



Camp St. John's

A Performing Arts Camp

Camp St. John's Handbook

June 25 – August 17, 2018

**St. John's Congregational Church
45 Hancock St., Springfield, MA 01109**

www.sjkb.org

2018

Camp St. John's Handbook

Welcome

St. John's Congregational church is excited to provide a summer camp that promises to provide a safe, Christian atmosphere with lots of fun and activities. CSJ is registered with the State of Massachusetts Department of Public Health and complies with all regulations. Our pledge is to provide a summer camp full of fun, learning, and growth in the Performing Arts.

This handbook will provide an overview of camp, its policies and procedures. Please read each page carefully. If you have any questions contact Min. Aarif Bradley at 413-214-7304.

Mission

Our mission is to strengthen the youth that come to our camp in the Performing Arts all while strengthening them in biblical principles and educational enrichment all while maintaining a fun and vibrant program.

Program

Our program is designed to enrich the total camper. The camp is open to children/youth ages 6-16. The average day of Camp St. John's consist of free play, chapel, field trips, and instruction in the Performing Arts including but not limited to the following: **drama** – learning the basics of acting, practicing character readiness with monologues and cold reads, studying characters, staging, improvisation, etc. **music** – learning how to write songs, strengthening vocal technique, basic piano lessons, music production, video editing, etc. **dance** – specialization in Hip Hop, Ballet, and other essential dance technique, etc. It is our hope to work on "Aladdin" during all eight weeks of camp to achieve an excellent performance for family, friends, and the community.

Registration

Camp St. John's registration can be done two ways:

OPTION 1 – You may pay online using our online registration system. *If you register online, you must pay online.* If registering online you may pay using any major credit card or a bank draft.

OPTION 2 – You may register in-person at the church office (registration packet will be provided). If you are registering in person you may use cash, credit card, cashiers check, personal check, and/or a money order. Please note there is a \$35.00 processing fee for returned items.

Online Registration is handled by CampDoc and requires a valid email address. Once your registration is complete, you will be able to complete all necessary camp forms, and health information. All information must be completed before the *register by date* listed in the registration packet. You will be unable to modify forms once your child begins camp. Please note that all medications **require** a signed doctor's order and must be submitted before your child's first day of camp.

A \$150 deposit is due at registration for each camper. This deposit is **NON-REFUNDABLE**. If a parent pays for a week of camp and the child does not attend, we must be notified by 10:00am on the first day of that session. If notified by that time, parent will receive a refund for the session. After that time, no refund will be given.

Tuition Late Fee

Camp Tuition for Week 1: June 25-29, 2018 is due by June 11, 2018. There is a late fee of \$35 for tuition processed after the deadline.

For camp weeks 2-8(July 2-Aug. 17), camp tuition is due one week prior to the campers start date. A \$35 late fee will be assessed for tuition processed after the one-week deadline.

Check In

Campers must be checked in each morning and check out each evening at the designated area by a parent/guardian or individual listed as an Emergency Contact or authorized pick-up. Campers need to be checked in each day by 9:00am and checked out promptly at 5:00pm to avoid late fees. Campers may be checked in as early as 7:30am. Some field trips may require earlier departures we will alert you at least one-week prior.

*****Your child's safety is of the utmost concern to Camp St. John's. We will not accept responsibility for any child left on the premises prior to 7:30am*****

Sample Schedule

7:30-9:00am	Check-In/Breakfast/Free Time
9:00-9:15am	Attendance/Prayer/Announcements
9:15-9:30am	Chapel (Monday, Friday)
9:30-11:00am	Performing Arts Activities
11:00-12:30pm	Lunch (<i>by age group</i>)
12:30-1:30pm	Camp Activities w/ age groups
1:30-2:30pm	Performing Arts Small Groups
2:30-3:00pm	Snack
3:00-4:00pm	Educational Activity w/ age groups
4:00-5:00pm	Free Time

Free Time

During free time weather permits the campers will be supervised at local school playground/basketball court for free play. If weather does not permit, campers will play games indoors during free time.

Field Trips/Activities

Camp St. John's features a weekly field trip to Six Flags New England every Wednesday departing St. John's at 11:00am and returning at 4:00pm on rainy days, we will go to the movies. **TRIP SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Session I: Six Flags New England

Session II: Six Flags New England (Tuesday, July 3rd)

Session III: July 9 – July 13 Trip to Laser Quest (Newington, CT)

Date: July 11, 2018 Departure: 12:00pm

Session IV: Six Flags New England

Session V: Six Flags New England

Session VI: July 30 – August 3 Trip to The Bushnell to see The Lion King

Date: August 2, 2018 Departure Time: 11:30am

Session VII: August 6 – August 10 Tech Week for Show (No trip)

Show Dates: August 10th at 7:00pm; August 11th at 5:00pm

Session VIII: August 13 – August 17 Trip to Hershey Park in Hershey, PA

(THIS TRIP IS FOR CAMPERS AGES: 9-16)

Date: August 17, 2018 Departure Time: 5:00am

(Earlier date during Session VIII maybe selected depending on weather.)

