WELCOME PACKET

FAMILY CAMP 2027

GILMONT
CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER
EST. 1940

HELLO CAMPER FAMILY!

We consider it a blessing and privilege to have the opportunity to welcome your family to Gilmont Family Camp 2027! We look forward to the relationships formed and deepened, the faith cultivated, and the fun shared at camp this upcoming summer.

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.

Crosby Fleming
Gilmont's Program Director

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SUMMER CAMP OUTCOMES

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

At Summer Camp, we do just that! While having fun, campers gain new skills and develop emotionally, socially, spiritually, and physically.

A safe, sacred space...

Campers at Gilmont practice living in an intentional Christian community where respect, kindness, and encouragement are the norms and expectations. Campers and Summer Staff work together to create community guidelines with boundaries and expectations that the group follows throughout their stay. When conflicts arise, campers learn and practice conflict resolution centering grace, understanding, and forgiveness.

respect for others • setting and respecting limits • conflict resolution

All are invited...

While campers participate in the majority of activities with their cabin groups, participation looks different for each camper. Gilmont believes in and practices challenge-by-choice, meaning campers choose how far to stretch themselves in any given activity. Many activity blocks have options for campers to self-select their engagement based on their interests.

discernment • meaningful participation • creative self expression

Grow closer to God...

Gilmont is a place to not only learn about God and God's people in Bible Study, but to also experience God's love, wisdom, and goodness throughout the camp day. Gilmont encourages campers to wonder and ask questions about humanity, the church, God, and Jesus as a means of growing in faith. All campers participate in Prayer Stations where they engage in contemplative spiritual practices that they can continue to do at home.

wonder • reflection • applied faith

Grow closer to creation...

Gilmont offers a unique environment removed from daily life where campers slow down, listen to the sounds of birds, and observe the natural world. Creation becomes a site of recreation, prayer, and community building. As campers connect with nature, they learn more about the local biosphere, develop an affinity for creation, and learn their responsibility as children of God to care for the Earth and it's inhabitants.

appreciation for living in the moment • an affinity of nature • stewardship

Grow closer to others...

New friendships are formed and old ones are strengthened at camp. Campers bond during camp activities and befriend people who are different from them. They learn to work together to achieve a successful camp day and live alongside each other in the cabins. Gilmont's trained summer staff are their heroes and model positive social interactions centering listening, love, and encouragement.

positive social interactions • cooperation • communication

Grow closer to themselves...

At Gilmont, campers are exposed to new activities, learn new interests, and challenge their skills all while having fun in a safe environment. They feel proud of their achievements and capabilities and are inspired to try their best at new things. Away from the home environment, campers develop a strong sense of identity as beloved children of God.

physical activity • confidence • independence

PACKING LIST

To make your family more excited about camp, we suggest children and youth help pack their own camp gear - with your guidance. 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.

A few tips:

- Pack enough clothes for 3 days - this means packing an extra outfit.
- 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.

OPTIONAL

- Camping chair
- Blanket for picnic (Gilmont has picnic tables)
- Bible/journal/pens
- Sunglasses
- Games or activities for cabin

LEAVE AT HOME

- Drugs, alcohol, nicotine products
- Personal sports equipment
- Weapons (includes pocket knives)

MUST BRING

CLOTHES

- Blue jeans/long pants
- 3 pairs of shorts (modest length please)
- 3 shirts (T-shirts are great)
- Lightweight jacket/fleece
- Raincoat/pancho
- 3 pairs of socks and undergarments
- Laundry Bag
- Swimsuit (one piece or trunks with drawstring)

SHOES

- Flip flops, for showering only
- Tennis shoes
- Sandals, must have a toe and a heel strap

BEDDING

- Twin bed sheets/blanket or sleeping bag
- Pillow

HYGIENE

- 2 Towels (shower and swimming)
- Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, hair brush, shampoo, etc)

OTHER

- Reusable water bottle for each family member
- Backpack
- Sunscreen & insect repellent
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Baseball cap/sun hat

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

FRIDAY ARRIVAL

Families may arrive at camp anytime between 3:00 - 6:00 pm on Friday. The earlier you arrive, the more fun you can have! Dinner is served at 6:00 pm.

