulness. SummerLink is just one of many opportunities through which the Church hopes to assist you.

Our goal for camp is worship. We desire that everything we do be for the glory of God and the good of His people. Each night, we will have a dedicated time of worship, but our prayer is that worship extends beyond those moments—that even the games, free time, cabin discussions, and other activities serve as opportunities for students to grow in their faith through fellowship with other believers. Our hope is that this growth continues not only during our week together but also afterward, through lasting friendships.

Please join us in prayer for this year's camp. This is ultimately a spiritual matter, not merely a logistical one. Though we strive for excellence in planning, even the most perfectly organized camp would be in vain unless the Lord is with us (Psalm 127:1). Pray for the leadership, volunteers, and students, asking the Lord to guide, protect, and work in our hearts as we seek Him together.

In Christ,
SummerLink Leadership Team 2025

General Camp Information

- Who:** Heartland Presbytery Youth Groups and friends
- When:** June 16-20, 2025
- Where:** Ridge Haven Cono (PCA)
3269 Quasqueton Ave.
Walker, IA 52352
- How:** Register by June 6 at <https://www.summerlink.info/> (except Redeemer)
Submit fee by May 30; late fee (\$450) after May 30.¹

Contact Information

Host Camp

Ridge Haven Cono

Wallace Anderson (Cono Camp Director), (828) 577-7295²

SummerLink Leadership Team

John Choi (Redeemer, Retreat Coordinator), jchoi@redeemer-pca.org, (267) 391-5550

John Lee (Oak Hills), johnlee@oakhillspca.com, (407) 334-6432

Tyler Clements (Grace), tyler@gpca.church, (785) 550-3937

Jeremy Houser (Heartland), youth@heartlandpca.org, (785) 577-6641

Jeremy Fritz (Manhattan), jeremy.fritz@cru.org, (785) 844-9853

Todd Patterson (New Hope), todd@newhopepca.net, (305) 607-1820

¹Communicate with your respect Youth Ministry leaders for information on fee, travel, and other logistics

²Only contact the camp directly in the event of an emergency (e.g., leadership team cannot be reached.)

Camp Rules and Policies

Campground Rules:

1. All members of SummerLink staff (leadership team and volunteers) and students are expected to **be respectful** to each other and any associated with Ridge Haven Cono (host camp.)
2. Students are **not permitted to leave** the campgrounds at any time during the week unless for SummerLink organized activities and events.
3. **Host camp rules** will be shared during orientation. All staff and students are subject to these rules for the safety, protection, and fellowship of all persons involved.

Cabin Rules:

1. **All students are under the supervision of the SummerLink staff** (leadership team and volunteers). Students are to be specifically supervised by their respective:
 - a. Cabin leaders when in their cabins and
 - b. Team leaders before, during, and after team activities.
2. Whether it be SummerLink staff or student, **no person is allowed in a space specifically designated for members of the opposite sex and gender** (including but not limited to cabins, rooms, bathrooms, living areas.)
3. **Students will be designated cabins** by the leadership, but students may choose which bunk they wish to sleep. However, cabin leaders reserve the right to move students if there are issues.
4. **No leaving the cabin after lights out** (11 pm).
5. **Students are not to go through anyone else's belongings.**

Free Time:

Never go anywhere alone. Students must inform their team leaders what they intend to do during free time. To the best of their ability, leaders must attend or have someone attend the students if the leader finds it most prudent to do so. Middle school students must always have a chaperone present.

Personal Display of Affection (PDA):

No PDA including handholding is permitted.

Cellphone Policy

Below is the statement and policy for the SummerLink youth camp in regard to the usage of cellphones and other electronic devices. Detailed information on procedure will be communicated to students during retreat orientation:

Statement:

Cell phone use is strongly discouraged at camp as the purpose of the week is for young people to focus on their relationship with God and each other. There will be plenty of fun activities and it should be a great time to 'unplug' from electronic devices. Our preference would be that cellphones and other electronic devices remain at home. However, we know that parents like the assurance that their children can contact them if needed therefore, cellphones can be used under the following policy. Therefore, for retreat participants who bring their phones or other internet- accessible devices, we ask that they turn in their devices upon arrival to their respective youth leader and have them only with the leader's permission to connect with parents or for taking pictures with friend during camp-related activities. Under no circumstances will cellphones or other electronic devices be allowed in the sleeping areas.

Policy:

- During camp scheduled times and activities, students are permitted to use their phones and electronic devices to connect with their parents or to take pictures with their friends during camp-related activities.
- Phones and electronic devices are not allowed where students sleep.
- Phones and electronic devices are turned into student's respective church leader (pastor or director) in the evening, where they are all charged in one spot.
 - Leaders will do their best to charge students' phones, but it cannot be guaranteed. We advise students to turn off their phones before giving them to their pastor/leader to ensure battery life.
 - Leaders are responsible for phones and electronic devices under their supervision.
- Any leader reserves the right to collect phones and electronic devices during the day if they feel that they are getting in the way of fellowship and community.

Unsupervised phone use behind closed doors is our greatest concern. It only takes one incident of inappropriate web browsing or photo/video recording that could ruin a young person's life. We would never want our churches to be the venue that made that possible.

