

Peterkin Camp and Conference Center

A Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia

Summer Camp Guide 2017



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Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| About Peterkin Camps | 3 |
| Camper and Parent Information | 3 |
| Peterkin Leadership | 3 |
| American Camping Association Accreditation | 4 |
| Counselors | 4 |
| Campers with Special Needs and Differing Abilities | 4 |
| Camper Safety | 4 |
| Homesickness Policy and Prevention | 5 |
| Camperships and Financial Assistance | 5 |
| Registration and Camper Pick-Up | 5 |
| A Day in the Life of Camp | 6 |
| What to Pack | 7 |
| Driving Directions | 8 |
| 2017 Camp Schedule | 9 |
| Intergenerational Camps. | 10 |
| Youth Day Camps | 10 |
| Youth Overnight Camps. | 11 |
| College & Young Adult Camp. | 13 |
| Camp Counselor Job Opportunities | 13 |
| Counselor in Training Opportunities | 14 |
| Adult Volunteer Opportunities | 14 |

About Peterkin Camps

Nestled in a valley near historic Romney, West Virginia, Peterkin Camp and Conference Center boasts 1,400 acres of unsurpassed natural beauty, with clean mountain streams and miles of hiking trails. Peterkin offers a refuge of serenity amid the stress and hectic pace of our everyday lives, a place that encourages us to relax and reconnect with nature by enjoying outdoor activities such as trout fishing, hiking, swimming and tennis. The quiet wooded coves are perfect for quiet times of meditation and relaxation. Taking a ‘time out’ at Peterkin is sure to bring regeneration to body, mind and spirit.

Our summer camp programs offer an opportunity to step away from everyday life and into a beautiful and nurturing environment where youth of all ages as well as young adults and families have the opportunity to explore their faith and build lifelong relationships. Campers have opportunities to participate in swimming, hiking, pottery, and archery as well as a wide variety of sports and arts and crafts. Our overnight camps include daily worship services as well as faith formation programming geared toward each specific age group.

Camper and Parent Information

Peterkin Camp Leadership

Daisy McBride, Executive Director: Daisy McBride has been working at Peterkin since 1993 and has been the Executive Director since 2005. Daisy oversees the running of Peterkin’s daily operations. In addition to her work at Peterkin, Daisy is actively involved in the local community, working with the Sheriff’s Department and partnering with local organizations to work against domestic violence.

Jordan Trumble, Program Director: Jordan is a lifelong Peterkin camper and counselor and has served as program director since 2014. Jordan works with clergy and volunteers to plan and implement the summer program and oversees counselors in their day-to-day work. In addition to work at Peterkin, Jordan also serves two local parishes: St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church in Romney and Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Moorefield.

American Camping Association (ACA) Accreditation

Peterkin is accredited by the American Camping Association and was renewed for a five-year accreditation in 2016, a distinction that only the best camps achieve. Our accreditation covers 300 quality standards covering all facets of our operation: safety, site, food services, and health and wellness. Peterkin is committed to providing a safe and nurturing camp community with caring counselors and staff and by offering opportunities for leadership and personal growth. We strive for excellence in all that we do and we invest in accreditation because you and your children deserve the best.

Counselors

Our camp programs are excellent because we employ excellent counselors. Our counselors are college students and young adults who go through a thorough selection and screening process conducted by Executive Director Daisy McBride and Program Director Jordan Trumble. This process includes interviews, reference checks, and background checks. All counselors also go through extensive staff training prior to each camping season that includes certification in First Aid/CPR as well as training in emergency preparedness, aquatics safety, child abuse prevention, and all active skills necessary for the daily life of camp. Furthermore, every employee must undergo the Episcopal Church's Safe Church sexual abuse and assault prevention training. For specific information about applying to be a counselor, please see page 13.

Campers with Special Needs and Differing Abilities

Peterkin strives to include all people in the camp experience and works to ensure that we can accommodate special needs when at all possible. If your child has severe allergies, extraordinary dietary needs, or other specific needs or abilities that will need accommodation at camp, please contact the Peterkin office.

Camper Safety

The safety of our campers is a top priority at Peterkin. As an ACA-accredited camp, we voluntarily undergo a vigorous risk management process to ensure the safety of all campers, staff, and participants.

1. All staff are certified in CPR and First Aid.
2. Peterkin coordinates with the Hampshire County Sheriff and local emergency services for routine patrol of the premises, open communication, and rapid response in case of crisis.
3. Counselors and staff provide 24-hour direct care and supervision of your camper.

