



## Welcome to Summer at Meridian Street!

Summer at Meridian Street camp (S@MS) is a summer weekday ministry program of Meridian Street United Methodist Church that offers children the opportunity to explore their creativity, visit city sites and make friends. Serving children going into kindergarten through eighth grades, each week-long, full-day camp includes a variety of opportunities including music, arts, athletics, outdoor adventures, science, leadership and service.

**Week 1** May 29-May 31

**Week 2** June 3-June 7

**Week 3** June 10-June 14

**Week 4** June 17-June 21

**Week 5** June 24-June 28

**Week 6** July 1-July 5 (no camp on July 4)

**Week 7** July 8-July 22

**Week 8** July 15-July 18 (no camp on July 19)

**\*NOTE: Vacation Bible School (VBS)** at Meridian Street takes place in the morning during week 8 from 9:00-11:30 am. If your child wishes to participate in VBS, they may do so for no additional charge. For more information on VBS registration contact Deb Way at [dway@meridianstreet.org](mailto:dway@meridianstreet.org).

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## GENERAL INFO:

### Registration Information

All forms must be signed and submitted to Meridian Street UMC, either mailed or sent electronically, no later than May 22, 2024. No new registrations or added weeks will be accepted as of one week before each camp week.

### Hours:

Morning Extended Care 7:00 am – 8:00 am

Camp Activities Afternoon 8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Extended Care 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

### Sample Daily Schedule:

7:00 am – 8:00 am Extended Care

8:00 am – 8:15 am Arrival of Campers

8:30 am – 8:45 am Welcome Circle (Prayer, Song, & Preview of Day)

8:45 am – 9:00 am Camp Rules and Expectations

9:00 am – 10:30 am Small Groups

10:45 am – 11:15 am Morning Snack

11:15 am – 12:00 pm Small Groups

12:15 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch

1:15 pm – 2:45 pm Camp Soccer Game

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm Relaxation & Bathroom/Water Break

3:15 pm – 4:00 pm Small groups

4:00 pm – 4:30 pm Reflection, Club Announcements, Camp Announcements & Afternoon Snack

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Extended Care

## Drop Off/Parking:

Drop off should be in the Welcome Center / NW side of the church (5500 N. Meridian). Please park in the marked spaces and not along the sidewalk. We also request that you do not leave children unattended in your car and never leave children in a running car. Parents must accompany their child into the building no matter what age. All campers must be signed in each day.

Please be aware that drop off time is 8:00-8:15 am. If you pick your child up early or drop them off late, your camper may end up missing activities and even field trips. Utilize the calendar and schedule to avoid miscommunication.

Please inform the camp director in advance if you plan to drop off late or pick up early, particularly on field trip days. Campers will not be on the property at certain times on these days. You will not be able to drop off your child if the camp is already left for the field trip as no camp staff will remain on the Meridian Street campus to receive them.

## Authorization to Pick up a Child:

In addition to a parent, only those persons listed on the Emergency Contact Form or on the daily sign-in form will be allowed to pick up a child. If anyone else needs to pick up a child, the parent must advise the office by phone or in writing and that designated person should be prepared to show ID at pick up time.

## Door Policy:

The Welcome Center doors are the only doors open for entry to the building. Campers must be dropped off and picked up via the Welcome Center.

## 2024 Campers and Staffing:

The S@MS camp is open to a maximum of 60 campers per week. Camp staff includes a Director, Assistant Directors, Lead State Licensed Teachers, Part Time State Licensed Teachers and Volunteers (based on enrollment). All camp staff undergo a criminal background check, are CPR certified, and receive camp-specific safety training through Ministry Safe.

## Contact Info:

Be sure to read your weekly newsletter and to check the website ([meridianstreet.org/summer](http://meridianstreet.org/summer)) for any news or updates.

Camp Email: [summer@meridianstreet.org](mailto:summer@meridianstreet.org)

