

Agapé Day Camp Packet!



Summer 2025

The one where we bring camp to your congregation!
Agape Day Camp is a daily Monday-Friday program where our trained summer counselors lead your youth in games, songs, crafts, nature activities, Bible studies, and FUN!

To learn more about Day Camp keep reading this packet! If you have questions, please contact our Program Director, Lucas at program@agapekurebeach.org or (919) 552-9421.

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AGAPÉ DAY CAMP INFORMATION PACKET

WELCOME to the exciting world of Agapé Day Camp. Camp Agapé strives to provide the highest quality Day Camp experience around. **Even if you are experienced in hosting one of our Day Camps, please take the time to read through this packet- just in case.** We hope you are as excited as we are about the dynamic ministry of Agapé Day Camping!

What is Agapé Day Camp?

Day Camp is run as part of the summer programming at Camp Agapé.

Day Camp is a Monday-Friday, six hours/day program for youth entering first through fifth grades (with the option to include middle schoolers!) led by our Agapé counselors and hosted by your congregation. Our staff travel to your town to lead the campers in songs, games, Bible Studies, nature activities, crafts, and Biblically-based as well as silly skits.

Day Camp is a unique opportunity to join outdoor ministries with congregational ministries. Agapé will provide the staff and program which will allow the congregation to partner with their community through an experiential program for children. The purpose of Day Camp is to provide congregations with a quality Christian outdoor ministry experience with a strong outreach component at their site.

During your congregation's week of Day Camp, a team of trained Agapé summer counselors arrive at your congregation on Sunday. Beginning Monday, summer staff will lead 5 days of camp with your congregation. At the end of each day, they will meet to plan the next day's activities based on what the campers in your congregation need. Throughout each day of Day Camp, volunteers from your congregation will be working with staff to make the Day Camp experience amazing.

The *strength* of our Day Camp program is the staff. Day Camps are staffed by a team of young adult counselors led by a Team Leader. Our summer staff is carefully selected for their Christian commitment and love of children. They are trained in leading worship, Bible study, singing, crafts, nature study, and recreation. More importantly, they are trained in a relational style of ministry that seeks to meet the individual needs of your rising 1st-8th grade campers. Our emphasis is on offering quality Christian role models to young people.

The *goals* of Day Camp are to...

- Provide outdoor education in a small-group experiential format
- Provide Christian role models through our staff.
- Bring camp and the power of relational outdoor ministries to the congregational setting
- Build campers' self-esteem and identity as a child of God
- Provide opportunities for learning about God's creation
- Provide fellowship and Christian education to congregation members and community children.

Day Camp Schedule and Pricing

Day Camp Dates for Summer 2025:

Week 1 : June 15-20

Week 2 : June 22-27

Week 3 : June 29 - July 4

Week 4 : July 6-11

Week 5 : July 13-18

Week 6 : July 20-25

Pricing:

To host a Day Camp program, all congregations pay a minimum fee for 20 campers \$3,000.00 (\$150 per camper)

1-20 campers = \$150 per camper = \$3,000.00 minimum fee

REDUCED RATE FOR THE 21st-32nd CAMPERS

The fee for those campers will be \$130 (a \$20 discount per camper).

21-32 campers = \$130 per camper = \$4,560.00 maximum fee

One team will handle up to 32 campers. If you have more than 32 campers for one week of Day Camp, you will need to reserve a second team of staff.

COST FOR 2ND STAFF TEAM:

To reserve a second team, congregations pay a minimum fee for an additional 20 campers \$2,600.00 (\$130 per camper)

33-52 campers = \$130 per camper = \$2,600 minimum fee

REDUCED RATE FOR THE 53rd-64th CAMPERS

The fee for those campers will be \$130 (a \$20 discount per camper).

53-64 campers = \$130 per camper = \$4,560 maximum fee

If you are offering two separate day camp weeks, then the fees start over with \$150.00 for the first 20 campers.

Any additional charges such as field trip admission fees, park/pavilion rentals, or any other miscellaneous fees are the responsibility of the host congregation.

