

"Remember Your Creator in the days of your youth"



United Youth Camps 2013



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United Youth Camps

Brochure 2013

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 President: Dennis Luker; Ministerial & Member Services: Victor Kubik; Ministerial Services Youth Camps Coordinator: Roy Holladay; United Youth Camps Coordinator/Editor: Steve Nutzman; Layout: Mitchell Moss
 Camp Team: Shawn Cortelyou, David Dobson, Dan Dowd, Ed Dowd, Frank Dunkle, Matthew Fenchel, Mark Welch, Steve Nutzman, Rex Sexton, Gary Smith, Randy Stiver
 United Church of God Council of Elders: Carmelo Anastasi, Gary Antion, Scott Ashley, Robert Berendt, Bill Bradford, Roc Corbett, John Elliott, Darris McNeely, Mark Mickelson, Mario Seiglie, Donald Ward, Robin Webber
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Letter From the President

Dear campers, parents and staff,

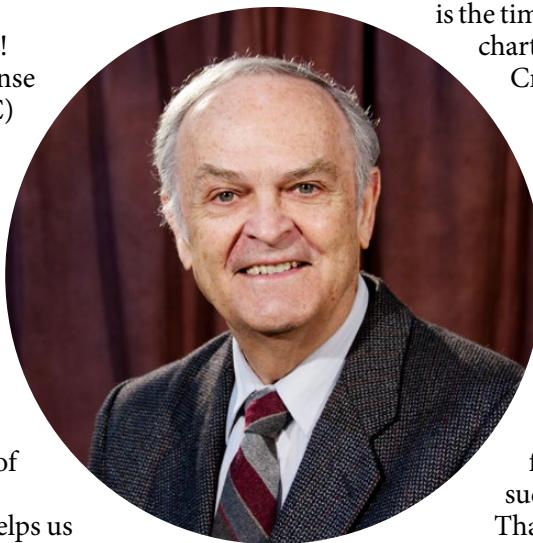
Welcome to another exciting year of United Youth Camps!

Perhaps a little of United's history can help us have a sense of the value to the Church of the United Youth Camp (UYC) program. When United was organized in the spring of 1995, the Board of Directors (later called the Council of Elders) quickly decided that camps for our youth were one of our important priorities. I remember those discussions well because I sat on that initial board. We all saw the great spiritual educational value of youth camps for our teenagers and thus for the Church, and so the beginnings of the United Youth Camp program came to be!

I remember we began with five summer camps and one winter camp that first summer, and this year will be our 19th year of youth camps. You are all part of a wonderful legacy of learning God's way of life in action.

Remembering our history—where we came from—also helps us stay focused on where we are going, which is God's Kingdom. And during the UYC camps of 2013, the Christian living class theme will point to remembering God when you are young. This year's theme for the upcoming camps is drawn from Ecclesiastes 12:1: "Remember Your Creator," and the next words of that verse complete the thought: "...in the days of your youth."

Now is the time of your lives, campers, to begin to build your personal relationship with God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. During these important impressionable years is your time to truly prove God's existence and the truth of His Word. Now



is the time to think and meditate about the coming Kingdom of God and chart your course toward it. All of that starts with remembering your Creator when you're young.

Whichever camp you attend this summer—or later at Winter Camp—if you apply yourself, the Christian living class theme will have a wonderful, encouraging effect on your spiritual life. From United's beginning and before, youth camp has consistently inspired and motivated God's young people, and with God's blessing it can do that this year for you too!

A BIG thank you goes to all our volunteer staff who help make United Youth Camps possible—and also to those of you who donate to the special camp fund to help provide scholarships for those in need to be able to attend camp. Your contributions of time, expertise and finances along with the faithful prayers of all our brethren make the UYC program very successful in its service to God and His work.

Thank you, and may God bless you all for supporting His youth camps!

With love in Christ,

Dennis Luker

Remember Your Creator—In the Days of Your Youth

The title of this article is the main Christian-living theme at all UYC teen camps this year. We are excited about discussing this theme during camp. Parents, feel free to discuss this topic and scripture with your youth between now and camp. It will make for some very valuable conversations as a family!

by Steve Nutzman

"Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come, and the years draw near when you say, 'I have no pleasure in them'" (Ecclesiastes 12:1).

God challenges you to not forget Him! Why? Because God wants to protect you from doing those things in life that will hurt you emotionally, spiritually and physically. This is because God loves you. He is your Parent. He is your Creator. He has your best interest at heart—always!

Since God made you—and everyone else—He alone knows what is best for His human family on earth. Teens, it's easy to forget your Creator when young. Why? Because it's easy to become distracted by all the things that the world and Satan will put in front of you. Satan knows that if he can get you off track spiritually when young, then he just may have you the rest of your life. Think about it. The path you walk as a teen will likely set your path for years to come as an adult.



No wonder the Creator tells youth to "remember" Him when they are young, so that person can be blessed with a relationship with Him. And if that relationship continues to mature over the years, it will eventually lead to eternal life in His Kingdom.

Notice 1 Corinthians 7:14: "For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they

are holy."

Even if only one parent is in God's Church, that youth has access to God. That is incredibly exciting! Even though a youth does not yet have the Holy Spirit of God living in them, that person has God's Holy Spirit working with them (John 14:17). As a result, that youth does have special access to the knowledge of the way of God and can, therefore, have a relationship with God now.

Deuteronomy 30:19 reminds us: "I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live."

Your Creator very much desires for you to have a blessed and productive life, both spiritually and physically. The decision is up to you. As God states, choose wisely. Choose wisely when you're young, and your path shall be blessed by God.

A Must-Read For Parents

"A converted parent really has but one course of action. He or she must follow Abraham's example of teaching his children God's truth, with the expectation that they will understand God's way of life and choose it as their own. Parents and all members of the Church must view children as genuine, respected participants of the congregation, hoping and expecting that they will become baptized fellow members."

— From UCG Doctrinal Paper: "Are Our Children Called Now?" (See: <http://members.ucg.org/content/study-papers>)

Notice in Ecclesiastes 12:6-8: "Remember him [the Creator]—before the silver cord is severed, or the golden bowl is broken; before the pitcher is shattered at the spring, or the wheel broken at the well, and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it. 'Meaningless! Meaningless!' says the Teacher. 'Everything is meaningless!'" (New International Version).

Your Creator God knows what happens to people when they turn away from Him. Their lives

become broken, like a bowl is broken, and people wonder, "What did my life amount to anyway?" Solomon answers, your life was "meaningless, meaningless." That is strong language from God, but it is true. Without God, human life ends in death with the person never knowing why he or she was on this earth in the first place. This is not God's desire for you.

While a teen or preteen, God is calling you now to have a life-long relationship with Him. God will give your life meaning and purpose, and He will walk with you all the days of your life—if you choose this path. And if you do, you can avoid all kinds of "broken bowls" and "broken wheels" as a result.

Teens, remember your Creator now—while young. What a productive and blessed life you will have if you remember God by developing a relationship with Him and live by His holy commandments.

Is God Calling Our Youth?

by Ed Dowd

When we as adults look around at the youth in our congregations and in our households, what do we see? Do we see future members of God's family with the opportunity to know God and live His way, having the same calling God extends to us? Do we interact with the youth in a way that shows respect and inclusion in this calling? Or, do we find ourselves separated, wondering if God is calling the youth?

God perfectly constructed the bond of marriage in order to produce godly offspring. It's interesting that the Old Testament prophet Malachi talks about this. "But did He not make them one, having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring" (Malachi 2:15).

God wants godly offspring! Through proper teaching and training of our youth, God desires future leaders who will rule with Christ. God wholeheartedly wants our youth to embrace His truth and commit to being members of His family!

In Romans 8:30, the apostle Paul describes the process that a person, regardless of age, goes through when becoming members of God's eternal family. First God calls, or invites the person. If they answer that call, then through baptism they are justified (which means to set free or make innocent). The final step then



occurs at Jesus Christ's second return when they are glorified (which means to render honor and glory). They are welcomed into the family of God.

Jesus Christ Himself references this invitation when He made the statement that "many are called, but few are chosen" (Matthew 22:14). This statement shows that the invitees are welcomed and their presence is desired, but that they have a choice in how they will reply. God calls, or invites, many people. Each one's response determines whether he becomes chosen and included in God's eternal family.

Paul states that our youth are important to God. They are so important to God that they are described as "holy." Even in families where either the mom or the dad are the only parent baptized, their children are still holy to God (1 Corinthians 7:14). The word "holy" means to be set apart, sanctified, sacred, sharers of the covenant. We must take seriously the tremendous opportunity and future made available to our youth by God Himself!

Parents especially, but by extension all members of the Church, must take serious the calling offered to our youth, viewing them as genuine, respected participants of the congregation,

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Camper (and Parent) Comments

"As always, camp had a profound impact on me. I feel spiritually renewed after camp and look forward to the experience on a yearly basis." (Northwest)

"There was increased interaction with friends in the church, increased interest in attending Church activities, increased identification with the Church as 'their' Church, increased feelings of commitment toward God's way of life." (Parent comment, Woodmen)

"God needs us to develop the character we need in the Kingdom; there were a lot of things I learned, especially in the Q&A sessions. I learned more about God and His way of Life." (Cotubic)

"The first words out of his mouth, even before hugs, were 'Wow! That is the best camp ever!' And then he told us stories for several hours to come." (Parent comment, Cotubic)

"I learned more about how God cares about us and is with us every single day." (Northwest)

"I learned that I can actually go to God and He will understand me." (Woodmen)

Please see next page

Camp Needs You!

by Gary Smith

The title of this article is a take-off on an army recruiting poster created by James Montgomery Flagg. The poster has a picture of Uncle Sam pointing at the reader and stating, "I want you for U.S. Army, Nearest Recruiting Station." Four million copies were printed between 1917 and 1918 to spur young men to volunteer for the American army in World War I.

