



9640 Center Grove Church Rd.
Clemmons, NC 27012 - 9165

Molding Christian Character

Summer Youth Camp • Retreats • Quality Programming
Team Building • Climbing Wall • High Ropes Course

2012 SUMMER VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Merriwood Christian Camp. Below are some details about how you may be involved in the volunteer ministry of MCC. If interested in applying to volunteer, please complete the volunteer application and return to MCC.

Q: WHAT IS THE VOLUNTEER CRITERIA?

A: *First, we accept volunteers that are rising 8th graders or older. Second, an individual may not be a volunteer **instead** of attending a week of camp (i.e. volunteers should be registered for a week as a camper at MCC.) Third, consideration may be given according to age and experience, past performance in the volunteer role at Merriwood Christian Camp, and how highly the applicants are viewed by their volunteer references.*

Q: WHAT DOES A VOLUNTEER DO DURING AN OVERNIGHT WEEK AT MCC?

A: *The role of a MCC volunteer is a serving/behind the scenes position. If volunteering for one of our 9 Overnight Weeks, the volunteers assist in the dining hall (setting tables, putting out food, cleaning up after meals, putting dishes away, sweeping, and mopping at night). They also serve the campers at the afternoon and evening canteen each day. We usually have five or so volunteers per week to do these duties. (Occasionally, we may have a volunteer help with the grounds work if arranged ahead of time with the maintenance director.)*

Q: WHAT DOES A DAY CAMP VOLUNTEER DO?

A: *Our greatest need for Day Camp Volunteers is in the role of Counselor Helpers (i.e. helping a college-aged counselor with their group of guys or girls. Up to eight guy and eight girl Counselor Helpers may be needed). Other needs are Paddle boat Assistants which also help at the afternoon Canteen, Lunchroom Assistants, Craft helpers, Fishing helpers, & Staff Childcare Assistants (ages 6 and under).*

Q: HOW MANY VOLUNTEERS HELP AT MCC EACH SUMMER?

A: *Throughout the summer, we will fill over 60 volunteers slots. Volunteers come for one-week segments. They arrive and depart at the same basic time as campers. Please keep in mind that only a certain number of volunteers are needed each week. For Overnight Weeks, we usually have five or six volunteers. For our Day Camp Week, we could use as many as 25 volunteers.*

Q: WHAT DOES MCC PROVIDE FOR VOLUNTEERS?

A: *For Overnight Week volunteers, we provide housing and meals and free soft drink at each canteen. For Day Camp week volunteers, we provide a morning snack, lunch, and a complimentary soft drink at the afternoon canteen. No financial compensation or free week of camp is exchanged. (Scholarships are available for summer camp attendance if financial assistance is needed.)*

Q: HOW MANY WEEKS CAN I VOLUNTEER THIS SUMMER?

A: *If accepted, volunteers are allowed to volunteer one overnight week out of the summer plus one or two Day Camp Weeks (if interested). Volunteers must come and go in between weeks, as campers do, even if they are volunteering two weeks in a row. **Volunteers should plan to volunteer for complete sessions.** For this reason, please check your calendar closely so you may volunteer a week you do not have to come and go for other obligations.*

Q: WHAT ARE THE ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES FOR DIFFERENT WEEKS?

- *Day Camp Week volunteers should be present Monday through Friday, 9:00 am-4:00 pm. These are the same hours as the campers. Volunteers will help during these hours only. There is no overnight stay for volunteers during the Day Camp Week. There is an optional Friday night overnight stay for campers. Some volunteers may be invited to stay over Friday night, depending on need and space available. If the volunteer is invited to stay overnight, he/she would need to be picked up Saturday at 9:30 am.*

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- Junior and Middle School Week volunteers should arrive at the camp Monday morning by 10:30 am. Volunteers will be done with their responsibilities, and need to be picked up by 10:00 am on Saturday for all overnight weeks. For overnight weeks, volunteers will be expected to stay overnight, for the duration of the program.
- Teen Week volunteers should arrive Sunday afternoon by 4:30 pm. They will be done with their responsibilities, and need to be picked up by 10:00 am on Saturday. Please note: Tuesday of Teen Week is Expedition Day for the campers. All the campers and staff will be off the grounds that day. There will not be any planned activities for the volunteers that Tuesday. If possible, MCC asks parent(s) to pick up their volunteer that Tuesday at 9:00 am. The volunteers may return that Tuesday evening between 6:30-9:00 pm. If accepted for this week and the Tuesday arrangements are an issue, please contact Jenn Key at Merriwood to try to make other arrangements.

