# SPARKS

Fall 2026












# We Miss You, Campers!

Thank you for an amazing summer.

# HELLO, GREYSTONE GIRLS!

Our 107th summer was AMAZING. Of course, it was amazing (it always is, right?). But we think this year was extra special! Everything just clicked. **The Lord was present in every detail, and looking back, we couldn't be more grateful for our campers, parents, and staff who made it so incredible.**

Every session was a delight - full of the best campers we could possibly have. The staff was amazingly committed, with a record number of them donating to the Great Day Fund (85%). Most of them have already expressed interest in next year, and we hope they all return!

The "feeling" of camp is a big thing at Greystone, for it points to the work of God. When God is present, there is a sweetness and peace that can be felt. **We felt the Spirit of God this year in a very strong way.** This is why this year was special, and we are grateful God was glorified!

Now, as our days get shorter and the temperatures drop, we pull out the sweaters and look back at last summer with appreciation and forward to the next with anticipation. God is good. His blessings increase with every year. **What has been true in the past will be true in the future, so we know without a doubt that 2027 is going to once again be our BEST SUMMER EVER!**

This Sparks magazine will be a fun way to remember your summer memories and get excited for more to come. It doesn't matter if you are brand new to Greystone or if you have been coming for ten years; there is lots inside to make you smile! Consider this Sparks magazine to be a springboard for your excitement about next summer.

We are so happy that you are a Greystone Girl and can't wait to welcome you to your summer home soon.

WITH OUR LOVE,
JIMBOY AND MARGARET

# Say hello TO OUR NEW HIRES!

## EMMA HOLBROOK

### STAFF DIRECTOR



Emma graduated from seminary in May and came straight to North Carolina to join us for summer 2026! While she's new to Greystone, she brings plenty of camp experience to her role as Staff Director. She'll spend her time this fall interviewing staff and preparing them for our next best summer ever!

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**Why did you want to work year-round at Greystone?**

- I wanted to work at Greystone because this team loves the work they do! Greystone is truly a place where people find delight all year long.

**Favorite camp class?**

- Tennis and Dance!

**Favorite Dining Hall song?**

- "When a Greystone Girl Goes Walking!"

**My mini talent show act would be…**

- A choreographed dance routine! (former ballerina here!)

**The part of my work I'm most excited about this year is:**

- Building our 2027 summer staff team and getting to know all of the counselors!

We love getting to welcome new teammates to our year-round camp crew! This fall is especially exciting because if you attended Greystone this past summer, you already know and love these two. **Join us in giving a big camp "hi there" to Emma and Mary Gray**! Read on to learn more about them and what they'll be working on this year.

# MARY GRAY SPEAKMAN

## STAFF EXPERIENCE & COMMUNITY COORDINATOR

Mary Gray is a lifetime Greystone camper, counselor, staffer, and Group Leader, and we are so lucky to have her on our year-round team now that she's finished her post-grad year in the Fellows program! She'll be working on all kinds of projects to support and connect our campers, counselors, and year-round team.



**Why did you want to work year-round at Greystone?**

- Working at camp in the summers has been the greatest joy, and I wanted to share in making the magic of camp happen year-round! Greystone has impacted me so much, and I cannot wait to continue to be a part of this incredible community.

**Favorite camp class?**

- Synchro!

**Favorite Dining Hall song?**

- "My Ma Sent Me to Camp"

