

2024 Camper Information Package v.1



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Welcome

Greetings from Simonhouse Bible Camp! We are excited that you have decided to join us for a fun and exciting week of summer! We look forward to having you. You will meet new friends, learn new activities and have memories that will last a lifetime. All the camp staff look forward to meeting you and are excited to make this the best week at camp ever!

Complete your Registration

Please note that in order for your Registration to be complete, the following items need to be submitted:

- ✓ Complete and accurate Registration Information (preferably online, or a Registration Form)
- ✓ At minimum, the deposit amount of \$50 (or \$15 for Mini-Mee) must be paid.

Payment Methods

- <u>Credit Card</u> payments are processed immediately.
- <u>e-Transfer</u> payments must be sent to **payments@simonhouse.ca**. At minimum, the deposit amount is due within 24 hours of Registration.
- <u>Cheque/Money Order</u> payments must be sent to or dropped off at our office. Please ensure that the full amount, or two cheques with the deposit amount dated today, plus a post-dated cheque(s) dated no later than 2 weeks prior to the first day of camp, is included. Due within 7 days of Registration (or no later than 2 weeks prior to the first day of camp).
- <u>Sunshine Fund Applications</u> must be sent to their office in Winnipeg as per their instructions. We will hold your spot pending review and acceptance from them up to 2 weeks prior to the first day of camp.
- <u>John M Smith Fund Applications</u> must be submitted to the camp and then we will forward them for review and approval. Please fax (1-800-282-1726), email (info@simonhouse.ca) or mail to the camp office (address below).

 Due within 48 hours.

Please be sure to pay, at minimum, the deposit amount within the stated timeframes above. Your spot may not be held if payment isn't received in those timeframes. Any balance owing MUST be paid at least <u>two weeks</u> prior to the first day of your camp session.

Refund Policy

If cancellation is made two (2) weeks or more prior to the camp session, the fee, less the deposit will be refunded. If less than two (2) weeks prior to the camp session, there is NO refund except for medical emergencies. In cases of medical emergencies, a note from the attending doctor will be required indicating the reason(s) why the camper must not attend the camp session for the health and safety of themselves or others. There is no refund for campers who withdraw from camp for any reason during the camp session, or who are sent home for disciplinary or medical reasons. Deposits and fees are non-transferable.

Transportation

You are responsible for arranging for transportation to and from the camp. If you are looking for a ride or willing to drive an extra person, please feel free to contact the office and we can try to assist with facilitating car pooling, as available.

What to Expect

Drop-Off

Please arrive between 4:00 – 5:30 pm on Sunday for drop-off. We are unable to accept your children prior to this time.

Once at the camp you will head to our largest building where our office is located [see map at the end].

- 1. Outside (or inside if it's pouring) you will get your name tag which will also tell you what cabin you are in.
- 2. If you have any medications or health care concerns, you will then see the Health Officer who will either be in the office or across the office in the First-Aid room. Please note that all medication MUST be in its original packaging and not expired (prescription and over the counter medication) along with dose instructions.
- 3. The final step is a stop at the Tuck Shop (if this hasn't been done online already). This is where you can drop off some money for them to get a sweet snack during the week and you can also buy clothing and other items as well [see Tuck Shop below for more info].

Pick-Up

- Senior High, Junior High, & Junior camps end on Friday at 6:00 pm, with a short program and supper for all.
- Mini-Mee Camp ends on Tuesday at 6:00 pm, with a short program and supper for all.

When you come to find your child at Pick-Up, they will likely be in the main area (Ga-Ga pit, picnic table, Chapel area) or in their cabin getting any last things packed up. If you don't remember which cabin they are in, just ask anyone who looks tall enough to be staff or make a stop by the office and we will help direct you. ©

Please note that we require you to <u>sign your child out of camp</u>, with their cabin leader. So please ensure that you quickly see them prior to leaving.

<u>NOTE:</u> Please ensure that the camp office has the names of those who are coming to pick up your child. If you need to pick up your child earlier for any reason please notify the office when you will be coming and the name(s) of who is authorized to pick up your child on your behalf, if applicable. ID may be required.

Tuck Shop

Tuck is a brief break in the day where kids are able to get a little bit of candy. It's a well loved, universal camp tradition. Don't worry, the campers get three great healthy meals a day (plus an evening snack) and this is just a little treat time. If you send less than the maximum amount of money then we will just divide whatever you spend over the total number of days for them so that they can still get something each day.

- Campers deposit tuck money (not included in the camp fee) for safe keeping in the camp "bank" either when they register or during drop-off. Campers can spend up to \$5.00/day (\$25.00/wk or \$10.00 for Mini-Mee) on refreshments. If money is left over it will be refunded.
- T-shirts, hoodies, sweatpants, waterbottles, etc., can be purchased ahead of time from our online Tuck Shop at https://simonhousebiblecamp.square.site/ (or by clicking "Tuck Shop" from our website www.simonhouse.ca)
 Your order will be ready when you arrive for drop-off and handed to you then. Our store will also be open during registration or after the Closing Program. Please note that we accept most forms of payment at our camp store.
- Clothing is limited so sizes/colors will sell out. Online ordering allows even those with a later camp date to have the same opportunity to purchase.