*** Volunteers may arrive along with their church group, if applicable. If necessary, housing may be available for those needing to arrive on Sunday night, to begin volunteering on Monday for the Junior or Middle School weeks. Contact MCC if this is necessary as those arrangements must be made ahead of time.*

Q: CAN I VOLUNTEER WITH A FRIEND?

A: There is a place on your volunteer application to indicate one friend you would like to volunteer with. Please keep in mind that this friend should also be attending Merriwood as a camper this summer. Your friend should indicate you as their friend on their form, as well as choose the same available weeks for volunteering and should apply before the deadline as well. We will try to match you with your friend listed, but it's not always possible. Also keep in mind that you will be working as a "team" with the other volunteers. Our hope is that our volunteers will keep an open mind toward developing new friendships, as well as remembering their purpose for being at MCC for a week.

Q: WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE VOLUNTEERS? IS THERE A TRAINING SESSION FOR VOLUNTEERS?

A: Volunteers will be under the authority the Camp Director as well as under the direct supervision of a Volunteer Coordinator and/or department leader. There will be a briefing meeting for all volunteers on the first day of camp explaining our purposes, responsibilities and brief training. A Volunteer Coordinator will be available to them throughout the week as needed.

Q: WHAT ARE SOME OF THE VOLUNTEER RULES/REGULATIONS?

A: The volunteer role is a behind the scene position. Volunteers are expected to support our philosophy that "camp is for the camper."

- *Volunteers are often viewed as "staff" to the campers attending. For this reason, our volunteers must maintain high standards in terms of attitude, dress, language, and attitude.*
- *Volunteers will have the same general bedtime as campers unless exceptions are made.*
- *Volunteers will not be alone in a private area with a camper.*
- *Volunteers will not be allowed to ride in camp or staff vehicles around the MCC grounds.*
- *Volunteers are expected to stay on the MCC grounds throughout the duration of their volunteering time unless prior arrangements are made.*
- *Volunteers should support our dress code philosophy and adhere to it. Their dress should not be a distraction. They should support the principle of modesty. No short-shorts. **All shorts must be at least mid-thigh length.** No spaghetti strap shirts. No T-shirts with improper advertising. Swimsuits should be modest.*
- *More information about responsibilities and expectations will be given the first day of camp in the briefing meeting. Volunteers not adhering to the regulations may be relieved of their responsibilities early and may not be accepted as a volunteer in the future.*

Q. WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS?

A: Potential volunteers should complete a volunteer application in full. The application should indicate as many weeks of availability as possible. This will make it easier to find a match week for you. We prefer volunteers to help on weeks that are not their own age group. (Some exceptions may be made, if we have a high need for a certain week.) Applications should be submitted by Friday, March 9th, 2012, or as soon as possible. We begin making volunteer decisions mid-march and try to be in touch with you concerning what our needs may be in early April 2012. If requesting to volunteer with a friend, please make sure both volunteer applications arrive by our March 9, 2012 deadline. We cannot hold volunteer spaces for a potential candidate if we do not have their application in hand.

If you have further questions, please contact Jenn Key at 336-766-5151 or jenn@campmerriwood.net. Again, thank you for your interest in volunteering at Merriwood Christian Camp. We realize that these ministries are mostly behind the scenes and sometimes unglamorous. MCC appreciates your willingness to consider helping in this way. We're looking forward to a great summer!



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2012 Youth Volunteer Application

Name _____ Parent/Guardian Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____ Home Phone # _____ E-mail Address _____ Church you attend _____ Pastor/Youth Pastor's Name _____ Date of Completed Application _____ Age _____ Grade Fall 2012 _____ Volunteers receive a T-shirt. List size: S M L XL	1. Are you a registered for MCC's 2012 camp? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N 2. Week you plan to attend as camper this summer: _____ 3. Friend you hope to volunteer with (optional) _____ 4. Have you volunteered a week at MCC in the past? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N If YES, what year(s)? _____ 5. Would you be willing to volunteer to care for MCC staff children (ages 6 and under)? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N If yes, Please list your child-care experience: _____ _____
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If accepted, volunteers are permitted to help **one** week of overnight camp, plus one or two Day Camp Weeks. Please number all weeks you are available to volunteer in order of preference (1, 2, 3, etc). The more weeks you are available and the more flexible you can be, the easier it will be for MCC to match a volunteer week for you. Return this form to us by **Friday, March 9, 2012.** We will begin making decisions early April 2012 and will contact you concerning our needs. Priority will be given to those that have already registered for a 2012 summer camp session.

