Pre-Camp Checklist

___ READ THIS BOOKLET, even if you are a returning camper.

___ By April 30, 2015, Visit CampDoc.com to create or update important health history forms. Your CampDoc account should be available by February 2nd.

___ Upload current insurance cards, immunization record, a physical exam from summer 2013 or later, and other relevant health information to CampDoc.

___ Payment must be complete 4 weeks prior to the first day of camp.

___ Register for bus transportation 2 weeks prior to the first day of camp.

___ Pre-order unit photos, additional T-shirts and Trading Post items 2 weeks prior to first day of camp to avoid paying an additional fee.

___ Attend one (or both) of our Open House events. May 9 from 1-4 PM is for new campers. May 30 from 11-4 is for everyone.

___ Log in to Bunk1.com to familiarize yourself with how to view photos and send Bunk Notes (1-way emails).

___ Pack for camp using the list on page 11 or on the website (for adventure campers). Remember to pack medications in original containers.

Mission Statement

Our mission, the compass that guides our work... Exceptional outdoor and spiritual adventures empowering kids of all ages.

Vision Statement

Inspired by our Catholic tradition and commitment to the growth of people and faith, we will:
• Operate a world class camp in a spectacular natural environment.
• Inspire leadership, self-confidence and lifelong learning.
• Promote stewardship and appreciation of God’s gifts.

Camp Accreditation

Camp Ondessonk is proud to be accredited by the American Camp Association. Developed exclusively for the camp industry, this nationally-recognized organization focuses on program quality and health and safety issues and requires us to review every facet of our operation. Ondessonk has voluntarily submitted to this independent appraisal conducted by camp experts and is proud to have earned this mark of distinction.
## Contact Information

**Camp Office:** (618) 695-2489  
Toll Free: 877-659-2267  
Hours: M-F 8am-4:30 pm  
Sat 8:30am-12:30pm beginning 3/1/15  
camp@ondessonk.com  
(Not for camper emails)  
For: General camp information, bus info, emergencies

**Registration Office:** ext. 109  
becky.jennings@ondessonk.com  
(Not for camper emails)  
For: Payment/Registration info  
Late arrival/early departure campers  
Camper cancellations  
Changes in camper info

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From the Executive Director

Dear Parents,

Thank you for registering your child for a session at Camp Ondessonk. We feel honored that you have chosen us. Our main goal is to provide the best experience possible for each of the campers we serve. To help us reach this goal, please review the contents of this handbook thoroughly.

The emotions a single Ondessonk camper may experience range from excitement, to anxiety, to joy, and beyond. Of great benefit to campers, our summer staff is made up almost entirely of young men and women that were once Ondessonk campers themselves. They’ve experienced the feelings associated with being in an unfamiliar setting, the nervousness of meeting kids from distant places, and the excitement, or anxiety, of sleeping in a cabin in the woods. They also know how good it can eventually feel to embrace the unknown, to make new friends, to try new activities, and to grow through participation.

It is my hope that your child will learn, grow, and have fun as an Ondessonk camper. Please contact me if you have questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Dan King, Executive Director and former Ondessonk Camper
618-695-2489 / dan.king@ondessonk.com

Dear Campers,

Whether this is your first time as a camper or your fifth, we are glad you are coming to Ondessonk. It is an amazing place. Please prepare yourself by reviewing this handbook. We are preparing for you.

See you soon,
Dan & the Staff of Camp Ondessonk
Since camper units are preassigned, there is no advantage to arriving early. Upon arrival, unpack meds, swimsuit, money, towel, and any updated health information. You will need these throughout the registration process. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANY PETS TO CHECK-IN OR CHECK-OUT.**

**CHECK-IN**
Unit assignments, and pre-purchased Barter Bucks will be given to camper upon arrival at camp.

**LUGGAGE**
Attach luggage tag to the ONE DUFFLE BAG/SUITCASE that camp personnel will haul to the unit. The camper's name must be on the outside of all luggage. It is recommended that parents bring a 2 wheel dolly for assistance in hauling. Camp Ondessonk will not haul sleeping bags, back packs, pillows, fishing poles/tackle and other items at camp’s discretion. Food/snacks/drinks will be confiscated. *Because of limited space in cabins, large trash cans will not be allowed to remain at camp.* We encourage you not to bring these containers and instead use a dolly.* *(See page 10 for more information)*