Homesickness Policy and Prevention

Good preparation gives campers the confidence to fully enjoy a camp experience. Make every effort to fully prepare your child for the camp experience and set realistic expectations for their time at Peterkin. In this brochure, you will find daily sample schedules to help you and your child envision what daily life looks like at Peterkin. Counselors are trained to deal with routine homesickness and we often find that once campers adjust to camp, their homesickness goes away. Peterkin will never force a homesick camper to stay for the duration of the camp session.

“Camperships” and Financial Assistance

A fund for partial or full “camperships” is available. To be considered for financial assistance, the camper financial form must be filled out and signed by parents/guardians and a clergy person from your church. In the case of camperships, we normally ask that camp fees are split equally by the family, church, and diocese, with each party paying one-third of the camp fee. We recognize that some families may be unable to afford even one-third of the camp fees and some full camperships are available by contacting Peterkin. Donations to the campership fund are always needed and are fully tax-deductible.

Registration and Camper Pick-Up

Registration for camp always begins at 2:00PM on the day the session begins. Due to short turnover between sessions, we are unable to register campers early.

Each camp session ends with a closing Eucharist service in the chapel at 10:00AM on the final day of camp. All camper belongings must be removed from cabins prior to chapel in order for our cleaning crews to begin readying camp for our next session. Campers’ families are invited and encouraged to attend our closing services in order to get a glimpse of what our campers have experienced while at Peterkin.

Further information, including all of our registration forms, can be found on our website at www.peterkin.org.

A Day in the Life of Camp

Although each camp session operates a little bit differently, we hope to give you a sense of what your child might be doing in the course of an average camp day. The following schedule reflects the timing of one of our older camps; younger camps follow a similar schedule with abbreviated sessions and an earlier bedtime.

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 7:15AM | Wake Up |
| 8:00AM | Breakfast |
| 8:45AM | Lodge Clean-up |
| 9:15AM | Morning Program |
| 11:00AM | Holy Eucharist |
| 12:00PM | Lunch |
| 12:45PM | Rest Time |
| 2:00PM | Electives* |
| 3:00PM | Snack Time |
| 3:30PM | Elective* |
| 4:30PM | Free Time ** |
| 6:00PM | Dinner |
| 6:45PM | Lodge Time |
| 7:15PM | Evening Activity*** |
| 8:30PM | Compline (Evening Prayer Service) |
| 9:00PM | Back to Lodges |
| 9:30PM | Nighttime Devotions |
| 10:00PM | Lights Out |

*Electives are afternoon activity sessions that run from a few days through an entire week. They are more specialized activities than those available during free time, such as pottery, archery, hiking, water polo, baseball, creative writing.

**Free Time is when campers can choose what they do, whether that's swimming in the pool, playing a game of tennis, joining in a board game, or spending some quiet time in the rocking chairs on the porch of Gravatt. This is a more relaxed and unstructured time when campers can roam free within a certain area of camp, with adult supervision throughout.

***Evening activities vary based on the age and camp, but often include things like campfires, pool parties or camp-wide games designed by the counselors. Full-week camp sessions include a talent show.

What To Pack For Camp

The weather in the Potomac Highlands is generally hot and humid in the summers, with cooler mornings and temperatures rising by midday. Nights are often chilly, especially earlier in the summer.

The following list will help give you ideas for what to pack. If you have further questions, please contact our camp office.

- Shorts, t-shirts, pants, socks and undergarments for a full week (we recommend extra changes of clothes)
- At least one sweatshirt or lightweight jacket for cool mornings and evenings.
- A rain jacket or umbrella
- At least one swimsuit.
- Two pairs of shoes, including at least one pair of sneakers or hiking shoes for activities such as sports and hiking.
- At least two towels, one of which will be kept at the pool.
- A pillow
- Bedding for a twin mattress (either sheets and a blanket or a sleeping bag are acceptable)
- Toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, etc.)
- All prescription medications, in their original packages
- Sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses, and bug spray

Campers may also wish to bring:

- A flashlight
- An alarm clock
- A book to read at rest time or before bed
- A favorite stuffed animal
- Stationary and stamps for writing letters
- A camera

Please note: campers are NOT permitted to have cell phones at camp.

Directions to Peterkin

From Washington, DC and Environs

1. Take Dulles/Greenway toll road to VA 7
2. VA 7 to Winchester IS 81
3. Take IS 81 North to next exit (US 11 to VA 37)
4. US 11 West to VA 37 (US 11 bears left VA 37 goes straight)
5. Exit VA 37 at US 50 west
6. US 50 to Romney
7. Go through Romney – you will go through 2 traffic lights.
8. At bottom of hill just before the bridge, turn left onto River Road
9. After 3.5 miles, Peterkin will be on your left.

