

Welcome to La Semana 2007!

26 Years and Growing

Monday, July 30 – Friday, August 3, 9 AM to 2:45 PM
Hosted by All Saints Catholic Church,
19795 Holyoke Ave, Lakeville, MN

WHAT TO BRING

Campers: Have comfortable shoes and warm-weather clothes. Also bring a bag lunch and beverage every day except Thursday. Children who need a mid-morning snack can bring something to eat at recess times. No food is allowed in the building except in the dining room.

Each camper will receive a tee-shirt, which is to be worn daily, left at camp during the week, then taken home on Friday. Many campers also will need to bring parts of their dance costume (see p. 4 below).

Adults: Wear comfortable warm-weather clothes and footwear. The building is air-conditioned but some activities will be outside. Also, bring a lunch every day except Thursday. Cameras are allowed in camp, but please respect the campers and presenters. Each child will receive a yearbook and class photo at the end of the week.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Please enter the church facility from the northern drive and park in the large lot in front of the church.

Some classroom assignments may have changed, so please check class lists carefully before dropping off your child. Lists will be on the entry doors and at

each classroom. A map with classroom locations (which are in the north wing—Door G, or in the lower level under the church sanctuary—Door F) will be posted at the front entrance. Teen rooms are in the lower level between the church and the north classroom wing.

For the safety of all, please bring K through 7 campers to their classrooms each morning at 9 AM and meet them there promptly at 2:45 PM each afternoon. Classroom facilitators cannot let a child leave without an authorized adult. Please let your classroom facilitator know if anyone other than a parent is allowed to pick up your child. Our hard working facilitators often need to pick up their own children, so please be prompt at the end of the day.

CLASSROOM FACILITATORS

All in-town facilitators **must attend** an Orientation Meeting on Thursday, July 19, 7 pm, at All Saints Church in Lakeville, and **must RSVP** to Deb Cardwell (612-804-1253). For more information, check www.lasemana.org.

You are strongly encouraged to organize and decorate your classroom at camp setup (July 28, 9 am to 12) since camp

activities start promptly at 9:00 on Monday morning.

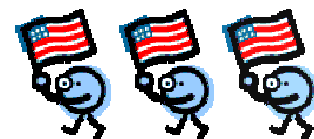
DAY CARE

For those families with children in day care, please read p. 5 below carefully.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Monday Morning Flag Ceremony, 9:15 – 9:45

All parents and K-7 campers are invited to Murphy Hall for our welcoming ceremony featuring flags and national anthems from all our campers' birth countries. In addition, this year there will be a Latin dance performance by the PLAC dance troupe.



Wednesday – Market Day

Please join us on August 1st, when vendors will be selling items from, or related to, Latin America. There will be something for everyone, young and old alike! Items may include crafts, clothing, greeting cards, books, musical instruments, housewares, CDs, adoption-related items and more. Campers will have opportunities during the day to

visit the "Market," and there will be a number of inexpensive items for our younger campers to buy. Please make sure your young children know that they must be accompanied by an adult, whether you or a classroom facilitator. Also on Market Day, Latin American food will be available for purchase on a first come, first served basis in the cafeteria. Details will follow.

Thursday – Latin Lunch

No need for a bag lunch on Thursday – our kitchen volunteers will prepare a wonderful Latin meal for all campers and volunteers. Monday through Thursday, Latin desserts will be provided at lunchtime.

Friday – Kindergarten Dance & Assembly

Come to Murphy Hall at 9:15 AM on Friday for a final camp Assembly featuring the Kindergarteners performing a dance in traditional costume. In addition, look for a special surprise by our teens.

Friday – Seventh Grade Graduation, 1:15 PM

If you have a 7th grade camper, you are welcome to attend “graduation” on Friday at 1:15 PM in the Commons (under the church sanctuary). This marks the campers’ transition from elementary camp to the Grade 8-9 Junior Teen program, after which they can return as Ayudantes (helpers).