Main Camp Number: (317) 650-1859 (call or text) \*\*\*

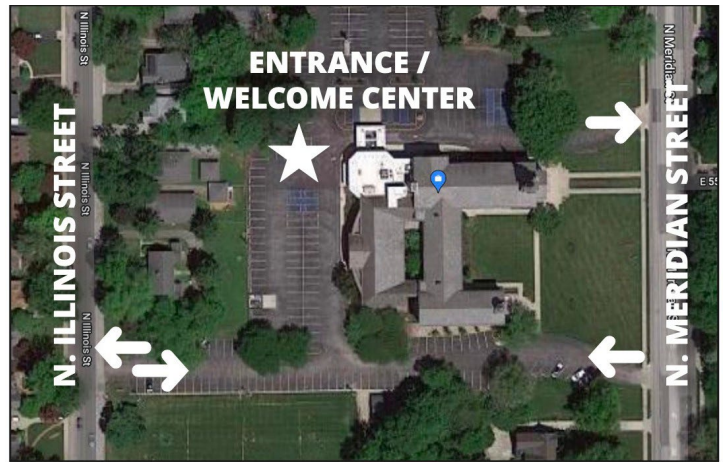
Emergency Numbers:

Chris Wynne's Cell (Director): (317) 650-1859 \*\*\*

Deb Way (MSUMC Pastor of Family and Youth Ministries): (317) 385-9246

Meridian Street UMC: (317) 253-3237

\*\*\*Be sure to always try to contact Director Chris Wynne first through call or text. Only use the other numbers in case of emergency\*



# **POLICIES:**

## **Security and Safety:**

Your child's safety and the security of our entire community are of the utmost importance to us. Therefore, please read and abide by the following guidelines concerning these areas:

## **Registration Fees:**

A non-refundable, non-transferable registration fee of \$50 must accompany the completed online registration for each child. Registrations are not confirmed until the Online Registration, \$50 fee, and EasyPay Worksheet have been received. All prepaid camp payments are non-refundable and nontransferable unless moving from Marion County or the contiguous counties. Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

## **Refunds:**

No refunds will be given for program cancellations due to weather or building issues or days missed due to illness or vacation. There are no make-up days. All registrations final as of May 20, 2024, with no refunds.

## **Illness or Injury:**

In the event of a serious illness or accident as determined by the Director or other personnel designated by the Director, an ambulance will be summoned to transport the child to a medical facility. The parent assumes responsibility for any and all costs incurred for the ambulance service and/or emergency medical care provided.

## **Health:**

It is very important that we be able to reach parents promptly in case of emergency. Please be sure that all phone numbers, including those of home, office, cellular and other adults authorized to pick up your child, are correct and up to date. Please tell your child's leader if you have given your child a medication that could cause drowsiness or a change in toilet habits. No one on staff is authorized to dispense medications. Parents must come to the camp to give their child any medications needed during the day.

## **Sick Policy:**

- Please do not send your child to camp if he/she appears to be ill or overly tired.
- If a child is not well enough to play outside, he/she should be kept at home.
- Parents will be notified if a child becomes ill at camp and needs to be picked up within 30 minutes of being called.
- Please tell your child's leader if you have given your child medication that could cause drowsiness or a change in toilet habits.
- If your child develops a communicable disease at home, please notify the camp so that we can inform other parents in the group.

Please find alternative care for your child when:

- Running a fever greater than 100.4
- Coughing excessively
- Nose running excessively
- Vomiting or diarrhea (they must be 24 hours beyond the last episode before returning to camp)
- Has any communicable conditions (pink eye, COVID-19, etc.) (they may not return without a doctor's release)

### **Email Notice:**

By providing your email, you are agreeing to receive regular email communication regarding any and all Meridian Street/ Summer Camp programs and activities.

### **Photography Release:**

Your registration indicates that you give permission to Meridian Street United Methodist Church and Summer at Meridian Street to use, without charge and without reservation, your child's likeness in any medium and for any lawful purpose, including promoting the church, its programs, and services. You waive any rights of action you may have and release Meridian Street from any and all claims that may have arisen from use of his/her likeness, including any rights to sue for defamation or violation of their rights of privacy or publicity.

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### **CAMPER INFO (daily):**

#### **Items Brought from Home:**

A backpack with these items should be brought to camp on the first day and/or every day, depending on the item:

- Backpack (with items below in it)
- Water Bottle
- Lunch
- Sunscreen
- Notebook for Journal
- A Smile ☺!

**Please label all items with your child's name!** The staff will be performing random checks of bags to prevent theft. Please ask your child to leave all toys, phones, and games at home as they may be lost or stolen. They may even be disruptive to the program (especially electronic games and phones). Money should only be brought on certain days or for specific needs. Meridian Street UMC is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

#### **Lost & Found:**

Each morning the campers should bring all of their belongings in their backpacks. Make sure everything is marked with the child's name. There will also be a lost and found box for any misplaced items.

#### **Lunches & Snacks:**

- S@MS will provide 2 snacks each day; 1 in the morning and 1 in the afternoon.
- Lunch items must NOT need refrigeration and/or heating. Please put your child's name on all lunch boxes and water bottles.

