

BUTLER

SPRINGS

CHRISTIAN CAMP

**SAFARI / WILDERNESS QUEST
MANUAL**

(To be used in conjunction with Butler Springs' "Dean's Manual")

**Information you need to make your camp session at
Butler Springs Christian Camp a SUCCESS!**

Please excuse any grammatical or spelling errors. But please feel free to politely point them out to us!

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Chapter 1 - The purpose of specialty sessions

The purpose of the Safari and Wilderness Quest sessions include so many things. Understanding this may help you, as a leader, to plan for your session accordingly. We have three different versions of this purpose.

- First, Butler Springs has a vision of what we created and have seen these sessions to be.
- Second, whether you are a first timer or have done this for years, you have a concept that you are working from and a reason for deciding to be involved with this sort of thing.
- Thirdly, the campers who come to this sort of camp session have expectations and visions of what they hope this session will be like.

Let's want to take the time to address each of these possibilities and help you to see all the angles!

Butler Springs started these sessions to allow for a smaller, more intimate group of kids to do a more adventurous session, and honestly, to take the pressure off of larger main camp sessions. We had also caught whispers of other camps that had similar programs and they were filling a need. Oddly enough, it did not significantly impact the participation in main camp. We found a niche of kids who wanted adventure and were not coming to the main camp. The nice thing about the smaller group is the depth of teaching and relationship building. It was far greater than anything else we were doing.

So, Safari rapidly grew to a full program running the full summer season with over 10 sessions offered. Percentage wise, we saw a much greater number of baptisms and the kids who went, loved it. No electricity, cook your own food, and they kept coming back year after year. So, the camp added on to the buildings and now had space for 24 campers and 4 staff. We are now going to stick to those numbers for Safari!!!

Since Safari is running at near-full capacity, we decided to try another adventurous type session that opened up opportunities for maybe a little more off site programming— Wilderness Quest was conceptualized. The purpose from our standpoint is to offer a small group (20-24 campers) the opportunity to have a great session of deep spiritual impact and deep relationship building in these rustic programs.

As a leader of a Wilderness Quest or Safari session, you could write more and obviously know your own reasons. We do know some of what you have shared and what we have seen. Some of you started with your own children and have just stuck with it. It is the same reason that we coach little leagues, scout leaders, youth group leaders, and the like. We want to be

part of our kids' lives and that is a good thing. In looking at main camp, being one of 100 in a crowd and being one of 20 is a HUGE difference. You, too, love being close to a smaller number, where you learn all the names and know lots of things about the campers...sometimes too much!

Planning games and programming for the smaller groups is great and it is amazing how kids love to spend time damming the creek or swinging on a rope rather than playing kickball. These sessions allow for the spontaneity of doing what the kids enjoy and the schedule is, well, optional. So, what if breakfast is at 7:00 AM or 8:00 AM or 9:00 AM in the morning?!?! It provides an opportunity for what we call "campfire ministry." You do a few songs with a guitar, sit by the fire, and share. Kids feel relaxed and safe and BOOM!!! It happens, God shows up. Campers start sharing and asking questions and all at once you feel the Holy Spirit giving you words and wisdom. It is a tremendously great thing!

The campers have one main reason for coming to any camp session: fun. It is their only real guiding light. They see those words, "Safari Camp" or "Wilderness Quest" and it resonates with something inside them saying, "This is the adventure I am looking for... this is the chance of a lifetime." Maybe it starts with the friend who calls and invites someone to attend camp with him/her. And the relationship issue is just as huge for the campers. Just watch the kids wait at registration for best friends that they haven't seen since last summer or eagerly anticipate the thrill of meeting new friends.

There is still one more set of purposes and expectations that we have yet to mention. It is the parents who allow their most precious and special gifts from God to come to your camp session. They may have all the same expectations that we have already shared but add to it this: safety. They expect their child to have fun and grow spiritually, physically, and emotionally but they want them to be safe. They want assurance that supervision will be by caring adults who have the best interest of their kids at heart. Arriving late to camp on check in day will create an unease with the parents who have anxiously awaited to meet an unorganized person (not to mention, the Butler Springs staff frantically attempting registration, supervision, and transport luggage all at the same time!).

You may ask, "What have I gotten myself into?" The truth is: Butler Springs primitive camps are great sessions but there are many expectations. The good news is that we have years of history and great ideas to help you. The following pages map out what we have seen, know, and believe to be the makings of a great session of camp and will meet all of the aforementioned purposes. One of the things that should not be left unsaid is that God is the creator of all good things and gives good gifts to His children. Begin this journey by bathing the whole process in prayer and expect a greater gift from God!

Chapter 2 - Your audience, your theme, your staff

Your audience is the first major consideration. A 4th -6th grade session is a completely different animal than a Senior High session. Yes, I know that you are smart and capable, or we would not have chosen you. I will let this go but want to make the point that you need to be flexible with this type of session.

In a main camp session, you may get a pretty broad cross section of a population, a mix of athletes, geniuses, not so geniuses, girls into their hair, etc. you get the idea. At Safari or Wilderness Quest, you may get an abundance of one type. So, your session may enjoy more time hiking or climbing or playing capture the flag and next year you get a completely different personality mix and they hate those activities. Being flexible is the key. Plan 20 activities knowing that you will only do 10. Then you are ready for whatever you get. Some kids enjoy sitting and talking. Others get bored quickly and you will need to be up and active, mixing activity into your devotion. The trouble is you won't know the personality of your group until you are standing in front of them!