Friday – Fiesta, 6:00 PM

Fiesta is a camp highlight, and this year the fun begins at 6:00 PM. Your immediate family is invited to Lakeville South High School to watch campers from grade 1 through Senior Teens show off the dances they learned during the week. Dancers will be

in authentic costumes, so bring your camera. Once again, we expect to have DVDs of Fiesta available for order.

Seating is always limited at Fiesta. The Lakeville auditorium has 1069 seats and we will have nearly 500 campers. In order to seat all campers and their families, Fiesta is limited to immediate families this year – please no extended family or guests.

Parent Education

Programs on child development, adoption and other parenting issues will be presented throughout the week. Session subjects and times will be posted in the camp office and on our web site (www.lasemana.org) the week of camp. Programs are repeated if possible to facilitate attendance by volunteers. Although each volunteer’s first responsibility is to his or her volunteer assignment, each may attend any Parent Ed session if he or she has arranged coverage for that assignment.

CAMP CURRICULUM

K - 7 Campers

A typical day for elementary campers includes a craft activity, dance practice in preparation for the Friday Fiesta, Spanish language activities, a “Life” session, a presentation or activity related to the year’s Specialty country (Ecuador), a lunch break and one or two recess times to burn off energy or hang out with friends. All activities are age-appropriate, interactive and hopefully fun.

Because Christianity is a large part of Latin American culture, your child may hear about Christian holidays, traditions, etc.

La Semana is a non-denominational camp open to children of all beliefs and any discussion of religion is only as it pertains to Latin culture.

Teen Programs

Junior Teens (those entering grades 8-9) will be on field trips of varying length for three days of camp week. The remainder of the time will be spent in classes with a similar focus as those for K-7 campers. Detailed information will be on the web site. Senior Teens (those entering grade 10 through spring ’07 high school graduates) spend most of the day placed in classrooms or program areas as Ayudantes (helpers). A party for Senior Teens will be held on Friday evening after the Fiesta. Please check the website for more information.

Life Programs

All K-7 campers have 3 or 4 “Life” programs during the week, dealing with issues of self-esteem, racism, teasing, adoption, etc. Life activities, developed by trained therapists, are age-appropriate and are tested and modified over the years.

Parents of K-3 campers are welcome to sit in on Life sessions at any time, but we ask parents to leave the room for Life programs for grades 4 and up. The presence of adults other than the trained moderator can inhibit a child’s honest expression of feelings.

Much of the Life curriculum is available for review during the week. You may call Judy Long (612-724-1083) or visit with her during camp week with any questions about Life programs.

On Friday, 4th grade campers will prepare a booklet entitled “My Story.” The exact time of Friday’s Life session will be announced during camp week. Parents

should plan to help their child with this project during the Friday class.

BEHAVIOR

Each family and teen has signed the La Semana Camp Code of Conduct, setting out the minimum expectations for behavior during camp. If you have not kept a copy of the Code, additional copies will be available in the office during camp week. We expect all campers to follow the Code's rules at all times. A camper who is having difficulty with camp rules will be reminded. If the behavior continues, a "time out" may be required. If a problem persists, the camper may be asked to spend some time in the camp office or the parents may be asked to remove the child from camp. A camper with repeated or serious discipline issues may be asked not to return to camp the next year.

Adults, please be aware that you are role models for all campers. If you are uncertain about appropriate camp behavior, please ask for help in the office or from a more experienced camp family. We are guests at All Saints and want to be invited back!

CAMP OFFICE & VOLUNTEER LOUNGE

Questions? Need help? Come to the camp office just inside the main entrance to the church. Coffee, snacks and vending machines are available in

the office for *adult* volunteers only.

VISITORS

Visitors are always welcome, but we ask that they check in at the office, let the office staff know who will be their escort and wear a nametag throughout the day. Please do not enter rooms where activities are in session. Visitors under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent at all times.

