



2024 Application for Ministry

Jr Counselor

Excitement Is In The Air!

Dear Prospective Junior Counselor,

The Brethren Retreat is a great place to serve the Lord while being challenged to grow closer in your own relationship with God. I hope that you will prayerfully consider what your role might be on staff for Camp Shipshewana 2024. I am looking forward to seeing how God brings together a team of young men and women who love the Lord and desire to serve Him by sharing their lives with hundreds of children during our 104th summer of ministry. Our Camp Shipshewana 2024 theme will be: **SEEK** Our theme verse is from Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Matthew 6:33

Please fill out and return the enclosed staff application ASAP to begin the process. In the past we have accepted applications up to the date of Staff Training, which is June 8-14, 2024 (Saturday-Friday) provided there still remains an open position (**Please note the new date change as arrival is on Saturday afternoon instead of Sunday this year**). Available summer staff positions after spring break have not been the case in some years. So... get your application materials submitted promptly. We are expecting an abundance of excellent ministry applicants for Camp Shipshewana 2024!



We are searching for Jr Counselors age 16 yo and older. A Jr Counselor will assist a Sr Counselor or Activity Director in supervising a group of campers during the session. We typically seek 3-6 Jr Counselors to serve as volunteers during each camp session. A Jr Counselor may serve more than one camp session but not two sessions consecutively or following a session they attended as a camper. The fatigue can inhibit your effectiveness. A Jr Counselor is awarded a \$150.00 Honorarium towards a future Camp Shipshewana session or retreat.

Also enclosed are **three reference forms**. Please give these reference forms, along with a stamped Brethren Retreat-addressed envelope, to adults who know you well, and with whom you have had regular contact in a character developing role (*i.e. a teacher/professor, coach/supervisor, youth/campus pastor, non-relative adult who has known you 3+ years, etc.*). **One reference form MUST be from your current Pastor/Youth Leader**. Please ask them to complete and return the reference forms to the Brethren Retreat within the week that you present the reference to them. I look forward to receiving your application.

I pray that you are thankful for a kingdom that is unshaken and seek to worship God with reverence and awe this summer at Camp Shipshewana. It's our 104th year of ministry!

SEEK Him 1st,
Matthew 6:33

Rick Miller
Executive Director



Application for Ministry Jr Counselor

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name: _____ Date: ___/___/___
Birthday: ___/___/___ Sex: M F Age: _____ Shirt Size: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____ Email: _____
Parents Phone Number: _____ Parents Email: _____
School: _____ GPA: _____
How did you hear about the Brethren Retreat? _____

SPIRITUAL BACKGROUND:

Home Church: _____ Pastor: _____
Are you involved with a youth group? _____ Youth Pastor/leader: _____
I attend church (please circle one)... every week almost every week once a month
occasionally on special occasions
I attend church with my family: YES NO

List three strengths and weaknesses in your walk with God...

Strengths	Weaknesses
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

On a separate paper please tell us a little about...

1. How and why you decided to become a Christian.
2. What it looks like for you to live your life as a Christian (involvement in ministry, devotional time, etc).
3. How your walk with God will help you as you serve in summer camping ministry this summer?

EXPERIENCE

Please describe what kind of experience you have working with people ages 6-17.

Circle all that apply:

CPR certification
WSI certified

First aid certified
Archery certified

Certified Babysitter
Can play an instrument during worship

Lifeguard certified

Please describe your experience with leadership and serving/volunteering,.

Are you comfortable leading any of these activities? Circle all that apply:

Swimming

Boating

Archery

Hiking

Teambuilding

Silly songs

Worship

Bible Study

Prayer

Small Group discussion

Campfire making

Tent camping

Outdoor cooking

Team games

OTHER INFORMATION

Prioritize your reasons (1-7) for seeking a staff position at the Brethren Retreat.