The theme of your camp session is significant. It allows you to create excitement before the session starts. It becomes part of the information you send out in advance. It can be a huge motivator. We have seen great themes but many times they are not really tapped into well. Often it is just a topic that is discussed in the devotion every night. A theme should guide the activities, devotions, meals, and clothing and can add a deeper sense of excitement to a session. Safari and Wilderness Quest already has an overriding theme – Safari and Wilderness Quest. The names already conjure up ideas of excitement and adventure. They have already chosen your session, just add to it and tap into their preconceived ideas of what these sessions might be.

You can ride current media as an aid but beware of the backlash! A few years ago, when the movie *The Matrix* came out, a great youth minister made this his session theme. He used Matrix logo materials, put it on his t-shirt and had great teaching about being in the world but not of it and so forth. It was a well executed session for all intents and purposes. The backlash, you ask? It was a R rated movie. While he did not endorse the movie specifically in any way shape or fashion it still resulted in some letters and complaints! Many have used the Survivor theme and the Amazing Race theme. Many of these are now getting outdated and while many Christians watch them, the shows have issues that are often over the line. Again, just beware the backlash and how you use the theme.

Gathering around you a faculty members that compliments your skills can be a challenge. You need a team of 2 – 4 total people to fill these roles: medic, van driver, teacher, kitchen organizer (not chef, see discussion in meals chapter), play supervisor, activity leader and relationship builder. These 7 roles will do for now. It can be done by 2 people but by the

end of the session, you will be worn out. One of the key responsibilities is that of relationship builder. So many times we worry about the first six that we drop the ball on this and it is huge.

You need to get in and just hang out with your campers. Take a turn on the swing, do the high ropes, swim and get dunked a time or so. It is a big deal. Most kids do not have adults that do this with them. The other roles are important and there are several options. Have a friend come down for the day and do some sort of activity or just be a driver. Ask a local person to come in nightly and do special devotions. Think about it – if all you had to do was the nightly devotions you could really focus on them. So will the right person, just pray and ask. Let the camp know who or what you need. The sooner you begin to secure people the better!

All faculty (18+ and younger kids) must complete the mandatory faculty registration. Have your faculty register online at butlersprings.com and follow the instructions. It might be a little tedious but very necessary in today's society. Please make sure this is done at least 21 days prior to the session start date.

Chapter 3 - Meals – A big part of these sessions!!!

The food is a big part of any session – going to bed hungry or eating something gross can just kill a great session. The normal Safari and Wilderness Quest session cooks most of their own meals. This is actually an intentional part of the original design of these programs. It can be a great activity with lasting applications. The opposite is where you have a cooking staff that does it all for everyone. This may be quicker and easier but it defeats the purpose of team building and building community.

I am a personal witness to the power of letting the campers do their own food, either as individuals or as small groups. I had a young group of boys on a camping trip. When it came time for breakfast, they wanted to know what I was going to make for them. We set out the pancake batter and sausages. I then warmed the griddle and set about making pancakes while teaching the guys. Once I had made three, I handed the spatula to the next kid and sat down to eat. They were amazed and excited. Each kid did their own meal. What amazed me was that some got in a rush and turned the heat up – I did supervise but at a distance. The pancakes were slightly burned and a little doughy in the middle. The kid ate them bragging about how great they were!!! If I had made them no one would have touched them. When the kids were being picked up instead of hearing them tell their parents of the rope course or swimming they said – I know how to make pancakes!!! I do the same thing now with teens on my adventure trips with oddly similar results!

The plan is for us to send you food that you are comfortable supervising your kids making as individuals or in small groups. Familiarize yourself with the menu. Let the kids cut the vegetables for tin foil dinners, cook on the fire if able. If you don't know how to make something, see your Butler Springs liaison - they can help. It may be a good idea to practice the menu before camp. This is also where you can find someone on your team that makes this their area of expertise!

There is a sample menu that is attached to this document. It is the actual menu from previous years, so it might fluctuate a bit; it should paint the picture well enough.

Chapter 4 - Overview schedule

The schedule during these sessions is pretty cool. You must realize that nothing is set in stone. While lunch and some things are dependent on main camp staff and programming staff, you can be fluid enough to seize the moment. Take advantage of a rainy day and trek up the creek; on a hot night come back down and have a water fight! Be open to the moment! Sit in the field and look up at the stars, go to bed late and get up early. The schedule at the end of this document is just an option and by no means reflects a rigid mandate.

Check In day has a great deal going on! Have your team at main camp (that's where check in is located) at the designated Safari and Wilderness Quest shelter to greet campers and parents. Mandatory faculty check in will be 90 minutes prior to the official check in time. Once faculty are all checked in, families will be arriving about 30 minutes prior to official check in time. Camper medications will need to be checked in with the First Aid Person. Parents are notorious for lingering around until the absolute latest time possible. Politely move them along. Dinner for Safari and Wilderness Quest camps on Sunday will be at 5:00 PM in the Dining Hall at main camp; be sure to encourage punctuality. See the sample schedule at the end of this document!

Chapter 5 – Sample Camp Activities

There are so many great camp activities. You are only limited by your imagination. The camp activities that are my favorites may not be your favorites. In fact, our lists may be completely different. So, pick what you want from the list below, adapt, improvise, and change as you will. Or throw these out and come up with something new. We have seen deans spend a great deal of time and money on an event only to hear at the end of the day that the kids favorite activity was playing on the rope swing over the creek.

Camp activities:

Safari and Wilderness Quest have a ground level activity called a Zip-Zap (a short Zipline on the ground) for free time play. *Important note: These still must be supervised! We have a few broken arms and a concussion with a hospital run due to lack of supervision. Safety, safety, safety!!!*

Cross Hill campfire ring is not a far distance from the Safari and Wilderness Quest but you will want to coordinate usage. It has benches and a cross and a beautiful vista. Your liaison can make sure firewood is available and that the site is ready for you to go up and light.