**My mini talent show act would be…**

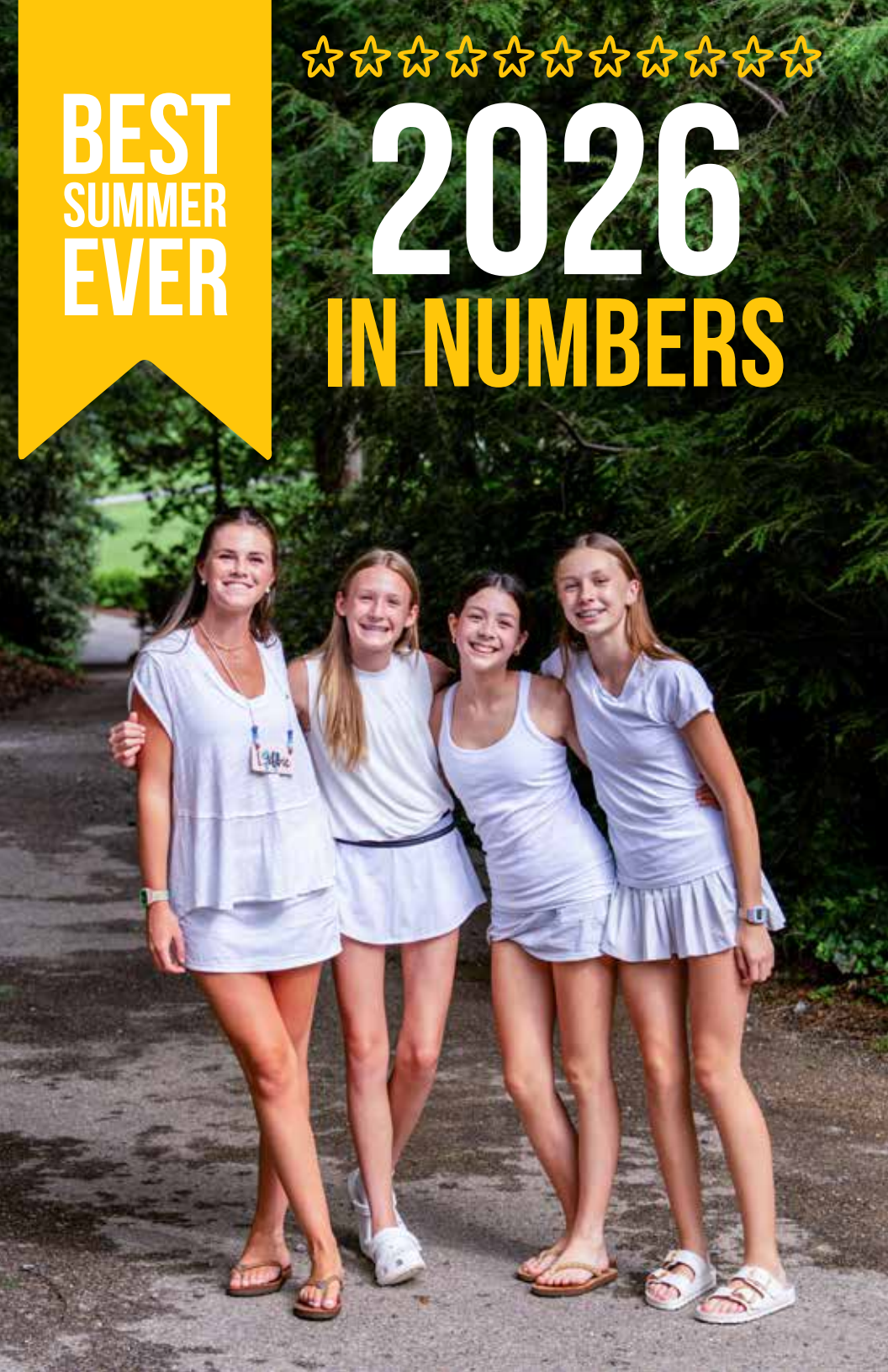
- A choreographed dance with my friends

**The part of my work I'm most excited about this year is:**

- Getting to connect with staff and campers!

BEST SUMMER EVER

# 2026 IN NUMBERS



# 3575 DEVOTIONS GIVEN



# 233 MEALS SHARED

# 363 GROUP PRAYERS



# 2073 CAMPERS LOVED

# CLASS HITS OF SUMMER 2026



# RIFLERY

Riflery is one of our most popular classes every summer, and this year gave us something BIG to celebrate!

**This year, FOUR campers passed Expert, the 14th and final level in our Riflery program - huge congratulations to Mercy, Lily, Evie, and Izzie.** Even more impressive, they joined friends Hollis, Morgan, Robyn, and Josie, who had already earned Expert in previous summers. That meant we had EIGHT Riflery Experts at camp this year - a Greystone record!

Reaching Expert is no small feat. Campers spend years working their way through the Riflery levels, building their skills and collecting patches and metal "bars" to proudly display on their camp pennants. To pass the final Expert level, campers must shoot standing, and score a 40 or higher on 10 different targets - a very difficult task to complete.





Way to go, girls! **What an incredible accomplishment after years of hard work at the Riflery range.** We can't wait to see you as Riflery counselors one day.