We do not have a poster, "United Youth Camps Wants You!" but we do want you. We don't have recruiting stations, but we do have a Web portal that allows staff to apply online in order to serve at one of many camps in the U.S. and around the world.

In the summer of 2012, 282 staff members served 441 campers. Clearly, it takes a lot of volunteer staff to effectively run a summer camp. In 2013, we will need approximately the same number of humble servants willing to be of service to the young people who will participate in the camp program.

Noting all that is involved in putting together a summer camp, the younger, first-time staff have often commented: "Wow! I had no idea all that it took to make camp successful. Serving on the staff was such an eye-opener!" In other words, "United Youth Camp Wants and Needs You!"

Why Come to Camp?

The primary reason camp needs you is to offer your example of God's way of life in action, plus to contribute your talents and skills to help in producing a successful camp. United Youth Camps are not just about providing supervision and activities for the young people of the Church. A successful camp comes about through the service of those who understand God's plan of salvation and desire to impart that understanding to the campers.

A core belief that guides our camps is found in 1 Corinthians 7:14: "For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy." In other words, young

people who have parents in the church at this time are "holy" or "set apart" in the sense that they can have access to God now.

Every year those who volunteer to serve at camp impact those young people who come to camp. One lady wrote the following last summer: "My grandson and I were driving home last Wednesday and he said to me, 'Grandma, before I went to church camp, I was angry all the time, but when I got back, I wasn't angry anymore.'" She went on to say, "What a difference camp can make in the lives of our young people! I wanted to thank you and all the staffers and counselors for making camp possible."

This is just one of many positive examples where the light of God's way of life shines forth to impact the life of another.

Why does camp need you? In order that your light can shine for others to see.

What Is Needed?

The camps have a variety of needs. These needs include:

- **Counselors and Assistant Counselors**—Individuals who have the dedication and service to guide and serve a dorm of 12-15 teenagers ranging in age from 12-18. This job is challenging, but at the same time it is the most rewarding at camp. Mature young adults, especially those who have had some camp experience, are perfect for this responsibility.
- **Medical staff**—Individuals who have had experience as Medical Doctor (M.D.), Chiropractor (D.C.), Physician's Assistant (P.A.), Osteopath (D.O.), Nurse Practitioner (N.P. or N.P.R.N.) or Registered Nurse (R.N.), EMTs, and other medically skilled staff who can take care of the medical issues that invariably come up at summer camp.
- **Lifeguards**—Waterfront activities such as swimming, canoeing, kayaking and water skiing, necessitate certified instructors and guards who can oversee the activities to ensure the safety of all.

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Should I Serve At Camp?

by Kyle Bornhorst

What are you doing this summer? How about spending a week in one of any of our five summer camps spread throughout the United States? If you can't get off of work this summer, don't fret—we also have a winter camp in late December that promises to offer the same phenomenal experience, just in the winter! If you enjoy meeting new people and making lifelong friendships, come to camp. If you like teaching and playing sports like softball, basketball, speedway, volleyball, or flag football, come to camp. If you like challenges like the amazing race, climbing walls and high rope courses, come to camp. If you are curious what a "blob" is and why people love jumping off it, come to camp. If you enjoy arts and crafts, media, or teaching Bible classes, come to camp. If you are looking for a great way to serve, come to camp.

I have been to camp the past 10 years of my life and have loved



every minute of it. The past four years I have been a staff member and it is one of the most rewarding things I do every year. If you are looking for a way to serve, I can guarantee you this will be one of the most enjoyable experiences you will ever have. Working with

the Church's youth and helping them grow to love God's Word is an awesome opportunity. This year the camps need you more than ever to apply to work as a staff member, because many of our camps overlap. If you have applied before and were turned down, apply again—your help is needed.

You may be thinking, "How can camp be this great?" It comes from one idea: the Zone. The Zone is an environment that allows God's people to come together and learn His Word and practice His

law in a peaceful and loving place. It is an agreement by all to have a positive, uplifting spirit and to build each other up so that everyone can have an enjoyable camp experience. So please do the Church a favor, do the campers a favor, and do yourself a favor—apply to help at camp this year! I will see you there!

UYC...In Camper's Own Words

Why Camp Is Important to Me

by Jaysyn McDaniel

The Beginning Was Rough

Four years ago, when my dad wanted me to go to camp Hye Sierra I didn't think I would be able to handle it. I was 12 and in seventh grade. It was my first year in the Church, and I barely knew anybody. I heard that at camp we had to do a whole bunch of activities and a few water activities. I was (and probably still am) not an athletic person, and I could not swim at all! I had heard all about the kayaks and the horrible things we had to do in them. Water and talking to a large group of people frightened me. I felt a tiny bit better once I found out kids from my church would be going. It was my cousin's first year too. At least she would be going—after all the two of us are very close. To be completely honest, I was even more nervous when I got there. I was very self-conscious about my outward appearance. I suddenly felt like sinking in my spot in the auditorium. I wasn't really concerned about my cousin, she was always outgoing and funny. I was known as the quiet girl—or Jaysyn McDaniel's daughter. My cousin and I were not in the same dorm. Little did I know that this was all a part of God's big plan for me to grow.

What Made Me Change My Mind

The following afternoon, we all discovered who was going to be in our dorms. There were 10 girls in our dorm. The only three people I knew were a girl from my congregation, a girl from my cousin's congregation and me. Our dorm had some cliques and didn't really get along until the fourth day. There were a couple of girls that didn't socialize at all or with only certain people. Some of us were quiet and neutral, and others loved drama. But I became the best of friends with one girl, Eva. All she ever had to do was look at me and we laughed the second we saw each other. Later on my two darling counselors helped blend our dorm together, and we all learned good life skills on how to deal with each other and treat others how God treats us. As hard as the activities were, they became fun! I challenged myself in every aspect. Even though I still dislike speedway, it makes me smile every time I break a sweat. There were so many

activities, from fishing to dance to archery. They were all things I knew I couldn't do well. Our brother dorm was so hilarious! But what gets people raving at camp are the skits and the Sabbath cards.

Why You Should Go to Camp

The reason I talked about my bad part of the experience was not to scare you. Camp does not promise that every kid, teen or adult you come in contact with will be friendly. But what it does promise is that you will always have someone to talk to and that you can grow closer to God and get to challenge yourself. Just like real life. I guarantee that you'll lose 5 pounds every time you go to camp. Camp does promise that you will have fun and be safe. The reason I'm going back for the fifth time this year is because I get to see my friends from all across America and spend time with them. I love the team challenges and the fun counselors I get each year. I like to see my friends, and I grow up every year. I like to see them exercising the talents God has given them. I love lying on the basketball court at night looking at the stars. Best of all I like what I can take home with me: phone numbers, addresses, Sabbath cards, awards, memories, and a better me. No matter what you look like or where you come from, you'll love camp!

My Camp Experience

by Eric Bryant

When I first heard of camp I wasn't too excited. I wanted to stay home for the summer and play games all day long. Also, I did not want to go outside, camp in the woods, or get eaten by various bugs. I begged my grandma not to send me, but she did anyway and I had to pack my stuff up to go. Soon, I was on my way to Camp Woodmen.

On the way there I had to help my grandma navigating with the GPS and getting around. On the way, I tried to imagine what the camp would be like—would it be a forest? Will there be a fire? How many people would there be? Would they even like me? These questions went through my head while I stared out the window. We even got there an hour early and decided to eat lunch at a restaurant to

Camper Comments

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"I'm going to study into baptism and serving and respecting my parents." (Pinecrest)

"I am going to apply serving others, encouraging others, and having faith in God no matter what." (Hye Sierra)

"I'm going to try to study the Bible everyday more in-depth to really know what we believe and why." (Cotubic)

"[Our daughter] has talked nonstop about camp! She feels like she just got back from the feast in that camp gave her a spiritual boost." (Parent comment, Hye Sierra)

"He stated that he could tell that it was church camp. When asked what he meant he relayed some very faithful and honorable behavior." (Parent comment, Woodmen)

"Being on staff for the first time was a growing experience. I never really realized how much we did for the campers, but it was amazing. Best year of growing toward God." (Staff comment, Hye Sierra)

"[I learned] that life is much bigger than what we see or know about and that if you help others they will help you back." (Northwest)

"I learned more about how God cares about us and is with us every single day." (Northwest)

pass the time.

When we arrived at the camp, we rode up to the main building and parked next to it. I got out of the car and looked around and noticed that the camp had a water slide and a pool. I walked in the building, and I checked in. They told me that if I had a phone, which I did not at the time, I was to put it into a plastic bag. I was introduced to my counselors, and they helped me to my dorm. I picked a top bunk, put my stuff on it, and followed them to the main building. The people there were nice to me, and I made a few friends on the first day.

Every morning after breakfast, we had Bible study and I learned a few things I had never thought about. As the week went by, I got really good with the camp rifle activity. I enjoyed it a lot. Rick Beam, who taught the activity, was the best. I also enjoyed other activities like softball, swimming and volleyball. I made a lot of friends, and by the end of the week I didn't want to leave. When I got home, I started saving money to go back next year.