Exploring the creek adventure - follow the creek out of camp upstream and find where it begins. Some of the pools are fairly deep and will have snapping turtles, crawdads and good sized fish. You may also find tracks of a large number of woodland creatures. Kids love to build a dam on running water. This may be difficult late in the summer, but a creek stomp is always fun.

Hike to Fort Hill - I must admit this activity has been around since camp started. To my knowledge the hike to Fort Hill was a part of every camp session at one time. Once at Fort Hill, there is a museum that may be open and there are numerous trails to hike there, including a gorge trail that is very nice. Kids may or may not be into hiking. You can add adventure by use of a GPS or trail activity that break up the hike from time to time. You can also arrange ahead of time for a surprise van to pick you up and transport you back to main camp from Fort Hill. We've also delivered canteen to the Fort Hill parking lot to break up the hiking session for a nice treat.

BSCC Staff Supervised Activities - We have a low team's course, a climbing tower, a giant swing, Eagles Wings Zipline (a three-zip line platform), and a double decker high ropes course. These will be scheduled each session in the afternoons as part of your program (see sample schedule). The high ropes can only be done by seventh grade and above. The upper level of the high ropes can only be used by high school age participants. The low team's course is great for building community and ideally is done more at the beginning of the camp session.

Please make sure you contact the Program Director at camp to schedule these activities PRIOR to arriving at camp.

Archery, Air Rifles, Bazooka Ball, Gaga pit, Giant Slide, 9 Square, Paintball Shoot, Volleyball, Human Foosball, Spike ball, KanJam, Giant Connect 4, Giant Jenga - We just keep adding new and exciting activities. These activities are all fairly fun and available at a short notice. We actually put a 9 Square between Wilderness Quest and Safari.

For a complete list of activities, please refer to the Dean's Manual Appendix.

Swimming - this is fairly self explanatory. Depending on how warm it is, you may swim several times a day. Some groups do an early afternoon and then again after supper. Others prefer before supper and early evening. Depending on the ages, Safari, Wilderness Quest, and main camp can swim together. We try to accommodate each group swimming alone, but with multiple camp sessions going on simultaneously, it may be impossible. Be prepared and aware that we will do the best we can.

Canoeing/Long's Retreat - right now we recommend canoeing down the Little Miami River near Morrow, OH. We are trying to schedule every session on Tuesday, with a backup day as Wednesday. It is a daylong event in which we send a trail lunch for the group.

We have a deal with Long's Retreat, which is a family activity fun center not far from camp. They offer water slides, swimming, putt-putt, water play area and more. It is, however, surrounded by locals and vacationers who may or may not represent a Christian atmosphere. Wilderness Quest can do multiple offsite days, Safari typically does one, but can request additional off campus trips. The offsite activity is based on the age of the group and the dean's creativity. Read on to hear of some other offsite options!

Paint Creek - The Paint Creek area has a rock climbing/rappelling site. Our staff will need to accompany you to run this safely. The climbing adventure is a normal Wilderness Quest activity done as an afternoon adventure but can be the offsite activity for Safari if they so desire.

Adventure camp out (WQ only) - this activity is one for the truly adventurous. It involves hiking the ridge behind camp for a few hours before coming to stop at a campsite in the wilderness. Supper and breakfast are cooked at the overnight site. If perfect weather is called for, all that is needed are sleeping bags and a large tarp for girls and one for boys to sleep under the stars. Not recommended if foul weather is predicted.

Other offsite experiences - Buzzards Roost in Adams County is an excellent choice; Hocking Hills area day trip is another; building a lean-to shelter and sleeping in it may be an exciting

challenge; and a host of other ideas yet to be discovered. Be sure to consider supervision by qualified adults and overall safety of any activity.

Chapter 6 - Dealing with Main Camp

Being in Safari and Wilderness Quest can often feel like you are an afterthought or lesser importance; that you don't have all the rights and privileges of the big main camp sessions. Let me assure you that this is not the case. Each session, each camper, each volunteer has our respect and deserves our undivided attention. As mentioned before, some sessions have as many as nine different programs going on at the same time. Our staff works to be flexible but it can be a daunting task. Safari and Wilderness Quest are made up of twenty to thirty people maximum (or should be). They are already roughing it and should realize that they can be more flexible than a main camp session with up to 150 campers.

Use of the Ranch House - your session will use the Ranch House, not just for swimming but for bathing and it has the closest flush toilets to your campsites. Please supervise appropriately your campers in this building. Do not go into the girls lodging room or kitchen/fireplace room for any reason. No items are to be left in this building except during swimming. An outdoor clothesline is available for your campers at the end of the building closest to the parking lot. There is a "Brailer" (bridge/trailer) with a canvas tent that you can store your items under. Your staff should check for items left behind in each bathroom and the porch area before moving on. If you find these areas in need of cleaning, alert the lifeguard staff or your camp liaison at the earliest opportunity. Do your part to keep these high traffic areas as neat and clean as possible. Safari and Wilderness Quest have separate designated Brailers that are for your use only to leave things while you are at main camp. They are the covered decked shelters over the creek below the pool.

Mealtimes-when coming back from a day trip the camp staff will prepare dinner for you to avoid late dinner on those days (this will require you to arrive back at camp for Meal Shift 1 or 2, so please plan accordingly). Each day you will either have lunch in the cafeteria or a prepared lunch will be taken with you on a day trip. When eating lunch in the cafeteria, you will have tables designated for your campers and staff. You will need to clean up after yourselves for main camp to eat right after you. If you arrive at 11:30 AM (Meal Shift 1), you can pray and eat and have 30 minutes. If you are late, you must be out by noon anyway. Depending on the main camp program, you may be able to shift your lunch time to after main camp, but we advise against this. Discuss this with your liaison before arriving at camp to see if this is an option.