**UNIT PICTURE**
Order one in LeCoeur for $10.00 if you have not pre-purchased.

**BARTER BUCKS**
Purchase with cash or check if you have not pre-purchased. *(See page 12 for more information.)*

**HEALTH CHECK**
Everyone must check in with the Health Center personnel. At this time, turn in all medicines, including over-the-counter medicines and vitamins. *(See page 7 for more information)*

**UNIT SHIRT**
Every camper will receive a unit shirt and any pre-purchased shirts at their Unit.

**UNIT CHECK-IN**
Meet unit leader, confirm that they have the driver’s license number of the authorized adult picking your child up, get unit shirt, choose your bunk, and move in.

**SWIM**
Check in at the beach no later than 3:15 to assess swimming ability.

---

**Check-out:** *GATE OPENS AT 8:45AM*

**Wednesday (MiniCamp)- Camper check out 9:00-10:00 AM**

**Saturday- 9:00 am Parent Reception. Camper Check out 9:30-10:30 AM**

1. Meet camper between Trading Post & Chapel.
2. Check out camper with Unit Leader— to ensure camper safety, adult picking child up **MUST** be listed as an authorized adult on the camper’s registration form and provide photo identification.
4. Campers must be picked up by 10:30 am. After that time, staff will not be available for supervision.
Late Arrival / Early Departure

Any camper that must arrive after 3:30 pm on Check-In Day must contact the Camp Office with time of arrival. Late arrivals must arrive at Camp no later than 8:30 pm.

If your child must be picked up before Saturday check-out, early departure forms will be available during check-in. We strongly discourage campers leaving early as this interrupts the flow of camp and adversely affects the quality of the departing camper’s experience. In case of emergency requiring an unplanned early departure, contact the office for instructions. Written consent is necessary in all cases for early departure, and the person picking the child up must show identification verifying that they are an authorized adult listed on the camper’s registration form.

Early departures must be scheduled during one of the following time blocks: 9:00am-10:30am, 1:00pm-3:00pm, or 7:00pm-8:30pm. There will be no early departures on Saturdays.

Unit Request

Even though every effort is made to give campers the unit they request, this is not always possible. **Unit selection is not guaranteed.** Because of changes and cancellations, unit assignments are not given to campers prior to check-in.

Each unit is made up of a group of 3-5 cabins (most cabins hold 8 campers each). Campers that register together are housed together in the same cabin when at all possible. To help facilitate placement together, groups of campers are asked to mail their applications in the same envelope or register online using the “envelope of friends” feature.

CampDoc Health History (*more information on website*)

The health history portion of your CampDoc account must be completed yearly. In addition, you must upload a signed physical performed within the last 24 months prior to camp date (school & sports physicals are acceptable), a copy of current insurance cards, and a current immunization record. Complete all health history information by April 30, 2015. CAMPERS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND CAMP WITHOUT COMPLETE HEALTH INFORMATION.

Pictures that last a lifetime...

**ORDER AN OFFICIAL UNIT PHOTO! ONLY $10.00!**

- Professionally finished 8x10 glossy photo
- Unit name and year printed on the front
- Ready to take home on Saturday

(Mini Camp photos may be mailed due to length of session)
Health Center, Medical Insurance, Health Forms

The Camp Ondessonk Health Center is centrally located in the main area of camp and is stocked with first aid supplies and emergency medical equipment. A staff member with advanced medical training is on-duty 24 hours a day. A licensed medical professional is on site daily and a Medical Doctor is on call at all times when campers are on-site. In the event that your child would need medical care while at Camp Ondessonk, your insurance would be billed by the medical facility. Camp has accident coverage (up to $2,500) that is secondary to your insurance coverage. Sickness that would or could occur without relation to camp will be given medical treatment, but will not be covered by camp insurance. In all cases, parents will be contacted if their child needs the care of a physician, a hospital visit, or if they spend the night in the Health Center.