Camp was a great experience for me. I made friends and had an awesome time. I also met people in other church congregations who I've seen at the Feast of Tabernacles and other places. Camp Woodmen also helped me get closer to God with the Bible studies and the peaceful environment. I believe it's a great idea to go to camp, because it gives you an experience that's hard to find anywhere else.

Camp Has Changed My Life

by Roger Nettles

Each and every year I go to camp, I feel as if the worries of this world float away and I can drift into a godly mindset. Every day the Bible comes into practice, whether it's at compass check or just the activities. God's Word is the basis for camp—the Bible is put into every aspect of camp! You just can't get that in this world! It makes my connection with God stronger each and every year I attend! As one camper said in one of the past years: "We come into this camp, with a shirt covered in sin, and worldly troubles. By the time camp is done, our shirt looks brand new, and we are ready to face the trials back in the world!" It is something I remember, and something I picture in my mind each year. Camp cleans out the gunk that separates us from having a true relationship with God!

I have made friends at camp over the years of attending, and they are friends for life! We all find camp our home away from home, so in that manner of speaking we feel as if we are all family. We believe and strive to live in the way God commanded. We help each other build in the faith to stay strong with God. We have been going to camp for quite a while, and we know how heavily camp changed our lives for the better. If we see a new camper, we strive to get to know that one camper and make them want to come back. It is a great way to improve your strength in the faith.

The messages that we hear every day at compass check are perfect beginnings to the day. They get our minds set on what's truly important. They motivate us to be lights to others and really to be the best we can be in everything we do. The Bible studies that are given cover many aspects. We come to camp with questions, and without even having to ask them sometimes, they are answered in the messages.

I've found that if I never had camp, I wouldn't be the person I am today. I was a shy little kid when I first came to camp, but after I came back the second time, I didn't let my shyness get in the way. I wanted to get to know everyone there! After a while I just became my own person and made more friends than I ever had in the past. No one thinks you're different like out in the world. The people that attend camp know you are family through God, and that's all that matters. Camp has really made me focus on the priorities. I had my future career planned, and I knew what I wanted to do in the Church. After camp helped me grow stronger in the faith, I started doing all that I could to help out at church. And I am now reading through the Church literature for baptism counseling.

Camp has had a huge impact on my life, which I could have never gone without. I really don't know what I could have done without it. Next year is my last year as camper, but my years as staff will be just beginning!

Camper's Delight

by Sierra Gomperts

Camp Hye Sierra is a place I will never forget. It has brought me closer to being the person I am today. Most of my memories stem from my experiences at camp. As a teen, I find myself troubled with the world's influence, but at camp you have the opportunity to grow into a better you. You are no longer isolated by your views and standards because everyone is at camp to escape the world and enter into "the Zone." My first year at camp brought me into the Zone, and since then, the Zone has often



been associated with the camp experience. Year one, I remember feeling scared to leave home and fearful of making new friends. I was unsure about stepping out of my comfort zone. The moment I arrived at camp, all of the fear left my body. I was welcomed by such a wonderful staff and campers. I immediately began friendships that would last a lifetime. I found myself constantly busy, trying new things, which ultimately made it impossible to be homesick. Eventually, I realized I couldn't be homesick because I was at home, just with my spiritual family instead of my actual family.

The list of memories and experiences you gain from camp are endless. Camp gave me an opportunity to build relationships with not only peers my age, but wonderful adults I might not have had a chance to connect with before. I received so much more knowledge of the Lord, which pointed me towards my path in life. When I'm at camp, I feel a sense of strength among the people. Everyone feeds off of each other's positive energy. Together, the camp forms one giant supportive and loving family.

Throughout the days of camp, I get to try new activities in a unique, outdoor environment. That's one of the main thrills of camp, trying something new. The staff and other campers are so encouraging it's hard not to try your best. Camp has pushed me to achieve greatness on many different levels. When I leave camp, I feel exhilarated with a new perspective on life that I want to spread throughout the world.

I am always inspired to take the Zone from camp and bring it back home with me. Camp brings out the best in everyone because of the astonishing atmosphere and environment. Part of the camp experience is learning to adapt to nature. The scenery around camp is spectacular. I really feel as if it brings me closer to nature, and therefore God and His creation. Overall, camp is an unimaginably good, irreplaceable experience. I feel so incredibly blessed to have such a wonderful opportunity to visit camp Hye Sierra each year. As each year passes it brings new beginnings, adventures and knowledge of God. Camp has prepared me, and my siblings in God, for His soon coming Kingdom, which is why I love camp the most. At camp I feel safe, loved, accepted and a part of something bigger and better than this world.

I Was Skeptical, But Camp Was Worth It!

by Matthew Wolfe

"Would people like me?" "Would people find me funny?" "Would they only keep me around because I am funny?" These are only a few of the many thoughts that went through my head on the long drive up to camp.

For years it seemed like it would be miserable, with shyness beyond reason combined with a place of mostly strangers. But it finally was my time to go. I've been wrong before, but this was a new extreme. I arrived at camp, where you could feel the excitement buzzing in the air about the upcoming week full of activities, friendship, and all around enjoyment. I went to register, said my goodbyes, then headed up to my dorm with my counselor to find the rest of my welcoming dorm. I quickly chose my bed, a far one in the corner, and put my things away to wait until the other campers arrived. As the day quickly progressed, I heard rumors of some sort of amazing race that was supposed to take place. Eventually the camp was called for a meeting. The rumors confirmed this "amazing race." What it turned out to be was



a series of challenges, all around the camp, in a race to build teamwork and new friendships. It was a blast, a clever way to get familiar with the camp, while also learning about your friends. When it was over, we were all exhausted, and while we didn't get first place, it was still nice to know that you had finished your first event together.

That night, when I was lying in bed, I realized something very crucial. I had a blast, one of the best times yet, AND THAT WAS ONLY THE FIRST DAY! I had several

more to go! As the week progressed, I did things I thought I would never do, such as seeing the legendary Sequoia forest, or kayak in a massive freshwater lake in the mountains. When Friday night came, I think we all were looking forward to getting a good night's rest along with a relaxing service the next day. After inspiring messages and lots of fun pop-quiz-skits, we were really excited for the "camp farewell"—a fancy dinner and a dance. The day ended very late, and since it was fun, I think we all felt rather sad, because we knew that the next day we all had to go home and say goodbye to our new friendships.

As I look back, I'm still perplexed that I didn't want to go for what turned out to be the best week of my life. Hmm... now about next year!

Camp Cotubic

Central Ohio
June 16-23

We look forward to another exciting camp session in Ohio at Cotubic! Camp Cotubic includes a 14-acre lake and 150 acres of open and wooded grounds near Bellefontaine, Ohio. It is located approximately 60 miles northwest of Columbus and about 60 miles northeast of Dayton.

The dates for Camp Cotubic are June 16-23, 2013 (with staff arriving June 15). Campers should plan their arrival sometime between 2:00-4:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 16. They will depart by 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 23. Arrival by airline is possible through the Columbus International Airport. We will offer no-cost transportation between Camp Cotubic and the Columbus airport.

We want to build good relationships with God and each other, so each day will start with an interactive Bible study. Additional question-and-answer sessions (focusing on biblical and Christian-living topics) will also be offered during camp. Every day will end with a lively campfire program that will include songs,



skits, stories, challenges and games. Your talent and imagination will be very welcome at Cotubic! Along with many activities, there will be enough free time to enjoy talking with friends, old and new. Camp will wrap up with a restful and inspiring Sabbath, to be followed with a final dance.

Housing for campers and staff are in comfortable cabins and lodges, with plenty of shower and bathroom facilities.

Activities that we plan to offer include basketball, volleyball, soccer, archery, the amazing race, swimming, high ropes challenge course, arts and crafts, climbing wall/zip-line/giant swing, media and dance. (Activities are subject to change, depending upon staff qualifications and other factors.) There will be plenty of time at the lake—which includes a blob, trampoline, 170-foot water-slide, paddle-boats and fishing.

To view this fine facility, visit the Camp Cotubic website, www.campcotubic.com.

Ages for campers are 12-18 years old (including 2013 high school graduates). Adults who are at least 18 years old and graduated from high school are encouraged to apply as staff. We are looking for mature, fun workers whose first priority is serving the needs of the campers. Camper tuition is \$260 (if sent in before May 1) or \$275 (if sent in after May 1). There is no cost for most staff, but there will be a few junior staff positions for some first-time, younger staff at a reduced tuition rate

of \$130.

Apply early online and help make this year at Camp Cotubic another great one! We look forward to having you there.

One Final Request: Please check online regularly for updates. I will be posting letters and information forms from time to time. This will help you stay informed—and it saves a lot of time in communicating with staff and campers. Thank you for your help in this regard.

Frank Dunkle, Director



Details

Dates: June 16-23 (Staff should plan to arrive for Sabbath services, June 15)

Camper age range: 12-18

Staff minimum age: 18 and a high-school graduate

Tuition: \$260 if sent in prior to May 1; \$275 after May 1; Staff, free for experienced staff; \$130 for junior staff

Send signed forms to:

Frank Dunkle
690 State Route 551
Waverly, OH 45690

E-mail: frank_dunkle@ucg.org

Phone: (740) 835-8446

Camp Pinecrest

Southeastern Missouri
June 21-28

Camp Pinecrest is located in the wooded countryside of southeastern Missouri. For over 15 years, we have developed an activity-packed week filled with challenges for the mind and body.