# NEEDLEPOINT



Grandma hobbies are officially cool again, and Needlepoint was one of the breakout hits of the summer! **Over fifty girls each session signed up for our Needlepoint class, and plenty more stopped by the FAC during Main Camp Club time to learn this fun skill.**

Mrs. Katherine taught campers basketweave and continental stitches, how to read and draw a pattern, and how to change thread colors. Most importantly, she taught them to remember that the mistakes on the back don't matter because no one sees them!



**We have a feeling you will see a lot more stitching around camp in the years to come! What canvas designs do you hope to see this year?**



# METAL JEWELRY









Metal Jewelry is one of those classes campers wait years to take, and once they are finally old enough, they are ready to create!

Campers quickly learn that there is a lot more to Metal Jewelry than using the blow torch, although that may still be the most exciting part. **This summer, advanced campers tackled new projects like triple stone rings, fidget rings, and stone hair pieces, while others practiced their sawing skills to create flowers for bracelets, necklaces, and rings.**



At Main Camp, the finished pieces were truly impressive, and we loved seeing their work at the Art Show! These pieces are not just basic camp crafts. They are beautiful pieces that the girls (and many appreciative family members!) can wear and treasure for years.

# FLOWER ARRANGING





Mrs. Katherine brought another creative favorite to the FAC this summer with Flower Arranging. **Campers worked with flowers grown right here at Greystone,** including zinnias, dahlias, sunflowers, and hydrangeas from around the Barn and vegetable gardens.



**Campers' floral designs played a part in some of our biggest camp celebrations.** Flower Arranging class helped create the huge Fourth of July flower display on the Dining Hall porch. The girls also helped dream up the flower arrangements for Birthday Ball, senior events, group nights, and more.



Flower arranging ended up being the perfect creative outlet for campers who wanted to make something beautiful in a new and different way. **We can't wait to see what these girls create next year!**



# CERAMICS



Campers taking Ceramics made some really fun projects **including ice cream bowls, hand dishes, ornaments, wheel pieces, and wall hangings.** Campers also tried lots of new techniques this year, experimenting with flux glazes, underglaze markers, wax resist, and detailed painting.





In Advanced Ceramics at Main Camp, girls came in with their own ideas and worked with Lydia, our Ceramics Department Head, to figure out how to bring them to life. The result was everything from fish purses and sea urchin vases to Scrabble sets, Kleenex boxes, clocks, travel mugs, dinnerware, and even a World Cup bowl.

There was a lot of clay, a lot of fun, and definitely a lot of mess - a dream for the Ceramics camper!





# How To Keep Up With Friends After Camp!

Camp friends are the best friends, and your bunkmate can still be your bestie long after Closing Day! Feeling far away from your camp pals? We've compiled some of our favorite ways to keep in touch all year long. Go ahead and reach out this month - you'll be glad you did!



## USE SNAIL MAIL!

**This one is our favorite! Pull out that Green and Gold and use those addresses. There's no joy like camp mail joy, so start the trend with your friends!**

- Send a Mad Libs back and forth.
- Grab a postcard on your fall break travels.
- Set aside a few Christmas cards to go to your camp friends.
- Pick a stuffed animal to be your traveling cabin mascot.
- Start a journal to send around to your cabinmates.
- Write your Penpal from last year a surprise fall letter.

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TECHNOLOGY!

**Tech-free is the way to be in Tuxedo, but we also love using technology to stay connected no matter how far apart you are.**

- Start a cabin group text and send each other the Greystone Daily Devotion.
- Create a shared summer 2026 playlist on Spotify.
- Plan a movie night (Skittles encouraged!) and all press play at once.
- Share photos with each other from the summer and create your own scrapbook.



## SEE EACH OTHER IN PERSON!

**Nothing replaces being back together again, and that camp reunion may be closer than you think. Make sure to take a picture together and send it to us!**

- Ask for a plane ticket to see your camp bestie for your birthday or Christmas.
- Use your Green and Gold to find other Greystone Girls in your city and invite them to get ice cream.
- Driving to a soccer tournament? Look at the map and think about which camp friends might be on the way.
- Wear your Greystone shirt the next time you're in an airport or on a road trip. You never know who you might see!



# ODDS VS. EVENS

## THE 107-YEAR-OLD COMPETITION THAT LIVES ON

For more than 100 years, Greystone campers have been competing for our camp teams: the Odds and the Evens. **Team spirit is just as strong today as it was in 1920!**



At every session, campers have the chance to earn points for their team during Challenge Day, and Main Camp adds even more excitement with Watersports Day, where the Odds and Evens take the competition to the water.