All camper medications (prescription and over-the-counter) and vitamins will be kept in the Health Center for the duration of the camper’s stay. Parents should send at least a 9-day supply of your child’s medication. If your child has asthma, please send two albuterol rescue inhalers, one to be kept in the Health Center, and one to be kept with your child’s Unit Leader.

IMPORTANT: ALL medications, including over the counter meds, MUST BE in the original container. We CANNOT administer medications not in their original packaging.

On arrival day, all parents and campers must check-in with Health Center personnel at the screening station in the Old Dining Hall to participate in a cursory health interview which will include temperature checks and a head screening. To provide a safe and healthy environment for all campers, children with a temperature of 100 degrees F. or higher and/or flu-like symptoms will be asked to return home, and arrangements will be made to participate in a different session.

Poison Ivy, mosquitoes, and ticks are common at camp. Campers are advised to wear repellent and appropriate clothing when necessary, and mosquito netting is available at the Trading Post. If the Health Center Staff believes that a health risk has occurred that may require attention after the camper leaves camp, you will be contacted prior to your arrival for camper pick-up.

Special Needs

If your camper has any needs (health, dietary, etc.) that require special attention, please include this information on the health history form. If necessary, please contact our office.
Scholarships

In an effort to make Camp Ondessonk more accessible to children of all economic means, three scholarship opportunities are available.

**General and St. Kateri** scholarship recipients receive partial tuition coverage. **General Scholarships** have been established to make Camp Ondessonk more accessible to all families of limited financial means. **St. Kateri Scholarship** awards are based upon demonstrated financial need and availability of funds.

**The Monsignor Fournie Scholarship fund** was created by Thomas R. Cromwell and Fournie’s great-niece, Jeanne M. Newton. Their leadership inspired additional Ondessonk supporters to contribute to the fund. This scholarship has been established to make Camp Ondessonk accessible to children of racial minority status and limited financial means that live within the geographic boundaries of the Diocese of Belleville, IL. Monsignor Fournie Scholarship recipients receive full tuition coverage.

For more information regarding eligibility, registration, and links to each scholarship registration form, please visit www.ondessonk.com/scholarship or contact the registrar at ext. 109.

Cancellation/Refund Policy

**ALL CANCELLATIONS MUST BE MADE BY PHONE (618-695-2489, extension 109) OR EMAIL (becky.jennings@ondessonk.com)**

MEDICAL CANCELLATIONS: Refunds for documented medical emergencies, minus a $25 processing fee, will be granted if cancellation is confirmed by phone prior to or on the opening day of the session being cancelled. Documentation for medical emergencies must be in the form of a written note from the child’s physician.

NON-MEDICAL CANCELLATIONS: Should you need to change or cancel your registration please contact the Camp Registrar. Cancellations made more than 4 weeks prior to the campers arrival will be refunded the full amount, less the $100 deposit. No refunds will be given for cancellations with less than 4 weeks notice.

Returned Checks

A $35.00 fee will be charged for checks returned due to insufficient funds. You will then be required to make all payments with a cashier’s check, money order, or credit card.

Payment Methods

Please make all payments on your child’s camp fee via check, money order, Discover, MasterCard, or Visa. This year we are offering payment options. **Option 1:** Click-to-Pay is an email sent once a month with our convenient Click-to-Pay link. It will be sent to the email provided on your camper’s registration form. You will be able to make payments towards your balance using a credit card or from a bank account. **Option 2:** EZ-EFT is an authorized monthly Electronic Funds Transfer from a checking, savings, or credit card account. Convenient and secure monthly payment plans start at $100 per month with monthly transfer and have no fees.