Health

Please ensure your child is in good health prior to camp.

Fever - Should your child have a fever we ask you to let us know and hold them back for a day or so until they feel better and the fever breaks.

Lice - please check your child for lice prior to bringing your child to camp. If found, please ensure it has been fully treated and removed before bringing them to camp. Campers' found to have lice will be asked to return home to have the lice treated there. Please help by encouraging your child(ren) to NOT share hats, brushes, pillows, etc.

Medication

- All prescribed medication must be sent in the ORIGINAL PRESCRIPTION BOTTLE (please send sufficient supply
 with a few extra). If the medication is not in the original bottle or the label is not legible IT WILL NOT BE
 ADMINISTERED. Any over-the-counter medication must be in the ORIGINAL PACKAGE and be accompanied by
 parent instructions.
- All medications MUST be turned in to the Health Officer at Drop Off. By law, we must keep all medications locked up and out of the camper cabins. The only EXCEPTION to this is for **Epi-Pens**, and **emergency inhalers** (the blue Salbutamol ones). These may be kept with the child.

Dietary Restrictions - All our meals are healthy and based on Canada's Food Guide. If your child doesn't like one thing there is usually something else to choose from. However, should your child have allergies to food (not just preferences) please ensure this is noted on the Medical Form so the kitchen is aware. In cases of allergies that may affect a number of meals or basic foods (gluten restrictions, etc.), it would be best to contact the office directly to discuss the menu and to send easy to prepare food along for the cooks to use to substitute meals where necessary.

Nut Free Camp - Due to the allergies associated with nuts, it is our goal to keep the camp free from all nuts (except some of the staff ©). Please ensure that nothing with nuts is packed along with your child(ren). If something is mistakenly sent along, we will have it stored at the office and can be picked up there when it is time for pick up your child(ren) at the end of the session.

Swimmers Itch - Some years or weeks we have had swimmer's itch in our lake. It can greatly vary. You can help by ensuring you send lots of suntan lotion for your child who will be reminded by camp staff to apply liberally prior to swimming. We also have a fresh water hose set up on the beach for campers to rinse off after swimming and have staff encouraging campers to use their towel to dry briskly. Generally, these few preventative steps will prevent any problems. Should a camper still get some of the itch, the camp does maintain a supply of Calamine lotion which can be used to reduce the irritation.

Homesickness - Camp is a great place to begin learning some independence and is often one of the first "away from home" experiences, besides with family, for many children. Homesickness can be part of that and often various factors play into it. Here is what you can expect from us:

- 1. We will work to encourage your child to participate in what is happening at the moment and let them know what exciting activities are coming up that they may look forward to/distract them. This may need to be repeated but often is effective.
- 2. If the homesickness continues on for awhile we will make a call to the parents to discuss the situation and discuss with you how you would like the situation handled and what we can suggest from our end, etc. (do you

want to see them stick it out more, etc). Together we will make a plan of how to proceed and will keep in contact with you as the situation evolves.

Sometimes a parent talking with a child is helpful, but more often it makes the situation worse. We suggest it as a last resort in most cases. *If you want your kids to succeed and stick it out it is best NOT to tell them ahead of time that they can call. Calling will usually result in needing to be picked up.* Rest assured, you can always talk to your child at camp. We will never prevent that, however, please note our policy on calling your child at camp:

Calling a child at camp - Camp is a great place for children to begin learning independence. We highly discourage calling or communicating with your child while at camp as more often than not, it often results in a child becoming homesick. We will NEVER prevent you from talking to your child. If you choose to communicate with them and your child becomes homesick, we will ask you to come and pick them up. Keep in mind, even if your child isn't prone to be homesick, when they go back and start talking to the other campers about talking to mom/dad, etc., that can make the other campers think about their parents and create homesickness for them.

It is perfectly normal to want to know how your child is doing when away from you, and at camp. Feel free to contact the office and ask our Office Team to check on your child and respond to you back. We will go and have a chat with your child's cabin leader and ask how your child is doing and let you know. We always try to give as honest assessment as we can and will work with you where need be to make your child's experience at camp as successful as possible.

Cabin Life

Our cabins hold up to 8 campers plus 2 leaders. The cabins are comfortable and each bunk has a covered mattress. Washrooms are in our main building and there are some outhouses closer to the cabins for night. Our site runs off a generator at night and the power usually goes off for a few hours during the night so having a flashlight is necessary. There is swimming everyday and campers are encouraged to spend at least some time in the lake to rinse off any dirt and get cleaner that way. Shower use is limited as our schedule is packed and it would be difficult to run everyone through. We are a camp so do expect some camp life. That being said, if there is a specific need (accidental bedwetting, etc) then certainly a camper can make use of a shower. Water is brought to the cabins at night in jugs and each camper has a provided cup to brush their teeth with. At meals, and before bed, those who are on scheduled medications will be brought to the Health Officer to ensure their medication is taken.

Bedwetting/Pull-ups

If a camper wets the bed we will do one of a few things depending on the severity of it. We may take the sleeping bag to the staff area of camp and hang it out to dry where it is inconspicuous to the campers. If it is really bad, we do have washers on site and may wash the sleeping bag. It's not a big deal, and happens often.

