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## **Greetings from Holston Camp and Retreat Center,**

Summer camp is a special time for your child. At Holston Camp we create and celebrate special moments that give meaning to your child's stay. Children remember life-changing events that occur at camp. They remember the songs, the games, and the smell of the campfire. They remember making new friends. We provide experiences in a Christian context that can be celebrated and remembered. Children return home to tell exciting stories of adventures with new friends.

This Summer's theme is "I AM...". We want kids to realize they are engaged in a spiritual journey that enriches and informs their lives. Jesus said "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life." (John 8:12) The "I AM..." theme challenges kids to consider how they choose to engage in their social group, community, and in the world.

We are excited about new programs for the residential camp.

- Night Owl Camp is for those kids who like to stay up late and sleep in. We will take advantage of the warm evenings and a waxing moon to do night activities and learn about stars and night critters.
- MAD Camp (Music, Art and Drama) allows kids to be creative outdoors. We'll build and play instruments, draw and paint, and perform dances and skits. Be prepared to engage.
- Classic Adventures Camps will be offered too. We are scouting a new leg of the Appalachian Trail and preparing our canoes for the New River.
- The last two weeks of camp will be based out of the Rustic Village Campsites.

Day Campers will also have new adventures and activities to enjoy. We will again pick up campers at the Lowe's grocery store on NC 105 in the morning.

A great summer camp experience depends on great summer camp counselors. We recruit counselors who bring talent and compassion to our program, and who exemplify Christian values. We emphasize counselor training so that your child is safe, respected, and cared for.

Safety is our top concern at Holston Camp. We make every effort to ensure the safety of your child under all circumstances. We promote safety through counselor training, camp policies, facility management, and adult oversight.

If you have questions or comments about the summer camp program, don't hesitate to call me or Lisa Jones, our Office Administrator. We are looking forward to meeting your camper!

Jim Austin, Director