You will have a radio that you may turn on and use to communicate with camp staff. You may want to turn on the radio at breakfast and check in with main camp to find out if there is any news of the day that we may need to communicate with you. At lunch you should plan on picking up your mail and check in with your camp liaison. Regular communication will allow you to share any needs, questions or concerns. Don't hesitate to bring anything to our

attention. It is not a bother for you to ask something of us, it is our ministry. Let us know immediately if you are getting too much or not enough food, you need your trash removed or would like to change your activity schedule around. Also, notify us immediately if you have an accident or emergency. After hours you can use your cell phone (if you can get enough signal) to call a staff member at home. Remember you are our ministry!

Chapter 7 - The paperwork – I know, yuck!

Prior to arriving at camp, you and your volunteer team will need to complete the mandatory faculty registration. On that registration page, we will do a background check each year. We need a list of your staff, schedule and menu questions 21 days prior to your session start date. We would also like details of your theme and any budget issues. We recommend communicating with your campers at least once before the session to remind them of special items that they may need to bring and to create anticipation and excitement for their session. Please send correspondence to us and we will forward it to the campers as they register. It is also valuable to drive home the lessons of a session of camp to send correspondence after the session has ended. We can give you the addresses of each camper but would like copies of your correspondence for our records.

When your session is over, you will need to take the time on that departure day to fill out a Dean's Report. This includes information on Baptisms, your mission, the amount of any offering collected and an evaluation sheet of the session. We have learned so much from those evaluation sheets and people being forthcoming and critical about the programs we run. Please fill these out with your entire staff, getting input from everyone. Mission money is turned into the camp and we send it to the address and person listed.

Many sessions prepare a devotional guide. We would like to file a copy of these guides, so please prepare an extra one if you do so to give to the office. Years ago, I prayed long and hard about the devotional guide for an adventure camp session. I spent long hours typing and retyping the guide and felt very good about the finished product. The day before I left for camp, as I was praying I felt God saying that the guide was not exactly where He wanted me to go. It was upsetting, but I prayed this prayer "God don't let me get in your way this week." So I handed out my guide and did my devotions and as we finished we sat around the fire and God showed up. It wasn't about what I had prepared but what God wanted to do. Campers started asking questions that led to a deeper strengthening of their faith and I praise God for allowing me to be a part of that. I don't mention this to dissuade you from doing a devotional guide, but to encourage you to offer your sessions up to God in prayer and trust that HE WILL SHOW UP. I pray each session now that I won't get in God's way.

Chapter 8 – Baptisms

According to research, more young people make their decision and get baptized at camp than any other place or venue. It only makes sense because we have roughly 80 hours of waking time to walk and talk with campers about Jesus, which is more than most get in two years of church attendance. While we want kids to come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and want them to choose to follow in obedience to God's word by being baptized, we also want real decisions that are based upon an understanding of what they are choosing and why. Please counsel each child making such a decision. We trust you as a dean or you would not have been asked to take on this great responsibility.

If a child desires to be baptized, our policy is to notify the parents and ask permission. Parents often wish to attend and may invite other friends and relatives as well. Be prepared for parents to say no, request that another family member do the baptism or that it be done at their own church. We may not agree with the reasons but right now this is our policy.

Baptisms are done typically prior to parent pick up on Friday evening. Parent pick up is at 2:00 PM, baptisms are usually done at 1:45 PM. Notify staff as soon as you know that you have baptisms. Also, make sure the parents are aware of the time. Your camp liaison will provide a new Bible and baptismal certificate. Please contact their local church. They will want to recognize this great decision and encourage this new believer on their path. Your camp liaison can assist with all of this.

Chapter 9 - The camp liaison, your go-to!!!

When you arrive at camp on check in day, you will want to find the Program Director. He/she will assist you in using a vehicle to transport your supplies to the top of the hill. He/she will also introduce you to your camp liaison. This will be someone who assists with your programming needs, delivers your food, picks up your trash, and works to make your session a success from the Butler Springs side of things. He/she will approach you each day at lunch to find out how to serve you better. They may show up to have a meal with you or be your lifeguard for swimming.

This position was created to ensure accountability so that someone is aware of the needs and is responsible for meeting them. It is not the intention for them to stay with you or become an annoyance. Since this is a fairly new concept it may take some time to see how it works out but should be a great blessing. They will have other camp responsibilities but their first responsibility is your camp session!

If you have anything to share or ask, please contact the camp - 937-588-2205

Sample Menu (Days and Menu Planning May Deviate)

	Breakfast	Lunch	Supper
SUNDAY		All lunches except canoe or Longs Retreat day are at main camp at 11:30 sharp. You may discuss a later time with Camp Liaison.	At Main Camp
MONDAY	Pancakes/ syrup Sausage Patties Cereal Milk, Juice	At main camp!	Tin foil dinner Hamburger, foil, potato, carrot, onion, butter, Ketchup, bread Drinks, Watermelon
TUESDAY	French toast/ syrup Bacon Butter Powdered sugar Cereal Milk, juice	At main camp. (WQ – Pack Lunch)	Hot Dogs Pork and Beans Chips Smores Drinks
WEDNESDAY Trip day (x2 WQ)	Cereal fruit Milk, juice	Deli/buns Chips (individual) condiments 2 drinks per person candy bar	At main camp - call on return to have ready when you arrive!!! Personal pan pizza Salad, dessert Drinks
THURSDAY	Eggs, sausage, hashbrown Ketchup Cereal Milk, juice	At main camp.	Steak, baked potato green beans, Dessert Drinks
FRIDAY	Cereal fruit Milk, juice	At main camp.	At main camp 5pm

PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY WITH BREAD, AND FRESH FRUIT WILL BE AVAILABLE AT EACH MEAL!