**If your child has pull-ups to wear for night please let their cabin leaders know when you arrive the first day and meet their leader. If your child is concerned about others knowing about it, no worries, we understand that. Please bring the Pull-ups in a bag, with your child's name on it, to our office and drop them off with the Administrative Assistant. When it is time to go to bed, your child can come to the office and pick up their pull-up and then go into the bathroom to change into it and their PJ's. It may be good to send along a bag or something for your child to put their PJ's and underwear in that they will be replacing with the Pull-ups when they walk to and from the office. If you have any concerns or requests as to your child's concerns, just let us know. We want to make camp an amazing place for them!

What to Bring (Please label ALL your items)

Sleeping bag	Pillow
Running Shoes (not just flip flops)	Swimsuit (suitable for active water
	sports ie. Athletic style) & towel
Toothbrush/paste	Suntan Lotion (spray type if needing
	leaders to help put on)
Biodegradable soap/shampoo	Hat
Notebook and pen/pencil	Bible (if you have one)
Clothes suitable for camp (warm)	Rainwear
Several changes of socks/underwear	Insect repellent
Nicer clothes for banquet (optional)	Warm jacket
Money for Tuck (candy/clothing)	Flashlight
Water Bottle	

Please Do Not Bring

Cell phones, cigarettes, video games, gum, and food containing nuts.

Any electronics that become distracting to the camp program may be confiscated and returned at Pick Up. We take no responsibility for any electronics brought to camp.

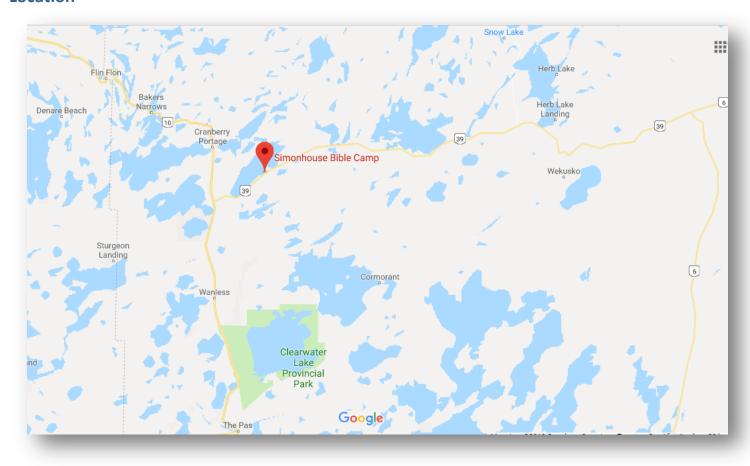
Expectations

- Campers are expected to behave in a manner appropriate to living in a group setting, respecting others and property. Fighting, swearing, bullying, etc., will NOT be tolerated and may result in dismissal from camp with no refund.
- Clothing/swimwear must be modest and in good taste. Clothing with suggestive sayings or pictures should not be brought to camp. Swimsuits should be functional and stay on during a variety of active water activities and games.
- Smoking is not permitted.

Cabinmate Requests

Every effort is made to accommodate the camper with at least one of the campers' requests; however, no guarantees are made.

Location



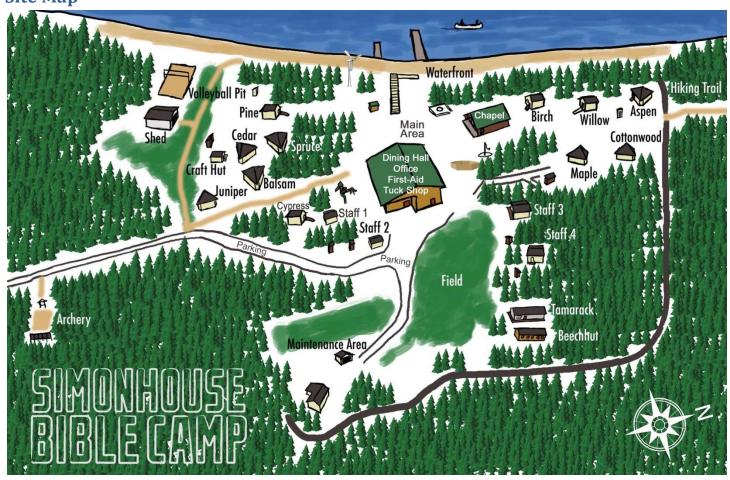
Search for "Simonhouse Bible Camp" on Google Maps for easy directions to camp.

We are located on Hwy 39, about 19 km east of "Fidlers Corner" (JCT of HWY 10 & 39). There are signs. Our driveway is about a kilometer long with parking at the end.

Drive Times

- Cranberry Portage about 20 minutes
- Flin Flon & The Pas about 1 hour
- Snow Lake about 1 hour and 20 minutes
- Thompson about 3 hours

Site Map





206-35 Main St., Flin Flon, MB R8A 1J7 | 204-687-3340 | <u>info@simonhouse.ca</u> | www.simonhouse.ca