- ___ June 11-15 – 1st Day Camp Week
- ___ June 18-23 – 1st Junior Week
- ___ June 25-30 – 1st Middle School Week
- ___ July 2-6 - 2nd Day Camp Week
- ___ July 9-14 – 2nd Junior Week
- ___ July 15-21 – Teen Week ** (see note below)
- ___ July 30-August 4 - 3rd Middle School Week
- ___ August 6-11 – 2nd Junior Week

DAY CAMP WEEK: *If you checked that you are available for a Day Camp Week, please check the following areas that you would be willing to help with, by numbering the areas of opportunity, in order of your preference (1st through 6th choice). They are listed in order of our greatest need. We cannot promise you will get your first choice.*

- ___ Counselor Helper (helps one counselor with their campers throughout the week)
- ___ Paddle Boat Chaperone (ride boats with young children) & Canteen Assistant
- ___ Childcare of staff children (ages 6 and under)
- ___ Fishing Assistant
- ___ Lunch/Snack/Clean-up/Canteen Assistant
- ___ Craft Assistant

Note: There is not a need for volunteers for our 2nd Middle School Week, July 23-28, 2012.

** We typically only accept college-aged volunteers for our Teen Week, July 15-21. If you are not college-aged, please choose several other options. This should be a last resort for you, since it may not be available for you.

Please note:

- See the Volunteer Q&A page for more details
- Day Camp Weeks are for rising 1st - 4th graders, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am-4:00 pm
- Junior Weeks are for rising 4th-6th graders, 10:30 am Monday am through 10:00 am Saturday
- Middle School Weeks are for rising 7th-9th graders, 10:30 am Monday am through 10:00 am Saturday
- Teen Week is for rising 10th – Graduated Seniors, 4:30 pm Sunday through 10:00 am Sat.

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Please include 2 references (other than family members) of someone that has known you a year or more. Please include: 1) pastor or youth pastor, and 2) employer, teacher, or adult friend of the family.

1. Name _____ Occupation _____
Address _____ City, State, Zip _____
Home Phone # _____ Work Phone # _____
How long have you know them? _____
In what capacity? _____

2. Name _____ Occupation _____
Address _____ City, State, Zip _____
Home Phone # _____ Work Phone # _____
How long have you know them? _____
In what capacity? _____

Please share with us how you came to know Christ, personally: _____

Please share what God is currently teaching you: _____

Please share what you could contribute to Merriwood during your week as a volunteer: _____

Please include a recent photo of yourself. This application will not be considered unless it has been completed in full.

Volunteering is a privilege as well as a commitment and possible sacrifice. Please read the following commitment and sign, indicating your agreement with the statements.

"I appreciate the opportunity to be considered for a part in the ministry of Merriwood Christian Camp. I realize that, if accepted, the help I provide is in support of the camp's program, purpose, and philosophy. I agree to abide by the rules and regulations of Merriwood Christian Camp. I commit myself to obeying the authority of those placed over me. I understand that I will be committing myself to a week/weeks of service, and that this may require sacrifice, in terms of my attitude and behavior. I am willing to examine these areas, so that my example and ministry to others will not be hindered. I also agree to abide by and support Merriwood's dress code which supports the principle of modesty."

Signature of **Volunteer Applicant** _____ Date _____

"I have read the Q&A sheet and understand the commitment, philosophy, rules and regulations of a Merriwood volunteer. I agree to support MCC's guidelines and encourage my child in these areas. I realize that if my child does not adhere to these during their time at MCC, they may be asked to depart and/or not asked to volunteer in the future."

Signature of **Parent/Guardian** _____ Date _____

Please return this form to Merriwood Christian Camp, 9640 Center Grove Church Rd., Clemmons, NC 27012. Then, we will be in contact with you concerning our needs. Thank you for applying!