

Peace Lutheran
School
Summer Camp Handbook



750 NW 23rd Lane
Okeechobee, FL 34972
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Karen Smith, Director

Dear Parent,

Summers remind me of warm lazy days sprinkled with dandelion chains, picnics at the park, and splashing in the neighborhood pool. Today, summers are packed full of all types of activities and learning.

Here at Peace, we seek to balance the two eras by providing a summer camp that is full of fun learning activities at a relaxed pace. Children who attend summer camp will learn through games, crafts, cooking, drama, and other activities. It will be a time for Christian growth including prayer journals for the older children. A love for reading will be instilled at all ages.

We are pleased that you have decided to share the summer with us. We look forward to serving you in one more way, as we continue to “grow together in Jesus.”

Serving the Master Teacher,

Karen Smith
Director
Peace Lutheran School

PEACE PRESCHOOL HISTORY

Since our doors opened in 1983, we have proudly served hundreds of children and their families by providing quality Christian education.

Quality Christian Education allows us to educate the whole child spiritually, morally, intellectually, emotionally, socially, and physically.

Peace Lutheran School is a Nationally Accredited Preschool.

We are proud to have achieved accreditation through the National Lutheran Schools Association (NLSA) since August 2001.

NLSA is a national, rigorous accrediting process designed to evaluate schools on the basis of their unique purposes as Lutheran schools. The evaluation rates academic quality along with the school's spiritual dimension. The administration continually strives to meet and exceed the minimum educational standards in order to ensure continuing accreditation and academic excellence.

At Peace Lutheran A Child Has Identity. Compared to many schools, Lutheran schools are small, giving the teachers the opportunity to work with and to know each child as well as their families.

Peace Lutheran School is a Safe and Caring Place. Our staff is committed to the caring and nurturing of young children. The staff consists of Christian teachers and assistants. Each one has earned the degree or certification necessary to meet the high standard of their position. The staff recognizes that each child is a unique gift from God.

SCHOOL MOTTO:
Growing Together With Jesus

PHILOSOPHY:

The administration, faculty, and staff of Peace Lutheran School believe that its relationship with children is established in Christ. "Whoever welcomes one of these little ones in My name welcomes Me" (Mark 9:37). We believe education is valuable and that the initial educational experiences of a child contribute greatly to his or her future success. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). We are committed to providing a comprehensive early learning education in a safe, nurturing, Christian environment.

CURRICULUM:

The theme of each year's Summer Camp will be determined in January. The students will be exposed to the SCEWD (spiritual, communication, expressive, wellness and discovery) method of curriculum delivery with the primary focus being on developing an intense love for our Savior, Jesus Christ.

ADMISSION:

Peace Lutheran Summer Camp accepts students of any race, color, nationality or ethnic group.

Enrollment, registration fee and all designated forms must be completed in full before the students enrollment is complete.

REGISTRATION:

Parents will receive a Parent-Student Handbook and an Enrollment Form which should be completed and returned, accompanied by the \$25 camp supply fee.

This fee is non-refundable in the event of a withdrawal.

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER CHANGES:

It is important that we have your current address and your home, cell and work telephone numbers at all times. This information is especially important in cases of emergency. Please notify the Camp Director or your child's teacher immediately upon changing your home/work/cell telephone numbers or any other information that the school should have on file.

RELEASE OF STUDENTS:

It is extremely important that you, as parents, understand and support our policy on releasing students. On the Enrollment/Registration form are spaces for you to fill in the names of those people who are allowed to remove your child from Peace Lutheran Summer Camp. **IF YOU HAVE NOT** included someone's name on the list and have not written or called us, **DO NOT** expect us to release your child to that person! Telephone requests can be honored in extreme cases. **PLEASE** give the name of the person who is to remove your child from the school to your child's teacher. Proof of identification will be required.

Children should **ALWAYS** be brought into the classroom and picked up from the classroom by an **ADULT**. This is for the safety of the child and to allow for the legal signing in and out each day.

FEE:

Peace Lutheran Summer Camp tuition is \$700 payable in two installments. The first payment is due the first day of camp and the second is due four weeks later. Tiny Tots (2 years old) that are not potty trained will be \$800 payable in two installments. We also offer a half day plan that is \$500 payable in two payments. Tiny Tots half day will be \$575 also payable in two payments. Half day students must be picked up by 12:00 p.m. Early morning care, 7:30 a.m.–8:30 a.m. is available for an extra \$50. Afternoon care 4:00 p.m.–5:30 p.m. is available for an extra \$50. If you come early or stay late and are not signed up there will be a \$5 charge for early and/or late stay per day. If you have more than one child enrolled, the first child is full price and siblings will be discounted at 10% each.

Mission Statement
Through caring and sharing,
Peace Lutheran Preschool and
Kindergarten
educates and prepares
children to live
as loving Christians
in God's world.

