



Camp St. John's

A Performing Arts Camp

Camp St. John's Handbook

June 26 – August 4, 2017

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

www.sjkb.org

2017

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 413-734-2283 ext. 14.

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 "The Wiz" during all six weeks of camp to achieve an excellent performance for family, friends, and the community on the last day of camp.

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 my 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 not that all medications **require** a signed doctor's order and must be submitted before your child's first day of camp.

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 8:30am and checked out promptly at 5:00pm to avoid late fees. Some field trips may require earlier departures we will alert you at least a 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 8:00am*****

Sample Schedule

8:00-8:30am	Check-In/Breakfast/Free Time
8:30-8:45am	Attendance/Prayer
8:45-9:15am	Chapel (Monday, Friday)
9:15-11:00am	Performing Arts Activities
11:00-12:30pm	Lunch
12:30-2:30pm	Camp Activities w/ age 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 during free time.

Field Trips/Activities/Chapel

Camp St. John's features a weekly field trip to Six Flags New England every Tuesday departing St. John's at 12:30pm and returning at 4:00pm

Session IV: July 17 – July 21 Trip to Broadway NYC to see Aladdin
Date: July 21, 2017 Departure Time: 9:30am

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

Other Activities: Career Day Arts & Crafts AND MORE!

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

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 \$131. 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.