

C.A.M.P.

Campers Achieving Merit Program

C.A.M.P. was introduced at Highland Hills Baptist Church in 1995 as a way to encourage and assist our children/youth to attend summer camp by enabling them to earn some or all of the costs involved, minus the registration fee. Numerous children and youth have benefitted from this program over the years.

All funds will be rewarded on a percentage-of-cost basis. Different camps and age groups cost different amounts. To determine the actual amount of merit earnings, apply the percentage earned to the total cost of your specific week of camp. It remains the responsibility of every family to register for camp through the church or with the camp itself and to cover the costs of any registration fees.

Eligible Camps & Programs

Lake Ann Baptist Camp – <http://www.lakeanncamp.com/>

- Juniors (entering 4th & 5th grade)
- Jump Start (entering 6th grade)
- Jr. High (entering 7th & 8th grade)
- Fresh Start (entering 9th grade)
- Sr. High (entering 10th, 11th, 12th & the summer before college)
- Reborn Rangers - campers must be invited to this program to attend

Lincoln Lake Baptist Camp - <http://www.lincolnlake.com/>

- Spurt Camp (entering 2nd-4th grade)
- Junior Camp (entering 4th – 6th grade)
- Middle School Camp (entering 6th -8th grade)
- High School Camp (entering 9th -12th grade)
- Wilderness Camp (entering 6th – 12th grade)
- Combo Camp (entering 2nd – 6th grade)

Other Christian Summer Camps approved in advance by Danielle Vaughn & Pastor Nick Melonas.

How do I know if my child/youth is eligible for the Camp Achieving Merit Program?

- This program is open to all who will be entering 2nd grade to 12th grade.
- If you are regular attendees to Highland Hills Baptist Church services or Sunday School program
OR
- If your child/youth participates in the AWANA or Youth Group regularly through the school year.

What is asked of you as Parents/Youth?

- To register your child/youth for camp through the camp your child is attending or the church office (616-453-4400) by announced deadline.
- Pay the deposit/registration fee for Camp (\$85*). Pay to the camp your camper will be attending.
- Make sure the Camp Merit Phase Sheets are turned in to the church office by their appropriate due dates.

** The deposit/registration fee is the responsibility of the camper. Campers may earn 100% of camp costs, minus this registration fee.*

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Info for All Campers - BLACK

Info for Campers entering 2nd & 3rd grade - GREEN

Info for Campers entering 4th - 6th grade - BLUE

Info for Campers entering 7th - 12th grade - RED

WAYS TO EARN CAMP MERIT:

Attendance

Scripture Memorization

Service to Church (hourly-based)

Service to Church (participation-based)

Service to Community

Service Projects

AWANA Book

Book Reports

Sermon Notes

Nursing Home/Shut-In Visitation

1. Attendance

Sunday (AM service, Flock/Sunday School, PM services (must attend 2 of the 3 services on a Sunday))

- Attendance is done month-by-month.
- They can miss one Sunday a month and still receive credit for that month.
- May visit another church, but in order to receive attendance credit they must attend the church's service and turn in a bulletin from that church.

Wednesday Night (Youth Group, AWANA, or special services that replace regular weekly activities)

- Attendance is done month-by-month.
- They can miss one Wednesday a month and still receive credit for that month.

Parent Event

- Attending parent meetings you will earn 5% for each child / youth

Attendance is counted for each phase. One phase is 2 months worth of attendance.

- Each phase equals 4% (month 1 – Wed & Sun, month 2- Wed & Sun)
- If the youth has perfect attendance for 3 out of the 4 weeks during that phase an additional 1% can be earned for that phase.
- Total/Max percentage that can be earned throughout the program is 25%. (30% total with parents FLOCK attendance)

Parent Attendance (2nd – 6th)

- Parents can earn attendance credit for their child by attending FLOCK.
- 1/2% can be earned each month, please mark your FLOCK attendance on the phase sheet as well as putting an "F" next to the weeks you attended.

For All Campers – Black - 2nd & 3rd grade - Green
4th - 6th grade – BLUE - 7th - 12th grade - Red

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2. Scripture Memorization

There will be a designated passage of Scripture for each month on the phase sheet that students can memorize and recite to receive 1% (max of 10%). This must be recited to Danielle Vaughn, AWANA leaders, or Sunday school teachers. No help is to be given.

- They can recite to Danielle Vaughn, Leaders, or Teachers in sets of 6 verses at a time:
 - Romans 5:1-19 - Completion 10%
 - 1 Corinthians 12:1-20 - Completion 10%

3. Service to Church (Hourly-Based)

Percentage is based off time worked at specific projects and how well you work during the time recorded.

Requirements - a minimum of two (2) hours.