Camper Numbers:

If fewer than 20 campers attend, congregations are committed to paying the minimum fee for 20 campers. Agapé will still run a Day Camp program with 12 campers in attendance. **Agapé may cancel the program for sites with fewer than 12 campers. After March 1st**, if you decide to cancel your Day Camp week, you are committed to paying the minimum fees.

Camper Ages:

Camp is strictly limited to those children who will be entering first through eighth grade. For the Day Camp program, we prepare and train our staff to work with campers who are at the concurrent age, maturity and level of social skills of rising first through eighth graders. Allowing younger children into the program constitutes a liability risk; therefore, there are **no exceptions** to the age requirement.

Our Middle School program is a unique opportunity to strengthen the bonds in your congregation's youth and to build the leaders of the church. It requires extra planning, but is an opportunity for older youth in your congregation to grow and give back to the community. We provide team building exercises and challenges, and we require that at least three 1-2 hour service learning projects be arranged by the Site Coordinator.

Staffing:

Agapé is committed to relationships built in small group settings. We also seek to provide the safest experience possible, so we send counselors to day camp sites in a 1:8 counselor to camper ratio. For every team, we also send a Team Leader to support the counselors and ensure we provide a quality program.

Reasons we enforce ratios of 1 to 8:

- A. Our insurance is built on the policies we have set to insure safety
- B. ACA (American Camp Association) standards for camps
- C. Providing quality small group experiences for campers

The largest team we can send out in one van is 5 (1 team leader, 4 counselors), so the maximum number of campers that can register for one day camp is **32**. If you have more than 32 campers you will need to book two Day Camp teams for one week to be able to serve a maximum of **64** campers.

Timeline of Registration Process and Payments

- Beginning in the Fall:
 - Reserve a week of Day Camp.
 - Send your completed registration form and contract with your **\$100.00 holding deposit** to Agapé by October 17th.
 - We will confirm your week when those documents are received.
- Spring:
 - A non-refundable payment of **\$1,500.00** is due on or before **March 1st** (if you haven't sent in a \$100 holding deposit, then **\$1,600.00** is due). Upon signing your contract, after **March 1st**, your deposits are considered non-refundable and you are committed to paying the total minimum Day Camp fee--**\$3,000.00**.
 - If you are a first time Day Camp church or if you have changed venues, we will set up a date to meet with your coordinator and tour your facilities--usually in April.
 - Also in April, you can request information about the summer curriculum theme for advertising purposes, a sample letter to parents, and information on any craft needs.
 - Your next non-refundable payment of **\$1,400.00** is due on or before **May 1st**.
- Summer:
 - **A week** before your Day Camp we will call you to confirm:
 - Final number of your congregation's registered Day Campers
 - Our Day Camp Team's arrival time
 - The number and names of arriving staff and any special staff dietary needs or allergies
 - Other details of your Day Camp week...i.e. field trips, host information, etc.

Your Congregation's Role/Responsibilities

Planning:

- Establish a small committee or individual to work with the Agapé staff in planning and preparation.
- Meet (via phone call or site visit) with the Agapé Program Staff at least once during the spring to make all arrangements for the program.
- Handle all public relations, publicity and follow-up contacts to secure registrations.
- We expect all church volunteers—before working with young children—to have had appropriate background checks completed by the congregation.

Registration:

- Handle all registration in preparation for the Day Camp week and during the Day Camp week--including daily camper check-in and check-out.

- Handle the distribution and collection of all camper health, permission, and profile forms. Provide these forms to the Team Leader upon the staff's arrival on Sunday.

Volunteers:

- Provide a minimum of two adults on site each day to coordinate check-in/out, snacks, support counselor-led activities if needed, and handle emergencies. We require a minimum of **two** adults in case of an emergency. These persons are required to be on site with the group during the entire day.
- All volunteers/helpers must be 16 years or older and must attend a brief orientation with our Agapé staff and your church's site coordinator.

During the Week:

- The congregation may be asked to provide some basic craft supplies when projects are planned.
- Provide all transportation to and from the site for all campers for field trips or off-site activities. Agapé staff will not transport any campers.
- If your congregation chooses to include the middle school option in your Day Camp program, we ask that you arrange a minimum of three, 1-2 hour, service projects for the Middle School Campers to perform during the week.