Registration will begin at the Camp Office. Paperwork will be confirmed at this time. We will share your cabin assignment and a schedule for the weekend before directing you to your cabin to get settled. Activities are available beginning at 3:00 pm.

SUNDAY DEPARTURE

We ask that all families check out of your cabin no later than 10:00 am on Sunday. In your cabin you will find instructions on how to do this in the most helpful and efficient way.

After you check out of your cabin, you are invited to stay on camp property to participate in various camp activities. Lunch is served and activities are scheduled until 3:00 pm. You may use restrooms in the Dining Hall and changing areas at the pool as needed after leaving the cabin.

Checking out of the cabin early allows for ample cleaning time for our staff before our next group arrives. Thank you for your help and understanding.

CAMP PHOTOS

Prior to the start of Family Camp, you will receive a link via email to the photo album for your family's session. We will resend the link after the session has ended. Photos will be uploaded regularly throughout your time at camp.

You are invited and encouraged to also add the photos you take throughout the weekend to this album. By doing so, you give Gilmont permission to use these photos in future marketing efforts for Family Camp and similar programs.

Note that if you do not give Gilmont permission to use photos of your family on the Camper Information Form, Gilmont staff will not take any photos of your family's time at camp.

LOST & FOUND

Lost and Found items from throughout the weekend will be on a table at the Pavilion. We strongly recommend that you look through these items regularly.

If you return home before realizing that your family has 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 Gilmont or having the items shipped to you at your expense.

MEDICATIONS & MEDICAL CARE

Families are responsible for distributing medicine to members of your family. Gilmont has a fully stocked nurse's office and there is a health clinic in Gilmer that the camp uses.

CAMP MERCHANDISE

The Camp Store will be open throughout your family's stay. You can purchase shirts, hats, stickers, fanny packs, and more at this time via card, check, or cash.

