



JOY RANCH SUMMER CAMP



INFORMATION FOR CAMPERS & PARENTS:

Hey there, partner, are you ready to yee, and to haw? We're excited you are joining us at Joy Ranch. We appreciate your trust and will work very hard to make sure you have a wonderful and safe adventure as you step back in time to the old west.

Our names are Kyle and Betsy Debertin. We serve as the co-directors of Joy Ranch. We welcome your questions and concerns; please call 605-886-4622 or email, Betsy@losd.org, with any concerns. We hope the details of this letter will help you prepare for your adventure in the "brand new old west."

Peace <><,
 Kyle and Betsy

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES:

JR Explorers (Grades 4-6)

- Sunday, July 27 registration between 4:00 and 4:30 pm; departure Wednesday, July 30 at 7:00 pm

Kids and Horses (Grades 4-6)

- Sunday, June 8 registration between 4:00 and 4:30pm; departure Wednesday, June 11 at 7:00 pm
- Sunday, June 15 registration between 4:00 and 4:30 pm; departure Wednesday, June 18 at 7:00 pm
- Sunday, July 13 registration between 4:00 and 4:30 pm; departure Wednesday, July 16 at 7:00 pm

Advanced Kids and Horses (Grades 5-7)

- Sunday, August 3 registration between 4:00 and 4:30pm; departure Thursday, August 7 at 7:00 pm

Middle School Mania (Grades 6-8)

- Sunday, July 6 registration between 4:00 and 4:30 pm; departure Friday, July 11 at 10:00 am

Mission Quest for Teens (Grades 9-12)

- Sunday, July 6 registration between 4:00 and 4:30 pm; departure Friday, July 11 at 10:00 am

Horse with a Heart (Grades 8-12)

- Sunday, July 20 registration between 4:00 and 4:30 pm; departure Friday, July 25 at 10:00 am

PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR CAMP:

Please call and speak with camp co-director, Betsy Debertin (605-886-4622) if you have questions or concerns about:

- *Homesickness*
- *Your child not having a cell phone while at camp*
- *Camp safety policies and procedures*
- *How Joy Ranch will meet your child's special needs*

She'll be happy to visit with you and provide insights.

LIFE AT JOY RANCH:

Youth-only camps will stay in one of our comfortable bunkhouses with their counselors. Each bunkhouse holds 11 people and has an attached bathroom with showers, toilets, and sinks. If you'd like to check out Joy Ranch's facilities, please feel welcome to explore www.JoyRanchSD.org.

Delicious and healthy meals will be served in the dining room, or outdoors on the boardwalk or on the deck overlooking lake, and there may be special prairie picnics or campfire meals as part of your experience. **If you have any special dietary concerns or food allergies, please contact co-camp director, Betsy Debertin (605-886-4622), at least one week prior to arrival so that our staff can make proper accommodations for a delicious week.**

Dedicated crews of college-age counselors (and older) will make certain days are safe, meaningful, and fun. All staff have been interviewed, submitted references, and have a clear background check. We'll play and pray together, sharing games, devotions, boating and fishing adventures, Bible study, arts and crafts, worship, and journeys by horseback or buggy.

PAYMENT OF FEES/REFUND POLICY:

Please do not bring payments to camp. Total camp fees are due 2 weeks prior to your camp start date.

PAYMENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO:

Lutherans Outdoors in SD
2001 S Summit Ave
Sioux Falls SD 57197

Please notify us immediately if you cannot attend. Many times there are people on a waiting list. The \$125 deposit is not refundable, but is transferrable to another individual or Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota program.

WHAT TO BRING:

- Bible
- Sleeping bag and pillow (youth-only camps)
- Sturdy shoes (close-toed & close-backed). Sandals may be worn at the waterfront. In addition, horse riding requires a boot/sturdy shoe with a heel.
- Clothing (camp clothing philosophy—layer-able and get-dirty-able, plan for warm days and cool nights)
- Warm jacket and rain gear
- Bath towels and personal toiletries
- Flashlight
- Camera (no camera phones, please)
- Cap, hat, or bandana for sun protection
- Swimsuit, towel, sandals
- Medications, if needed (please be sure inhalers are filled and all medications are in original containers) (HW-20)
- Sunscreen & bug spray
- Health form
- Money for the Joy Ranch Trading Post—Souvenirs and snacks will be available from the Trading Post at a designated time each day. Youth campers will open a Trading Post account on the first day of camp. Purchases will be deducted from the account, and the balance refunded on the last day of the camp session. The Trading Post will also be open on the last day of the camp session for families and friends to enjoy.
- For BRING YOUR OWN HORSE CAMP, don't forget your horse, its vaccination records, a saddle, bridle, halter, lead rope, grain or feed, hay, feed pan, and water bucket.
- **Please label your personal belongings.**

WHAT NOT TO BRING:

- Adults are welcome to bring their cell phones, but we ask that youth campers do not bring cell phones or other electronics such as iPods, hand-held video games, or laptops.
- Pets
- Fireworks
- Weapons
- Alcohol or drugs
- If you have a valuable that would cause disappointment if it were broken, ruined, or lost at camp, please leave it at home

HEALTH HISTORY AND MEDICATIONS:

Please bring your completed health form to camp. For youth-only camps, all medications, prescription and over-the-counter, will be turned in to the health care staff on the first night of camp. The only exceptions are medications for life-threatening conditions, which are discussed on an individual basis with our health care staff.

*If you have any special medical, dietary, or behavioral concerns, please contact co-camp director, Betsy Debertin (605-886-4622), at least one week prior to arrival so that our staff can make proper accommodations for an amazing week. **Please do not mail the health form in advance; bring the form with you to camp.***

IN CASE OF ILLNESS OR ACCIDENT:

All staff are CPR and first-aid certified. If there is an emergency or serious illness, parents will be notified by camp staff. (HW-19)

INSURANCE INFORMATION:

Joy Ranch does not carry any insurance coverage for accidents and illness incurred at camp. If camp staff must take someone to the doctor for treatment, the camper is responsible for all costs. Personal property is not covered by camp insurance and any claims for loss or theft will need to be submitted to your personal homeowner's/renter's insurance company.

DIRECTIONS:

Joy Ranch is located northwest of Watertown. Driving directions can be found on the Joy Ranch web page, www.JoyRanchSD.org; please click on "directions."

WARNING: GPS navigation units may direct you down a prairie trail; we know you are coming for camp at an old west town, but you don't have to arrive Oregon Trail style.

CONTACT INFORMATION AND CAMPER MAIL:

Joy Ranch
Attn: Camper (*Name*)
16633 448th Ave.
Florence, SD 57235

(605) 886-4622
www.JoyRanchSD.org

Lutherans Outdoors does not discriminate.

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BE SURE TO BRING YOUR HEALTH FORM WITH YOU TO CAMP