**SADDLEBACK KIDS SUMMER CAMP 2025**

**Why Summer Camp?**

Good day! I am John Caputo, the Children’s Pastor at Saddleback Church, Lake Forest.

Each year, prior to camp, some parents will ask us,

“Isn’t my child too young to go away to camp?”

**OR**

“My child will miss me too much (I’ll miss him), he has never been away from home.”

**OR**

“Will my child be alone? Will they make friends?”

Summer Camp provides a unique opportunity to build a deeper relationship with Jesus. I am who I am, in large part, because of my experience at Pilgrim Camp (summer camp in the Adirondak Mountains of NY) and my church’s version of KSG (Kid’s Small Groups). From the age of 6 through 18, I attended a two-week summer camp – without my parents. These two weeks were the highlight of my year. I had fun; I made friends; I learned & experienced Jesus. Being within God’s creation, while growing in my walk with Jesus, was life altering. To this day, I equate God’s magnificence to pine trees, giant rocks, winding paths in the woods, salamanders, and the beauty of nature. When I pray, I see the camp lodge in my mind’s eye - I learned to pray at camp.

SK Summer Camp is not long. We leave at mid-day on Friday, 20 June and return mid-day on Monday, 23 June. You child will only be away for two full days and two half days. I will provide you

with my mobile number. If you have any concerns while your child is away, you may text or call me. We post daily updates via text links.

When your child moves up to Junior High Ministry (6th grade) they will offer a camp that is 5 full days long. Experiencing camp with SK is a great way to crawl, walk, run into the camp experience.

Our leaders are wonderful. They are all DOJ/FBI background checked. Most are the same leaders who serve on the Weekends/KSG. All go through supplemental camp training. Each of our cabins have at least two adult leaders, some will have a student leader (16 years +) and up to 10 campers. Each cabin moves as a group and stays together. Your child is never alone. Our leaders are focused on building community within the cabin and encouraging fellowship. Your child will return from camp with more friends than they had before camp.

Please email or text/call me. I will gladly talk though any questions. I will be present for the entirety of camp. I assure you, as do all the SK staff and volunteer leaders, we will take care of your child, and we will do it well. We will also provide a space for your child to meet Jesus in a far deeper way than we can do in a 65-minute weekend service.

My email is [jcaputo@saddleback.com](mailto:jcaputo@saddleback.com)

My mobile is 949-278-1776.

Thank you!

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| A blue circle with white letters  AI-generated content may be incorrect. | **John Caputo | Children's Pastor**  Saddleback Church | Lake Forest |