You may choose to eat with main camp (Meal Shift 1) on days you will be going off campus—this will alleviate the pressure of cooking and cleaning prior to leaving, allowing your session more time to prep for the day. If you choose to do this, it is **IMPERATIVE** that you notify the Program Director **PRIOR** to arriving at camp. Remember, the more we know in advance, the more smoothly your camp session will operate (and less headaches for us!)

SUGGESTED SAFARI/WILDERNESS QUEST WEEKLONG

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY SCHEDULE

Because we have multiple camp sessions operating at one time, we should stick to this suggested schedule. You will need to work with the Program Director and other Deans for your session of camp to ensure there are no scheduling conflicts.

6:45 AM—7:00 AM	Wake Up
7:30 AM—8:00 AM	Start Prepping for Breakfast
8:00 AM—8:45 AM	Breakfast & Clean Up
8:50 AM—9:00 AM	Personal Reflection Time
9:15 AM—10:00 AM	Main Lesson / Worship
10:15 AM—10:30 AM	Travel time to Main Camp
10:30 AM—11:15 AM	Restroom / Dean Supervised Camp Activities
11:30 AM—12:00 PM	Lunch
12:15 PM—12:45 PM	Mission Time
1:00 PM—1:55 PM	Activity 1 (Possible Lesson Time)
2:00 PM—2:55 PM	Activity 2 (Canteen Rotation)
3:00 PM—3:55 PM	Activity 3 (Canteen Rotation)
4:00 PM—4:55 PM	Activity 4 (Possible Lesson Time)
5:00 PM—5:30 PM	Travel time back to Safari / WQ
5:30 PM—6:45 PM	Dinner & Clean UP
6:45 PM—7:00 PM	Travel time to Main Camp
7:30 PM—8:45 PM	Pool Open / Shower Time
9:00 PM—9:15 PM	Travel time to Safari / WQ
9:30 PM—10:30 PM	Evening Snack & Campfire
11:00 PM	Suggested Lights Out
11:30 PM	Everyone should be asleep
12:00 AM	NO ONE OUTSIDE CABINS

This is a suggested schedule, Monday—Thursday of **full days of Safari / Wilderness Quest camps. You are more than welcome to manipulate the times but we MUST keep meal times the same. Also, we need to make doubly certain that we are abiding by the lights out time and no one outside cabin time frames for security and safety purposes.

Always allow some “cushion” time in between scheduled thing to accommodate travel time or those campers that need some extra Grace!

SUGGESTED SAFARI / WILDERNESS QUEST

ARRIVAL DAY SCHEDULE

Because we have multiple camp sessions operating at one time, we should stick to this suggested schedule. You will need to work with the Program Director and other Deans for your session of camp to ensure there are no scheduling conflicts.

Arrival Day

1:30 PM—2:30 PM	Begin move in / set up
2:30 PM—3:00 PM	Mandatory Faculty / Volunteer Check In
3:00 PM—3:45 PM	Finalize setup
3:45 PM—4:45 PM	Faculty / Volunteer Greet Camper
4:45 PM—5:00 PM	Organize / Assemble for dinner
5:00 PM—5:30 PM	Dinner
5:45 PM—6:00 PM	Travel time to Safari / WQ
6:00 PM—7:00 PM	Campers Setup Bunks
7:00 PM—7:15 PM	Travel time to Main Camp
7:30 PM—8:45 PM	Pool Open / Shower Time
9:00 PM—9:15 PM	Travel Time to Safari WQ
9:30 PM—10:30 PM	Evening Snack / Campfire
10:30 PM	Lights out
12:00 AM	NO ONE OUTSIDE CABINS

SUGGESTED SAFARI / WILDERNESS QUEST

DEPARTURE DAY SCHEDULE

SUGGESTED MAIN CAMP DEPARTURE DAY

2:00 pm Departure Day (Typical of **Friday** Departure Days—please confirm your camp session’s departure time)

7:30 AM—8:00 AM	Meal Shift 1
8:00 AM—8:45 AM	Meal Shift 2
9:00 AM—10:30 AM	Activity Time or Your Planning
10:30 AM—12:00 PM	Pack Up / Move Luggage Out of Cabins / Clean Up
11:30 AM—12:00 PM	Meal Shift 1
12:00 PM—12:45 PM	Meal Shift 2
12:45 PM—1:15 PM	Session / Worship / Goodbyes / No Activities
1:15 PM—1:45 PM	Baptisms
2:00 PM—2:45 PM	Parents to pick up at designated locations

4:00 pm Departure Day (Typical of **Thursday** Departure Days—please confirm your camp session’s departure time)

6:45 AM—7:00 AM	Wake Up
7:45 AM—8:00 AM	Organize / Assemble For Breakfast
8:00 AM—8:45 AM	Breakfast
8:50 AM—9:15 AM	Personal Reflection Time
9:30 AM—10:30 AM	Activity Time
10:45 AM—11:45 AM	Pack Up / Move Luggage Out of Cabins
12:00 PM—12:45 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM—3:00 PM	Main Session / Worship / Final Goodbyes
3:00 PM—3:30 PM	Baptisms
3:45 PM—4:45 PM	Parents to pick up at designated locations

This is a suggested arrival / departure day of main camp. You are more than welcome to manipulate the times but we **MUST keep meal times the same. Always allow some “cushion” time in between scheduled things to accommodate travel time or those campers that need some extra Grace!

