

IN THIS PACKET:

Summer Theme - 2

Getting Ready For Camp - 2

Sunday Arrival - 3

Friday Departure - 3

Lost & Found - 3

Medications - 4

Camper Mail - 4

Cell Phones - 5

Emergency Communication - 5

Covid-19 & Communicable

Diseases - 5

Packing List - 6

Camp Merchandise - 7

Stay Connected - 7

We consider it a blessing and privilege to have the opportunity to welcome your camper(s) to Gilmont Summer Camp 2023! We look forward to a time of fun and spiritual growth as we make new friends and reconnect with old ones, as well as learn more about ourselves and the world around us.

The purpose of this packet is to clarify expectations, answer questions, and prepare you for a great time at Gilmont. Within this packet, you will find information that will support you and your family in getting the best experience at Summer Camp. Please read the information carefully. If you have any additional questions or concerns after reviewing the materials, please contact us at 903-797-6400.

Thank you again for selecting Gilmont for your child's summer camp experience. We are looking forward to a terrific summer. We thank God for this place and work hard to nurture an environment where children can relax, have fun, build life-long relationships, and most importantly, learn how to be the full expression of what God has created them to be!

Crosby Palmer,
Gilmont Program Director



Summer Theme

Gilmont's 2023 Summer Camp Theme - Hearts on Fire - brings the heat with Moses' story in Exodus 3 & 4. Moses notices a bush is burning, but not being consumed. God calls Moses to rescue the Israelites from hard times. Moses makes excuses because he doesn't want to get burned, but God sparks his imagination with signs and wonders. God permits Moses a helper to journey with him.



Like Moses, campers at Gilmont are invited to take a break from their daily routines, immerse themselves in creation, and notice what creation continues to reveal about our Creator. They learn that God is calling and equipping them to do big things! Most importantly, campers recognize they are surrounded by beloved community who will support them throughout their journey. This curriculum will ignite camper's hearts and spark their love for God, creation, others, and themselves!

Special note for Lord of All Things:

Campers attending the Lord of All Things specialty camp will NOT participate in Gilmont's 2023 "Hearts on Fire" curriculum. Intead, they will follow their own unique, themed Bible Study curriculum led by Gilmont's Executive Director, Rev. Kenny Rigoulot.

Getting Ready For Camp

Below are a few suggestions to help your camper(s) be prepared for a fun and enriching week at Camp Gilmont.

- Talk to your camper about coming to camp! Share with them why you are sending them to Camp Gilmont and what you hope they will get out of this experience.
- Use our packing list and help your camper pack for camp.
- Fill out the Dismissal Form and bring it with you to camp.
- Fill out the Medications Form and bring it with you to camp.
- Pack all medications in the suggestions of the <u>Medications section</u> of this packet.
- Review our Cell Phone policy with campers, sign, and bring it with you to camp.

Gilmont's mission is to be a safe, sacred space where all are invited to grow closer to God, creation, others, and themselves.



Sunday Arrival

Registration for camp will be between 3:00-5:00pm on Sunday afternoon in Mackey Hall. We will confirm your contact information and have you fill out the dismissal form for the last day of camp. For a smooth and quick check-in process, please print and complete the Important Documents on our <u>Camper Information page</u>.

The nurse will be present to accept any medicines. Please read more about bringing medication for your camper(s) on <u>page 4 of this packet</u>. Campers will be screened for lice. We will share your cabin assignment and you will be directed to the cabin to meet your camper's counselors and help them get settled.

Friday Departure

Overnight camp ends on a FRIDAY in 2023!

Our closing ceremony will begin at 3:00 PM at the Pavilion. Closing ceremony is a short program highlighting what campers have done and learned during their week at camp.

Check out will begin 30 minutes prior to closing ceremony and last until all guardians have checked out their campers. Please plan to pick up your camper by 3:30 PM. When you arrive at camp, all campers and their belongings will be at the Pavilion. You will be asked to show your photo ID before picking up your camper. The nurse will have medicine to return to you and we will return cellphones to guardians.

The Snack Shack will be open for 30 minutes after the closing ceremony with Gilmont swag for sale.

We will send an email with a form for you to evaluate your camper(s) experience and a link to photos from that week of camp.

Lost and Found

Lost and Found items will be on a table at the Pavilion during departure. We strongly recommend that you look through these items.

If you return home before realizing that your camper(s) have left something at camp, please email the Program Director at crosby@gilmont.org. If your items are found, you will have the option of picking them up at Camp Gilmont or having the items shipped to you at your expense.





Medications

Please fill out the Medication Form on our <u>Camper Information webpage</u> and include details for all medications your camper is bringing. For a smooth and quick check-in, please fill out this form prior to bringing your camper(s) to camp.

Medications include prescription or over-the-counter medication, vitamins, and topical creams.

Important notes for medications:

- Medications brought to camp must be in their original container and marked with the camper's name, medication name, dosage and if prescription, doctor's name.
- You must provide a prescription/doctor's orders for the dispensing of any medication or medical care that is not covered by the prescription written on the medication.
- Only send the amount needed for camp.
- Epi pen and asthma inhalers are allowed to be carried on their person or counselor's backpack, but should be presented to the Nurse first.

To expedite the process during check-in and avoid confusion, medications should be packaged together and given to the Nurse upon arrival.

