



July 9-13

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF DEKALB

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PARENT AND CAMPER HANDBOOK

Camp Hours and Location

Preschool VBS Schedule 9:15 a.m. – 12 noon Mon-Thurs, and 9:15 a.m.—2:45 p.m. Friday

Elementary VBS Schedule 9:15 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Busing Information

→ Campers and youth volunteers taking the bus will need to be dropped off at the church's north parking lot at **8:40 a.m.** All children and youth must check in with VBS volunteer. **Buses will depart at 8:45 a.m.** sharp!

→ Preschool bus will return to First UMC by 12:30 pm. Monday—Thursday and 3:15 on Friday. The youth and elementary bus will return to the church at 3:15 pm.

→ Please be sure to mark on your child's registration form whether or not your child will be taking the bus.

Campers not taking the bus can be dropped off at Walcamp—address is 32653 Five Point Road, Kingston, Illinois

Walnut Grove Farm Information

→ During the week of VBS, we will take one group per day (Mon-Thurs) to Walnut Grove Farm to see our mission first hand.

→ Elementary campers, Youth leaders, and Unit Leaders will be bused to the Farm in the morning during our camp time. (Sorry no preschoolers will be going)

→ By signing the registration form, you are giving your camper/youth permission to go to Walnut Grove Farm with VBS.

Rainy Day Info

If weather does **Not** permit us to be outside for camp, your child's Unit Leader will call you about our ½ day schedule.

Important Pick- Up Information

Only the people listed on the registration form will be authorized to pick up your child. If a person is not listed on the registration form, the person will not be allowed to pick up your child without direct notification from the child's parent. Please contact the director of any pick up changes. We reserve the right to check ID's of people that we do not know.

What Should Campers Wear and Bring Daily

- Appropriate clothes for outside and weather (we are outside all day)
- Camp t-shirt (issued on Day 1, then wear every day thereafter)
- Socks and Gym Shoes (**NO OPEN TOE SHOES OR SANDALS**)
- *****Water bottle with camper's name on it*****
- Sunscreen and bug repellent should be applied before coming to camp
- A draw-string bag or backpack
- Swimsuit and towel—we don't swim everyday but play water games throughout the week
- A healthy, non-perishable lunch (elementary & youth campers only)

What NOT to Bring

- Toys
- Glass bottles
- Any musical listening device
- Video Games
- Cell Phones
- Anything that can be broken, stolen, lost, or of value

First Aid and Medical Emergency Policy

If your child is injured, we will take the necessary steps to obtain medical care. The steps may include, but are not limited to:

- Administering General First Aid
- Contacting Emergency response personnel and or transporting to Hospital
- Contacting parent(s) or guardian(s) and/or Emergency Contacts

A First UMC volunteer will accompany the child to the hospital until a parent or guardian arrives

Medication at Camp

If your child requires medication during camp hours, please call the Director of Christian Education at (815) 756-6301 prior to camp for arrangements. Please DO NOT send any medications with the camper in his/her backpack or lunch. If your child arrives at camp without sunscreen and/or bug repellent, the unit leader will apply it to your child.

Videos/Photographs

As a program participant of First UMC Vacation Bible School, your child may be filmed/photographed during his/her activities at camp. We may use these videos/photos periodically in our brochure, newsletter, website or other publications. If you have any objections to the use of your child's video/photo, please indicate your objections on the registration form.

VBS Discipline

At First United Methodist Church Vacation Bible School we aim to teach and model the love of God towards each other, while providing a fun and safe environment for children of all ages. Therefore we give encouragement freely and use criticism sparingly. In order to do this, the leadership team has established a set of rules. We ask you, the parents and guardians, to read over the following rules with your child and encourage your child to abide by the following rules:

1. Follow directions the first time they are given.
2. Talk in an appropriate, respectful manner.
3. Respect Unit, Station, and Crew leaders as well as Walcamp staff.
4. Be considerate of others' feelings and belongings.
5. Name-calling, teasing, or the use of any inappropriate language is never acceptable.
6. There will be no hitting, kicking, or fighting.
7. Abide by all safety rules.

Failure to abide by these rules will result in an initial warning, and, depending on the violation, followed by these consequences:

- 1. A first violation will result in a "warning" and an individual conference with VBS leadership.**
- 2. A second violation will result in a conference between the VBS Director and the parent/guardian.**
- 3. In the event of further violation, the participant will be sent home for the remainder of the week.**

Every incident will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and consequences will be determined by the severity of an incident. Suspension will only take place in the most extreme cases and at the discretion of the VBS Director.

If you have any questions, please call the **church** at **815-756-6301**, or if you need to reach me on camp days, my **cell #** is **815-761-1801**. On behalf of all the leaders and volunteers at VBS, thank you for allowing your child to spend the week with us.

Jesus rescues!

~ Nancy Melms, Director of Christian Education





FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PARENT AND CAMPER HANDBOOK SIGNATURE FORM

Please sign and return this page when you complete and turn in your child's registration form.

I have read and understand the *First UMC VBS Parent and Camper Handbook* and have read it to my child

Parent signature

date

I have read and understand the *First UMC VBS Parent and Camper Handbook* with my parent or guardian

#1 Camper/Youth signature

date

I have read and understand the *First UMC VBS Parent and Camper Handbook* with my parent or guardian

#2 Camper/Youth signature

date

I have read and understand the *First UMC VBS Parent and Camper Handbook* with my parent or guardian

#3 Camper/Youth signature

date

I have read and understand the *First UMC VBS Parent and Camper Handbook* with my parent or guardian

#4 Camper/Youth signature

date