PROPERTY / BUILDINGS / AREAS

- Butler Springs own approximately 180 acres of land that is all connected
- Cabins / Huts / Tents used by campers and/or session faculty (total of 284)
 - Lodging areas/rooms will be assigned by BSCC staff based on necessity
 - Ranch House, 20 total beds in one room, single gender usage, usually reserved as overflow
 - Joshua 1, 56 total beds in four rooms, single gender usage, reserved for males
 - David 2, 52 total beds in five rooms, single gender usage, usually reserved for males
 - Esther 3, 52 total beds in five rooms, single gender usage, usually reserved for females
 - Hannah 4, 52 total beds in five rooms, single gender usage, usually reserved for females
 - Safari Hut 1, 10 total beds in one room, single gender usage, reserved for males
 - Safari Hut 2, 10 total beds in one room, single gender usage, reserved for females
 - Safari Overflow Hut, 4 beds in one room, single gender usage, reserved for females
 - Safari Overflow Hut, 4 beds in one room, single gender usage, reserved for males
 - Wilderness Quest Tent 1, 10 beds in one tent, single gender usage, usually reserved for males
 - Wilderness Quest Tent 2, 10 beds in one tent, single gender usage, usually reserved for females
 - Wilderness Quest Overflow Tent, 4 beds in one tent, single gender usage, reserved as needed
- Cabin used by Summer Staff (total of 36 beds)
 - The Lodge
 - 20 total beds upstairs, single gender usage, usually reserved for females
 - 16 total beds downstairs, single gender usage, usually reserved for males
- Residential Dwellings
 - Osborne Family—the “A” frame located to the left of Joshua 1 and across the creek from the pool. Kuhn Family’s old house, Baker Family’s old house.
 - Howard Family—the two story house with double car garage doors on bottom level located to the left of Osborne Family house. Denzik Family’s old house.
 - Austin Fouts—the only brick house on campus located behind the Snack Shack. Warner Family’s old house.
 - Josie McDowell—two bedroom apartment located on the bottom floor, on the left side of the Lodge.

- Lilley Family—the two level apartment attached to the Green Building near Octoswing 1.
- Green Building
 - Bottom Floor
 - Cafeteria / Kitchen
 - Dry storage area / food storage area
 - Cleaning supply room / laundry services
 - Restrooms
 - First Aid Station
 - Private Room for Primary First Aid Person
 - Private Room for Secondary First Aid Person
 - Dean’s Quarters
 - Generally reserved for Main Camp Dean and Family
 - Second Floor
 - Breakout Room / Craft Room
 - Used for smaller sessions camp’s primary meeting space
 - Couch Room
 - Used for smaller sessions camp’s primary meeting space
 - Game Room
 - Everyone has access to this room
 - Administration Offices
 - No one should be in the offices unless given specific authorization
 - Fireside Room
 - Used for smaller sessions camp’s primary meeting space
 - Restrooms
- Gym / Multipurpose Building
 - Main Large Room
 - Generally used for Main Camp’s primary meeting space
 - Media Crows Nest Room
 - Not a bedroom!
 - Lots of money inside this room so please be careful who you give access to
 - Kitchen
 - Generally used for Kid’s Café and Culinary Café
 - Laundry service
 - Restrooms
- Shelters
 - Snack Shack
 - Double-ended shelter at the end of the soccer field
 - Daily Canteen dispensed here each afternoon
 - Usually the primary meeting space for Soccer Camp

- Thyatira
 - Shelter located by Swing Set / Noah's Ark
 - Used for lessons, group meeting spaces, crafts, etc.
- Laodicea
 - Shelter located by 9 Square
 - Used for lessons, group meeting spaces, crafts, etc.
- Happy Hollow Shelter
 - Located down the road
 - Generally used for Paintball Camp hub, Horse Camp, Safari, Wilderness Quest, Mountain Bike Camp, etc. as secondary meeting space
- Gazebo #1
 - Located at Big Blue Slide
 - Used for lessons, group meeting spaces, crafts, etc.
- Gazebo #2
 - Located at David 2
 - Used for lessons, group meeting spaces, crafts, etc.
- Minor Buildings
 - Paintball Shack
 - Located between Hannah 4 and the creek
 - Previously the Faculty Hut
 - No campers permitted inside
 - Water Building
 - Located between David 2 and Esther 3
 - No campers permitted inside
 - Maintenance Garage
 - Located beyond Howard House
 - BSCC employees and approved volunteers should be the only ones in/out of this building
 - No campers permitted
 - Storage Barn
 - Located behind Gym / Air Rifle area
 - No campers permitted inside or upstairs
 - Old Horse Barn
 - Located down the road near Safari Huts
 - Used by some camp sessions
 - Storage Barn at Happy Hollow
 - Located to the left of the Shelter
 - No one permitted inside
 - Waste Treatment Facility

- Located across the creek from the Maintenance Garage and beyond the RV sites, inside fenced area
 - BSCC Employees or approved volunteers only
 - No campers permitted inside
 - Woodshed 1
 - Located near High Ropes Course
 - Woodshed 2
 - Located near Coliseum
- Areas
 - Octoswing 1
 - Located outside Green Building, Apartment side
 - Seats 30-40 participants
 - Octoswing 2
 - Located beside of Hannah 4
 - Seats 30-40 participants
 - Hammock City
 - Located near Thyatira, Putt Putt, Noah's Ark, and Swing Set
 - Hammock Town
 - Located near Gym, Esther 3, and Hannah 4
 - Safari "Brailer" (Bridge / Trailer)
 - Located near pool / Ranch House
 - Used for Safari's headquarters once at main camp
 - Wilderness Quest "Brailer" (Bridge / Trailer)
 - Located near pool / Ranch House
 - Used for Wilderness Quest's headquarters once at main camp
 - Vespers
 - Located beyond Zip Line, Climbing Tower, and to the left of Archery
 - Can seat 200 participants
 - Coliseum
 - Located beyond Zip Line and before Climbing Tower
 - Can seat 200 participants
- Designated Campfire Areas
 - Coliseum
 - Vespers
 - Octoswing 1
 - Octoswing 2
 - Laodicea Shelter
 - Snack Shack
 - Thyatira Shelter
 - Other areas upon request but may be restricted