As you know, team points aren't only earned on the big competition days. All summer long, girls add to their team totals through Inspection, Flag, trash pick-up, and more. **Every point counts, especially when you look at just how close this competition has become.**

## THE CUMULATIVE SCORE STANDS AT:

| ODDS | EVENS |
|---|---|
| 282,696 | 282,377 |

**ONLY 319 POINTS SEPARATING THE TEAMS!**


CHALLENGE
DAY




ODDS












WATERSPORTS DAY




3
10
10



# SUMMER BUCKET LIST QUIZ

## WHICH ONE ARE YOU?

### WHAT SHOULD BE ON YOUR CAMP BUCKET LIST NEXT SUMMER?

**1. I'm most looking forward to this at camp next year:**

a. Evening Programs
b. Activities
c. Cabin Life
d. DMCs (deep and meaningful conversations)

**2. My friends would describe me as…**

a. Spontaneous
b. Adventurous
c. Social
d. Dependable

**3. My favorite camp meal (or the one I'm looking forward to the most) is…**

a. Pizza
b. Greek Chicken Bowls
c. Cheesy Chicken
d. BLTs

**4. My favorite thing to do on a Saturday is…**

a. Host a neighborhood movie night
b. Find a new park to explore
c. Call a camp friend
d. Play a game with my family

**5. If I was a counselor, I would want to teach…**

a. Zumba
b. Waterpark
c. Dog Camp
d. Cooking

**6. The item I have to pack in my duffel is…**

a. My craziest costume
b. Lots of bathing suits
c. Stationery for writing home
d. Friendship bracelet string



## MOSTLY A'S:
### ROLLING DOWN THE PAGEANT COURT AFTER EP

You love to be silly, laugh, and make crazy fun memories with your friends, so you can't miss out on rolling down the hill at least once this summer! Just like Greystone pizza, rolling down the Pageant Court is a camp classic that makes any night a special event. Grab your friends, try it next summer, and see how fast the giggles spread!

## MOSTLY B'S:
### JUMPING IN EVERY BODY OF WATER AT CAMP

You are adventurous and feel the most "you" when you're staying active and trying something new. Why not try out every body of water this summer to cool off and find your perfect aquatic class? Learn to paddle a kayak at Putt Cove, do a pencil dive into the big pool, play Sharks and Minnows in the Little Pool, and of course, jump off the Blob into Lake Edith - we'll see you there!

## MOSTLY C'S:
### WEARING YOUR NAME TAG ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Our Main campers call this the "nametag challenge," and with your sweet, social spirit, it might just be perfect for you! Nametags help you connect with everyone you see, and they're a great way to represent your cabin anywhere in camp. Whether it's a church dress, your Carnival t-shirt, or your Sunday whites, you'll find out that your nametag goes with everything!

## MOSTLY D'S:
### ACHIEVING PERFECT CANDY SHOPPE ATTENDANCE

You love a routine just as much as you love a good DMC, and making it to every Candy Shoppe night is the perfect combination for you! You won't regret those golden hour Pageant Court hangs. After all, Greystone Girls know that Candy Shoppe isn't really about the sweet treat - it's about the space it creates for friendships to form!

# A NEW RECIPE FROM THE DINING HALL



# KOREAN BEEF BOWLS

Bring the goodness of the Greystone Kitchen home with you this fall by whipping up your favorite camp recipe! **We have lots of options on our Blog, but we're excited to share a new Dining Hall classic for the first time: Korean Beef Bowls.**

**Ingredients:**

- 1lb Ground Beef
- 3-4 cloves minced garlic
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 cup low sodium soy sauce
- 2 tsp sesame oil
- a pinch of ginger powder

**Sriracha Aioli:**

- 1/4 cup mayo
- 1 TBS sriracha
- 2 tsp lime juice

**Directions:**

1. Brown ground beef and garlic over medium heat.
2. In a small bowl, mix brown sugar, soy sauce, sesame oil, and ginger until sugar has dissolved.
3. Once beef is browned, drain if necessary, add sauce, and stir to coat meat completely. Reheat over low if needed.
4. Serve over basmati or jasmine rice with Sriracha aioli and whatever toppings you like! At camp, we use limes, shredded carrots, edamame, chopped cucumber, pickled red onions, cilantro, and Kimchi. Chili crisp is also delicious!

