

PASSPORT*missions*sm

PARENT ESSENTIALS • Valley Retreat Center

Thank you for choosing to send your student to PASSPORT*missions*. We spend our year planning a fun, safe, and life-changing week of interactive Bible Studies, Games, Worship, and Parties just for them. We take the job of shaping the faith of young people seriously, and the trust you have placed in PASSPORT is never taken for granted.

CAMP SCHEDULE

Opening Day

- 2:00 pm Check-In
- 5:00 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Opening Celebration
- 8:00 pm Youth Bible Study & Adult Meeting
- 9:00 pm Vespers & Church Group Devotions
- 11:00 pm Lights Out

Day 1

- 8:00 am Breakfast & Morning Devotions
- 9:30 am Morning Celebration
- 10:15 am Youth Bible Study & Adult Meeting
- 11:30 am Lunch
- 12:15 pm Mission Projects
- 3:00 pm Free Time Activities
- 5:00 pm Dinner
- 6:30 pm Rec Party
- 8:30 pm Worship & Church Group Devotions
- 11:00 pm Lights Out

Day 2

- 8:00 am Breakfast & Morning Devotions
- 9:30 am Morning Celebration
- 10:15 am Youth Bible Study & Adult Meeting
- 11:30 am Lunch
- 12:15 pm Mission Projects
- 3:00 pm Free Time Activities
- 5:00 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Worship
- 8:30 pm Dance Party
- 9:30 pm Church Group Devotions
- 11:00 pm Lights Out

Day 3

- 8:00 am Breakfast & Morning Devotions
- 9:30 am Morning Celebration
- 10:15 am Youth Bible Study & Adult Meeting
- 11:30 am Lunch
- 12:15 pm Mission Projects
- 3:00 pm Free Time Activities
- 5:00 pm Dinner
- 7:00 pm Worship
- 8:00 pm Church Group Devotions
- 9:30 pm Variety Show
- 11:00 pm Lights Out

Closing Day

- 8:00 am Breakfast
- Checkout & Load Vehicles
- Morning Devotions
- 9:15 am Youth Bible Study & Adult Meeting
- 10:15 am Closing Celebration
- 11:00 am Farewell

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

Food Allergies

Please ensure your group leader alerts us to special dietary needs in the Special Attention box on our registration website or by calling the national office at least two weeks before your session.

Housing

Valley Retreat & Conference Center has large, air-conditioned bunk rooms, where adult and minor females will most likely share space with females from other church groups, and adult and minor males will most likely share space with males from other church groups. Please note that few, if any, special housing requests may be accommodated due to the retreat center's room configurations and limited alternatives. Similarly, common, gendered bathrooms will have sinks, showers, and toilet stalls. Bring your own pillow, towels, and bed linens (twin XL sheets or sleeping bags).

Cell Phones

Taking up the Biblical idea of rest, we invite our campers to join us for a week of Digital Sabbath. Campers will not be permitted to have cell phones or electronic devices during camp. Your group leader can plan the best platform for daily updates about your church group at camp.

Camp Office Info

The Camp office opens May 29, and the phone number is (205) 588-6948. Please use the Camp Office number for emergencies only! All other communication with your group should be done through your church group leader. Thanks.

Camp Mail

Please mail early and include a return address. Mail that comes late will be marked "Return to Sender," but ONLY with a visible return address.

Camper Name, Church/Group Name
PASSPORT *missions* at Valley Baptist
Retreat & Conference Center
1600 E. Business Hwy 83
Mission, TX 78572

Mission Offering

Campers learn about global needs and are given the opportunity to support Christian ministries working to meet those needs. The camp offering is collected on the final night of Worship.

Dance Party

Hawaiian shirts, fanny packs, bucket hats! Hit your nearest thrift store and join us at PASSPORT's 2024 Tacky Tourist Beach Party Dance. Costume Ideas may include Hawaiian shirts, sunblock on your nose, bucket hats, inflatables, oversized sunglasses, fanny packs, and more. *NO bathing suits, please.*

Variety Show

Campers who want to participate in the Variety Show should come prepared to perform their act in costume one afternoon during free time at Variety Show screenings. Group acts are encouraged.

Packing List

Clothes

- T-shirts
- Shorts
- Jacket/sweater
- Swimsuit (outdoor pool *should* be open)
- Costume for Dance Party
- Rec Party clothes that can get wet
- Closed-toe shoes (required for Rec Party & Missions; also, shoes may get wet at Rec Party, so we suggest bringing an extra pair)

Toiletries

- Soap (for sink and shower)
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Deodorant
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Other personal hygiene items

Towels and Linens

- Pillow, Twin XL sheets, and blanket (or sleeping bag)
- Towels and washcloths
- Beach towel (indoor pool *might* be open)

Other Items

- Bible (write name & church inside!)
- Pen or pencil
- Sunscreen and hat
- Bug repellent
- Flashlight
- Water bottle (a must!)
- Money for mission offering (optional)
- Money for the camp store (optional)
- Hand sanitizer
- Alarm clock or watch (Group Leaders will take up phones)
- Any sensory care items your camper may require

TIP: If packing something that must not get lost or left behind (like a Bible), please write a first & last name on it somewhere! Adding the city and church name is very helpful too.

Do Not Bring

- Fireworks, extra shaving cream, water balloons, tobacco products, vapes, illegal drugs, alcohol, firearms—all the usual no-nos.
- Students may not bring clothing, hats, flags, posters, or other room decorations that could be seen as divisive, inflammatory, or offensive.
- We ask that all electronics be switched off and put away while at camp to observe our Digital Sabbath rule designed to allow campers to focus on God, camp, relationships, and themselves—not games or music.
- Some Group Leaders will give phones to their campers for a brief parent check-in a couple of times during the week. However, Passport prefers for every group to maintain a full digital sabbath for the week – we trust group leaders to use their discretion for these check-in moments.

Dress Guidelines

Campers and adults should dress appropriately for the entire week of camp, as defined by the camper's parent/guardian and Church Group Leader. Please consider these guidelines, as it is the group leaders who will monitor their group's clothing:

- No clothing with inappropriate language or advertising is allowed.
- Clothing should not make fun of, belittle, or demean another person or culture.
- Shirts with sleeves & closed-toe tennis shoes are required for Rec Party and Mission Sites.
- Bring some clothes that can get dirty at Rec Party and for various games or activities.