Requirements - a minimum of three (3) hours

Requirements - a minimum of four (4) hours

- Church Work Day(s)
 - Parental supervision (unless otherwise arranged with another adult).
 - Work Day committee will direct the projects for the day.
 - Camper can earn up to 10%.
- Maintaining Church grounds or facility
 - Set up a time with the Church Office.
 - Max of 20%
- Babysitting
 - Babysit for free for non-family members at church with young children.
 - Record the hours and who you did this for.
 - Max of 30%

4. Service to Church (Participation-based)

Percentage is earned by participating in and completing the task or commitment to the task. How you work or serve may have an effect on the percentage rewarded. Camper's involvement must be for the entire duration of the program while demonstrating faithfulness and commitment to the practices and performances. Parent or supervising adult must initial their merit phase form.

- Children's Christmas Program & Practices – 10%
- Child Care
 - Pre-School Chapel – 10%
 - Toddler or Infant Nursery – 10%
- Music Ministry
 - Special Music– 10% (1% for each piece)
 - Choir – 10%
 - Praise Team – 10%
- Easter Special Performance - 5%
- Vacation Bible School - 20% (7% for Attendance)
- Trunk or Treat – 10% (5% for staying at trunk)

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- Christmas Card Exchange – 5%
- Memorial Day Parade – 10%
- Usher (Guys) – 10%

5. Service to Community

Must be a local Christian non-profit organization. No financial compensation can be accepted. Can be used in conjunction with other volunteer hours needed for school or other groups. A project may be done in installments for the same community organization.

A minimum of two (2) hours.

A minimum of three (3) hours

A minimum of four (4) hours

Must submit a report with the phase that the work correlates with, including:

- The name of the non-profit organization
- Why you chose to serve that organization
- In what capacity did you serve that organization?
- What you learned in serving that organization.
- Parent must initial their project form.
- Camper will earn 10% toward their camp upon completion.
- Max of 20%

6. Service Projects

This is designed to help those in NEED within this church. A NEED that does not fit the criteria listed below must be submitted for pre-approval by Danielle Vaughn. Credit should not be assumed. A project may be done in installments to fulfill the guidelines. The project must be voluntary and no financial compensation can be accepted. Serving and helping out family members/relatives is always encouraged, but cannot be accepted for merit scholarship.

- Widows/Widowers
- Elderly
- Single Parents
- Shut-Ins
- Those with physical ailments.

Requirements:

A minimum of two (2) hours.

A minimum of three (3) hours

A minimum of four (4) hours

- Suggestions
 - General yard work, weeding, or spring cleaning for those who could use the help.
 - Leaf Raking/snow shoveling
 - Chores around the house for above individuals.
- Camper will earn 10% for each submission meeting the hourly requirements.
- Max of 20%

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7. AWANA Book Completion

- AWANA Book completion (verified by AWANA Director)
 - Completion of book during AWANA Calendar year (Sept – April) – 10%
 - Workbook – Frequent Flyers (Sept – April) – 10%
 - Workbook – TNT (Sept – April) – 10%

8. Book Reports

Books must be appropriately challenging for the camper’s age and readability with a Christian or moral focus. Students may pick a book from the church library that is age appropriate and a chapter-style book. This may include Christian living books, Christian biographies, and Christian fiction (i.e. *The Chronicles of Narnia*). Students can use other books not in the Church library, but they must be approved by Danielle Vaughn first.

Guidelines:

2nd & 3rd grade: up to three (3) submissions.

4th – 6th grade: up to two (2) submissions.

7th – 12th grade: up to two (2) submissions

- The book must meet the following page requirements (unless otherwise approved by Danielle Vaughn):
 - Entering 2nd & 3rd grades-50-page min.
 - Entering 4th - 6th grades-100-page min.
 - Entering 7th & 8th grades-150-page min.
 - Entering 9th – 12th grades-250-page min.
- The book must not have been read before.
- Reading the book cannot fulfill any other assignment.
- Book Report - Must be submitted in order to get credit
 - Include your name
 - Title
 - Author history & why they wrote your book – 1 Paragraph
 - Overview of the book’s content – 2 Paragraphs
 - Summary of the book’s impact on the camper – 1 Paragraph
 - No late reports will be accepted.
 - Camper will earn 10% per book report approved.
- Book Project – Must be submitted in order to get credit
 - Design your own Cereal Box – introduce other readers to the book you finished
 - Title
 - Author of Book – history & why they wrote your book
 - Main Characters – short description
 - Overview of the book
 - Summary of the book’s impact on the camper
 - Camper will earn 10% per book report approved.

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9. Sermon Notes/Notebooks

Sermon notes can be taken during Sunday AM and PM services, FLOCK hour, Youth Group, and Retreats. Sermon notes must have camper's name, date, speaker's name, scripture passages, and 3 lessons learned from the message.