Activities

Campers will practice teamwork and sharpen or develop new skills at speedway, softball, the amazing race, volleyball and ropes course. Other activities include archery, preparing the camp newspaper, riflery, swimming in the indoor pool and launching off "the Blob" into the lake. Our canoeing program includes time on the lake as well as a daylong float trip on one of the beautiful Ozark-region rivers. As we close out the week, the camp will end with a dance.

The dorms are comfortable and air-conditioned. The showers are hot (if you're an early riser), and the food a camper's delight—perhaps the best in the entire UYC program! All of this is available for less than \$40 per day (if you pay by May 1).

United Youth Camps are more than just activities and challenges. God and His Word are central to the design of the Pinecrest program. We start each day with a Christian-living class designed to help us live throughout each day in the Zone, an atmosphere that reflects

the Kingdom of God. Additionally, each dorm will participate in a class that will focus upon a topic important to being a teen in God's Church today. Each day will end with a program that will include the Christian living theme along with songs, skits, stories, challenges and games. So bring your talents and imagination with you.

Finally, relationships are an important part of the UYC program. The schedule also includes plenty of fellowship time for everyone throughout each day.

Staff

Many of our dedicated staff return to Pinecrest year after year, gaining experience and growing in their ability to serve the young people of the Church. A great counseling and activity staff joining together with the campers creates an environment that promotes fun, challenge and spiritual growth.

If you would like to join our staff, please note that staff workers must be 18 years of age or older and need the recommendation of their pastor. Every staff member must complete pre-camp training, and some activity staff positions require specialized training or experience.

All campers should arrive between 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 21, and will depart by 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 28. Staff orientation and training will begin on Thursday, June 20, in Fredericktown, near Camp Pinecrest.



Location

Camp Pinecrest is located 100 miles south of St. Louis, near Fredericktown, Missouri. The St. Louis airport is approximately two hours away. Transportation directly to and from camp will be provided at no charge for those arriving by air.

Gary Smith, Director

Details

Dates: June 21-28

Camper age range: 12-18

Staff minimum age: 18

Tuition: Campers, \$290 (if submitted on or before May 1, \$305 if after); Staff, no charge

Send signed forms and check to:

Gary Smith, Camp Pinecrest
2519 Diamond River Drive
Rosenberg, TX 77471

E-mail: Gary_Smith@ucg.org

Phone: (713) 582-0050

Make check payable to: Pinecrest Camp Fund

Camp Woodmen

North Central Alabama
June 30-July 7

We are looking forward to a wonderful Camp Woodmen 2013! The schedule will include archery, basketball, Christian-living classes, dance class, high ropes, riflery, sand volleyball, softball, speedaway, swimming and water sliding. Evening activities include novelty Olympics, two dances, and a fun show.



in nursing, life-guarding, first aid and CPR. Questions about specific staff needs should be sent to the camp director.

We would appreciate your prayers for God's blessing on our efforts to build a safe, Christian Zone that provides a fore-taste of God's Kingdom. Participants can expect a well structured and safe program that provides challenging activities and the opportunity to make lifelong friendships. Come to Camp Woodmen 2013

and make memories you will cherish forever!

Applications

To apply to Camp Woodmen, or for more details, visit the website: <http://uyc.ucg.org>.

Shawn Cortelyou, Director

Dates and Times

Staff members should plan to attend an afternoon Sabbath service on June 29 in the Gadsden, Alabama, area. Additional staff orientation and training will follow that evening. Specific details will be sent later to all staff members. Staff training and orientation will continue at the camp Sunday, June 30, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Camper registration will occur from 3-5 p.m. on Sunday, June 30. Checkout and departure for everyone will be from 9-11 a.m. on Sunday, July 7.

Transportation

We recommend the Birmingham Airport (BHM) for those flying to Camp Woodmen. Transportation from the Birmingham airport to camp and back will be provided.

Staff Needs

We are always on the lookout for staff members who hold current certifications



Details

Dates: June 30-July 7, 2013 (Staff arrives June 29)

Camper age range: 12-18

Tuition: Campers, \$250; Staff, no charge

Send signed forms to:

Shawn Cortelyou, Camp Woodmen

3516 W. Village Road

La Porte, IN 46350

E-mail: shawn_cortelyou@ucg.org

Phone: (309) 973-6362

Camp Hye Sierra

Central California
June 30-July 7

Welcome to Camp Hye Sierra!

Set amidst the majestic pines and redwoods of California's Sequoia National Park, Camp Hye Sierra provides you the opportunity to gather together with others of like mind to play, learn and grow in a unique environment. Whether you are a camper or staff, this beautiful camp offers a



week-long adventure full of Zone-focused activities, friends, fun and spiritual discussions.

Living in the Zone and making God's way our true focus in life is our highest goal and most important activity at camp! Each morning, campers and staff begin with a compass check to set our spiritual focus for the day. Through conversations and activities we practice these specific biblical principles in action. We also provide two additional Bible classes to help address topics that are pertinent to our teens and young adults. In the evening we come together to enjoy Christian living classes and question-and-answer sessions, which connect biblical principles, values and tools with real-life situations. And don't worry, there will be plenty of time to spend with friends—new and old—building lasting relationships.

You may be thinking... "what about the activities!?" Camp Hye Sierra provides a wide variety of fun, bonding and challenging activities including kayaking, fishing, dance, volleyball, archery, riflery, challenge course, basketball, speedaway, capture the flag and hiking amidst the majestic giant sequoias. New this year, we are excited to

be the only camp operating a rock climbing and rappelling program! We also offer plenty of evening activities, mix and mingle time and the highlight of the day—campfire! To cap it off, the formal banquet and dance brings campers and staff together through sharing, laughing,

dancing and enjoying each other's company!

Staff Information

We have many service opportunities for good counselors and activity staff. We are also in need of drivers, kitchen staff, those certified in lifesaving, CPR and/or wilderness first aid, nursing and staffers experienced in rock climbing. All staff members must arrive on Friday, June 28, by 4:00 p.m.

for staff training.

Transportation and Location

Camp Hye Sierra is located about 45 miles/one hour east of Fresno, California, on Route 180. For those flying into the Fresno airport, we will arrange free transportation to/from camp. Campers need to arrive at camp for registration on Sunday, June 30, between 2:00-4:00 p.m. Camp activities begin at 4:00 p.m.

Departure Information

Camp ends at 8 a.m. on Sunday, July 7. All staff and camper departures should occur between 8:00-10:00 a.m. Please, do not schedule any departing flights before 11:00 a.m.

Make plans now, and we'll see you at Camp Hye Sierra!

Ed Dowd, Director



Details

Dates: June 30-July 7 (staff training begins on June 28)

Age range: 12-18

Tuition: \$305 if paid by May 1 (\$335 if paid after May 1)

Send tuition payment to:

Ed Dowd, Camp Hye Sierra

1425 N. Chambers St.

Wichita, KS 67212

Phone: (316) 722-3248

Send health form electronically to:

Scan/E-mail: ed_dowd@ucg.org

Fax: (877) 295-9524

Northwest Camp

Oregon Coast
July 21-28

Once again campers and staff will enjoy “life on the beach” at Camp Magruder on the Oregon coast! We enjoy a clean, nearly private, lake as the Eastern border of camp, and over a half-mile of pristine beach on the West. The beach offers wonderful opportunities for sand and surf games and fun.

There are so many activities to offer that we simply cannot fit them all in during one week. Everyone enjoys the beach so many activities take place there: volleyball, speedway (one boundary of the field is the ocean), skim-boarding, boogie boarding in the waves and memorable campfires in the evening as the sun is setting over the ocean. Other activities this year will include swimming, waterskiing, a day-long kayak trip, archery, a challenge course, dance class and softball. We will also have two dances during camp for campers to use their new dancing skills!

Christian living lessons and memory verses are the core of each day. Each activity, lesson and even campfire stories are designed to illustrate the lessons so that campers understand the principles and how to put them into practice in their lives when they return home.

Every year campers build friendships that will last a lifetime. Living in a world where evil and negative influences are everywhere, these friendships with teens of like mind are vital and

grow more important with each passing year. Campers often stay in touch all year long through social media and electronic messaging. Our goal is to establish a godly atmosphere in which campers can be enriched for a lifetime as a result of attending Northwest Camp.

Transportation

Camp Magruder is located about 1½ hours drive time from Portland, Oregon, approximately six miles north of Tillamook on Hwy 101. Campers should arrive at Northwest Camp between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 21. Departure will be on Sunday, July 28, between 10:00-11:00 a.m. If you fly to camp, we will provide transportation to and from the Portland airport between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on July 21. Departure flights should be after 1:00 p.m. on July 28. Please be sure and fill out the transportation form and confirm that it has been received if you plan to fly!



Staff

The camp experience is made possible by our dedicated volunteer staff. For those serving on staff, camp is a week of lots of hard work, not much sleep, and many rewarding memories as we are privileged to be a part of helping God's young people grow in the knowledge of Him. Counseling staff will need to arrive on Friday, July 19 by 1:00 p.m. for training and team-building. Activity staff should plan to arrive in time for Sabbath services at 2:00 p.m. on July 20.

The deadline for staff and camper applications is May 1, so apply as soon as you can. We are looking forward to a great experience for everyone on the beautiful Pacific coast this summer! Final note: We need more boy campers this year. Due to a “baby boom” of girls in the Northwest in recent years our camp has ample room for boys to come from farther areas.