ACTIVITY OFFERINGS

- Activity Selections that require a BSCC employee to facilitate:
 - High Ropes Course, typically reserved for students going into 7th grade and up *but has height restrictions*, (Schedule 2 Hours per 25-30 participants)
 - Located beyond Zip Line, Climbing Tower, Coliseum, Vespers
 - Zip Line reserved for kids going into 3rd grade and up, *50 lb weight minimum and 250 lb maximum* (Schedule 1 hour per 25-30 participants)
 - Staging area located at the end of Big Blue Slide. Start side at Gym hill; end side at Big Blue Slide hill.
 - Climbing Tower, available to all grades (Schedule 1 hour per 18-22 participants)
 - Located beyond Zip Line and Coliseum
 - Giant Swing, reserved for students going into 4th grade and up, (Schedule 1 hour per 14-17 participants)
 - Located between Snack Shack and Big Blue Slide on the hill with staircase
 - Bazooka Ball, available to all grades (Schedule 1 hour per 15-20 participants)
 - Primarily played inside Gym; secondary spot is in cafeteria
 - Archery, reserved for students going into 3rd grade and up*, possible for younger but realize the frustration may escalate quickly from participants (Schedule 1 hour per 12-15 participants)
 - Located across the creek from High Ropes Course and beside Vespers
 - Air Rifles, reserved for students going into 3rd grade and up, possible for younger but realize the frustration may escalate quickly from participants (Schedule 1 hour per 12-15 participants)
 - Located behind the Gym
 - Pool, available to all participants (Schedule 1 hour per 50 participants)
 - Located behind the Ranch House
 - Low Ropes Initiatives, reserved for students going into 4th grade and up (Schedule 1 hour per 15-20) participants
 - Could be facilitated anywhere.
 - Please note that Axe Throwing was removed in August of 2022 as demanded by Insurance
- Activity Selections that **require supervision provided by your faculty**
 - Rope Swing by the creek
 - Located near Laodicea Shelter
 - Big Blue Slide
 - Located near Laodicea Shelter
 - Pedal Carts
 - Kept a large maple tree where the paved driveway splits

- Ga Ga Pit
 - Located near Snack Shack
- Zip Zap
 - Located on the side of the Soccer Field
- Human Foosball
 - Located near the pool
- Putt Putt Course
 - Located near the pool
- 18 Hole Disc Golf Course
 - Traverses main camp, start/finish at Octoswing 1
- 9 Square in the Air
 - Located near Laodicea
- Pendulum Swing (commonly referred to as the 'battering ram')
 - Located near Snack Shack
- Swing Set
 - Located near Noah's Ark
- Noah's Ark
 - Located near pool / Putt Putt course
- Outdoor Basketball Court / Pickle Ball Court
 - Located in front of the Lodge
- Soccer Field
 - Located near Snack Shack
- Hiking Trails
 - Through the woods...

DEADLINES

Camp Registration

Opens first business day of January

First Tier Price Range—January and February

Second Tier Price Range—March and April

Third Tier Price Range—May, June, and July

Dean's Timeline:

Prior to Camp Session Start Date

6 Months—Begin to recruit faculty / help. Identify main roles needed (teaching, worship, crafts/lessons, etc). Emphasize commitments. Communicate to camp with a brief description of your camp session (this can always be edited later; parents thirst for these descriptions when registering for camp). If your camp session requires advanced purchases, reservations, van usage, etc., anything outside a normal realm of operations, the camp MUST know in advance and given direction on how to go about those outlying requests.

5 Months—Tentative schedule, secure camp session theme and faculty assignments. Initial communication to team via email or meeting (digital or in person). Communicate with camp, if needed

4 Months—Start narrowing down faculty-led activities, main teachings, devotions, lessons, campfires, etc. that will incorporate the camp session theme. Request roster/numbers from camp office.

3 Months—Camp should have knowledge of your planned faculty (of all ages) attending. Those faculty should already have started the mandatory faculty registration process. They should know assignments, responsibilities, roles, etc. Dean's should be in communication with faculty via email and/or possible meeting. Request roster/numbers from camp office.

2 Months—Polish up any imperfections in schedule, fine tune teaching material to keep in line with camp session theme. Request roster/numbers from camp office.

1 Month—Craft a parent/camper letter that introduces you and your team, your goals for the camp session, theme, planned activities, any items needed in addition to normal packing (themed dress up nights for dinner, white shirt to tie-dye, messy day games, etc), encourage parents to pray for their child's time at camp, camp's missionary support, and any other information deemed necessary. We can email blast this out to families/campers. Request roster/numbers from camp office. Submit your t-shirt design (we highly encourage you to use our camp design) to the office for review.

21 Days—All Deans, faculty, teenagers, children, day visitor, etc. should have already completed the mandatory faculty registration process. Camp will re-blast an email

with updated information about your camp session details. Purchase materials needed for your camp session (keep receipts to be reimbursed). Request roster/numbers from camp office. By this deadline, you should have 90%-95% accuracy on camper numbers.

14 Days—Send your finalized schedule to camp so that we can begin piecing all puzzle together and correct any flaws with what is planned. Request roster/numbers from camp office. Special requests need to be finalized with the camp.

