

*"Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."  
Romans 6:4*



RIVERSIDE  
BIBLE CAMP  
ROMANS 6:4

# BRAND NEW

## *Welcome Packet*

### **We Are So Excited to Welcome You to Summer Camp!**

After no camp in summer 2020, we couldn't be more excited to spend time with you by the river this summer. We can't wait for you to get here! Without a doubt, this past year has brought about changes for all of our families. Here at camp, we also have endured quite a bit of adjustment and change. This year's Welcome Materials are more important than ever. You'll find answers to a lot of the questions you may have. In addition, you will read about some very important changes to our processes that are necessary to best protect the health and safety of our staff and campers. We encourage you to contact our office with any other questions not answered in this document.



Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp  
3001 Riverside Rd.  
Story City, IA 50248  
1.800.372.7748 | 515.733.5271

# HOW TO BE CAMP-READY

- Limit non-family exposure
- Complete all registration forms:
  - Waivers
  - Food/allergy
  - Medical
- Pay balances online or by calling our office
- Add camp store funds (optional)
- Watch for a “check-in details” email 1 week prior

- Visit the “What to bring” section as you pack!
- Familiarize yourself with new check-in procedure
- Share goodbyes at home with non check-in-essential loved ones
- Have an amazing time at camp!
- Mark your calendar for the closing program
- Parents – review the “Camper Pick-Up” section before picking-up your camper

## CAMPER CHECK-IN

**Our goal at Riverside is to facilitate a safe, efficient process for getting campers checked in at their cabins while minimizing crowding.**

*Wondering how you can help Riverside to meet that goal? Keep reading!*

- **Limit Exposure.** The best thing you can do to help is to begin limiting your non-family exposures at least two weeks before coming to camp. We suggest a pre-arrival quarantine of sorts that includes physical distancing, mask-wearing when not at home, avoiding unnecessary travel, as well as indoor social gatherings with people outside of your household.
- **Get Set-up & Paid-up.** Please get all forms completed, balances paid, camp store deposits made, extras added and paid for, and medication needs recorded before arriving at camp. You can log on to your family’s Online Registration Dashboard any time between now and one week before camp to get all of this done. You’re welcome to call our office at 515-733-5271 if you have any questions or issues.

- **Watch Your Inbox.** The week before you come to camp, watch for an IMPORTANT email from Riverside! This email will inform you of your arrival time and will let you know your cabin assignment.

- » We know you’re excited for camp, but please do not arrive before your assigned check-in window. We want to keep the flow of traffic even and flowing to avoid crowding and backups. If you arrive early, you will be asked to kindly wait in the lower parking lot until your assigned arrival time, so relax and enjoy the ride to Riverside!

- **New Check-In Procedure.** After being greeted by our staff at the camp entrance, you will drive directly to your camper’s cabin for check-in. Campers should say their goodbyes at the car, and then can be escorted to the cabin by a maximum of two masked parents for a final goodbye and check-in (please keep this as brief as possible to minimize cabin exposure).

**NEW THIS YEAR!**

- » We also ask that you consider who is necessary to accompany your camper to Riverside. We understand this is often a family affair, and while we love that, it’s important that we limit the number of guests on camp grounds as much as possible.

## LET’S CONNECT AT THE TENT

If you’re a family who has never been to Riverside, or if you simply want to connect with Riverside’s leadership team before you go, join us for a meet-and-greet during your check-in time. Team members will be available under the large white tent by the Dining Hall – it’s huge, you won’t miss it!

*Ask any staff member for directions to the Dining Hall.*



# MEDICATIONS

All medications (prescription and OTC) are distributed by our Medical Volunteer during camp. Campers should NOT have any medications in the cabin. All medications need to be turned into our Medical Volunteer at the Dining Hall lot AFTER you've dropped-off your camper at their cabin.

- Medications **MUST** be turned in to our medical volunteer in the original containers – please do not bring pills in baggies, in pill-minders, etc. Our volunteer needs to be able to safely distribute medications out of their original packaging/containers. (Exceptions: Rescue inhalers and Epi-Pens may remain with the camper, but you still need to visit with our Medical Volunteer!)
- Prescription Medications – you will need to provide the names and dosage instructions for any medications your camper needs to take while at camp.