Rex Sexton, Director

Details

Dates: July 21-28 (Counseling staff arrive July 19, activity staff July 20)
Camper age range: 12-18
Staff minimum age: 18
Tuition: Campers, \$350
Send signed forms to:
 United Youth Camp Northwest
 P.O. Box 317
 Wauna, WA 98395
E-mail: rex_sexton@ucg.org
Phone: (360) 798-2921

Winter Camp

Southeastern Wisconsin
December 25-31



Winter Camp carries on a beautiful tradition of brisk outdoor and warm indoor activities, plus enjoyable social-mixer events in the evenings. But the Christian living and other Bible instruction tailor-made for campers forms the core of the camp. Camp Timberlee is located on 650

beautiful acres of rolling hills and lakes in the Kettle Murrain region of south-central Wisconsin at N8705 Scout Rd., East Troy, WI 53120. You can check out more of the facilities at the Camp Timberlee website (www.timber-lee.com).

Winter Camp 2013 dates are Dec. 25—31 (Wednesday-Tuesday) this year and do not overlap Winter Family Weekend! Campers should arrive between 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Dec. 25, and staff should arrive by 3:00 p.m. on Dec. 24. Arrival by airline is possible through Milwaukee General Mitchell Airport, Chicago O'Hare, and Midway Airports. Transportation to and from the airport will be provided at no extra cost.

This year's camp holds great promise for learning more about God and His Word with fireside chats, Chris-

tian living, compass checks, Bible Q&A session, Bible study, Bible seminar and Sabbath service. Of course we will continue the tradition of the dorm skits and will have lots of general fellowship time so you can meet old and new friends.

Lots of activities are planned on and off the snow-fields of Wisconsin as well (get to know the snow!), including: get-acquainted bunko, tubing (snow dependent), broomball (ice dependent), tobogganing (ice dependent), cross-country skiing (snow dependent), winter survival class, winter field sports, leather arts, team building, arts and crafts, dance class, bank basketball, animal encounter, amazing race, game room, and a writing class (to be determined). Additionally this year we will have two dances—a formal dance Saturday evening and casual dance on Monday evening.

Winter Camp is a different camp experience than the



other UYC camps—come play in the snow and experience a whole other dimension to the camp experience!

Additional information will be posted on the Winter Camp website (<http://ucg.org/camp/winter-camp>) by the end of summer 2013.

Dan Dowd, Director

Details

Dates: Dec. 25-31 (Campers arrive 1:00-4:00 p.m. Dec. 25; Staff arrives by 3:00 p.m. Dec. 24)
Camper age range: 12-18
Staff minimum age: 18 and a high-school graduate
Tuition: Campers, \$265 before Dec. 1, \$280 if after
Send signed forms and check to:
 UYC-Winter Camp
 6165 Glen View Parkway
 West Bend, WI 53095
E-mail: dan_dowd@ucg.org
Phone: (262) 299-1039

Challenger East Program

Northeast Ohio
July 24-28



The Challenger program is a small-group, wilderness-based adventure mentoring program for young adults age 18 and older.

The inaugural program for Challenger East (meaning east of the Mississippi River) will take place this summer. A five-day program is planned from Wednesday, July 24, through Sunday, July 28, 2013 at the beautiful Beaver Creek State Park in northeastern Ohio. The venue is a section of state and private forest with the Little Beaver Creek running through it. The creek contains a thriving small mouth bass and rock bass fishery.

Compared to the vigorous Wyoming backpacking and rock climbing venue of its sister program Challenger West, the eastern program will be physically accessible to more of our young adults. However, what

it lacks in sheer athleticism, it will make up for in brain strain! Consider these challenges in the Challenger East program:

- Nature identification hiking: Solomon's wisdom encompassed a great field of creation knowledge: "Also he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree of Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall; he spoke also of animals, of birds, of creeping things, and of fish" (1 Kings 4:33). This activity in the Ohio woods will be both fascinating and instructive.
- Longbow roving archery: participants will practice the emotional control of the "inner game" of instinctive archery and test their skill in a woods setting. Fly casting and fly fishing: as an art fly fish-

ing challenges the powers of natural observation and reinforces the poetic rhythms of the creation.

- Campfire cookery: in the Challenger program the "campers" are the support staff and learning the backwoods basics of cooking over an open fire is as rewarding as it is challenging.
- Poetic recitation: each participant will be challenged to memorize three poems from a posted list prior to camp so that he or she may recite them for the group's entertainment and instruction at campfire time.
- Biblical instruction: every evening during the Bible class discussions participants will be challenged to increase their critical thinking skills and accomplish the theme of Challenger East 2013: "Get Wisdom!" (See Proverbs 4:5-9).

Applications are available from Challenger East director Randy Stiver at randy_stiver@ucg.org. More details of the program will be posted on the Challenger page of the United Youth Camps website on <http://uyc.ucg.org>.

Randy Stiver, Director

Details

Participant age range: 18 and up

Tuition: TBA

Send signed forms to:

Randy Stiver

P.O. Box 417

Milford, OH 45150

E-mail: randy_stiver@ucg.org

Phone: (513) 528-0420

Letter From Preteen Director Mark Welch

Dear parents, teens, and especially preteens,

Another exciting summer awaits our preteen campers! This summer the United Church of God will be offering nine high quality preteen camps throughout the United States. If you want to stay closer to home or visit a very gorgeous site a distance away, the choice is yours.

Our children are indeed a "heritage from the LORD," a great blessing in our families and in the United Church of God. We camp directors and our staffs are dedicated to offering and providing a safe, secure, but fun and challenging camp for all of our young children ages 6-12.

Along with Christian living classes, Bible games, and hymn singing, many of our camps will also offer archery, canoeing, nature hikes, field trips, horseback riding, rafting, field games, arts and crafts, and many other exciting activities.

Last year we had 301 preteen campers and 280 staff members, with nearly half the staff being teenagers. This is a wonderful opportunity for our dedicated staff to practice Christ-like service and make a big difference in the lives of our young campers!

According to studies by well known re-searcher George Barna, lifelong religious views and beliefs are generally developed before a



child reaches his teen years. This finding underscores the importance of parental and church influence to help mold a child's spiritual beliefs. George Barna says, "I have concluded that children are the single most important population group for the Church to focus upon."

Preteen camps are a wonderful way to not only teach our children God's way, but to do so in a fun, safe environment. Camp also provides opportunities to develop valuable friendships with ministers, other adults, teens and preteens in God's Church.

Each preteen camp offers a unique environment with unique activities so each has its own unique camper and staff application and mailing address.

If you would like to participate in a preteen camp, as a camper or on staff, be sure and obtain camp information and applications online on our UYC website, <http://uyc.ucg.org>. You may also contact the appropriate camp director listed if you have questions or need more information.

Parents, please strongly consider sending your preteen to summer camp this year. Why not give your child an opportunity to learn spiritual lessons, make memories, and develop friendships they will cherish for a lifetime?



Sincerely,
Mark Welch

Camp Colorado

June 9-12
Northern Colorado

Come enjoy a stimulating and inspiring camp experience in the beautiful Rocky Mountains of Colorado! Camp Colorado Preteen Camp will be held June 9-12, 2013. The location will once again be at the Highlands Camp and Retreat Center near Allenspark, Colorado, 16 miles south of Estes Park. This camp is especially attractive as it lies at the base of majestic Mt. Meeker, which is nearly 14,000 feet in elevation!

Campers, as well as teen and adult staff, will greatly enjoy nature hikes, archery, canoeing, field games, arts and crafts, sing-a-longs, campfires, Bible games, daily compass checks and daily Christian living classes.



The theme for this summer's camp will once again be "Friends Forever—God's Way." Throughout camp we will stress the importance of being true friends by doing all things God's way. We will once again emphasize that we will only be friends forever if we learn to live God's way, treating one another with love and respect.

The past two summers we have had an exciting afternoon field trip to the Rocky Mountain National Park to view elk and other wildlife and to experience the majestic mountains and beautiful wildflowers. We may decide to do something a bit different this summer and are considering other exciting alternatives.

We appreciate the dedicated teens and adults who volunteer to serve at camp to provide a fun and safe environment for our preteen campers.

So whether you are a preteen, teen, or adult we welcome you to join us for an exciting camp experience at Camp Colorado!

Details

Coordinators: Mark & Barbara Welch
Contact info:

mark_welch@ucg.org
Phone: (918) 247-4325
(918) 724-4166 (mobile)

Camp Piney Woods

June 23-26
East Texas

Camp Piney Woods welcomes all preteen campers (ages 5-12) to the peaceful and tranquil surroundings of East Texas (Big Sandy). Get ready to enjoy a fabulous four day camp experience where you will learn about our awesome God, make new friends and have fun in a caring and positive environment. The East Texas brethren will be hosting camp at our beautiful church building located at 1007 N Tyler Street, Big Sandy TX, 75755, approximately 100 miles east of Dallas. Camp will be June 23-26, 2013.

The theme for this year's camp is taken from Psalm 119:105: "Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." During camp, we will emphasize many aspects of our awesome God, His word, and following in the footsteps of the many faithful servants who have lived before us.

Each day at Camp Piney Woods will include a variety of outdoor and indoor activities beginning with Christian living classes to reinforce that God's way of life works. Other activities include arts and crafts, fishing, music and dance, sports, team building activities, treasure hunts and evening compass checks.

We are looking for dedicated and patient teens and adults to serve in all areas of camp, including counselors, activity coordinators, and staff. We encourage everyone who is interested (from young to not-as-young) to apply as soon as possible but no later than June 1, 2013. Completed applications should be mailed to:

United Church of God East Texas
ATTN: Camp Piney Woods
P.O. Box 1111
Hawkins, TX 75765.

If you have any questions, we encourage you to e-mail us at jim_moody@ucg.org or visit <http://uyc.ucg.org/camp/camp-piney-woods>.