All balances are due four weeks prior to date of arrival. Any unpaid balance can result in the loss of the camper’s choice of unit. Please contact the registrar at ext. 109 with any payment questions or concerns.
Pre-Camp Planning to Minimize Homesickness

Almost all first-time campers and many returning campers experience some level of homesickness. These feelings are natural, extremely common, and very real. Most cases of homesickness are mild. Some cases are challenging. Our staff members are trained to help campers work through these feelings and as a result, homesickness usually subsides within 24 hours of arriving at camp. When preparing your child for camp, you will minimize the likelihood of a serious case of homesickness by using the following parenting strategies:

• **Don’t tell your child that you will pick them up if he/she doesn’t like camp right away.** Regrettably, we encounter this fairly often. Though parents who give this message have good intentions, their children have an extremely hard time getting better when homesick. Be very honest with your child about what it means to sign up for something and follow through with it. Leaving camp early is an absolute last resort.

• **Develop a camp nighttime routine at home.** Practice falling asleep without outside noise such as television or music. A fan or other ambient noise might help acclimate campers to typical nighttime sounds. Units at camp have no electricity, so make sure that the camper is comfortable falling asleep in full darkness. Have them sleep with a flashlight next to the bed to practice using it at night. Finally, have your child spend a night or two away from home with a friend.

• **Involve your child in planning for camp.** While doing this, focus on the fun that will be had.

• **If you sense that your child is nervous about going to camp and missing home, talk about it.** Use an encouraging approach and supply your child with ideas that will help him/her work through it. Suggest writing a letter or taking along a favorite keepsake from home. You know your child better than anyone. What has helped her/him handle stressful situations in the past? Any and all conversation about this subject will help as long as encouragement is at the forefront.

• **If possible, send your child with a friend.** Be sure that they are truly friends, not just acquaintances from school. If your child is going to camp alone, emphasize the opportunities that he/she will have to meet new people. Many of our staff, including Ondessonk’s Executive Director, came to Camp Ondessonk alone as campers. Being alone should be seen as an opportunity.

• **Discuss what camp will be like.** Read this booklet with your child and let him/her know what to expect. Focus on the positive aspects of camp. Talk about the fun activities, the idea of “growing up,” and the independence and adventure of it all. Visit our website with your child. Look at the photos and read about Ondessonk together (www.ondessonk.com).

• **Establish realistic expectations.** Camp, like life, has high points and low ones. Not every moment will be filled with wonder and excitement. Encouraging your child to try new things and make new friends will help the experience be a positive one.

• **Write to your child.** Kids love to receive letters and BunkNotes at camp and getting one from home on the first or second day does wonders. Send a letter a couple of days early to ensure it arrives on time. Be aware that homesickness may be brought on by a letter that tells a child how much she/he is missed, or how much fun everyone else at home is having. Letters of an encouraging tone help promote a positive camp experience.

• **Plan to attend our Open House** on Saturday, May 9, 2015 from 1pm-4 pm. This gives campers a chance to become familiar with the camp grounds, so they are not as overwhelmed on opening day. Call the camp office to register for this sneak peak of Camp!

In the event that your child does have a bout with homesickness, please be assured that he/she will receive individual counseling directly from staff members trained for that purpose. The vast majority of homesick children feel better within 24 hours of arriving. Finally, please be assured that a camp representative will contact you directly for support if your child is having a particularly hard time with homesickness. Otherwise, no news is good news.
**Additional Policies**

**CAMPER BEHAVIOR AGREEMENT**-
Camper behavior will be monitored by the staff of Camp Ondessonk. Inappropriate behavior for the camp setting will not be permitted. Camp Ondessonk has two major rules. The first is SAFETY. The second is COURTESY. Specific rules and policies are similar to those used in schools. Campers are given more complete information about this subject upon arrival. Failure to follow these rules could result in a camper being asked to leave camp.

- **SAFETY**: Ondessonk campers are to avoid situations in which their safety or the safety of others is at risk.
- **COURTESY**: Ondessonk campers must be courteous to all of God’s creatures; this includes people, plants, and animals.

**FOOD AND DRINK IN UNITS**-
FOOD AND BEVERAGES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF WATER, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN CAMPER LIVING AREAS (AKA units). IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY ENFORCE THIS POLICY, OUR STAFF WILL EXAMINE THE CONTENTS OF EACH CAMPER’S BAGS SHORTLY AFTER CHECK-IN. Campers that choose to ignore this policy will have their food and drinks confiscated. The camp Trading Post will be open daily if campers wish to buy a snack or beverage. Trading Post food and beverages will likewise not be allowed in camper living areas.