EMERGENCIES

In an emergency, people outside camp can call 952-469-6464. However, there is only one line for the nearly 700 people at camp. The phone will not take messages and it cannot be used to call out. If you can, please bring a cell phone to camp.

PRE-CAMP POOL PARTY

All La Semana families are invited, Sunday July 29, 1-4 PM, to the home of Cole, Ella & Todd Pearson and Melinda Greer, 16104 Holdridge Road W., Wayzata. Please RSVP to 952-928-7711, and plan to bring a snack or drink to share.

CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME

La Semana is sponsored by PLAC (Parents of Latin American Children), a non-profit

organization of families created through adoption. The camp is planned and executed almost entirely by volunteer parents. We have fewer than 10 paid staff, who are hired for specific skills or background that parents of campers don't have. If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to PLAC or La Semana, stop by the camp office. This is a great way to honor a deceased family member or other loved ones.

DIRECTIONS

All Saints Catholic Church Site of Camp

Take I-35W from Minneapolis, or I-35E from St. Paul, south until 35W & 35E merge (approximately 20 miles from the center of each city). At Exit 85 (County Rd 5/County Rd. 50) go east (left) 4.1 miles. The road will become Kenwood Trail. At the intersection of Kenwood Trail and Holyoke Ave., there is a four-way stop (look for the Lakeville fire station and city hall). Go north (left) on Holyoke for 1/2 mile. The church can be seen on your left. Take the second driveway into the main parking lot.

Lakeville South High School – Site of Fiesta

From I-35, exit at County Highway 70 (Exit 81). Go east on Hwy 70, and turn left (north) on Jaquard Avenue. The school is on the left side of Jacquard Avenue.

FIESTA DANCE COSTUME REQUIREMENTS

La Semana provides most of the costumes for the Fiesta, but there are some items we ask that you bring from home. The camp has a limited number of shirts, blouses and pants to loan on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to borrow something, **please stop by the dance room on Monday**. If your name or class is not on the list, you do not need to bring anything. However, the dance teachers ask that you please be flexible with any last minute changes.

Please call the Costume Coordinator, Mona Bergman Dewane, (952-925-3989) with any questions, or if you need clarification on which group your child is in.

1st grade boys: white pants and white shirt

2nd grade boys:

2A and George C, Elvis H, Mateo K and Scott L– black pants and white shirt

2B and Simon M, Oscar S and Daniel Z– white pants and white shirt

2nd grade girls: white peasant blouse

3rd grade boys: 3A and 3C – black pants, black shirt, black shoes

3B – black pants and white shirt

3rd grade girls: 3A – black shoes

3B and 3C – white peasant blouse

4th grade boys: black pants, black shirt, black shoes

4th grade girls: Lilyana, Lily, Silvia, AniLizeyda, Crystal, Anna B, Laura C, Abby, Coral,
Rosa J, Rosa O, Nicole - white blouse

4th grade girls: Sara, Linnea, Zoe, Maggie, Julia, Rosalinda, Emily, Laura K, Wuendi,
Johanna, Julia, Anna Q, Breann, Sonia – black shoes

5th grade boys: black pants and white shirt

5th grade girls: white blouse

6th grade: short sleeve, plain white tee-shirt

7th grade boys: black pants and white shirts

Also needs black shoes: Daniel B, Andre, Henry, Nathan, Antonio, Will M,
Marty and Ben

7th grade girls: Lia, Ana Z, Caterine, Lucia, Dina, Kendra, Elena, Megan - white shirt
(long or short sleeves, for under jacket)

7th grade girls: Veronica, Ana M, Rebecca, Jocelyn, Marina, Lian, Anna, Abby, Cynthia,
Nina – white blouse

COSTUME NOTES...

Boys pants should be long dress pants. (Please, no sweat pants.)

Boys black or white shirts should be plain, long sleeve, button down shirts.

Girls white peasant blouses should be plain white (with no embroidery), with short, puffy sleeves and a ruffle around the neck.