**Substitutions:**

- Gluten free: use tamari instead of soy sauce. It works great!
- Sesame free: just skip it!
- Soy free: use coconut aminos. Just remember they are sweeter than soy sauce, so we recommend cutting back on the brown sugar and adding a little salt.
- Vegetarian: pour the sauce over edamame, roasted cauliflower, or tofu.
- Egg free: try the aioli with sour cream or an egg-free mayo. You can also skip the aioli altogether!

# THE FISH OF SUMMER 2026















# PRODUCTION NIGHT

Throughout the summer, campers in our performance classes can be found practicing, choreographing, learning lines, perfecting routines, and getting ready for one big finale: Production Night! **This event is a highlight of the summer and the culmination of weeks of hard work by the performers.**



During Production Night, classes like Cheerleading, Tumbling, Music, Guitar, Drama, Greystone Groove, and all of our Dance classes take the stage to show off everything they have learned.

**Here are just a few highlights from summer 2026:**

- **Broadway Music** was more popular than ever this year, with costumes, props, and big musical numbers, including an especially memorable performance from Frozen.
- **Greystone Groove** combined their favorite songs and moves into one high-energy performance that had the stage rocking.
- At Main Camp, **Advanced Hip Hop** was once again a showstopper, **Advanced Jazz** wowed with incredible synchronization, and everyone loved watching our **Senior Dance** girls take the stage, wigs included.
- **Cheer and Tumbling** campers brought plenty of excitement with impressive stunts and bigger flips.





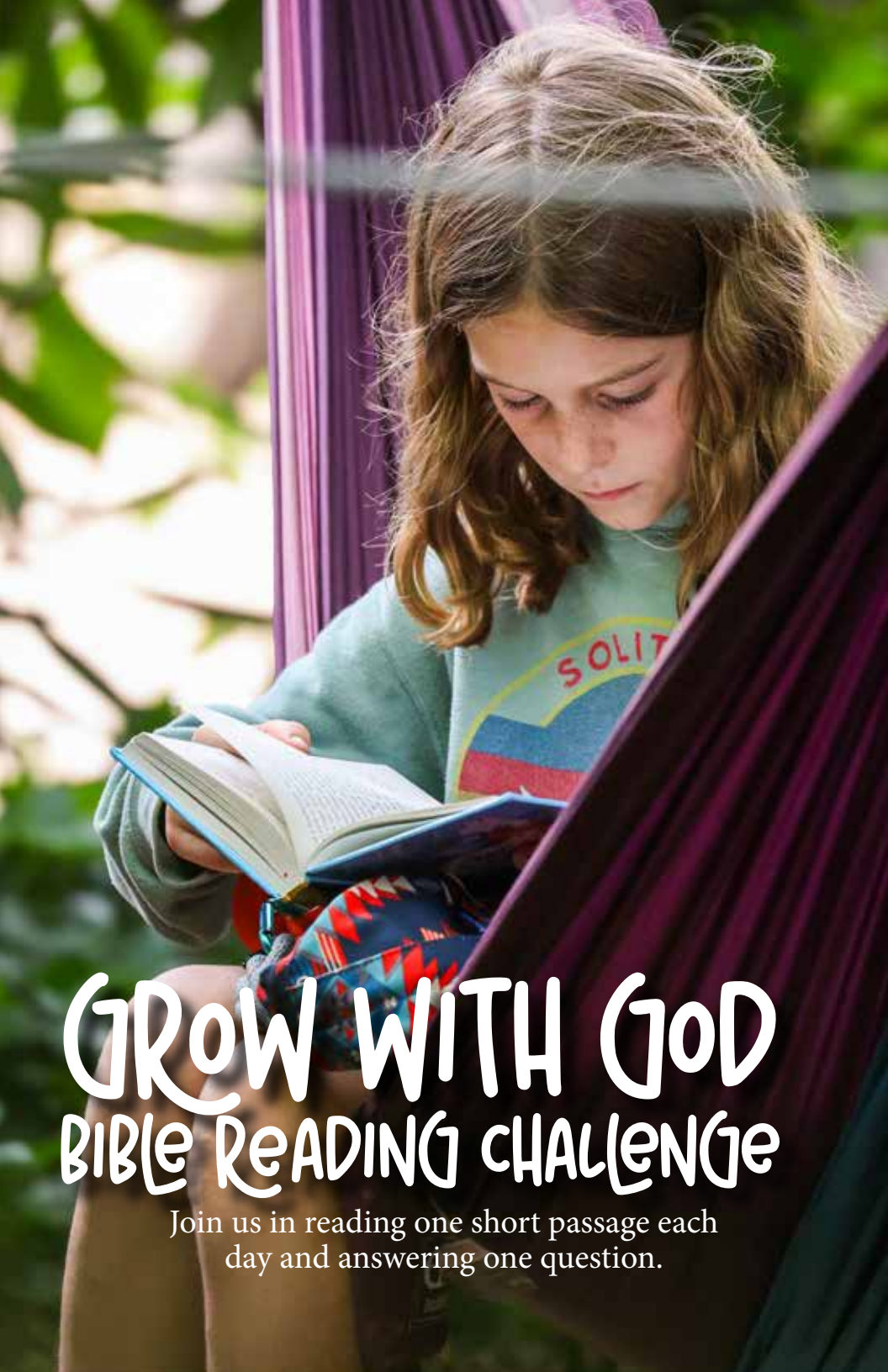
Main Camp's Production Night gets an extra dose of sparkle with a theme each summer. **This year, the Pavilion transformed into Broadway, with decorations and special performances to bring the theme to life.**