**PACKAGES**-
All packages will be opened in front of an Ondessonk staff member. Food and beverages, if present, will be confiscated. Please see above section for further information. Appropriate items to include in a care package are: letters, magazines, small games, stickers, books, etc. Send packages early to ensure that they arrive with enough time to enjoy them!

**LUGGAGE AND LUGGAGE HAUL POLICIES**-
- **RUBBERMAID / STERILITE TYPE BINS AND TRUNKS CHECKED IN AT LUGGAGE HAUL ARE NOT TO EXCEED THE FOLLOWING DIMENSIONS**: 32in by 20in by 17in. If your camper chooses to bring his/her belongings in a bin that exceeds this size, it will be his/her responsibility to transport the item and its contents.

- **UNUSUALLY LARGE AND / OR HEAVY DUFFLE BAGS WILL NOT BE DELIVERED BY ONDESSONK’S LUGGAGE HAULERS**. Our experience tells us that when a camper has an extremely large duffle bag, he/she has simply placed several or more smaller bags inside of a really large bag. Ondessonk’s luggage hauling service is not intended to be used to haul every single item a camper is bringing to camp. It is intended to lessen the burden.

- **DUE TO IRREGULAR SIZES AND SHAPES COUPLED WITH LIMITED CABIN SPACE, TRASHCANS OF ANY SIZE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED IN UNITS AND WILL NOT BE DELIVERED TO THE UNITS BY OUR LUGGAGE HAULERS**.

- **CAMPERS ARE NOT TO LASH, TAPE, OR OTHERWISE ATTACH EXTRA ITEMS ONTO THE SINGLE PIECE OF LUGGAGE THEY SUBMIT TO OUR LUGGAGE HAULERS**. Items such as sleeping bags and daypacks must be carried by hand unless, of course, they can be placed and secured inside one larger container of acceptable size (please see above).

**EMERGENCIES**-
Camp administrative staff monitor the national news and local weather. Camp Ondessonk has policies and procedures in place for addressing weather emergencies. If there were an identified emergency situation, campers and staff would be informed and given instructions. Information will be relayed to the public on www.Ondessonk.com. Check the camp website for up-to-date information before you call.
Packing wisely can help ensure a good camp experience. Please make sure that spending money, medicines, swimsuit and towel are packed on top for easy access during registration. Make sure to pack old, comfortable clothes for your week. Keep in mind that no laundry service is available to campers and that units do not have electricity. Below is a suggested list of what to bring. Please pack according to your own child’s needs. (6 day supply for week-long programs, 3 day for half-week programs) All Adventure campers will find a packing list at www.ondessonk.com. 

**Items with * may be available at Trading Post.**

### General Packing List

- 5 T-shirts*
- 3-4 Pairs shorts
- 2 Pairs long pants
- Long sleeve shirt*
- Underwear for 6 days PLUS extras
- PLENTY of Socks- Tall socks are best.
- Pajamas
- Jacket
- Comfortable, closed toed shoes for hiking and horseback riding.
- **2 additional pairs of old sneakers**
- Poncho / Raincoat*
- Modest swimsuit– one piece or tankini (no bikinis allowed)
- Pillow
- Twin Sheet
- Sleeping Bag or 2-3 Old Blankets
- Towels- Bath towel and beach towel
- 2 reusable water bottles- 32oz each*
- Bug repellent*
- Insect netting and pushpins for hanging.*
- Sun Block*
- Hat with a brim*
- Flashlight & Batteries*
- Old Watch
- Day pack / Back pack*
- Shampoo*
- Soap and travel container
- Deodorant
- Comb, Brush
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste*
- 2 Trash bags for clothing that may get poison ivy contamination

### Optional

- Camera*
- Laundry bag
- Flip flops for showering
- Fishing gear
- Stationary & pre-stamped/pre-addressed envelopes or postcards*

### Additional Notes

All clothing should be appropriately modest and not reference drugs, alcohol, sex, or profanity. Personal hygiene, applying bug spray and sun block is camper’s own responsibility.