From Charleston, Parkersburg, Wheeling and Environs

1. I-79 to I-68 East
2. Exit I-68 at Exit 40 (Vocke Rd) –turn right at traffic light
3. Road will dead end at MD 53 – turn left
4. Follow MD 53 to US 220 – turn right
5. Follow US 220 south to MD 956 and turn left
6. MD 956 becomes WV 956 after you cross the Potomac River
7. Follow WV 956 to WV 28 in Short Gap – turn right
8. Follow WV 28 into Romney; at the Romney traffic light, turn right
9. At bottom of hill just before the bridge, turn left onto River Road
10. After 3.5 miles, Peterkin will be on your left.

2017 Summer Camp Schedule

May 30- June 3: College & Young Adult Camp: College Students/Young Adults

June 4-June 10: Staff Training

June 11-14: Mini-Camp: Children ages 3-8, plus guardian

June 14-17: Beginner Camp: Youth entering 1st - 4th grades

June 19-23: Day Camp 1: Youth entering K - 6th grades

June 25-July 1: Senior Camp: Youth entering 9th-12th grades and graduated seniors

July 5-7: Day Camp Bible School: Youth entering K-8th grades

July 9-15: Family Camp: All ages; youth must be accompanied by an adult

July 16-22: Intermediate Camp: Youth entering 5th-8th grades

July 23-29: MAD Camp: Youth entering 4th-12th grades

2017 Camps: *“Breaking Bread Together”*

Our 2017 theme for Peterkin is “Breaking Bread Together.” As a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia, we value the celebration of the Eucharist or Holy Communion as one of the trademarks of our life together and through the history of Peterkin, this has been a central part of each day. This summer, we will be learning about the Eucharist and exploring the ways God calls us to come together as the Body of Christ to hear scripture proclaimed, pray for the needs of the world, and give thanks for the gifts God has bestowed upon us.

Intergenerational Camps

Family Camp: A Camp for All Ages July 9-15, 2017

Open to families of all types, Family Camp offers a relaxing vacation in a caring Christian environment. Families are free to spend time together as they see fit and are invited to take advantage of the beautiful wooded surroundings and local area attractions. Bible discussions, worship services, and ‘inter-generational’ group activities promote spiritual growth for every family member; outdoor activities, arts and crafts, and story time promote relaxation and fun for all ages. Family Camp brings families closer to God and each other.

Mini-Camp June 11-14, 2017 Ages 3-8, plus guardian

Mini-Camp is a fun, inviting opportunity for the youngest of campers to try out the Peterkin experience. It is another abbreviated camp session, intended to introduce summer camp activities to children who aren’t quite ready for a whole week on their own. Campers must bring an adult to experience camp with them (Beginner Campers are invited to stay and have an adult join them), giving them the support and assurance they need to try out new things and make friends at a young age. For those who want to get a safe, encouraging start on their first Peterkin experience, Mini-Camp is a chance for little kids to try out some big fun.

Day Camps

In 2017, Peterkin is offering two different day camp sessions: our traditional full-week day camp and a three-day Vacation Bible School day camp. VBS day camp is a new option this year and combines the best of our traditional day camp with the spiritual focus of our other youth camps. VBS day camp also will serve a broader age range, including those entering up to eighth grade.

Day Camp 1
June 19-23, 2017
Students entering K - 6th grade in the fall

Day Camp offers an opportunity for the children of Hampshire County to experience a little taste of Peterkin. Campers will participate in field games, hiking, arts & crafts, archery, pottery, swimming, and other special activities. In the past, these have included visits from the county K9 unit, a workshop with the Division of Natural Resources, and a presentation on bullying and peer pressure from the local D.A.R.E. officer. Day Camp runs from 8-5 each day and campers are fed breakfast and lunch each day.

Day Camp Vacation Bible School
July 5-7, 2017
Students entering K-8th grade in the fall

This camp will be a shortened version of our normal day camp but for a wider age group and with an increased focus on faith development. This camp will still include all the regular day camp favorites (hiking, sports, arts and crafts, and swimming) but will also help equip campers for deeper lives of faith.

Youth Overnight Camps

Beginner Camp June 14-17, 2017
Students entering 1st - 4th grades

Beginner Camp is a child's first experience of camp on their own and is an abbreviated version of our other youth camps. Campers will stay in a cabin with counselors and other campers, and try age-appropriate versions of our other camp activities, including arts & crafts, field games, swimming, chapel, and campfires. Campers will learn independence in a safe and nurturing environment, all while making friends and trying new hobbies.

Senior Camp June 25-July 1, 2017
Open to youth entering 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade

Open to youth entering 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade, as well as graduated high school seniors, Senior Camp offers a fitting conclusion to the Peterkin experience.

