



Southwind Young Life Camp | Ocklawaha, FL

2026 Fall Retreat Parent Packet

RETREAT THEME: White Flag

Galatians 2:20 - "I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Welcome to Fall Retreat 2026

It has been said, there is a cost to discipleship. Maybe when you signed up to follow Jesus you were unaware of that fact. But no doubt soon after it became apparent. For most of us, this is the part of following Jesus that gets shoved under the rug. Because the real cost is uncomfortable. Even painful. While we're content to wear crosses around our neck and hang them on our walls Jesus is calling us to take up those crosses and follow him. And the real cost of taking up our cross and following Jesus? It forces us to come face to face with who we are and challenges us to walk in who God is calling us to be.

And while we may have had a moment when we made Jesus Lord of our life, we have yet to really understand what it means to follow Him for a lifetime. This is where we begin to understand as Dietrich Bonhoeffer states: "Discipleship is costly, because it costs a man his life. It bids him to come and die."

This is where Surrender enters the chat.

Right here at the intersection of our awareness of our desperate need for him, and our resistance to who he's calling us to be, is where we extend the invitation for Fall Retreat 2026: Surrender: Raising the White Flag.



This is a weekend we want to invite you to understand the true cost of discipleship. A weekend where Surrender becomes more than just platitudes. Where following Jesus goes from being a hobby on Sundays to a life altering relationship with Jesus for a lifetime. Based on Galatians 2:20, this weekend is designed to get you familiar with the idea of “being crucified with Christ.” Uncomfortable? Yes. But necessary. As we learn to bend our will to His.

Throughout this weekend we will lead you through the pages of Scripture to learn how to navigate death to self and how to let go of your own plans and selfish desires. We will explore what it looks like to walk in obedience when the battle with the flesh vs spirit rears its ugly head. And we’ll learn how to live a life that emulates Jesus no matter what life throws at us.

This will be a weekend you won't be content to sit in your seat and nod off, because this will be a weekend that will beckon you to a deeper relationship with Jesus. And the result will be a heart in alignment with His. Because at the end of the day, if following Jesus has cost you nothing, you may not be following Jesus at all.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR DEPARTURE

Parents, we need your help to make the check-in process as smooth as possible!

- Students will check-in out front of CAV
- Once your student has checked in, place luggage under the assigned bus.
- Students should bring a snack and bottled drink for the bus ride. Canned drinks will NOT be allowed.
- Bathrooms are in the lobby if needed before departure.
- Parents give well wishes and hugs, then students board the bus!

LUGGAGE

- 1 suitcase clearly labeled with your student's name
- **Bedding and a towel is provided this year, so no need to bring any!**
- Your student will still need a beach towel if they plan to swim.

PRESCRIPTIONS

- Prescriptions need to be in a bag with your student's name and daily dosage clearly marked. There will be a medication card to fill out at the medication table in the lobby at check-in.
- Students will be responsible for over-the-counter medications



RULES

- Be respectful to all adults
- “Lights out” means your lights are out and you need to keep noise to a whisper.
- No sneaking out
- No pranks
- Cell phones are allowed except during worship, small group time, and after lights out
- No PDA (holding hands is acceptable)
- Any and all rules Southwind Young Life Camp have, apply.

RETREAT PACKING LIST

- Modest, casual clothing for two (2) nights of Worship
- Modest, comfortable clothing for one (1) day of outdoor activities
- Modest, comfortable clothing for the trip home
- Pajamas
- Swimsuit and beach towel
- Closed toe shoes
- Bible, pen, and notebook
- Washcloth and toiletries
- (Optional) Spending money for the Snack Bar, Southwind store (accepts cash, card, and ApplePay). Vending machines are available; CASH ONLY
- Watch and/or alarm clock
- Sunscreen
- Flashlight
- **Refillable Water bottle**
- Bug spray



WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or vape pens
- Fireworks, water balloons, or weapons
- Skateboards, roller skates or roller blades

RETREAT DRESS CODE

- No tight clothing, or clothing that reveals undergarments
- No excessively short shorts or skirts
- Shirts should have straps that are at least two fingers wide
- No speedos or midriff-baring bathing suits
- No clothing that promotes alcohol, cigarettes, or any other inappropriate items
- No clothing with questionable sayings, slogans, etc.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Cris O'Brien, High School Pastor: 321-961-1418
- Kate Little, High School Coordinator: 662-722-3201
- Southwind Young Life Camp: 352-288-2500 | 18115 SE 95th Street Rd. Ocklawaha, FL. 32179

CAMP NURSES

- Carrie Chapman: 772-643-6117
- Kris Rutherford: 610-213-7003



WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Friday, September 4

4:00 pm – Registration at CAV
4:30 pm – Departure
6:30 pm – Arrival at Southwind
7:45 pm – Dinner
8:30 pm – Session 1
9:45 pm – Small Groups
11:30 pm – Lights Out

Saturday, September 5

8:00 am – Quiet Time for devotions
9:00 am – Breakfast
9:45 am – Session 2
11:30 am – Small Groups
1:00 pm – Lunch
1:30 pm – Free Time
6:00 pm – Dinner
7:00 pm – Session 3
8:30 pm – Small Groups
10:00 pm-12:00 am – Senior Bonfire
11:30 pm – Lights Out

Sunday, September 7

7:00 am – Quiet time for Devotions
8:00 am – Breakfast
9:00 am – Session 4
10:00 am – Cabin Clean Up
11:00 am – Departure from Southwind
1:00 pm – Arrive at CAV