On the night of the Fiesta, we ask that all the girls wear shorts under their skirts to facilitate changing into their costumes without the need for privacy.

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN IN DAY CARE

We are looking forward to a great time in the day care room during La Semana! At camp, day care will be provided for children ages 0-4. Day care will be available for those who have registered and been confirmed ahead of time and for the days and hours when parents are working at La Semana.

The day care is located in rooms 210A and 210B, and is open from 8:45 AM to 3:15 PM.

Your child must be brought to the day care by a parent and signed in daily. Your child will be released only to the parent(s). If your child is to be picked up by someone else, you must notify the child care staff in writing and also put that information on the sign-in sheet. Please be prompt when getting your child at the end of the day. We realize some parents have jobs keeping them right up to 3:00 PM so we will be open until 3:15 PM, but please come to pick up children as close to 3:00 PM as possible.

Things to bring:

- A bag lunch with a beverage labeled with the child's name. There is no refrigeration. (Age appropriate snacks will be provided morning and afternoon.)
- Diapers and wipes for the children needing them.
- Napping/quiet time rest blanket or toy.
- A change of clothes – just in case!

PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS!

Tee-shirts: La Semana tee-shirts will remain in day care at the end of each day and go home with your child on Friday.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Sheila at 612-724-4765 or shougen@earthlink.net or Marion at 612-722-9903.

Thanks!

THANK YOU LA SEMANA PLANNING COMMITTEE!

Camp Chair	Kathi Gallup	651-784-3969
Vice-Chair/Flag Ceremony	Melinda Greer	952-928-7711
Vice-Chair Elect	Jim Stromberg	952-937-0123
Camp Schedule	Dianne Schmiesing	612-729-2149
Classroom Placement	Stephanie Tacheny	612-819-8019
Classroom Support	Deb Cardwell	952-472-6509
Classroom Support	Laura Pardo	612-827-5112
Communications Editor	Sheri Ahl	612-827-3831
Communications Editor	Gabrielle Dane	651-690-9891
Communications Mailing	Rosemarie Merrigan	612-823-0299
Code of Conduct	Pamela Searles	952-931-9348
Crafts	Carol Bros	952-929-2812
Dance Costumes Camp Week	Paulette Dietsche	651-786-3522
Dance Costumes Camp Week	Lonnie Helgeson	952-925-1547
Dance Costumes Pre-Camp	Mona Dewane	952-925-3989
Dance Instruction	Anna Palchizaca	763-789-4364
Database	Louis Brendemuehl	952-881-2265
Day Care	Sheila Hougen	612-724-4765
Fiesta	Maryann Mickelson	763-536-0565
Fiesta	Shelly Murray	612-824-3242
Finance & Site Coordinator	Joan Thomas	651-483-9808
Kitchen	Kary Garvey	507-635-5375
Kitchen	Jane Dilling	952-953-6365
Baking Coordinator	Mary Lee Underberg	952-829-0759
Language	Jessica Kunkel	952-888-4847
Life/Parent Ed	Judy Long	612-724-1083
Life/Parent Ed	Rundi Myklebust	715-235-6530
Lunchroom Coordinator	Jim Schumacher	952-844-9926
Market Day	Debra Berger	609-314-4343
Merchandise	Barb Thies	763-545-1928
Recreation	Kathy Morrissey	763-475-9979
Recreation	Kris Stork	651-730-9742
Registrar	Roxie Burleigh	651-699-5298
Secretary	Sheri Ahl	612-827-3831
Spanish	Jessica Kunkel	952-888-4847
Special Needs/Code of Conduct	Pamela Searles	952-931-9348
Specialty	Rick Mason	651-275-1543
Take-Home Gifts	Brenda Weiler	952-476-9940
Teens	Kerry Noyes	952-476-0546
Volunteer Coordinator	Ginny Green	320-259-8756
Warehouse	Angie Steele	651-688-8553
Webmaster	Mark Christensen	651-450-4772
Yearbook	Colleen Albright	952-442-5894