➔ Prior to check-in, be sure to visit the **MEDICAL** section of your registration dashboard to enter your camper's meds or to make any last-minute changes! If you are unable to complete this online, you may call our office and they will assist you over the phone.

## ALLERGIES & SPECIAL DIETS

- **Allergies** – during the registration process, you likely completed the new section about allergies. If there have been any changes or you don't remember if you addressed this, please log on to your Online Registration Dashboard to review and/or amend.
- **Diets** – you probably already indicated your camper's special dietary needs during the registration process. While we do have some flexibility to modify diets to accommodate camper needs, it all depends on the situation. Our Hospitality Coordinator, Paige, will be sending out the menu a week ahead of camp to the families of campers with special dietary needs. This will allow you to review the food options and if necessary, you may supplement the camp food if you find menu items not compatible with your camper. If you have any additional questions, please contact [Paige@RiversideLBC.org](mailto:Paige@RiversideLBC.org).



*Build lifelong friendships*



*Teamwork*



*Awesome Cabin Leaders*

*Experience God's Love*



# WHAT SHOULD I BRING? {All campers list}

## For sure:

- Bible, pen/pencil, notebook
- Swimsuit – needs to be one-piece for both boys AND girls, no Speedos
- Clothes – shorts, shirts, jeans, sweatshirt, rain clothes (no shorty-shorts, straps on tops must have at least two-inch width, all tops must cover mid-section)
- Pajamas and underclothes
- Two pairs of shoes – tennis shoes, sandals and/or old shoes
- Towel, washcloth, hygiene items (soap, shampoo, toothbrush and paste, deodorant, etc.)
- Sleeping bag OR sheets and blanket, pillow
- Sunscreen, bug spray and flashlight
- String bag or backpack to carry items around in during day

## Only if you want:

- Camera (with label), books, musical instruments
- Envelopes & stamps so you can write home to tell everyone how much fun you're having!

## Please leave at home:

- Cell phones
- iPods, iPads, and MP3 players
- Valuable jewelry/keepsakes
- Food (not allowed in cabins!)
- Personal video gaming systems

## ADVENTURE CAMPERS

*In addition to the "All Campers" list, the following are 'must-haves':*

### JUNIOR AND INTERMEDIATE

- Sleeping bag
- Water bottle that doesn't leak (available in the camp store)
- Sandals with full, secure straps that are able to get wet/muddy (ex. Chaco-type, Texas-type)
- Rain jacket
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Backpack or daypack to carry items for hiking, and showering

### HIGH ADVENTURE

- You will receive a separate letter and packing list!

### RANCH CAMPERS

In addition to the "All Campers" list, please bring the following:

- Lots of jeans – all the time spent on horses will require jeans
- Boots with a one inch or more heel
- Helmet, if you prefer your own – we will provide required riding helmets for everyone
- We get dirty and sometimes wet, so extras of both clothing and shoes are a great idea!

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Ranch campers are not allowed to wear flat-soled shoes (skater shoes, Chucks, etc.) for riding. These shoes do not provide adequate foot protection, and feet slide through the stirrups. Western riding boots work best, but inexpensive tennis shoes with a thicker sole and plenty of grip work fine as well.



# DON'T MISS THE CLOSING PROGRAM UNDER THE TENT!

After much deliberation, our team decided to continue to have a closing program at 3PM on the last day of camp. This has been a treasured memory for campers and family members over the years so we are committed to making necessary changes to keep it safe and a continued tradition.

Parent attendance at our closing programs is completely optional. We specifically request that the camper's immediate family only attend this year. Thank you for your understanding.

## 2PM: Outdoor Ranch Camp Closing Program

Our Ranch Camp session will conclude with a separate closing program at 2PM. Parents and families of Ranch campers are invited to this special time at our outdoor arena on the ranch. Parents, feel free to bring your portable outdoor chairs – the bleachers won't hold all of our parents and we will insist on safe physical distancing during the outdoor program.