ALL CLOTHING, GEAR AND LUGGAGE SHOULD BE MARKED WITH THE CAMPER’S NAME USING NAME TAGS OR PERMENANT PEN. Every item must be in closed, durable bags. Remember that campers will be responsible for hauling their own luggage on Saturday, so please pack accordingly. Camp Ondessonk is not be responsible for lost or stolen property. Campers belongings may be subject to search if the health or safety of other campers or staff indicates the need.

Please **DO NOT** bring to camp: FOOD & DRINKS, CELL PHONES, radios, stereos, laser pointers, ipods, firearms, matches, knives, electronic games or fireworks. Items on this list will be confiscated. Expensive jewelry or clothing are not recommended. Absolutely no tobacco, drugs, alcohol or graffiti will be tolerated, and will likely result in dismissal at the discretion of the Director.
Barter Bucks

Campers turn cash or checks into Ondessonk Barter Bucks prior to or on the opening day of camp. These cards are accepted at the Trading Post instead of money, eliminating the camper’s need for carrying or storing any amount of cash. On departure day, campers turn unused Barter Bucks back in for cash between 9:30 am—10:30 am. Refunds will not be issued after camper departure. Camp Ondessonk is not responsible for lost or stolen Barter Bucks and will not refund money for Barter Bucks that never turn up. If a camper loses their Barter Bucks, they must notify their unit leader AND the Trading Post to prevent another camper from using them. Pre-purchase of barter bucks will NOT be accepted in the 2 weeks prior to the campers arrival.

Trading Post

The camp Trading Post is open daily and sells snacks, drinks, souvenirs, Ondessonk clothing and incidentals (postcards, stamps, batteries, insect netting, etc.). $25-$30 spending money is sufficient for most campers. If you plan on purchasing netting or a clothing/souvenir item(s) additional money may be necessary. The Trading Post will be open to campers and parents during check-in and check-out.

Communication While at Camp

We encourage campers to write home, but an initial letter to jump-start the process often helps. Send letters a day or two before camp begins to ensure they arrive on Monday.

Mail for campers should be addressed:

**Emails:** Bunk1, our electronic portal, allows parents to view and order pictures and also provides one-way email service. Campers can receive emails, called “Bunk Notes” through the Bunk1 portal for a small fee per email. Information about this service can be found on our website. If you wish to register for Bunk1 use the 2015 access code: QTXPOMGP. Campers receive printed messages along with regular snail mail. Campers are not able to reply directly to Bunk Notes.

**Phone Calls and Faxes:** At Ondessonk, as with most camps, campers are not permitted to make or receive phone calls. Use of camp phones are reserved for camp business only. In cases of illness, problem behavior or severe homesickness, a camp representative will contact you. Personal cell phones found in a camper’s possession will be held in a secure location until the end of the session. In the case of an emergency, a message will be taken directly to the camper. Due to limited resources, campers also may not receive faxes.

**Visitors:** For the safety and security of the campers, NO VISITORS ARE ALLOWED.
Activities (*Must be at least 10 yrs. old for Riflrey or Challenge)

**Nature Exploration**—Our qualified staff will take you on a tour you’ll never forget—over, under, and through waterfalls, split-rock formations, lakes, streams, and bluffs. Play nature games and appreciate God’s awesome creation as you explore.

**Archery and Riflery**—Learn the National Archery Association guidelines for proper techniques at the archery range and the National Rifle Association guidelines for safe handling of a .22 caliber rifle. Riflery is not offered during Mini Camp or Mini Camp Explorers.

**Horsemanship**—Learn riding techniques and horse care before heading into the ring or onto the trail. Our horse program is accredited by the Certified Horsemanship Association. Wranglers are trained in first aid & safety procedures.