VOLUNTEERS:

There are volunteers from the church congregation and community who come in for various programs and presentations. Parents wishing to volunteer their services should contact their child's teacher or the Director.

DRESS CODE:

The best clothes for the children to wear are comfortable well-fitted play clothes. Please label all articles of clothing with your child's name. Peace Lutheran Summer Camp cannot be responsible for articles not marked. T-shirts with inappropriate pictures and wording are not allowed. Girls should be dressed modestly. For safety reasons, we **do not allow children to wear flip-flops, high heels, "heelies", crocs, or open backed or open toed shoes.** We recommend your child wear tennis shoes. Fridays will be Camp Spirit day. All students should wear their Camp T-shirt.

Children should bring sunscreen for all outdoor activities.

EQUIPMENT/TOYS:

The school furnishes equipment for the Summer Camp program, including appropriate materials for the recreational needs of the child. Children are **NOT** to bring toys, gum or other items from home unless written permission is granted by the teacher.

WEAPONS OF ANY KIND ARE NOT ALLOWED.

ATTENDANCE:

Because your child's health and well-being is of great importance to us, please call the camp office if your child is absent from camp for more than one day.

DROP-OFF/PICK-UP:

Children should not be dropped off at camp before 7:30 A.M. Camp ends at 5:15 P.M. Children should be picked up no later than 15 minutes after their day has ended. You will be charged \$5.00 for each additional 5 minutes your child is at Summer Camp.

PARKING:

- Enter only: Road east of church
- Proceed to parent parking areas
- Park in designated areas only
- **DO NOT** park in reserved parking space, crosswalk or **NO PARKING ZONE**
- Use crosswalk when necessary
- Outside doors to classrooms will be locked
- Road in front of Fellowship Hall to NW 7th Ave. is closed
- Exit only: Road between church and Fellowship Hall
- Do not leave car running
- Do not leave children unattended

DISCIPLINE:

There are times when children need to be reminded that self-control, consideration of others, clean speech, and obedience to authority are an intrinsic and desirable part of Christian life and learning. The children are then reminded of the great love from Jesus, who showed the world God's forgiveness. We can do no less. Depending on the age of the child, the nature and seriousness of a given offense, one of the following strategies may be utilized:

- Redirection
- Removal from situation

- Peace time and prayer
- Loss of privilege
- Appropriate counsel from teacher or Director

Our goal is to help children lead God-pleasing lives. We believe that this is only possible through the help of the Holy Spirit and cooperation of the parents. Please be advised that no form of corporal punishment is ever used at Peace Lutheran Summer Camp. Corporal punishment is a method of discipline that must be decided by each individual and is best administered by the parent.

LUNCH/SNACKS:

Children will need to bring their own lunch AND drink, and daily snacks, morning and afternoon—kitchen facilities will not be available. Friday or the last day of school for the week is Cowboy's Day. Children's menu, which includes chicken fingers or slider and drink, may be purchased for \$3.00.

NAPS:

Preschoolers will nap each afternoon. Each child must supply his/her own mat. Blankets, pillows or any other bedding will be sent home each Friday for cleaning.

HEALTH:

Head lice-If your child is found to have head lice, either the lice or the nits, you will be called and must immediately remove your child from camp. The student will not be allowed to return to school until treatment for head lice has been applied and all nits are removed from the child's head. Peace Lutheran Summer Camp must receive written notification from a health official or a professional hair consultant stating that your child is free from lice and/or nits in order to return to school. Because of the possibility of head lice being spread, please be aware of items being brought to school. Please do not send brushes, combs or hats to school with your child.

Illness-If your child is not feeling well or is showing signs of illness (coughing, runny nose, constant sneezing, nausea, diarrhea or fever, etc.) **please do not send your child to camp.** Should

your child become ill at camp, it is vital that we contact you and that you make arrangements to have your child picked up as soon as possible. *We reserve the right to send any child home if we feel that the child is not well enough to be in camp or is endangering the health of another child.*

Medicine-Prescription medicine brought to Peace Lutheran Summer Camp must be in the original container with the name of the physician and child labeled on the bottle. Written authorization must include directions as to the amounts and times to be dispensed. A proper measuring utensil should be included. Please give all medications directly to the Camp Director.

FIELD TRIPS:

Field trips will be planned periodically through the summer. Field trips are correlated with the education program. They are considered to be an extension of the classroom and are a part of the enrichment program. Learning takes place when the child is actively involved. A written note, along with a permission slip will be sent home prior to all camp trips. These slips must be signed and returned if you want your child to participate. All drivers must have a valid drivers license and proof of insurance. No vehicles will leave the parking lot until all students are loaded and all vehicles will travel together.

Car seats are required as deemed necessary by law.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Extra-curricular activities may be offered from time to time at an additional fee.

CONFIDENTIALITY

All records of students and personnel are strictly confidential. Although a roster of names, addresses and phone numbers will be made available within each class, they may not be used for any commercial purposes. A Christian, loving concern should be the spirit behind any conversation or written materials.