Camp Piney Woods offers an exciting camp experience with warm East Texas hospitality and a peaceful place to learn about God, make new friends, and have fun. We hope you'll join us!



Details

Coordinators: Jim & Laura Moody
Contact info:

jim_moody@ucg.org
Phone: (903) 769-9782

Camp UCanDo

July 9-11
Central Indiana

Get ready for some summer fun at Camp UCanDo! Our camp will be held July 9-11 in our church hall in Indianapolis, Indiana. Our day camp program lasts from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day (we do not have any overnight facilities), and is open for children ages 5 through 12. Our adults and teens serve as counselors and staff.

We do a variety of both indoor and outdoor activities each day, including Bible classes, science, arts and crafts, service projects, games such as kickball, and a novelty Olympics. This year our campers will "Take Ten" as we focus on the theme of the Ten Commandments. Camp UCanDo is a smaller camp, averaging around 27 campers, but it is a fantastic way for your child to enjoy a camp experience.

Applications for campers and staff will be available in the spring. If you have questions, e-mail acmclain@sbcglobal.net or call Andy and Cynthia McClain at (317) 329-6485.

Details

Coordinators: Andy & Cynthia McClain

Contact info:
acmclain@sbcglobal.net
Phone: (317) 329-6485

Camp Kiwanis

July 15-18
Central Pennsylvania

What a joy it is to see the young and old interact in a safe and loving environment. From babies to grandparents, all ages come together at Camp Kiwanis to learn, build relationships and make memories. In 2012, 40 youth campers spent three days playing sports, fishing, swimming, kayaking, singing, doing crafts and learning more about God's way of life.

Camp Kiwanis has camper cabins, a lodge and plenty of space to run and enjoy the outdoors. It is located in Salladasburg, Pennsylvania, just east of Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania, in a quiet, wooded setting along a beautiful creek.

The Lewistown church area has hosted a preteen camp for 15 years. It's wonderful to see some of the first campers from the early years bring their children to camp and watch God's way of life handed down to the next generation.



Details

Coordinators: Renita Brummett & Larissa Holmes

Contact info:
Renita@ethanjacobscott.com
Lmhpriemier@comcast.net
Phone: (570) 837-0134

Camp Ironwood

July 21-24
Southeast Minnesota



Camp Ironwood in Southeastern Minnesota warmly welcomes preteen campers (ages 5-13) to experience four days and three nights of fun-filled activities in a positive, loving and caring environment. The theme of this year's camp will be "Having the COURAGE and FAITH to Stand Tall to Love, Serve and Obey God." We hope to have a visit from Jelly to help teach lessons from the Bible about the courage of David, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

Camp activities are designed to enrich children both spiritually and physically by experiencing a camp atmosphere in a nurturing and caring environment. Activities include daily Christian living and music classes, a zip line, swimming, horseback riding, outdoor games, a team challenge, the climbing wall, arts and crafts, archery, a sling shot, frisbee golf, nature, exploring, mini farm animals, a treasure hunt, campfire sing along, campus improvement, novelty olympics and much more.

Camp Ironwood has been blessed each year with an amazing group of teens who volunteer at Camp Ironwood, many of whom have attended the preteen camp for years and now return as teens to give back to the preteens. The teens work hard during the day and in the evening enjoy teen activities, which gives them the opportunity to enjoy each other's company. The teens also start their day off with their own

Details

Coordinators: Dave & Jolinda Schreiber

Contact info:
david_schreiber@ucg.org
Phone: (507) 377-8151

Christian living classes and music. Camp Ironwood cannot operate without the dedicated and self-sacrificing parents who give up vacation time to serve as counselors, activity coordinators, lifeguards and first aid nurses. We welcome and encourage both teens and parents to consider serving this year at Camp Ironwood.

Camp Ironwood takes place in the spectacular outdoor setting of Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch in southeastern Minnesota. The camp is located near Stewartville, Minnesota, which is about 90 miles south of the Twin Cities, and just 15 miles west of Rochester, Minnesota, just off I-90. Staff training takes place early Sunday morning (July 21).

If you and your children are looking for an exciting camp experience and want to meet and enjoy the company of other young people striving to live God's way, Camp Ironwood is for you!

fly or swim to the Great Northwest for preteen camp 2013! Contact the director, John Cafourek, at john_cafourek@ucg.org to get a camper and/or staff application. The deadline for applications is June 1, 2013. See you in the sea!

Camp Tomahawk

July 28-31
Central Tennessee

Camp Tomahawk will be held in a new location this year at the site of the NaCoMe Camp and Conference Center in scenic Pleasantville, Tennessee. Just 10 minutes west of Centerville, Tennessee, NaCoMe occupies the historic site of the Beaver Dam Springs Resort from over 100 years ago. Today, NaCoMe is an all-year-round ACA accredited camp providing camp and conference amenities to all who apply.

There will be a wide range of activities like archery, river tubing, caving, arts and crafts, volleyball, basketball, field sports, dancing, creek walks, nature education, high/low ropes, a swimming hole, hiking, orienteering and canoeing—just to name a few.

With daily Christian living classes and nightly compass checks, Camp Tomahawk creates a godly experience we've all come to call "the Zone." This Zone, along with God's instruction, is instrumental in teaching our preteens how to serve each other and is always a memorable part of the camp experience that lasts for years. Even our staff, from young to old, enjoys sharing in the experience of the Zone.

Come spend this summer with us at Camp Tomahawk and enjoy God's family, His creation and His way of life in a truly picturesque environment.



Details

Coordinators: Matthew & Melissa Puckett
Contact info:
mtpuckett@gmail.com
Phone: (615) 557-6535 (cell)

Northwest Preteen Camp

August 4-7
Northwest Oregon

Camp Arrah Wanna, nestled in the foothills of majestic Mt. Hood, near Portland, Oregon, provides a millennial setting for campers and adult and teen staff. The theme for this year is "Dive Into the Sea of God's Word." The mascots will be sea creatures. Come join us Aug. 4-7, 2013, as we dive into God's Word, looking for lessons from men of the Bible such as Noah, Jonah and Peter who had epic adventures with the sea and its creatures.

Activities at camp will be Christian living classes, arts and crafts, campfire, dance class, a river float on the Salmon River, swimming in a heated pool and sports. A scary 6-foot-long shark will be chasing the camp director at archery this year. If a camper hits the shark, he or she saves the director once again. Camp ends with a field day geared to include all the campers and staff.

Campers usually come from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California, Montana and Alaska. You are all welcome to drive,



Details

Coordinators: John & Sandy Cafourek
Contact info:
john_cafourek@ucg.org
Phone: (503) 587-7053

Camp Buckeye

August 4-7
Northeast Ohio

Camp Buckeye is being held again at Camp Luz in Orrville, Ohio. The facility has ample indoor and outdoor facilities to accommodate all of our activities, rain or shine! There is a large pond for fishing and canoeing and a separate swimming pond with a slide, floating platform and diving board!

Location: Camp Luz, Orrville, Ohio
Ages: 6-12
Fees: Camper, \$110; Teen staff (13-19), \$65; adult staff (20+), \$35 (all prices if postmarked by July 8)
Dates: Aug. 4 to Aug. 7, 2013
Applications need to be mailed to:
UYC—Camp Buckeye
PO Box 1019
Londonderry, NH 03053-1019
Checks payable to: United Church of God - MANSFIELD

Activities

Each day will begin with Christian living classes. Additional activities will include swimming, fishing, field games, canoeing, archery, "The Way," arts and crafts, ping-pong, Luz-ball, a campfire, sing-a-long and of course, the Hamster Dance.

Arrival Schedule

Sunday, Aug. 4, 2013
12:00-1:00 p.m.—Staff arrives and registers
1:00-2:00 p.m.—Staff meeting and orientation
3:00-5:00 p.m.—Campers arrive and register
5:00-5:30 p.m.—Camper orientation

Application Deadline

If you want the discounted fee, be sure to have your application postmarked no later than July 8, 2013! The last day for ALL applications to be postmarked is July 15, 2013.

Southwest Preteen Camp

December 23-27
South Central Arizona

The 2013 Southwest Preteen Camp is cooling off in the desert! If you are a preteen, teen, adult, or parent, join us this year in Phoenix, Arizona, on Dec. 23-27, 2013, for an awesome camp experience. Along with our new time and new location, the Southwest Preteen Camp is introducing some new activities for our campers.

Location: Estrella Mountain Regional Park
14805 West Vineyard Ave.
Goodyear, AZ 85338
Navy Group Campsites North & South

Mail applications to:
Southwest Preteen Camp
c/o Nathan & Jacqueline Ekama
3478 S. Posse Trail
Gilbert, AZ 85297

Activities

Our planned activities include daily compass checks, Christian living, arts and crafts, campfires, dance, field games, hay ride, horseback riding, rock climbing, scavenger hunt, skits and team-building activities. In addition to the activities scheduled for our preteens, we will also be offering an array of seminars and workshops for non-staff parents. Plan on joining us over your winter break to enjoy God's creation and God's people in the desert Southwest.