Camp Schedule

Monday

4:30	Arrive/Registration
4:30-5:30	Orientation
5:30-6:30	Dinner & Leader meeting
6:30-7:30	Evening Large Group
7:30-8:00	Small Groups
8:00-10:00	Evening Game/Activity
10:00-10:15	Snacks & Check-in phones
10:15-11:00	Cabins/Shower/Bed
11:00	Lights Out

Tuesday-Thursday

7:30	Wake up
8:00-8:30	Breakfast
8:30-9:00	Morning Large Group
9:00-9:30	Small group Devotions
9:30-10:30	Seminar #1
10:45-11:45	Morning Games
11:50-12:50	Lunch
1:00-2:00	Seminar #2
2:00-3:30	Team Games
3:30-5:30	Free Time
5:30-6:30	Dinner & Leader meeting
6:30-7:30	Evening Large Group
7:30-8:00	Small Groups
8:00-10:00	Evening Games/Activity
10:00-10:15	Snacks & Check-in phones
10:15-11:00	Cabins/Shower/Bed
11:00	Lights Out

Friday

7:30	Wake up
8:00-9:00	Breakfast & Clean/Pack Up
9:00-9:30	Awards Ceremony & Group Picture
9:30	Finish cleaning & Depart

Schedule Description

Registration

Churches will arrive by 4:30 PM on Monday to check in, get room assignments, and be oriented with campground. Student health and liability forms will also be submitted at this time.

Orientation

All participants will receive an overview of what to expect during the week, including daily schedule and review of camp rules and policies. Detailed information is here in the Parent Handbook, and we recommend that parents or guardians review these guidelines with their students before arriving at camp.

Morning Large Group

After breakfast, we'll begin the day by focusing our hearts and minds on loving God and others. We'll start with a time of worship and prayer, then break into small groups for a devotional that connects to the previous night's sermon or sets the stage for the next one.

Seminars

On Tuesday and Wednesday, students will attend seminars of their choice, each focused on practical aspects of living out their faith. While there will be teaching, the seminars are designed to be conversational, encouraging students to share challenges and ask questions.

Leader meeting

During dinner, all leaders and volunteers will meet to recap the day. This time may include sharing student highlights or concerns, reviewing events, aligning on upcoming activities, and praying for the students. Ridge Haven Cono staff will supervise the students during the meeting.

Evening Large Group

This is the main worship time of the day, where all participants come together for praise, Scripture reading, confession, and teaching from God's Word. Each evening, a different speaker will preach on a specific aspect of our identity in Christ, framed within the redemptive story of Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Glorification.

Monday – God and Man (Jeremy Fritz, Manhattan Presbyterian Church)

Tuesday – Man and Self (Tyler Clements, Grace Presbyterian Church)

Wednesday – Man and Others (John Choi, Redeemer Presbyterian Church)

Thursday – Man and World (John Lee, Oak Hills Presbyterian Church)

Small Groups

Evening worship concludes with students gathering with their churches and youth leaders for a more personal time of reflection. These group sessions provide space to process the sermon, share camp highlights, and discuss any concerns.

Games and Activities

A variety of games and activities are planned to help students connect with peers from other churches. Some will involve friendly competition for team points. All activities will be led by Ridge Haven Cono staff, who are experienced in working with groups of all ages and know the facilities well.

Team Spirit

Students will be divided into teams. They will participate in various activities competing with one another and, most importantly, have the opportunity to grow closer with students of similar age and gender.

Students will earn points for their team by winning challenges, through acts of service, and wearing shirts that correspond to that days theme (see below). The team with the most points at the end of the week will be awarded!

Theme of the day:

1. **Animal Tuesday:** Wear your favorite animal shirt. The weirder the better!
2. **Color-Coordinated Wednesday:**
 - High School Boys – Blue
 - High School Girls – Yellow
 - Middle School Boys – Green
 - Middle School Girls – Red
3. **Throwback Thursday:** wear your favorite shirt from any past camp (not just SummerLink)



PARTICIPANT RELEASE OF LIABILITY

(READ BEFORE SIGNING)

Activity Name: All Campus Activities .

Participant Name: _____

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in the program, related events and activities, I the undersigned, acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that:

1. The risk of injury from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist and,
2. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
3. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately and,
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS Ridge Haven, Inc. their officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event (RELEASEES), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.
5. I understand that photographs taken of participants in Ridge Haven activities may be used on the Ridge Haven web pages and for promotions in brochures, displays, newsletters, fundraising, and other items of publicity.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

X _____
Participant's Signature Age Date

FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANT OF MINOR AGE
(UNDER AGE 18 AT TIME OF REGISTRATION)

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, do consent and agree to his/her release as provided above of all the Releasees, and, for myself, my heirs, assigns, and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from and all liability incidents to my minor child's involvement or participation in these programs as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

X _____
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

MEDICAL RELEASE FORM
SummerLink June 16-20, 2025

Please print all information except signatures.

Student Information:

Name _____ Birth date _____

Full Address _____

Parent/Guardian Information:

Mother's Name _____ Phone _____

Father's Name _____ Phone _____

If parents or guardian cannot be reached, other person to notify in case of emergency:

Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Medical Insurance Information:

Medical Plan/Insurance Company _____

Policy Card Information _____

Other Pertinent Information _____

Special Medical Conditions/Allergies _____

Release Statement:

In the event medical treatment is required, I understand every effort will be made to contact me (us) or the alternate listed above by telephone. If I cannot be reached, I (we) hereby give permission to any persons on the SummerLink leadership team to secure medical treatment from a licensed medical professional so that he/she administers whatever treatment deemed necessary for the student listed on this form. This medical treatment authorization is good for SummerLink (June 16-20, 2025).

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____

Please Have the Following completed by a Public Notary.

Notary Public Information

Name _____ State of _____ County of _____

Sworn and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 2025

Notary Signature _____