7 Days—Keep the camp updated with any special requests need to make your camp run efficiently and effectively.

Camp Session Start Day

Arrive 120 minutes early to begin setup / move in.

90 minutes prior to start time, mandatory faculty check in starts.

30 minutes prior to start time, you should have your faculty in place to start receiving campers/parents

45 minutes after start time, you should have 95%-100% of campers and begin to move towards first thing on your session schedule (Sunday Check In camps first big thing is dinner at 5:00 and 5:30)

BUTLER SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CAMP

STATEMENT OF FAITH AND PRACTICE

Butler Springs Christian Camp holds to the truth that God sees a clear correlation between what we believe and how we behave. To put it more directly, our behavior must be an expression of our beliefs, both on-site and off. As a Christian Camp we take seriously the Bible and its implications for personal conduct. While there is no one model of Christian behavior Butler Springs Christian Camp insists upon from its Partner churches, employees, directors, and volunteers, we do insist those associated with Butler Springs Christian Camp affirm our Statement of Faith and Practice. Examples of specific areas of application for individuals would be, but not limited to: participation in the life of a local church; respect for the historic position of Butler Springs Christian Camp on marriage, gender and sexuality(See our Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality); respect for issues like the use of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs; respect for individuals; a personal commitment to spiritual growth; and a willingness to be positive representatives of Butler Springs Christian Camp, both on-site and off-site.

We believe **God** is one being in three persons--God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. He is the source of all creation (Gen. 1:1, John 1:1-2), which He sustains (Col. 1:17) and is in the process of redeeming (Rom. 8:19-22). God the Father loves us and desires that we have fellowship with Him as His children (I John 1:3).

We believe **Jesus** is the incarnation of God the Son. He is the Word that became flesh (John 1:14), and He now holds all authority in heaven and on earth (Matt. 28:18). He is Savior and Lord. He made human salvation possible through His life, death on the cross, and resurrection. He ascended into heaven where He is now our high priest and advocate. He is head of the church.

We believe the **Holy Spirit** works actively in the world, seeking to glorify Jesus. The Holy Spirit convicts people of sin, righteousness, and judgment to come (John 16:5-11). The Holy Spirit indwells believers individually and completely in the Church. The Holy Spirit develops within the Christian a pure heart which results in Christ-like character expressed in private and public conduct and action.

We believe the **Bible**, the Old and New Testament Scriptures, is the uniquely inspired, infallible, and inerrant Word of God (2 Tim. 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:16-21). The Bible is the rule of faith and practice for Christians. We affirm that Scripture is the authoritative revelation from God by which we know God's will and Christ's authority. We seek to assert what the Scriptures clearly assert and allow freedom in other cases. We seek to understand divine intent, through authorial intent, and we seek to apply its teaching to the contemporary church and culture.

We believe the **Church** is the body of Christ on earth, the community of believers throughout the world. Upon faith, repentance, confession, and baptism a person is added to the Church. In addition, the priesthood of all believers means each Christian is called to be a serving minister (1 Peter 2:9-10). The Church's mission is the great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20).

We believe **Human** beings were created by God to walk in fellowship with Him. However, all (except Jesus) have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23) and must rely on God's grace and forgiveness. Every human from the moment of life (conception) is in the image of God, a person to be nurtured, protected, and developed.

We believe **Marriage** was established by God and we believe it to be a lifelong, exclusive relationship between one man and one woman and that all sexual activity outside the marriage relationship, whether heterosexual, homosexual, or otherwise, is immoral and therefore sin (Gen. 2:24-25; Ex. 20:14, 17, 22:19; Lev. 18:22-23, 20:13, 15-16; Matt. 19:4-6, 9; Rom. 1:18-31; I Cor. 6:9-10,15-20; I Tim. 1:8-11; Jude 7).

We believe that **God created the human race male and female** and that all conduct with the intent to adopt a gender other than one's birth gender is immoral and therefore sin (Gen. 1:27; Deut. 22:5)." (See our Policy Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality)

We believe **Salvation** is by God alone through Jesus Christ. One accepts Christ as Savior through a conversion process that includes faith, repentance, confession, and baptism (Acts 2:38, 8:12, 10; 47-48, Rom. 10:9).

We believe **The Lord's Supper** is the celebration of the New Covenant, in which the Christian community remembers Christ and celebrates the covenantal relationship they have with Him and with each other. Congregations in this fellowship typically celebrate the Lord's Supper at least weekly (1 Cor. 11:17-34, Acts 20:7).

We believe the **Final Coming** of Jesus is a time when Christ will personally come again as savior and judge of the world. At that time, there will be a bodily resurrection of the dead-believers to eternal life with God and unbelievers to eternal judgment. Sin will be no more, and believers will live in fellowship with God forever (1 Thess. 4:13-18, Rev. 20:11-15).

STATEMENT ON **MARRIAGE, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY**

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Genesis 1:26-27) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Genesis 2:18-25) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to one another. (1 Corinthians 6:18; 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, or any attempt to change one's sex or disagree with one's biological sex) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matthew 15:18-20; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10) We also believe that the power of the Holy Spirit can help the person overcome any of the above-mentioned sins and that other sins not listed are also offensive to God.

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Butler Springs Christian Camp, and to provide a biblical role model to those that participate in the ministry of Butler Springs Christian Camp; it is imperative that all persons employed by Butler Springs Christian Camp in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, agree to and abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality. (Matthew 5:16; Philippians 2:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 5:22)

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31) Hateful, harassing, demeaning behavior or any attitude that does not reflect the love and grace of God that is directed toward any individual is not in accord with Scripture nor the Faith and Practice of Butler Springs Christian Camp.