**Swimming**—Enjoy Ondessonk’s water slides, beach volleyball and floating docks under the supervision of Red Cross Certified lifeguards. Campers who pass the advanced swimming test can also hang out on the zip line and Tarzan swing. Advanced swimming options are not offered during Mini Camp due to length of session.

**Handicrafts**—Learn “Boondoggling,” leather stamping, beadwork, tie-dying, and other traditional favorites that stretch the limits of your imagination. Crafts may vary week to week. Some leather kits may be purchased at an additional cost.

**Woodsmanship**—Knots, lashing, fire-building—learn these and many more outdoor skills.

**Boating**—Explore Lake Echon in a canoe or kayak. Float along the wooded shoreline or test your skills on a water obstacle course. The waterfront is supervised by Red Cross Certified Lifeguards.

**Council**—Fun, interactive games, stories, and activities designed to increase spiritual and self-awareness.

**Challenge**—Campers will have the opportunity to participate in our Challenge Course elements, which include a Climbing Wall and Zip Line.

**Evening Activities**

Evening programs are varied and change every night. The week kicks off with Mass and the Opening Campfire full of wild songs and silly skits. Other activities include Unit Campfires, a Camp-wide Game, an Overnight adventure away from units, the Lodge Ceremony, and a huge Closing Campfire. Many more surprises await campers during their fun-packed week.

*Mini Campers/Explorers will not participate in the Camp-Wide Game or the Lodge Ceremony.*
Getting to Camp

Camp Ondessonk is located at the southern tip of Illinois. We are about: 1.5 hours from Mt. Vernon, IL, 2.5 hours from Belleville, 2 hours from Evansville, IN, 4 hours from Springfield, and about a 6-hour drive from the Chicago area. Please visit our website, www.ondessonk.com, for Map Quest directions from any location. All travelers will eventually get to Route 45 on their way to Camp. About 10 miles north of Vienna (or 20 miles south of Harrisburg) turn off Rt. 45 and onto Ozark Road, which will be opposite of the Ozark General Store. Travel one half of a mile on Ozark Rd. The Camp Ondessonk gate will be on the right. Go through the gate and head down the camp road (about 2 miles). The camp road is narrow and contains several curves with limited sight distance. Please observe posted speed limits. Ondessonk staff members will greet you and direct you toward the parking lot.

Volunteer Opportunities

Do you want to spend a week at Ondessonk, too? This year, don’t get left behind; be a volunteer! Last summer more than 100 teachers, carpenters, doctors, EMTs, nurses, retirees, moms, dads, college students and many others spent their vacation time hiking, gardening, ministering, performing maintenance, unit leading, and mentoring eager young learners at Camp Ondessonk. This summer you could join them! If you are at least 21 years old and would like to spend a week reliving your childhood and working hard to support a worthy cause, please contact Camp O at 618-695-2489 ext. 145, or email: volunteer@ondessonk.com. Remember to allow 6 weeks for us to process your application due to diocesan policy.

NOTE: Doctors, nurses, and other medical personnel are always in high demand! If you are able to donate your services for a week this summer, please contact camp for information on waiving one camper’s tuition in exchange for volunteering in the Health Center. This program is offered to RNs, Nurse Practitioners, MDs, and PAs in an effort to help Ondessonk exceed ACA accreditation standards. Medical professionals not listed above are also encouraged to volunteer.
Bus Transportation

Transportation can be arranged to Camp Ondessonk from Chicago, St. Louis area, Springfield, and points in between, by way of professional charter bus service. Transportation must be arranged at least two weeks prior to your camp date. Please fill out the form on the back of this booklet and send it to Camp. Parents should also note that there will be lunch stops to and from Ondessonk, so remind your camper to save some money and keep it on hand to pay for lunch. Cancellations with less than two weeks notice will not receive a refund. Please call the camp office with any questions.

CARGO SPACE IS LIMITED. NO TRASH CAN OR RUBBERMAID-TYPE LUGGAGE CONTAINERS WILL BE PERMITTED ON THE BUS. Please be courteous of other campers and respect this rule.