#### **Dress Code:**

Children should be dressed accordingly for the weather that day and should be appropriate. All children **MUST** wear tennis shoes to camp every day. No sandals, flip-flops, or Crocs are allowed for safety reasons (we do a lot of running). These items may be worn on swim days. Camp shirts **MUST BE WORN ON FIELD TRIP AND SWIM DAYS**. An additional camp shirt may be available for purchase – while supplies last.

#### **Sunscreen:**

Sunscreen is the key to surviving the summer sun. Everyone is to wear it each day (especially swim days). Please send a bottle with your child with their name on it. Please notify the Director or another staff member if your child burns easily, needs help remembering or needs help applying sunscreen.

## **Discipline Policy:**

S@MS tries to provide a positive environment for our campers through our staff and children. Whenever possible, S@MS staff will attempt to redirect inappropriate actions by a child. If redirection is not effective, S@MS will follow this sequence:

1. Redirection
2. Warning
3. Time out of current activity
4. Recess time out or miss
5. Parent Call
6. Parent pick-up for the day
7. Suspension from camp
8. Expulsion from camp

If the child endangers the safety of him or herself, another child, staff, or destroys or misuses property, the child will be counseled by the Director & in extreme cases may be suspended from the day's activities & asked to be picked up by a parent/guardian. If that does not stop the behavior, a child may be suspended or expelled from camp. For any offense after #4, the parent will be notified when they pick up the child. The staff will document all actions and discipline after that point. In the cases of sick, absent, or suspended children, there is no refund or adjustment in the fee, as the space cannot be refilled.

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## **GROUPS:**

### **Classroom Groups:**

Children at S@MS are broken up into even, age-appropriate groups led by a counselor.

### **Clubs:**

One of S@MS' gems is our "club" system. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to enjoy all nine clubs led by staff members at S@MS.

### **Wild Card Clubs:**

We also have "wild card" clubs as well as our nine regular clubs. These wild cards will be offered four at a time during the day and the kids will be able to choose them on the spot. They will consist of brand-new one-time clubs, semi-repeating clubs, and sometimes feature some of the nine regular clubs. If it is a regular club, those that are usually in that club will not be able to join the wild card in order to allow others to try new things.

### **Special Days:**

- **Field Trip Days:** Field trips occur every Tuesday, 11 am–3 pm. Field trip destinations vary by week, but include: The Indianapolis Children's Museum, Indianapolis Zoo, Zip City and local parks. Transportation is provided by a licensed transportation company.
- **Swim Days:** Fridays at the Monon Community Center.
- **Movie Days:** On Wednesdays, we have our Movie Day. We roll out a big screen and enjoy a movie as a camp. The movie is voted on by the children, and is required to be rated G or PG. Refreshments and popcorn is available on those days.
- **Theme, Event and Sport Days:** A specific theme is identified each day so that the children can dress up. Although enthusiastic involvement is encouraged, children should not wear outfits that stop them from enjoying our regular sports and activities at camp.
  - Event Days are when some, or all, of the camp participates in a special activity or competition.
  - We also play a lot of sports here at S@MS! In addition to our "Staff vs. Kids" flag football game, we will also play team sports such as ultimate Frisbee, soccer, kickball, and flag rugby.

## **Civic Duties and Helping Hands:**

S@MS gives back to the community by performing different civic duties and community service. The “Helping Hands” acts as our national honor society-type club, and they will come up with great opportunities for community service – like collecting and recycling pop tabs.

## **Meridian Street United Methodist Church:**

We have the privilege to be sponsored by a wonderful facility and staff at Meridian Street United Methodist Church. There are many ways for you to support or get involved:

- Subscribe to the Meridian Street Weekly, our e-newsletter, to stay up to date on activities and opportunities in adult and kid-specific ministry areas. Send an email to [summer@meridianstreet.org](mailto:summer@meridianstreet.org) if you would like to be added to the distribution list
- Children’s Church pull-out programs for Kg through 4th grade, 4Twelve for grades 5-8 and Club 104 for preschoolers during adult worship from 10:00 to 11:00 am.
- Meridian Street also offers a preschool program through the school year and soccer leagues in both fall and spring. See the church website for information and registration links for both programs.
- Sunday Morning Worship at 10:00 am both online ([meridianstreet.org/live](http://meridianstreet.org/live)) and in person

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## **Reminder:**

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*a united methodist church for all*