

Camp Trinity Academy

July 13th – 18th 2025

Camp Trinity
439 Camp Trinity Drive
New Haven, MO 63068

What is Camp Trinity Academy?

Camp Trinity Academy is a weeklong camp for boys who are considering the possibility of someday studying at seminary. It isn't only for those boys who know they want to go to seminary. Many of the boys who attend Camp Trinity Academy may very well end up taking a different path. Of course, the main purpose of this camp is to help the church, specifically local pastors and congregations, to raise up men to be pastors. However, we hope this camp will also promote future leaders in our congregations. We have been blessed with seminaries to prepare men for the office of Word and Sacrament established by our Lord Jesus. However, as much as the seminary professors, fieldwork and vicarage supervisors play a pivotal role in forming these pastors for the church, we cannot underestimate the impact of the local pastor. Camp Trinity Academy exists to foster this bond between potential seminary students and their local pastors. The following is an outline of the program.

Qualifications and Ages of Campers

Campers must be members of a confessional Lutheran congregation, either already confirmed or in his final year at Catechism/Confirmation Class. Ages will range from twelve years of age or going into 7th Grade to eighteen years of age or having just graduated from high school.

Length of the week at Camp

Campers will arrive for registration at Camp Trinity, New Haven, MO on July 13th, 2025 between 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Campers will leave that Friday, July 18th at noon.

Curriculum

Campers will take courses covering three fields of study: Biblical Theology, Doctrinal/Confessional Theology, and Historical Theology. The particular subjects of each course is to be determined. Each class will be taught by a pastor. A fifth field of study, Practical Theology, will be covered in the evenings as a fireside chat where a pastor will discuss certain practical issues around a campfire. Also, during each day we will spend time in the library. Here campers will be introduced to the discipline of independent research.

This is where the local pastors are the most crucial. When a camper registers for Camp Trinity Academy, he will pick one field of interest from the first three fields of study (Biblical, Doctrinal, or Historical). He will work with his pastor to pick a specific topic in that field of study. In the months or weeks leading up to his stay at Camp Trinity, he will meet with his pastor to study this topic, his pastor providing whatever resources he determines are at the camper's level of comprehension. And he will discuss with his pastor one or more practical issues, which arise out of that field of study. When he arrives at Camp Trinity Academy, he will make use of the library time to dive deeper into what he has been studying with his pastor at home. The other classes he is taking that week will also help him grow in his understanding of his selected topic. If his pastor is not able to come to the camp with him another pastor in attendance can help the camper in this area. The following are some examples of how campers might prepare for camp with their home pastors:

- a. For example, a camper might pick Biblical Theology as his field of study. His topic of interest might be how Christ is taught in the Old Testament. His pastor should guide him to get more specific, such as how Christ is taught in the book of Genesis. His pastor can give him some resources to read as a way to deepen his understanding, such as excerpts of Luther's lectures on Genesis. Luther talks a lot about God's use of preaching through a human voice, for example. This brings up all sorts of practical issues, such as worship, meditation, suffering, prayer, etc.
- b. To give another example, a camper might pick Historical Theology as his field, and he is interested in the early church fathers. Again, the pastor should guide him to get more specific, picking a specific time period, a figure, or an event. Maybe he is interested in the Council of Nicea. Or perhaps he wants to read one of the Church Fathers. His pastor can provide resources for him on these things. He might read a chapter or two from one or two history books, such as Henry Chadwick's *The Early Church*. All sorts of practical issues come up when you read the sermons of the Fathers or the canons in the councils.
- c. To give one more example, a camper might pick Doctrinal/Confessional Theology as his field, and he is interested in the topic of the Lord's Supper. He can read the Augsburg Confession and Apology, articles 10 and 24, Luther's Smalcald Articles on the Mass and the Lord's Supper, or the Formula of Concord, article 7. This brings up all sorts of practical issues, such as church fellowship and closed communion, the use of the sacrament, sacrifice vs. sacrament, etc.

The idea is for campers to build on their topics of interest throughout the years. These topics of interest may shift, and this is good. We will not require papers to be written; however, we would be willing to help any camper move in that direction. Camp Trinity Academy will serve as a hub for beginner theologians to sharpen each other and study together, even as each studies under his home pastor.

Activities at the Camp

While the campers will be enriched in theological learning, there will be plenty of fun activities throughout each day, including canoeing, swimming, Chicago softball, and hiking.

Worship at the Camp

Every day will consist of Matins in the Morning and Compline at night. This will include the singing of hymns and Psalms. Part of training boys for potentially pursuing the ministry is having them participate in the daily offices as acolytes and lectors. These liturgical duties will be assigned to campers when they arrive.

Registration Information for Camp Trinity Academy

Please fill this out, signed by the camper, the home pastor, and a parent/guardian.
You can scan a signed copy and email it to Pastor Andrew Preus – ajpreus@gmail.com

or mail a copy to:
Trinity Lutheran Church
9521 HWY 100
New Haven, MO 63068

Registration fee for each person attending: \$155 (camper); \$95 (pastor). A donation has been made for scholarships to elevate the cost of campers. How much is taken off of each registration will be determined before you arrive at Camp. Have the check ready upon arrival.