Agapé Staff:

- Provide housing and meals for Agapé staff from Sunday dinner through Friday breakfast.
 - Housing: The Agapé Day Camp team will need housing for Sunday night through Thursday night. It is essential that the entire team be housed in **one** location. Typically, there is only one vehicle and one driver amongst the team, so housing them in one location simplifies their week.
 - Housing options include: Housing the staff in the church-- staff can come prepared with sleeping bags and mats (must provide an option for showering daily). Finding a congregation member willing to open their home to 3-5 young adults for the week.
 - Meals: The staff will need to have meals or groceries and supplies to make meals from Sunday evening (dinner) through Friday breakfast.
 - Breakfast: Most often done by leaving the Day Camp team things to prepare their own meals such as: *milk and cereal, juice, eggs, muffins or bagels, fruit, etc.*
 - Lunch: Each day for lunch, each staff member should receive a lunch with similar food items as the campers are eating or be provided with the necessary supplies to make their own bag lunch such as: *lunch sacks, zip-lock baggies, juice or Gatorade, sandwich fixings, fruit, veggies, yogurt, salads, chips, cookies, etc.*
 - Dinner: Evening meal options include eating in homes, having food brought to their housing location, or being provided with money to go out to eat or to make dinner.

Camp Agapé's Role/Responsibilities

- Agapé will provide all reproducible originals of registration and health forms to be filled out.
- We will work with you to tailor the program to meet the needs & goals of your congregation.
- Agapé will provide most craft and all recreational, musical, curriculum and nature activity materials for the basic program.
- The camp will provide a quality, trained staff consisting of a team leader and counselors.
- Agapé will provide the basic daily schedule of activities.
- We will close each week with a Thursday evening program for the parents and members of the congregation and community, if desired by the host congregation.
- Because the organization of Agapé Kure Beach Ministries serves children, Agapé staff are mandatory reporters (as required by the state) regarding instances of potential child abuse in all its forms.
- Agapé will transport staff as needed for special activities (field trips etc.) but will not transport campers.

Schedule

Agapé Day Camp is designed to be a five-day program, consisting of a maximum of six hours each day (**Exception: all programs will end at 12:00 on Friday**). Most congregations opt for a 9:00 AM-3:00 PM schedule, but if your congregation would benefit from a different block of time we can also accommodate that.

Some churches find that offering a childcare service before and/or after each day is necessary to accommodate work schedules of parents/guardians. If you decide that such an option needs to be given, the congregation is responsible for providing caregivers for these additional hours.

Our staff are trained in how to lead your campers through a variety of activities, but we purposefully do not give our teams a predetermined daily or weekly schedule with fixed activities for each day. During staff training, our teams learn how to plan each day's activities based on the preferences and needs of campers. At the end of each day, our teams meet and process what went well and what they should change for the next day. The foundation of the Day Camp program remains consistent, but how the program is facilitated at each site will vary. Our staff customizes the activities and flow of the Day Camp program to best fit your campers. A six-hour day is the maximum daily program length--there are no exceptions.

SAMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE

9:15 Daily Opening (songs, Biblically based skit presenting the daily theme)
9:30 Get to Know You Activities, Large Group Games or Team Building (Middle School)
10:15 Activity Rotation: Bible Study, Nature, Craft, Story Time, Parachute, etc
11:00 Wash Up for Lunch
11:15 Lunch
12:00 Activity Rotation: Bible Study, Nature, Craft, Story Time, Parachute, etc
1:00 Activity Rotation: Bible Study, Nature, Craft, Story Time, Parachute, etc
2:00 Snack
2:30 Daily Closing (songs, silly skit, review of day)
3:00 Departure

* Day Camp Coordinator should arrange for a minimum of 3 service projects for the Middle School program.

Day Camp Special Events

Because we want Day Camp to be a positive, holistic experience, we encourage any of the following activities in your area, but we suggest only one or two trips/events. These can add to the program, but are not necessary. Please note: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are the best days to take any trips away from the Day Camp site.

Area Parks:

Area parks can be a valuable resource in providing a pleasant learning and recreational area for all or part of a programmed day. A park must have the following facilities in order to use it for a full day:

- Pavilion or shelter for lunch and in case of inclement weather
- Rest room facility
- Water faucet
- Phone access or adequate cell phone service in case of emergency.