New England Aquarium **for Ages 6-8**; Report to camp at normal time.

Departure at 12:00pm

Camp T-shirt **MUST** be worn to all field trips. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

Other Activities: Career Day Arts & Crafts Weekly Themes AND MORE!

Transportation

In-town: Trips with a 45 minute or less travel time, First Student provides our transportation.

Out-of-town: For out of town trips, US Coachways will provide transportation

Chapel

Chapel – Chapel is designed to edify and instruct each camper in the Word of God. Our goal is to encourage campers to develop a meaningful relationship with Christ. Youth who dance, sing, etc., will work with their counselors to present in chapel services – this will help youth to develop/overcome stage fright, etc.

Lunch

Lunch will be eaten in the Cobb Center everyday unless there is a funeral at the church. In the case of a funeral, campers will each lunch with their groups in their classrooms. Campers may bring their lunch to camp daily, or eat lunch that is provided by the free summer lunch program. On field trip days, parents may send money with their children to purchase food on location of the field trip or a bag lunch (refrigerant free ingredients).

Swimming

We will be swimming at Six Flags New England in Agawam, MA weekly. Campers should have their swimwear (water shoes, bathing suit/swim trunks, towel, sunscreen) with them upon arrival to camp.

For each camper's safety, our staff will assume designated positions around the pool along with the pool's certified lifeguards.

Campers should wear their swimsuits to camp under their clothes.

As stated in the registration packet, we reserve the right to test your child's swimming ability prior to letting them swim in deep water for their safety.

Sunscreen

Campers are encouraged to wear sunblock to protect their skin and to apply it prior to camp daily. Parents are encouraged to supply easy-application sunscreen to minimize the amount of assistance needed. **Campers will only be allowed to use sunscreen provided by their parents.**

Water

Please ensure campers come to camp daily with 2-3 water bottles per day to help them stay hydrated on hotter days.

Insect Repellent

Please ensure campers come to camp daily with insect repellent, if necessary. We will not provide insect repellent for campers.

General Policies & Procedures

Discipline – the goal of Camp St. John’s Performing Arts Camp is to provide a safe, enjoyable, atmosphere for all campers. For this reason we adhere to strict discipline procedures. This helps to maintain a safe and secure environment for our campers, staff, and volunteers.

Discipline is a matter of creativity on the part of the counselor because each camper and situation is unique. However, we observe certain guidelines.

1. Verbal Warning
 - a. Positive reinforcement
 - b. Time out from an activity
2. Written Warning/Parent Meeting
3. 1-Day Suspension – for serious/chronic offenses

Fighting in camp **WILL** result in suspension for any camper who strikes another, even in self-defense.

There will be absolutely no refunds for suspension

Medication

Parents must submit immunization for all campers in order to complete registration. Immunization records **MUST** be signed by the Primary Care Physician and contain the stamp of the medical facility and address. Additionally, if your camper must be administered medicine of any kind while in our care, a Medication Authorization form must be filled out prior to the campers start at camp. Each medication must have the Doctor's order and be in the original prescription container with the label.

Dress Code

We are a Christian camp that represents the Lord Jesus Christ. Our dress code policy is as follows:

- All apparel worn to camp should be modest
- All skirts/shorts should be at a modest length
- **NO** flip-flops or open toe shoes should be worn to camp; close toe shoes **ONLY**.

Possessions

Campers may bring electronic devices to camp at the discretion of the parent/guardian. Camp St. John's staff and volunteers assume no responsibility for items that are lost, stolen, or damaged.

In cases of incidents with your camper and other campers, camper should not under any circumstances call/text the parent/guardian from their personal cell phone prior to alerting a counselor or other camp staff/volunteers of the incident.

Junior Camp Counselors

Camp St. John's offers a Junior Counselor program. This program is designed for 17 year-olds who have an interest in working with children and developing good work ethics. Junior counselors will be paired with staff counselors in order to gain work experience assisting in the operations of the camp. It is suggested a Junior Counselor remain in camp for all six weekly sessions. The cost per session is \$135. Junior Counselors will be evaluated and those successfully completing a minimum of four sessions have the opportunity to be invited back next year as a counselor.