Write check out to “Camp Trinity.”

Name of Camper _____

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Date of Baptism (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Date of Confirmation if confirmed (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Place of Confirmation if confirmed (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

Confirmation verse if confirmed (You don't need to quote it. Just give book, chapter, and verse.): _____

Home phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Home Address (house, street, city, state, and zip):

Home Congregation (congregation name, city, and state):

Home Pastor(s): _____

Pastor's phone number: _____

Pastor's email address: _____

Which of these fields of study are you most interested in? (circle one)

Biblical Theology *Doctrinal/Confessional Theology* *Historical Theology*

What is your favorite Bible story? Briefly explain why.

What is your favorite part of the Catechism? Briefly explain why.

What topic in theology interests you the most?

What is your favorite Lutheran Hymn?

Camper's signature: _____ Date: _____

Pastor's signature: _____ Date: _____

Parental Consent (if camper is under 18)

Parent/Legal Guardian Name: _____

Relationship to the camper (circle one): *Father* *Mother* *Guardian*

Should it be necessary for my child to have medical treatment while attending Camp Trinity, I give the chaperone and supervisors of Camp Trinity Academy permission to use their judgment in obtaining such medical services. Permission is given to doctor(s) to render necessary treatment. I understand that Camp Trinity Academy has no insurance covering medical or hospital costs; such cost is my obligation.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please provide a copy of camper's medical insurance card in case of a medical emergency. Please list other pertinent information we need to know about the camper.

Tentative Schedule for Camp Trinity Academy
Specific Course titles and instructors are to be determined.

Schedule for Camp Trinity Academy

Sunday, July 13

- 6:00 p.m. Arrival, Registration, and settle into rooms
- 7:00 p.m. Welcome, orientations at Lodge-tour camp
- 9:00 p.m. Campfire – Fireside chat and Compline
- 11:00 p.m. Lights out

Monday, July 14

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. Historical Theology,
- 9:30 a.m. Matins and coffee hour
- 10:10 a.m. Doctrine
- 11:00 a.m. Library Time
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Old Testament
- 1:50 p.m. Break
- 2:00 p.m. Field Work
- 3:30 p.m. Pool Time/Canoeing/Sand Volleyball/Canteen/free time
- 5:30 p.m. Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Vespers
- 7:00 p.m. Activity
- 8:30 p.m. Freetime – Adults leader meeting
- 8:45 p.m. Campfire with marshmallows – Fireside chat and Compline
- 10:00 p.m. In Cabins

11:00 p.m. Lights Out

Tuesday, July 15

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Historical Theology

9:30 a.m. Matins and coffee hour

10:10 a.m. Doctrine

11:00 a.m. Library Time

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. OT

1:50 p.m. Break

2:00 p.m. Field Work

3:30 p.m. Pool Time/Canoeing/Sand Volleyball/Canteen/free time

5:30 p.m. Choir

6:00 p.m. Dinner

6:30 p.m. Vespers

7:00 p.m. Activity

8:30 p.m. Freetime – Adults leader meeting

8:45 p.m. Campfire with marshmallows – Fireside chat and Compline

10:00 p.m. In Cabins

11:00 p.m. Lights Out

Wednesday, July 16

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Historical Theology

9:30 a.m. Matins and coffee hour

10:10 a.m. Doctrine

11:00 a.m. Library Time

12:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. OT

1:50 p.m. Pool Time/Canoeing/Sand Volleyball/Canteen/free time

4:00 p.m. Field Work at New Haven Care Center

5:30 p.m. Vespers at Trinity
6:30 p.m. Dinner
7:00 p.m. Activity
8:30 p.m. Freetime – Adults leader meeting
8:45 p.m. Campfire with marshmallows – Fireside chat and Compline
10:00 p.m. In Cabins
11:00 p.m. Lights Out

Thursday, July 17

8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Historical Theology
9:30 a.m. Matins and coffee hour
10:10 a.m. Doctrine
11:00 a.m. Library Time
12:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. OT
1:50 p.m. Break
2:00 p.m. Field Work
3:30 p.m. Pool Time/Canoeing/Sand Volleyball/Canteen/free time
5:30 p.m. Choir
6:00 p.m. Dinner
6:30 p.m. Vespers
7:00 p.m. Activity
8:30 p.m. Freetime – Adults leader meeting
8:45 p.m. Campfire with marshmallows – Fireside chat and Compline
10:00 p.m. In Cabins
11:00 p.m. Lights Out

Friday, July 18

8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:30 a.m. Round Table Discussion on what we have learned
9:00 a.m. Room Cleanup Matins and coffee hour

9:30 a.m. Closing Matins

10:00 a.m. Dismissal