Camper Mail

We recommend that you leave all mail and packages at camper drop off. You can label the envelopes with the days you would like them delivered during the week. Please do not include any food or candy in packages. The camp mailing address is:

Camp Gilmont Attn: Campers Name 6075 State Hwy 155 N Gilmer. TX 75644

The email address is gilmontcampmail@gmail.com

Important notes for emails:

- Emails will be printed out each day at 10:00 am. Any emails received after 10:00 am will be printed the following day.
- Include your camper's name and cabin in the subject of the email.
- Please send emails that are uplifting, encouraging, and beneficial to your child's camping experience.
- Please do NOT send pictures as part of any emails.

We encourage campers to write home about their camp experiences! If you wish to recieve mail fom your camper, please send them to camp with pre-addressed, stamped envelopes.



Cell Phones

In 2022, Gilmont updated our cell phone policy to allow a 30-minute, once a day Home Check-in so campers could talk to their loved ones at home. While we believe that campers benefit from spending time away from texting, social media, and constant connection, we learned that both campers and their parents appreciated a daily check-in. We will have a similar policy in 2023. Please review our cell phone policy with your camper(s) prior to arrival.

If your camper(s) choose to bring an electronic communication device, please bring the device fully charged (there will not be an opportunity to charge devices at camp) and labeled. During the week, devices will be locked up and stored in labeled boxes until Home Check-in periods.

Similar to camper mail, we encourage conversations with your camper to be uplifting, encouraging, and beneficial to your camper's experience. If your camper shares anything concerning during the call, please contact Crosby, Gilmont's Program Director, at crosby@gilmont.org.

Emergency Communication

If you have an emergency or message that needs to get to your camper, please call the camp office during the day at 903-797-6400. In the event of an after-hours emergency, you may reach the Program Director at 469-435-0515.

In the event of a camp emergency, where we need to communicate with a large group of parents at one time, we will provide information as we are able by sending an email to the email contacts listed for your child. This email will be confirmed at drop off.

Covid-19 and Communicable Diseases

We are all now familiar with Covid-19 and Communicable Diseases and the health and safety measures that mitigate the spread of such diseases. Gilmont will continue to prioritize the health and safety of campers and staff as well as sanitary procedures for our facilities.

Please review our <u>Risk Management Procedures</u> to learn of Gilmont's Covid 19 policies and procedures for Summer 2023.

Note that we are NOT requiring tests this upcoming summer.





Packing List

To make your campers more excited about camp, we suggest they pack their own camp gear. It is also a good step of independence for your camper. Camp is a place for all to be loved and accepted as children of God. In that light, we ask that you do not bring personal items with political statements or divisive views printed on them.

- Please pack using a large suitcase or trunk. Adventure Camp is the exception-trunks do not fit under the bunks.
- Don't buy a lot of new clothing this is camp, and we will most likely get wet and dirty!
- Don't send anything that you would consider irreplaceable.
- Label all of your child's belongings with their name.

Must Brings:

- Reusable water bottle
- Backpack
- Masks (disposable or multiple reusable)
- Bible/journal/pens
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- Flashlight
- Blue jeans/long pants
- Shorts (modest length please)
- Shirts (T-shirts are great)
- Lightweight jacket/fleece
- Laundry Bag
- Socks and Undergarments
- Swimsuit (one piece or trunks with drawstring)
- Non-white shirt to wear over swimsuit
- Raincoat/Pancho
- Tennis shoes (2 pair)
- Sandals, must have a toe and a heel strap
- Baseball cap/sun hat
- Twin bed sheets/blanket or sleeping bag
- Pillow
- 2 Towels (Shower and Swimming)
- Toiletries
- Flip flops for showering, only

Recommended for Adventure Camp and Forces of Nature:

- Camping chair
- Sleeping bag (for campout)
- Hammock or one person tent (for campout, or instead of tree houses for Adventure Camp)

Optional for Camp Create:

- Musical Instruments
- Personal Art Supplies
- White clothes or accessories to tie-dye

Please leave at home:

- Electronics (computers, tablets, game systems)
- Food, candy or gum
- Money
- Drugs, alcohol, tobacco products
- Personal sports equipment
- Weapons (includes pocket knives)

Camp Merchandise

At registration, a sample of Gilmont's available swag will be on display. You can purchase shirts, hats, stickers, fanny packs, and more at this time via card, check, or cash. Purchased merchandise will be delivered to your camper by Monday evening.

The Snack Shack which contains all of Gilmont's merchandise will be open at pick up on Friday afternoon for additional purchases.

Stay Connected

Stay connected during the week (and all year long!). Like and follow Camp Gilmont on Facebook, Instagram and Tik Tok to stay up to date with pictures, videos, blogs and more! Visit gilmont.org and see what is offered year round at Gilmont. Please share Gilmont with others as a destination for retreats, meetings, trainings and gatherings.

Campers (and Staff!) love energizers at camp. They are choreographed dances to fun songs that give us energy every morning. We decided the perfect name for those who support Gilmont with a recurring monthly donation should be called ENERGIZERS!



WHEN A LOT OF PEOPLE MAKE A MONTHLY COMMITMENT, NO MATTER THE AMOUNT, WE CAN KEEP THE CAMP RUNNING SMOOTHLY ALL YEAR LONG.
YOUR GIFT IS IMPORTANT AND LIFE-GIVING!

Scan this QR code or go to gilmont.org/give

- 1. Select the amount you want to donate.
- 2. Select your donation frequency. We suggest monthly.
- 3. Select where you want to apply your donation. We suggest "Use where needed most".
- 4. Then click donate, create your account and enter your payment information!