Following the Ranch Camp closing program, you are then encouraged to go to the closing program under the tent at 3PM (see below).

**NOTE:** In the event of rain, the Ranch Camp closing program will be canceled.

## 3PM: Outdoor All Camper Closing Program

We ask that our parents are prepared to mask-up for the closing program in case weather requires us to get close under the tent and/or if physical distancing from non-family members cannot be maintained.

### Tuesday at 3PM:

Only for Alpha campers who checked-in on Sunday

### Friday at 3PM:

All other campers (Ranch campers also participate in this closing program)

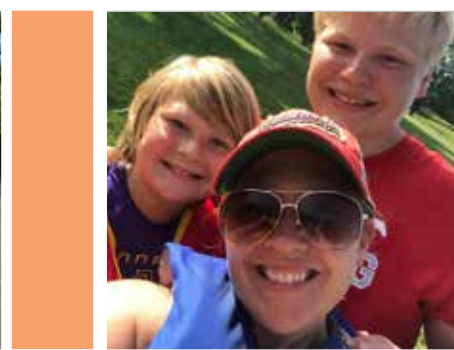
- Please park in the lot on main camp or near your camper's cabin. The lot at the Dining Hall is reserved for handicapped-only parking due to limited availability in that lot (due to the tent).
- You are encouraged to bring portable outdoor chairs if you'd like to sit during the program.

Following the closing program, cabin leaders will lead their campers to a designated location and will be holding a sign with their cabin name. Cabin leaders will remain near or outside the tent for 10 minutes following the end of closing program, and then will return to the cabin.

## CAMPER PICK-UP DETAIL

- Only the person designated on the Pick-Up Authorization will be allowed to pick-up the camper.
- If there needs to be a change made to the pick-up person during the week of camp, you **MUST** contact the camp office to provide notification prior to Friday afternoon.
- You may then return to the cabin to pick-up prepared camper belongings. Weather-permitting, their belongings will be waiting outside the cabin.
- Parents not attending the closing program can pick up the camper following the program (approx. 3:30PM)
- **All campers need to be picked up by 4PM!**





## PARENTS – JOIN IN THE FUN WITH YOUR CAMPER!

You can still go online and sign up for these AWESOME options! If you are unable to go online to add an option and you'd like to take care of it before camper check-in, please call the office to sign-up and pay over-the-phone.

**Horseback Rides** - Junior campers along with junior high and senior high campers are eligible to take a horseback ride during free time. This is not available to Alpha or Ranch campers. Long pants and close-toed shoes are a requirement to ride. Rides are limited to one per camper for their week of camp. **Cost = \$15, non-refundable.**

**Slingshot Paintball** – Only junior high and senior high campers may participate in this activity. Long pants and close-toed shoes are a requirement of participation. Campers may participate in one round of paintball per week of camp. **Cost = \$10, non-refundable.**

### Care Packages

- **Regular Care Package** – Summer theme t-shirt, fun Riverside novelty item, and a coupon for a treat and drink from the Camp Store to be delivered on the Monday of their week of camp. **Cost = \$18**
- **Ranch Care Package** – Ranch t-shirt, fun Riverside novelty item, and a coupon for a treat and drink from the Camp Store to be delivered on the Monday of their week of camp. **Cost = \$18**
- **Birthday Care Package** – Homemade cookies for the birthday camper to share with all the campers and cabin leaders in their cabin on their big day. Available to campers whose birthday falls in the week of camp. **Cost = \$10**

**End-of-the-Week DVD** – Every week, we love creating this outstanding keepsake that features so much of the fun, specific to your camper's week. You can order this ahead of time (and is also available when leaving camp after closing program). **Cost = \$12**

## SENDING MAIL TO YOUR CAMPER

**Option One:** You may send it to Riverside Bible Camp, Attention: (your camper's name and cabin name), 3001 Riverside Road, Story City, Iowa, 50248

**Option Two:** After you've dropped-off your camper at their cabin and given us their medications (in the Dining Hall lot), head toward the entrance/exit to camp. There will be a staff person located there who can accept any prepared mail/letters for your camper. Please be certain to have their first and last name AND cabin name clearly marked on every package/envelope, along with your preferred day of delivery.

