

FEAR LESS

Round Lake Christian Camp 2025

Dear Camper/Parent,

Connect 2025 is rapidly approaching, and we can't wait to see you. Many of you are camp veterans, and you are eagerly anticipating another great week together at Round Lake. Some of you, however, are dipping your toes into the Round Lake experience for the very first time, and we promise you won't regret giving us a chance. Whatever your situation, we have been praying for you since you signed up, and we're glad you're coming. Here is some information to help your week go better.

What Should You Bring to Camp?

Round Lake has a list on their website at <https://roundlake.org/faqs> that includes:

- **Bedding for a twin bed** (sheets or sleeping bag)
- **Clothes to "play" in**
- **Regular clothes for the rest of the day**
- **Toiletries**
- **Towels**
- **Swimsuit**
- **Water bottle**
- **Flashlight**
- **Bug spray**
- **Sunscreen**
- **A Bible**
- **A notebook**
- **A pen/pencil**
- **Canteen money**

Special Items for Connect 2025:

- **A heart for service** - Every student will spend time helping with our **meal packing mission for Lifeline Christian Mission** during the week. Come ready to serve others!
- **Athletic clothes that you don't mind getting dirty** - You'll be competing in the **Fear-Olympics** which will require some physical activity and potentially messy challenges
- **String bag or backpack** - There will be times when students are away from their dorm (even on the other side of camp) for several hours, so I suggest bringing a bag to carry items

Supporting Our Mission

As you are packing, we also ask that you consider bringing money to support our mission efforts during the week. **We'll be supporting both Sy Huffer and his church plant, 'The Gathering Christian Church' in Naples, FL, as well as funding the meals we'll be packing for Lifeline Christian Mission.** We hope to raise significant funds this summer to support both these important ministry efforts. This translates to about **\$20 per student** in attendance.

Important Camp Information

This year we have **300+ students registered** spanning grades 7-12, making this our largest Connect Conference yet! When you arrive for check-in, everyone will register at the **Retreat Center on the camp side**. Please leave all suitcases and other items in the car until after you are registered and receive your rooming assignment for the week.

Food Policy:

Round Lake has asked us to not eat or drink in the dorm rooms to help keep the camp property in good condition. You are welcome to bring treats with you, but please be respectful and enjoy them in common areas outside the dorms rather than in your room.

Technology Policy

Round Lake has a no cell phone policy at camp. We recognize that for many students their phone is also their camera, music player, and Bible. At Connect, we have a **trust-based policy**. We ask students to have their phones on **airplane mode throughout the week**, to avoid gaming, texting, and calling. The purpose of camp is to get away from the distractions of everyday life, and that's hard to do if we are "plugged in" all week.

We do have access to security bags for phones, and if phones become a hindrance or distraction throughout the week, we may ask a student to turn off their phone and place it in one of the locked security bags for the duration of our time together. As parents, you can help by encouraging your kids to be fully present at camp and not messaging or calling them throughout the week.

Bringing the Right Attitude to Camp

More important than what you pack in your suitcase is what you bring in your heart and mind. We want every camper to come ready to:

- **Be open to what God wants to do** in your life during this week
- **Respect others** - your roommates, counselors, and fellow campers
- **Participate fully** in activities, worship, and small group discussions
- **Serve willingly** when opportunities arise
- **Follow camp rules** and listen to your leaders

The #1 Rule of Camp: DON'T DO STUPID

This simple rule covers a lot of ground! Use common sense, think before you act, and remember that your choices affect not just you but everyone around you. If you're wondering whether something might be a bad idea - it probably is. When in doubt, ask a counselor or leader.

This Year's Theme: "FEAR-LESS" - The Lord is My Shepherd

We are going to have a great week of camp together as we explore what it means to anchor our life in God and His power through **Psalm 23**:

- **Sunday**: "The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing." (Psalm 23:1)
- **Monday**: "He makes me lie down in green pastures..." (Psalm 23:2-3a)
- **Tuesday**: "He guides me along the right paths..." (Psalm 23:3b)
- **Wednesday**: "Even though I walk through the darkest valley..." (Psalm 23:4)
- **Thursday**: "You prepare a table before me..." (Psalm 23:5)
- **Friday**: "Surely your goodness and love will follow me..." (Psalm 23:6)

Amazing Speakers and Activities

Our Speakers:

- **Morning Speaker & Missionary: Sy Huffer** - Church planter with Florida Church Planters who recently planted 'The Gathering Christian Church' in Naples, FL
- **Evening Speaker: Matt Nickoson** - Lead Pastor of Kingsway Christian in Indiana and a Connect Conference favorite

Special Events:

- **Late Night Concert: Shama Mrema** - Comedian, actor, and musician known for his viral "Veggie Tales Remix"
- **Off-Campus Adventure: Putt-n-Stuff** (middle school and high school groups on different nights)
- **Fear-Olympics**: Special activities designed to help students overcome fear and self-doubt

- **Thursday Celebration:** Interactive campfire stations and formal dinner experience

Check-In Information

Check-In is at 5:30 PM on Sunday, June 22nd. We'll be having pizza at 6:00 PM, swim time at 7:00 PM, and then the fun really begins. **Camp ends Friday, June 27th at 4:00 PM.**

It is always good to be back at Round Lake. We have fun and crazy activities planned. We have some worship services lined up to help you connect with God. And most importantly, God has big plans for you during this week.

See you on June 22nd,

Jeremiah & Tyler

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." - 2 Timothy 1:7