Details

Coordinators: Len & Julie Martin
Contact info:
len_martin@ucg.org
Phone: (614) 588-2637



Details

Coordinators: Nathan & Jacqueline Ekama
Contact info:
n_ekama@yahoo.com
Phone: (480) 438-6911

What to bring to camp

- Bible and notebook

Backpack or suitcase

- Clothes for the week
- Sneakers (hiking boots for some camps)
- Toiletries
- Appropriate swimsuit/water shoes
- Towels/washcloths
- Sabbath attire
- Necessary sports equipment (e.g. baseball glove, knee pads, swim goggles)

- Sleeping bag/pillow
- Sunscreen



- Appropriate-length hair of a natural color

- Positive attitude

Daypack

- Water bottle
- Camera
- Appropriate sports equipment for day's activities

What not to bring to camp

- Candy or snacks. Leave these at home so ants or rodents aren't attracted to your sleeping quarters. Parents, please do not mail "care packages" of sweets to your camper.

- Expensive jewelry (including valuable watches) or large amounts of cash.

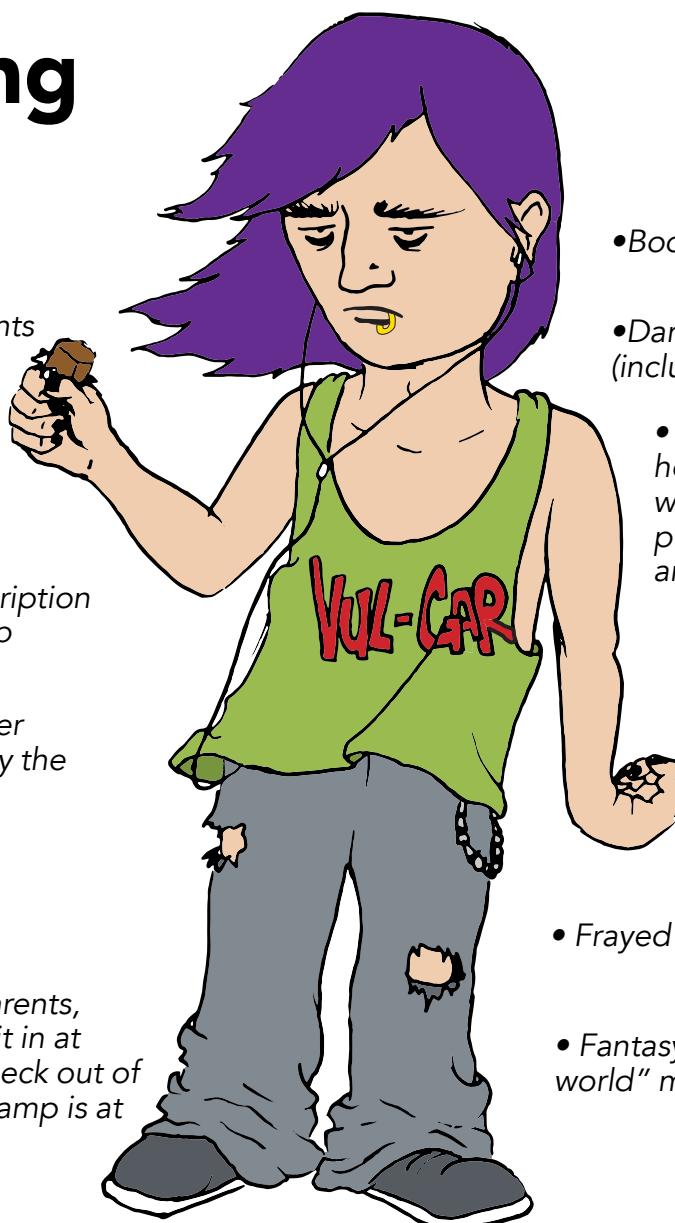
- Alcohol, tobacco products or illegal drugs. Prescription drugs must be turned in at registration to the camp medical team.

- Matches, lighters, fireworks, firearms or other weapons unless written permission is given by the camp director.

- Pocket knives (this is a new rule this year)

- Rollerblades, skateboards or scooters.

- Cell phones are best left at home or with your parents, but if you bring a cell phone to camp, please turn it in at registration. It will be returned to you when you check out of camp. Cell phone usage for calling home during camp is at the individual camp director's discretion.



- Body piercings (other than earrings for girls).

- Dark gothic apparel or adornment (including black nail polish).

- Electronics: All types of music players, headphones, video games, computers, walkie-talkies, iPods, MP3 players, DVD players, TVs, radios, etc. The list goes on and on.

- Improper wording or messages on clothing or camp gear.

- Tight or revealing clothing, short shorts, clothing that shows underwear; no bare midriffs, halter-tops or immodest swimwear.

- Frayed or torn "grunge" clothing.

- Fantasy games, tarot cards and other "dark world" materials (Deuteronomy 18:9-14).

British Isles

December 12-18

The 2013 British Isles United Youth Camp will take place in England at the Peak Centre in Edale, Derbyshire, between Friday, July 26, and Sunday, Aug. 4, 2013. This camp caters to older children and teenagers. Edale is in Hope Valley, between

the cities of Sheffield and Manchester. The Peak Centre is within walking distance of the train station in Edale, which is on the Manchester/Sheffield line, and has been used by the Church for camp on several occasions in recent years. It offers many on-site activities and provides an environment for children and teens to interact with others and with the adult staff. Opportunities will be available for exploring the surrounding area, which is in a national park. The cost per camper has been set at £175 (approximately \$275 U.S.). For further details contact David Fenney by e-mail at david_fenney@ucg.org or phone +44 1925 763576.

David Fenney, Director



Colombia

June 27-July 2



Come join us for another year at our United Youth Camp in Colombia, South America! The dates for camp are June 27-July 2, 2013. You will be welcomed by the warm sea breezes at the tranquil Centro Recreacional Teyuna located in Santa Marta, Colombia. The cost of the camp will run \$250 per person, which does not include airfare to and from Colombia. Arrival from international areas by airline is possible through the Bogotá International Airport.

Ages for campers are 12-18 years old. Adults who are at least 18 years old and

graduated from high school are welcome to apply as staff. We are looking for mature, fun staff whose priority is serving the needs of the campers. This camp is for bilingual or Spanish speaking only attendees.

Last year, we had an attendance of 20 campers with a full array of Bible studies, sports activities, a dance and plenty of fellowship.

This year we plan to have songleading training as well as classes specifically for the female campers given by the director's wife. Because our focus at camp is building lifelong relationships with God and each other, each day will start with an interactive compass check-type Bible study. Additional Q&A sessions focusing on biblical and Christian-living topics will also be offered during camp.

Along with several fun and challenging activities, there will be enough free time to enjoy talking with friends, old and new.

If you are interested in attending this small but intimate camp in the beautiful country of Colombia, please contact Scott Hoefker, at scott_hoefker@ucg.org or (704) 628-6383.

Scott Hoefker, Director



Kenya

December 12-18

During the December school break, teens from all over Kenya will gather at the UCG Feast site in Ogembo for United Youth Camp Kenya 2013. We anticipate 100 campers and 30 staff to attend this year, and we hope that some young adults from international areas will come to assist us.

Plans are for the staff and campers to arrive on Wednesday, Dec. 12, for a full six days of developing deeper relationships with God and each other. Activities will include Christian living, football, volleyball, softball, team building, basic hygiene, photography, newspaper writing, book binding, public speaking and computer training. All activities are aimed at increasing the knowledge, abilities and enjoyment of the campers.

Evenings will be filled with more fun, including free time for the campers to get to know each other better as brothers and sisters in Christ. At sunset we'll gather around a warm campfire to share events from the day and to enjoy the goodies that are awarded as prizes. They help to challenge each



camper to be keen and active in both the classes and the field activities.

A big thanks to God and all our brothers and sisters who help make United Youth Camps a great opportunity for us to gather our teens for a life-changing experience.

If you want to attend camp in Kenya this year, contact John Elliott at john_elliott@ucg.org.

John Otieno Owak



Guatemala

December

Join us in December 2013 for the Youth Camp in Guatemala.

The selected place is very likely to be the same as in 2012; it is a resort which has—besides green areas with colorful peacocks that walk around freely, hotels, restaurants and swimming pools in one section—an amusement park and several other attractions across the two-lane international highway. Although the camp is held in the first section, young people can enjoy the latter before or after camp. Mr. Robledo UCG pastor for Guatemala says the camp seeks to: confirm the existence of God as our Creator and provider of every good

gift (both spiritual and physical); confirm understanding of Christ's role as the leader of His Church and our role as His representatives; and confirm the law of God as the way of life towards success. More specific goals he mentioned are: striving toward harmonious fellowship among the teenagers; developing values such as solidarity, team work and putting others' needs ahead of our own; and developing sports and cultural skills, which enhancing physical and mental development.

Each day meetings are held in which several biblical topics will be discussed by Mr. Robledo and other adults.

There will be plenty of room for outdoor activities (such as soccer, swimming and mini golf) and group dynamics.

Specific dates for the camp are not yet decided. Guatemala's motto is: "The land of eternal Spring," so although it will be held in December, temperatures will be Spring-like all year round. Translation into English will be provided for our visitors who do not speak Spanish.

Werner Solórzano



Accidents Happen

Even when you think you've done all you can to avoid them, accidents still happen. The question is, when they do, are you prepared?

The Church provides an accident medical policy to help cover some of the cost for injuries that can occur at Camp. There is a modest sickness benefit included as well.

This policy is primary (first) before other personal or group insurance. For those who have high deductibles or no

coverage, this policy will pay first, and this policy has zero deductible.

The Church desires to provide this coverage each camp year, but that is subject to change based on availability and affordability.

As camp approaches, a copy of the policy will be provided so parents and volunteer staff can see what is and isn't covered. Be sure to check it out at <http://uyc.ucg.org/camp-accident-insurance> in early June for the 2013 policy.