Field Trips:

For extra opportunities to learn...trips to parks, nature centers, libraries, fire stations or local historical sites can be informative and interesting to campers. A field trip to a pool/beach is also an option as long as there is a certified lifeguard present for the duration of your visit. Field Trips both require arranging transportation for campers and filling out parental permission slips.

Day Events On Site:

Day Camp sites over the years have held special events at their Day Camp site. Examples include: Water Day where the site provides materials and Agapé staff plan/facilitate activities or where the local fire department comes, a Tennis Camp facilitated by an outside group, or naturalists/historians coming to share fun and engaging information with campers

Thursday Evening Closing Program: You may wish to invite families, friends, congregation members, and folks from the community to come to a closing program. The event would be planned and led by Agapé staff, and the Day Camp site would be responsible for the invitations.

Camper Registration Process

One of the church's responsibilities is advanced registration of campers. Agapé has developed the following procedures to assist you in doing this:

Registration for your Day Camp takes two forms: a Registration/Profile Form and the Health History Form. The Registration/Profile Form is included in this packet and can be used as a part of your publicity.

Registration Materials: If you have run our Day Camp before, please make sure you have this year's registration materials, as changes may occur.

The following forms are included within the post-registration packet which will be sent by email after site registration:

1. The **Registration/Profile Form** gives you the information you will need to send campers additional information and prepare for your Day Camp.
2. The **Day Camp Health History Form** details important information on each camper's health history and provides emergency contact information. **No camper may attend Day Camp without this form completed and signed.**
3. The **Field Trip Permission Form** informs the parents of field trips being planned and gives permission for the child to attend and use whatever means of transportation appropriate.
4. The **Registration Record** is a form designed to assist you in keeping track of registrations, deposits, forms and camper numbers.
5. The **Attendance Record** is to be used each day of the event. Parents are required to sign their campers in and out each day to be sure campers leave with the correct adult.
6. The **Alternate Pick-up Form** is designed so parents can give written instructions when someone else will be picking up a camper.

All of these forms should be kept by the Site Coordinator until the start of your Day Camp week. When you meet with the Agapé staff on the Sunday before your week, please give the staff completed Registration/Profiles Forms and Health History Forms. The Day Camp counselors will use the information to best divide the campers into groups. The Day Camp Team Leader must hold onto the Health Forms during the week in case of an emergency. At the end of the week Agapé staff will keep the Health Forms as we are required to keep camper Health Forms on file.

Please note, as a new option sites may elect to utilize an online google form for registration. If you would like to use this option please let us know by December 31st.

Agapé Day Camp Site Registration Form

1. Fill out the registration form below completely with your congregation's and your own contact information.
2. Fill out, read through, and sign the contract on the next page.
3. Mail the bottom of this registration form and your signed contract along with your \$100.00 holding deposit to:

Camp Agapé/ATTN: Program Director/1369 Tyler Dewar Lane/Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

Agapé Day Camp dates for Summer 2025:

Week 1—June 15-20

Week 2— June 22-27

Week 3— June 29 - July 4

Week 4— July 6-11

Week 5—July 13-18

Week 6—July 20-25

Example for RETURNING DAY CAMPS:

To reserve dates you may have traditionally held with Agapé, you must have your \$100.00 holding deposit and paperwork in by September 20. For instance, if you held an Agapé Day Camp on June 19-24 in 2024, you have the first opportunity to reserve June 18-23 in 2025, as long as your registration and deposit are in by September 20, 2024. Please note that we cannot guarantee that all first choice preferences will be granted.

4. You will receive confirmation of your Day Camp date once registration, contract and deposit have been received. Please contact LUcas if you are unclear about these reservation policies.