Camp Ondessonk is happy to accommodate our long distance campers. In doing so, we maintain safe and insured transportation. Buses are exclusive to camp staff and campers. To ensure camper safety, parents should be at camper bus pick-up/drop-off locations at least 15 minutes before given time to allow buses to run on schedule. Buses cannot wait for late arrivals! If there is an emergency en route, camp offices are always contacted. Camp will notify bus locations and parents of any changes. Every camper is expected to follow and respect the rules of the counselors and driver. Vandalism, smoking or drug use will not be tolerated. All camp rules and regulations apply to bus transportation. Parents will be liable for any damages or distress incurred.

Super Camper Layover Weekend:

Camps that choose to attend multiple sessions back-to-back are welcome to take advantage of the layover program. This one day, one night session will include an extended hike in the Shawnee National Forest, a special overnight campout, swimming, meals, and other activities. Campers should pack enough clothes and supplies for their entire stay, as laundry facilities will not be made available.

The fee for each weekend is $75.00. Please check the box next to your desired session. Include all payment information on page 16 of this handbook.

Available between sessions:

- Coed 1 & 2 (June 6)
- Coed 2 & 3 (June 13)
- Coed 3 & Girls 1 (June 20)
- Girls 1 & Coed 4 (June 27)
- Coed 4 & Girls 2 (July 4)
- Girls 2 & Boys (July 11)
- Boys & Coed 5 (July 18)
- Coed 5 & 6 (July 25)
Bus Route

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Round Trip</th>
<th>One Way</th>
<th>Depart Sunday</th>
<th>Return Saturday</th>
<th>Pickup/Drop off Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schiller Park, IL</td>
<td>$160</td>
<td>$120</td>
<td>5:30am</td>
<td>6:45pm</td>
<td>4-Points by Sheraton, Chicago O’Hare, 10249 W. Irving Pk Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tinley Park, IL</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$110</td>
<td>6:30am</td>
<td>5:45pm</td>
<td>Wingate Hotel, I-80 Exit 148B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwight, IL</td>
<td>$136</td>
<td>$107</td>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>4:14pm</td>
<td>BP Gas Station I-55, Exit 220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomington/ Normal, IL</td>
<td>$127</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>McDonald’s I-55, Exit 160A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield, IL</td>
<td>$116</td>
<td>$87</td>
<td>10:15am</td>
<td>1:15pm, Lunch Stop</td>
<td>Capital City/Parking Lot I-55, Exit 94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caseyville, IL</td>
<td>$97</td>
<td>$75</td>
<td>12:00pm, Lunch Stop</td>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>McDonald’s on I-64, Exit 9, I-64 &amp; Hgwy 157 Interchange</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BUS WILL ARRIVE AT CAMP AT APPROXIMATELY 3:00 PM SUNDAY AND DEPART BY 9:30 AM SATURDAY

Applications must be received at least two weeks prior to bus date.
To ensure camper safety, parents should arrive at the bus stop 15 minutes before scheduled departure/arrival times.
You must be at bus stop and ready to board when bus arrives - schedule does not allow for any waiting for late arrivals.

Please Note: NO RETURN BUS IS AVAILABLE FOR MINI CAMERS LEAVING CAMP ON WEDNESDAYS

- Enclosed, please find $_______ payment for ___ tickets
  - One Way
  - Round Trip
  - OR-
  - Layover Weekend: # of weekends _____ x $75.00

- Please charge my:
  - VISA
  - MasterCard
  - Discover
  - in the amount of $____________

- Card # __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ Exp. __/___

- Name on Card ________________________________________________________________

- Cardholder Signature __________________________________________________________

- Name of Camper: _____________________________________________________________
  - DOB: __________________

- Riding bus to camp from (city) __________________________ On __/___/15

- Riding bus from camp to (city) ___________________________ On __/___/15

- In case of bus emergency, please contact: ______________________________________

- Emergency Contact Phone: (______) ____________________________________________

Medical Consent Form (consent for bus only)
In the event of an accident, the camp will telephone the parent, however, in the event I cannot be reached by phone, I hereby give permission for medical attention by a physician for my child.

_________________________ __________________
Signature  of Parent or Guardian Date