We are so proud of the campers who bravely take the stage and especially grateful for the staff who spend countless hours choosing music, choreographing routines, planning costumes, teaching skills, and cheering girls on every step of the way. **It all comes together for one very fun night of celebrating what Greystone girls can do.**





# GROW WITH GOD
## BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

Join us in reading one short passage each day and answering one question.

- Day 1: Psalm 23
- Day 2: Matthew 5:1–12
- Day 3: Philippians 4:4–9
- Day 4: John 15:1–11
- Day 5: Proverbs 3:5–6
- Day 6: Romans 8:31–39
- Day 7: Psalm 139:1–18
- Day 8: Ephesians 2:1–10
- Day 9: Colossians 3:12–17
- Day 10: James 1:19–27
- Day 11: Isaiah 40:28–31
- Day 12: 1 Peter 5:6–11
- Day 13: Galatians 5:22–26
- Day 14: Matthew 28:16–20

**Daily prompt: What is one thing this passage teaches me about God?**




Greystone






# WE ASKED OUR STAFF: WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE MOMENT FROM THE SUMMER?

Our 2026 staff spent 12 weeks at camp, and their stories could fill this whole Sparks! We asked them to share their favorite moments from our 107th summer with all of you. **Whether you joined them for a week or five, there's one thing for sure - none of these memories would have been possible without our counselors!**

**THE COUNSELOR TALENT SHOW!** It's such a joy to get to dress up and act like a goof just because we can. We're kids again too!

My favorite part of camp was **SHARING THE LORD'S GOODNESS AND LOVE WITH THE GIRLS** and watching them grow in their faith.

My favorite moment was **CABIN NIGHT!** We painted watercolors at Apple Hill and watched the sunset, taking in our Creator's masterpiece.

During August Camp, my girls and I played **RING AROUND THE ROSIE** for almost an hour, laughing and enjoying the beautiful lake together!

**ROLLING DOWN THE HILL AFTER EVENING PROGRAM** at night! I felt like a kid again and had so much fun.

My favorite moment was **PROGRAM STAFF LAKE DAY!** We did every ride and obstacle, laughed so much, and got to feel like campers again!

Getting to **TEACH CAMPERS OUR AWESOME ACTIVITIES** and be our authentic selves together and love Jesus!

# SUMMER 2027 CONTEST









# WIN YOUR DREAM DAY OF CAMP FOOD!

We all know the camp food is pretty great, but what if you could have your favorites all in one day? Now is your chance!

**One winner will get the chance to pick breakfast, lunch, AND dinner for one dream day of camp eats**. Pick from your favorite camp meals PLUS choose your ideal Apple Cart snack, Watermelon Table treat, and Candy Shoppe item. New campers, check out the food page on our website for inspiration!

Picture this: waffles for breakfast, Goldfish cart at third period, BLTs and confetti cookies for lunch, popsicles after Rest Hour, Chicken Enchiladas for dinner, and a sour candy takeover at Candy Shoppe. **Fill in the blanks with your favorites, and you know what your entry should be!**

**So get dreaming (and drooling!) and fill out this QR code by January 15th to enter**. Will your perfect menu be served at camp next summer? We can't wait to find out!

Greystone

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