The camp program emphasizes discussion and personal reflection, focusing on real-world issues, and encouraging campers to reflect on their faith and its implications in their lives. As young adults, Senior Campers are afforded a wider range of activities, with meditation, bible study and rewarding work projects complementing the usual camp electives. They are invited to take more responsibility for the camp, and are encouraged to plan worship and organize camp activities. There are multiple outlets for outdoor leisure time as well as creative arts such as writing and music. As they begin the next exciting stage of their lives, young adults at Senior Camp can find a relaxing, nurturing, and engaging place to renew and strengthen their faith in God and themselves.

Intermediate Camp July 16-22, 2017
Students entering 5th - 8th grade in the fall

Intermediate Camp is for those entering 5th through 8th grades and the focus of the camp is on knowing our story as God's people and Christ's followers. This is a great camp for those who might be thinking about confirmation but campers who are already confirmed or don't plan to be confirmed will still enjoy this energetic camp. The program helps kids investigate faith in their lives, encouraging personal reflection while providing opportunities for group discussion and social interaction alongside traditional camp activities such as swimming, hiking, sports, and arts & crafts.

MAD Camp
July 23-29, 2017
Students entering 4th - 12th grade in the fall

Music, Arts, and Drama! Focusing on helping kids develop and nurture diverse talents, MAD Camp is available to campers entering 4th through 12th grades. Younger campers will engage in art classes, and older students will serve as mentors while working with resident artists to further develop their own creative gifts. Electives range from photography and arts and crafts to filmmaking and dance. As the campers explore their own talents, the unique camp program provides ample opportunities for them to discuss their Relationship with God and the church, and to reflect on the role their artistry can play. This camp offers plenty of outdoor fun, group activities and socializing, plus free time diversions that include swimming, hiking, and field games. With the wide variety of activities offered in a caring environment, Peterkin is the perfect place for young people to refine skills and explore new ideas.

Young Adult Camp
College & Young Adult Camp
May 30-June 3, 2017

If you are in a college student or in your twenties we want YOU to join us at Peterkin for this half-week camp session. This will be a more laid back camp session but we will still enjoy “regular” camp activities like campfires & s’mores, arts & crafts, hiking, pool parties, and maybe even a dance! We’ll also explore what it means to be young adults in the church today - the importance of transitions, vocation & discernment.

Working and Volunteering at Peterkin

Camp Counselor Job Opportunities

Camp counselors are integral to a positive and enriching camp experience. Counselors should be responsible, energetic, spiritually mature, and creative individuals who have an enthusiasm for working with youth and families of all ages.

Counselor Responsibilities include:

- Supervision of campers in lodges and all other camp facilities
- Leading evening devotions with campers in lodges
- Assisting with and occasionally leading morning program (including, but not limited to, small groups)
- Planning and leading afternoon elective activities (e.g. hiking, arts & crafts, pottery)
- Planning and leading evening activities.
- Basic camp duties (distributing mail, campfire set-up, putting out and bringing in water coolers, etc.)
- Supervision of one of more aspects of camp (pottery studio, athletic shed, archery, sacristy, camp store, etc.)
- Acting as a role model for Counselors-in-Training and campers

Hiring preference is given to those who are 20+ years old and 2+ years out of high school. Counselors must be, at a minimum, 19 years old and one year out of high school. All counselors must complete Safeguarding God’s Children training and a criminal background check before working with youth.

Applications to be a counselor can be found on our website at www.peterkin.org.

Counselors-in-Training (CITs)

Counselors-in-training work with counselors and volunteer staff to make the camp experience run as smoothly as possible and to gain experience working in a camp environment. CITs must be, at minimum, 17 years old* and entering 12th grade. CITs assist counselors and weekly staff with all duties (see counselor description). CITs will always be paired with Counselors or Weekly Program Staff members for electives and other activities so that they can learn from and observe more experienced leadership. CITs will not have direct supervision authority or responsibility for campers. Applying to be a CIT does not guarantee acceptance to be a CIT; this is a privilege reserved for those who have demonstrated maturity and leadership.

*Please note the change in CIT requirements from previous years. Due to the reorganization of our camp schedule, we have fewer opportunities for CITs than previous summers. While we understand that this will be a disappointment to some, we hope to use this as an opportunity to make the CIT experience a more exceptional and transformational experience for those involved.

Adult Volunteers

Each camp session, we have clergy leaders and, depending on the size of the camp, a few adult volunteers. These volunteer staff members help the clergy run the morning program, lead small groups and electives (as needed), and are present throughout the camp day to offer support to counselors and clergy whenever needed. Volunteer staff are expected to be at camp for the duration of the camp session, arriving the night before camp begins when possible.

Volunteer staff members are selected by clergy leaders in conversation with our Program Director and Executive Director. Space for adult volunteers is limited and beginning in 2017 all adult volunteers must fill out a volunteer application to be kept on file and to help clergy leaders select volunteers who are best equipped for particular camps.