Brief description of what is typically included:

- Maximum benefit per person: \$25,000;
- Maximum benefit per person for sickness expenses: \$5,000;
- Deductible per incident: \$0;
- Accidental death benefit: \$10,000;
- Covers expenses incurred for up to three years;
- Hospital (semi-private), physician, ambulance, chiropractic, and other

expenses are covered, subject to policy limitations;

- Pre-existing conditions, even if exacerbated by an injury at camp, are not covered;
- There is a 30 day notice requirement, and initial medical expenses must be incurred within 90 days.

Apply to Camp Online

HOME INFORMATION PRETEEN CAMPS TEEN CAMPS CHALLENGER PROGRAM CONTACT



Helping our youth to **RISE ABOVE** the world today

Apply for camp online



Ready to apply to camp?

- Go to the UYC website at <http://uyc.ucg.org> and click "Apply for camp online." All participation releases and signatures will be collected electronically, so just follow the prompts through the easy online application system.
- For preteen camps, apply by using the forms for each preteen

camp on their respective web pages.

- **Complete the online application.**
- **Download the Medical Exam Form and print it.** Then schedule an appointment with your family doctor and have the doctor complete the Medical Exam form (these exam forms are good for two years from the date they were given). Then mail, fax or e-mail the form to the appropriate camp director (their addresses are found on pages 6-8).
- **Mail tuition payment to the camp director.** Most camps offer a reduced tuition if you pay by May 1, so take advantage of this!
- **Upload your photo and transportation details as soon as you know them.**

Scholarships may be available for those who need the financial assistance.

Local scholarships: First ask your pastor to see if any local scholarships are available. National scholarships: Next, ask your pastor about applying for a national UYC scholarship. Remember that partial scholarships are offered and not full scholarships. Campers should take advantage of part-time jobs to partially cover their tuition cost.

What if you don't have a computer or Internet access? Don't worry, simply contact your pastor, a friend or your local library in order to access the Internet. We do not have the ability to process paper applications, so please take advantage of the Internet. It's simple and quick!

To register for camp, visit <http://uyc.ucg.org>

2013 UYC Fund

You might wonder how you could help the United Youth Camps program be a success. There is much you can do. If you know someone who would like to attend but might not be able to afford to go, you can sponsor him or her directly or through the local church pastor. Also, we have a scholarship fund for those who seek assistance through the home office (we give partial rather than full scholarships as a general rule). Your donation to the United Youth Camp Fund will be much appreciated. Fill out the 2013 UYC Fund form, cut it out and send it in with your donation. Thank you.

2013 UYC Fund

- Please indicate the amount you are sending in the spaces below.
- Include your personal identification number (PIN) from your latest *United News* or *Good News* label.
- Make your check payable to United Youth Camp Fund.
- Clip out and enclose the completed form, along with your check, and mail to the address below. Thank you!
- Affix postage and mail to:

United Youth Camp Fund, P.O. Box 541027, Cincinnati, OH 45254-1027

Your PIN:

Donation Amount Enclosed

U _____

Name

Address

City

State/Province

Zip code



praying for them and expecting that they will become baptized fellow members. The biblical perspective is always to encourage people to answer God's calling, as opposed to offering loopholes or making excuses, legitimizing their non-response. Because God's calling represents the best life available, both now and eternally, our youth should be kept well aware of God's special invitation to them now and encouraged to live and uphold godly standards now.

What Is Our Responsibility?

As parents, is it okay for us to sit back and do little, while leaning heavily on the Church to teach our youth through Sabbath school, teen Bible studies, Feast activities, regional activities and the camp program? What responsibility do we have?

God spoke to the young boy Samuel and expressed to him the punishments that would come upon Eli's family. "I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them" (1 Samuel 3:13). As parents, we should note that God didn't hold accountable the minister, the Church, the Sabbath school teachers or the camp staff. He held the father personally responsible for not guiding, teaching and encouraging his sons toward godliness.

However, this guidance shouldn't be done under oppression or harshness. Paul wrote in Ephesians 6:4: "Fathers, do not exasperate your children, instead, bring



them up in the training and instruction of the Lord" (New International Version). While the basic teachings of God's way of life should be taught to our youth, our example will shine more powerfully than our words.

Moses reminds us that our teaching and example should be diligent throughout the day, when we walk and sit, when we rise up and lie down (Deuteronomy 6:7). As parents, we should take the time to recognize examples throughout each day of

God's way in action or Satan's way in action. Then, take those examples and use them as talking points with our children, no matter what their age. Consider the Proverb that instructs parents to "train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). Our daily example, what we talk about, the way we interact with others, how or if we take the time to grow our relationships within the family and how we keep God's law are so influential to our youth.

David gives us some concepts to consider when we teach: "Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord" (Psalm 34:11). Notice the proximity and relationship that is in this verse. Come to me, listen to me, I will teach you. There is a personal and close relationship that should be prevalent between parent and child. Deep respect is shown here from the teacher to the youth and also from the youth to the teacher. This

kind of relationship takes great care and consistency to develop.

Our children have the potential of being a Kingdom of priests to our great God. Together let's teach our children, encourage them through our words and show them by our example that God's way is a blessing and it really does work!

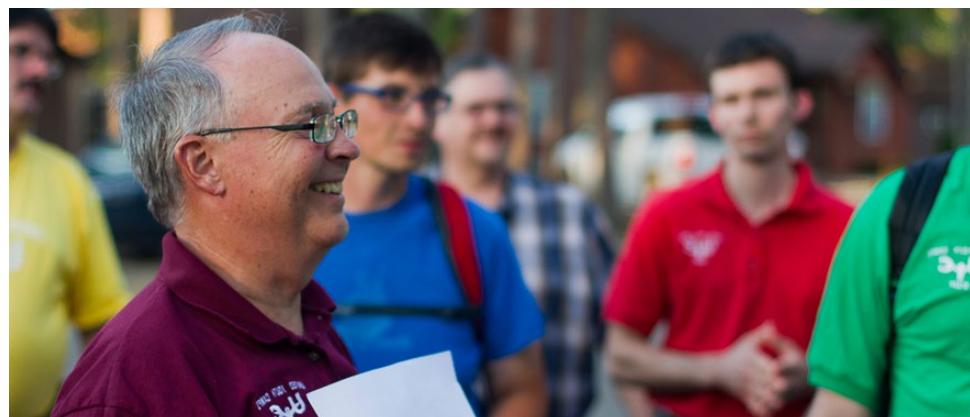
Find a training program in order to get certified as a swim instructor, lifeguard, first aid or other water front skills. These certifications will be helpful for camp and could also provide skills for a summer job if needed.

- **Activity staff**—These are the people who have skills and, and in some cases, certifications that allow them to teach and oversee archery, riflery, softball, speedaway, volleyball, basketball, ropes, canoeing, arts and crafts, food service, putting together a camp newspaper, video, driving skills, and wilderness skills, just to name a few. Do you have skills in any of these areas? Then consider offering those skills at camp this summer.

Who Is Needed?

One of the reasons for the success of summer camp is that we have seasoned veterans who are willing to serve year after year. These individuals know what is required to make their area work well, and they can jump in to get their job done without a great deal of training.

However, seasoned veterans do not last forever. For example, I have been serving in the UYC program since 1995 in a variety of jobs. I am 61 years of age, and there will come a time when I will no longer be able to serve. When the time comes for me



to bow out of the summer camp program, will there be a trained and tried person to fill my spot? It is my hope that will be the case.

As part of the camp program, we need to train replacements now in order that the camp program can continue. We need young adults in the Church, whether they have camp experience or not, to begin to take on greater responsibility in the summer camp program. We also need those whose camper days are completed to return as counselors and staff.

You might assess the skills you would like to develop that will allow you to be prepared to serve in some capacity at camp. Those who have served as department heads over particular activities such as ropes, kayaking, canoeing, archery, and riflery have found courses in their area and have developed the knowledge and skills to oversee or help with these camp activities. You can do so as well.

To Serve, A Right Heart Needed

Finally, camp certainly needs skilled, dedicated servants to create a summer camp atmosphere that is pleasing to God. However, skills and dedication must be combined with a right heart to contribute to the camp program to the fullest.

God tells us that we are to become humble servants (Matthew 18:1-5). As humble servants of God, we can best serve the teens who come to camp. The humble servant is not at camp for his or her own purpose. Instead, they are part of the program to serve the young people, putting their personal desire in a secondary position.

Christ set the example for us in this: "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). Our Savior and soon coming King dedicated Himself to serving others. As we follow His example in serving at camp, wonderful fruits are born.

The United Youth Camp program needs you. It needs your time, your skills, your sacrifice and your servant's heart in order to shine the light of God's truth in the lives of 450 young people.

Hopefully, you can help fill some of those needs in 2013.

Teen Camp Dates

Camp Cotubic, Ohio	June 16-23
Camp Pinecrest, Missouri	June 21-28
Camp Hye Sierra, California	June 30-July 7
Camp Woodmen, Alabama	June 30-July 7
Northwest Camp, Oregon	July 21-28
Winter Camp, Wisconsin	Dec. 25-31

Preteen Camp Dates

Camp Colorado, Colorado	June 9-12
Camp Piney Wood, Texas	June 23-26
Camp UCanDo, Indiana	July 9-11
Camp Kiwanis, Pennsylvania	July 15-18
Camp Ironwood, Minnesota	July 21-24
Camp Tomahawk, Tennessee	July 28-31
Northwest Preteen Camp, Oregon	Aug. 4-7
Camp Buckeye, Ohio	Aug. 4-7
Southwest Preteen Camp, Arizona	Dec. 23-27