September – May

2nd & 3rd – 25 sermon notes / completed children bulletins

4-6th grade – 30 sermon notes

7 & 8th grades – 40 sermon notes

9th – 12th grades – 50 sermon notes

- Please turn in sermon notes/notebook once they are fully completed to be reviewed.
- Campers will earn 20% upon completion & approval of sermon notes.

10. Personal Devotions

Campers are encouraged to be practicing personal devotion time on a weekly basis. Second – sixth graders can receive credit for completing two devotional times a week and seventh – twelfth graders can receive credit for completing three devotional times a week. Devotional page completed or a short journal listing (passage, main lesson point, & personal application) must be shown and initialed by Danielle Vaughn, an AWANA Leader, or a Sunday School Teacher to receive credit.

September – May

2nd & 3rd – 70 devotionals

4-6th grade – 75 devotionals

7 & 8th grades – 85 devotionals

9th – 12th grades – 95 devotionals

- Campers will earn 20% upon completion & approval of devotions.

11. Nursing Home/Shut-In Visitation

We encourage visits to be made to residents who are a part of our church family. Credit cannot be given for visits to residents who are also members of the camper's family. A 30-minute visit minimum is required. While many visits are encouraged, this project can only be submitted twice. A minimum ½ page report highlighting what you did with them and/or learned from the visit should be turned in with the phase that the visit corresponds with.

Suggestions for visits:

- Personal Interview using sample questions:
 - How did you meet your spouse?
 - How and when did you give your life to Christ?

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- What was it like growing up?
- How has your faith been tested?
- Examples of God's faithfulness in your life?

- Take them a meal or bag of groceries and enjoy fellowship with them.
- Volunteer to do chores for them and then chat over refreshments.

- Camper will earn 10% toward their camp upon completion.
- Camper can earn a maximum of 20%

Important Due Dates:

All Reports & Recitations are due: June 10th, 2018

- Book Reports
- Nursing Home / Shut-In Reports
- Service to Community Report
- Scripture Memorization
- Sermon Notes

Early submissions will be received and are encouraged. No late reports will be received.

Registration & Deposit/Registration Fee is due the 1st Sunday in March: March 4, 2018

Deposit/Registration Fee Amount: \$85

Phase Sheet 1 (September & October) **Due date: November 12th**

Phase Sheet 2 (November & December) **Due date: January 14th**

Phase Sheet 3 (January & February) **Due date: March 11th**

Phase Sheet 4 (March & April) **Due date: May 13th**

Phase Sheet 5 (May & June) **Due date: June 17th**

No late Phase Sheets will be received past the due date without previous approval!

If you have any questions about the Camp Achieving Merit Program or if something would count towards camp merit, just ask Danielle Vaughn.

E-mail – office@hhills.org

Office- 616-453-4400

For one camp week, the church sends a bus to Lake Ann Camp to drop off/pick up our campers. We will announce what week this is prior to registration being due.

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Camp Merit Monthly Verses

September: (LOVE) Ephesians 4:2-3 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

October: (JOY) Psalm 95:1-2 Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song.

November: (PEACE) Romans 12:17-19 do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

December: (PATIENCE) James 1:19-20 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

January: (KINDNESS) Ephesians 4:32 - 5:2 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

February: (GOODNESS) Psalm 34:12-14 Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days, keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies. Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

March: (FAITHFULNESS) Hebrews 4:14-16 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin. 16 Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

April: (GENTLENESS) Proverbs 15:1-2 A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly.

May: (SELF-CONTROL) I Peter 1:13-16 "Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

June: (Fruits of the Spirit) Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

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Camp Merit Book List Suggestions

Here are a few titles of books I have found when researching for good books to read by age. I have also included two websites that have book lists by grade levels if you need inspiration. Campers can choose an appropriate book from any list based on their reading level. Other books can be approved before reading for merit.

Third – Fifth Grade:

Series

Then & Now Heroes for Young Readers by Various Authors (www.ywampublishing.com)
Boxcar Children series by Gertrude Warner
Redwall series by Brian Jacques
Narnia Chronicles by CS Lewis
Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Novels

Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt
Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle
Swiftly Tilting Planet by Madeline L'Engle
A Wind in the Door by Madeline L'Engle

Sixth – Eight Grade

Series

History Maker Bio's series by Various Authors (searchable on web)
Narnia Chronicles by CS Lewis
The Hobbit & Lord of the Rings series by J.R.R. Tolkien
Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery

Novels

The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare
Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare
Bronze Bow by Elizabeth George Speare
The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom
Roll of Thunder by Mildred Taylor

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

Novels

Christian Heroes Then & Now by Various Authors (www.ywampublishing.com)
Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
Freedom Train by Dorothy Sterling
The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis
Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas
Last Crusader by George Grant
God's Smuggler by Brother Andrew

Challenge Writings (Extra 5% Merit)

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan
Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis

*Websites: www.blogs.thegospelcoalition.org and www.goodreads.com.

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