STAY CONNECTED

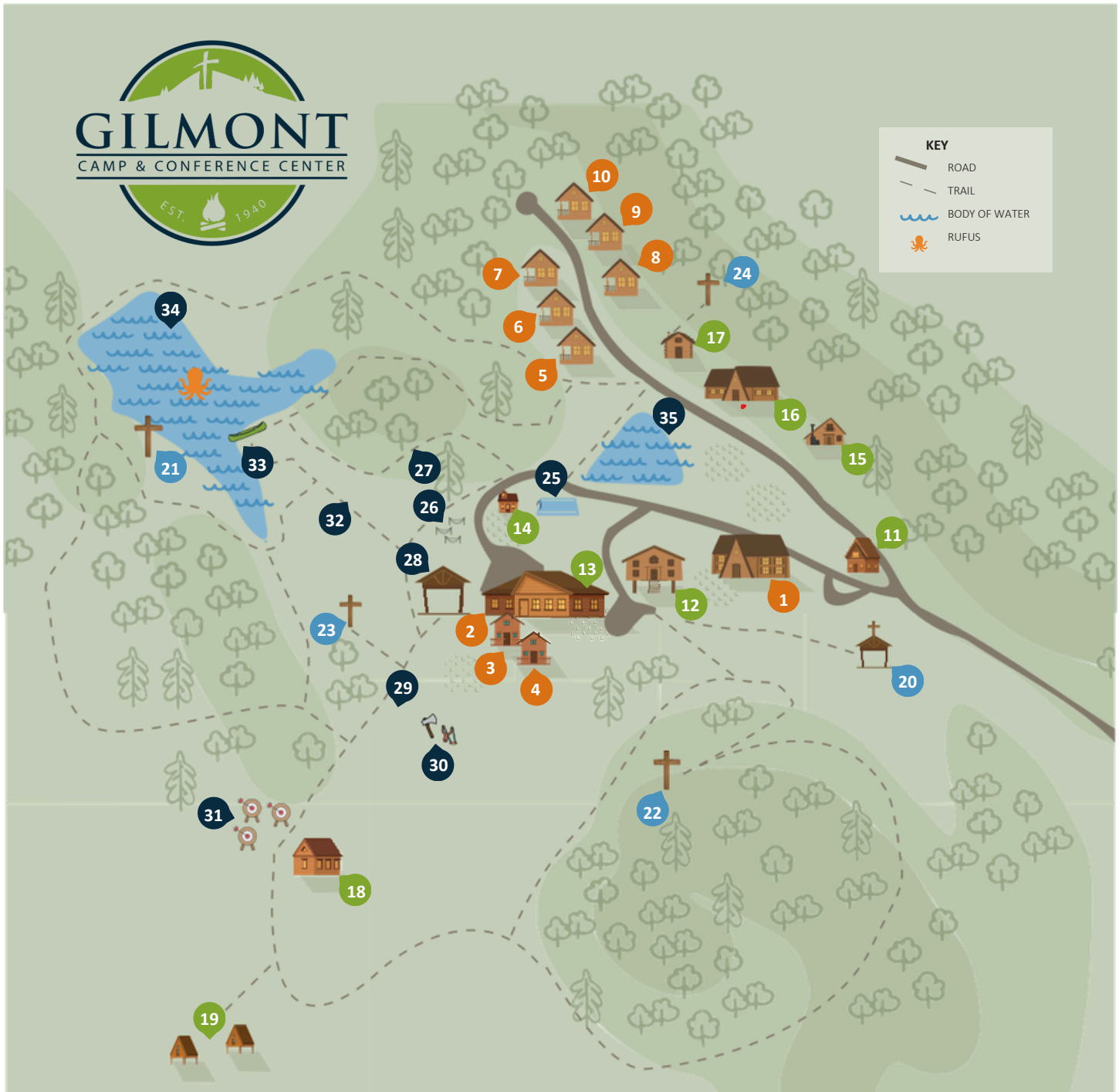
Stay connected during the camp week (and all year long!). Like and follow Camp Gilmont on Facebook, Instagram, and Tik Tok to stay informed on year-round camp programs. Visit gilmont.org for more information on retreats, events, outdoor worship, and more! Please share Gilmont with others as a destination 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!

1. Go to gilmont.org/give or scan the QR code!
2. Select the amount you want to donate.
3. Select your donation frequency. We suggest monthly.
4. Select where you want to apply your donation.
    a. We suggest "Use where needed most".
5. Then click donate, create your account, and enter your payment information!

SEE YOU SOON!

If you have any additional questions, please email the Program Director at crosby@gilmont.org.



LODGES

1 SPRADLIN LODGE & WELCOME CENTER
2 LOWER LODGE
3 MIDDLE LODGE
4 UPPER LODGE

CABINS

5 PECAN
6 BLACKGUM
7 DOGWOOD
8 OAK
9 PINE
10 HICKORY

BUILDINGS

11 CAMP OFFICE
12 CRAIN CENTER
13 DINING HALL
14 CAMP STORE
15 GRACE RETREAT HOUSE
16 MACKEY HALL
17 COTTAGE
18 CADDO HALL
19 TREE HOUSES

SACRED SPACES

20 DIXON CHAPEL
21 CHAPEL BY THE LAKE
22 CHAPEL IN THE SKY
23 THE POINT
24 SARAH'S SPOT

ACTIVITIES

25 POOL
26 HAMMOCK CIRCLE
27 LOW ROPES
28 PAVILION
29 JODI'S JUNGLE
30 AXE THROWING / SLINGSHOTS
31 ARCHERY
32 ZIPLINE
33 CANOES
34 LAKE KILGORE
35 POND