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2025 AGAPÉ DAY CAMP REGISTRATION

Name of church(es) participating: _____

Site Church: _____ Site Coordinator(s): _____

Church Address: _____

Church Phone: _____ Site Coordinator Cell Phone: _____

Site Coordinator Email: _____

Pastor: _____

AGAPÉ DAY CAMP CONTRACT 2025

This contract is entered into by Agapé ☩ Kure Beach Ministries and _____
Church Town

Day Camp Program Dates: 1st choice: _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice: _____

Estimated number of participants: (Minimum-Maximum Camper Range): _____

Agapé ☩ Kure Beach Ministries will provide:

- A quality trained staff of Counselors and one Day Camp Team Leader.
- Availability of staff from Sunday 5:00 p.m. through 12:00 p.m. Friday.
- Supplies and resources as specified in the five-day curriculum.
- Pre-camp planning meetings as requested by the congregation.
- A copy of all required registration and release forms to be reproduced as needed.
- A sample of promotional material to be used.
- A closing program on Thursday evening.
- Five days (six hours per day Mon-Thurs, 3 hours Fri) of quality, relationship-based programming for children entering grades 1-8.



Participating congregations will provide:

- Housing and all meals for the Agapé staff from Sunday evening (dinner) through Friday breakfast.
- A site coordinator/committee that will meet/talk with an Agapé representative in advance of the camp week to plan/finalize details.
- Handling of all registration (including the collecting of health and release forms) and being present to check campers in and out every morning.
- Handling of the distribution of all public relations materials.
- Arranging and serving of camper snacks daily.
- All necessary transportation for campers to and from the daily sites.
- On-site coordinators in sufficient numbers to be present throughout the Day Camp day to assist with emergencies, support Agapé staff with campers as needed, and oversee activity arrangements (minimum **2 adults** for every 20 campers).
- Copies of this packet to all Day Camp volunteers as well as information requiring them to participate in an orientation with Agapé staff before serving in the Day Camp program.
- Adherence to the American Camp Association (ACA) and Agapé standards for health and safety regarding the Day Camp program.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS PER DAY CAMP TEAM (if you reserved two teams, double the amount)

- A **\$100** deposit to secure your date for returning day camps before **September 20th**.
- A **\$1,500.00** payment (\$1,600.00 for day camps who have not paid a \$100 deposit) upon the signing of this contract--due on or before **March 1st**.
- A second non-refundable payment of **\$1,400.00**, due by **May 1st**.
- Final balance of campers numbering over 20 at **\$130.00** each due by Friday of the scheduled Day Camp week
- **After March 1st you are committed to paying the minimum total fee of \$3,000.00 as described in the lines above.**
- If you book one day camp team and exceed the 32-camper maximum, then you will be charged for the additional day camp team and a **\$500.00** staffing fee (total of an additional **\$3,500.00**).
- If you book two day camp teams there will be a **\$2,600** minimum payment due to cover an additional 20 campers, with additional campers up to 64 in total costing **\$130.00** each.

Failure of Agapé to meet their responsibilities can result in withholding the payment due.

Failure of the congregation to meet their responsibilities can result in the removal of the Day Camp team, cancellation of the Day Camp program and/or financial obligations.

☩ I have read through the Agapé Day Camp packet and this contract and agree to abide by the guidelines set forth within these pages in mutual commitment to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with all people. I agree to inform Agapé as soon as possible if our congregation must cancel hosting a Day Camp. I understand that if we must cancel after March 1st, we are still committed to paying the full minimum Day Camp fee of \$3,000.00. I understand that if we reserve one day camp team and exceed the 32 camper maximum, then we will be charged for the additional day camp team and a \$500.00 staffing fee, which is an additional \$3,500.00.

Congregational Representative: _____

Date: _____

Summer Day Camp Registration Form

Camper Name: _____

Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Phone: () _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____



Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____ Grade Entering: _____ (must be 1st-8th)

Home Congregation (if applicable): _____

Profile Information

The following information is helpful to our camp staff in getting to know campers better:

Preferred Name: _____ Gender Identity: _____

Special Interests or Hobbies: _____

My child is: [] out-going [] quiet and shy in groups.

Concerns, allergies, or anything that the Day Camp staff should be aware of: _____

To be answered by camper: "The #1 thing I hope we do at Day Camp is... _____."

Permission (This section must be signed in order for your child to attend camp)

_____ has my permission to attend Agapé Day Camp.

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Date: _____

Check this box if you **DO NOT** give permission for Agapé Kure Beach Ministries to use pictures of your child for promotional purposes (camp brochure, web site, staff recruiting display, etc.)

Return completed form to your church's Day Camp Coordinator