_____ To grow in my personal relationship with Christ

_____ An opportunity lead a child to Jesus Christ

_____ I have friends serving on staff

_____ I am seeking God's call to full time ministry

_____ Camp is fun

_____ A desire to be a positive role model

_____ I was recruited by a former staff or camper

How would you describe yourself?

Please circle which option applies to you most.

Loud

or

Soft spoken

Laidback

or

Active

Schedule

or

Wing it

Optimist

or

Pessimist

Follower

or

Leader

Team player

or

Lone wolf

Quiet

or

Outgoing

Organized

or

Disorganized

List three of your strengths and weaknesses...

Strengths

Weaknesses

Do you have any physical, medical, or mental health conditions or any special limitations YES NO
If yes, please explain: _____
Physician: _____ Phone: _____

Have you ever been arrested for any violation that resulted in a conviction, a plea of guilty or no contest, probation, community service, summary report, or some other form of adjudication (other than minor traffic violations)? Also, do you have any pending charges or are you under any type of investigation? If yes, explain fully on a separate piece of paper. YES NO

Have you ever been accused of physical or sexual abusive behavior? If yes, explain fully on a separate piece of paper. YES NO

REFERENCES

You will need to have 2 people complete and fill out a reference form for you and mail it back to the Brethren Retreat.

Reference #1 *(must be a pastor/youth leader)*

Name: _____ Relationship: _____
Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Reference #2

Name: _____ Relationship: _____
Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

APPLICANT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

I understand that the existence of a record of criminal activity or child abuse may, depending on the circumstances, disqualify me from consideration as an applicant to the Brethren Retreat Staff Team. I further understand Criminal and Child Abuse background checks may be conducted if I am accepted as a member of the Brethren Retreat Staff Team. Failure to fully disclose one's record will typically result in immediate dismissal. To the extent of my knowledge, the information on this application is truthful and accurate. By means of this release, I authorize the Brethren Retreat to make inquiries about me with the people listed in this application.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

(If applicant is under age 18, parent's signature is required before Brethren Retreat can process application and complete a background check.)

Return completed application to:

The Brethren Retreat at Shipshewana Lake
Rick Miller, Executive Director
9095 W 275 N Shipshewana, IN 46565



Service Request Form

Jr Counselor

Name: _____ Year: _____

Please label your top three choices for serving as a Jr Counselor at Camp Shipshewana!

You may serve two nonconsecutive weeks as a Jr Counselor.

Also you may serve prior to attending a camp session only. Serving after a camp session adds to the fatigue factor and reduces a staff person's effectiveness.

Junior Counselors will also be expected to attend Summer Staff Training June 8-14. Jr Counselors receive a \$150.00 honorarium towards future 2024 Camp Shipshewana camp session or retreat for their time to attend Staff Training.

1 st	2 nd	MC – Main Campus	EC – East Campus	HA – Horseshoe Acres
___	___	GrandCamp/Parent-Child#	(4-14 year olds & Adults)	June 7-9 MC
___	___	Ignite Camp*	(11-14 year olds)	June 16-22 MC
___	___	Fuel Camp	(8-11 year olds)	June 23-29 MC
___	___	Old Testament Heros	(\10-12 year olds)	June 30-July 6 EC
___	___	Archery Camp	(9-13 year olds)	July 7-11 ** EC
___	___	Pioneer Camp	(10-12 year olds)	July 14-20** HA
___	___	Mini Camp	(6-8 year olds)	July 21-23 MC
___	___	Sports Camp	(9-13 year olds)	July 21-25 EC

Please apply my \$150 Honorarium to;

Blaze Camp BlazeX Camp Labor Day Family Camp 2024 Winter Blast

*Please no 1st year Jr Counselors during Ignite Camp

Please no 1st year Jr Counselors during GrandCamp & Parent-Child Camp

** During this sessions campers and staff will be sleeping in tents on Horseshoe Acres or East Campus

X _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature if Jr Counselor applicant is under age 18