*\*Please do not email and/or send faxes to our office for your camper – summertime is hectic and our office team is already busy and dedicated to helping support the smooth operations of camp.*

# WE'VE GOT WALDO!

Powered by facial recognition, Waldo sends you all your camper's photos delivered straight to your phone. No more late-night photo hunting!

## How it works:



Text  
RLBC21  
to 735-343



Sign up with  
a selfie of  
your camper



Photos of YOUR  
camper delivered  
to your phone!

## Cost Per Camper:

1 Week Session: \$14.99  
Discounts applied for multiple weeks!  
\*Invite up to 6 family members to  
view your photo stream!

More Waldo details  
will be provided  
at camper check-in!

## CONCERNS ABOUT HOMESICKNESS & NO ELECTRONICS

We recognize that for some campers, this is their first experience away from home without family. Some campers will struggle with homesickness, specifically if they're used to instant contact via a mobile device. However, rest assured that the majority of campers overcome these feelings and go on to enjoy a great week at camp. Our summer staff is trained to help address these special circumstances, and decisions to go home are made by our program team and parents collectively.

# COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS FOR SUMMER 2021

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Our team has spent a lot of time considering what camp would look like this summer while we continue to navigate the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is no simple task to weigh into consideration the variety of recommendations from so many resources and balance that with the wishes and hopes of our campers and families who represent the full spectrum of opinions and beliefs. Our number one mission is to safely share a fun, Jesus-centered experience with as many campers as possible. We know that God has something TERRIFIC in store for our campers and staff this summer. We want to implement practices that will reasonably mitigate (not necessarily eliminate) exposure risks as much as possible so we can have a successful and, hopefully, COVID-free summer at Riverside.

## Here are some facts about some of the precautions we are taking this summer:

- 1. “WOW! That’s a big tent!”** – Yes, it is and we are so excited for the addition of this extra-large outdoor gathering space that will allow for safe distancing during worship and chapel time. The tent along with a concentrated effort to maximize outdoor programming will allow our campers to have the most ‘normal’ camp experience possible. Our tent will be located in the lot by the Dining Hill.
- 2. Cabin groups** – each cabin will be considered a ‘household’ for the week. They will eat together at the same table all week and also sit together for worship together throughout the week.
- 3. Masks** – as of June 9th, masks will be optional for all campers and staff. If you or your camper prefer to wear a mask at camp, please do so without hesitation.
- 4. Meals** – over the past year, our team has experimented with a variety of meal service options during different events. We may continue to make adjustments throughout the summer but one thing is for certain, camper traffic will be low during mealtimes. Our mealtimes will be divided into two sessions, campers will always sit at the same table all week long, and there will not be a buffet line! Coolest-of-all, handwashing with soap and water at our custom canoe handwashing stations will be a fun addition to our pre-meal routine as our campers enter the Dining Hall!
- 5. Camper illness** – in the past, a sick camper has spent time in the nurse quarters until either they feel better or worse (which is when they go home and this doesn’t happen often). COVID-19 symptoms must be considered carefully and if your child presents with symptoms, we will isolate them from other campers and will be in communication with you immediately. PLEASE do not send your child to camp if you think that there is a possibility they are ill – it is not worth the risk to your child and to the rest of the campers and staff at Riverside.
- 6. Hamilton County Public Health** – we have appreciated our close partnership with our local public health department. They have been involved in our discussions since January as we began to prepare our plans for summer camp. They have approved our Communicable Disease Plan; if/when we determine that there is cause to test our staff, they will perform those diagnostics; as well as have offered to come to camp to vaccinate any staff who wants it during training. We will continue to seek their guidance throughout our summer.

This list does not cover all of the precautions we are taking as a camp this summer. We are following the shifting guidance taking place in our state and country with regard to COVID., so while we are sharing our plans as of today, practices may be amended as the summer progresses. You can stay up-to-date on these changes by going to our website: <https://www.riversidelbc.org/our-covid-response>



# Riverside

Lutheran Bible Camp

*We can't wait to see you this summer!*

