



Be Like Our Heavenly Father

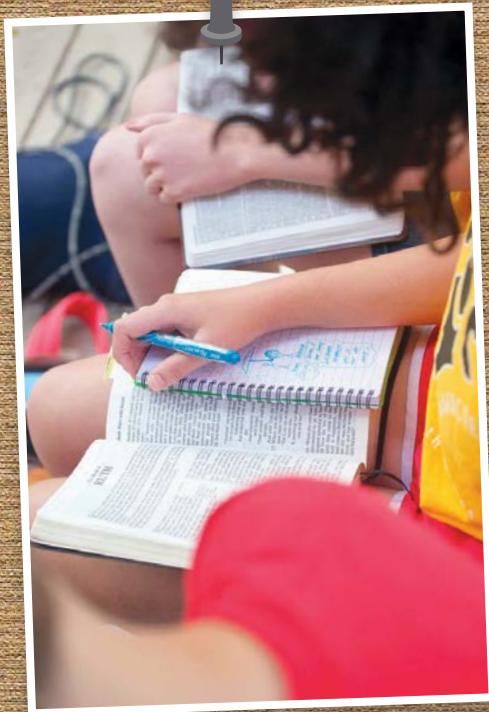


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Letter from the President

Dear campers, parents and camp volunteers,

Another exciting year of United Youth Camps will be here before we know it. This program has always been a big hit in the Church because we serve our youth. We share their excitement and joy in the various sporting and crafts activities as well as appreciate the thoughtful interaction in the Christian living classes. We rejoice that we can create a very positive impression that will be remembered for the rest of their lives. Thank you for your encouragement and support to all those who have given so much of themselves in preparing for and serving at each of the camps.

My wife Bev and I worked an entire session of the Northwest Camp in Oregon last summer and were totally immersed in this wonderful experience. Some of the jobs we did



were working in the kitchen, videography, teaching Christian living, participating in the activities and being dorm parents. We loved every moment of it. We observed how some of the staff had worked in the camps for many years and were very proficient in what they did. They were up before dawn and were the

last to retire for the night.

Our theme this year is “Be Like Our Heavenly Father.” Jesus taught us that we are “to be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect” (Matthew 5:48). What does that mean? Who is the Father? How is He different from Jesus Christ? What is their relationship? What is our relationship to God the Father and to Jesus Christ? These are the questions that we will discuss every day in the Christian living classes.

Last year the theme was about leadership. This year the focus is on our relationship with God, who has a family consisting of Himself and Jesus Christ, and which He wants us to be a part of, too. God is love, and He teaches us about an ideal family based on this. Many of our young people have come from homes where this has been the model, while others have not. We will all ultimately

be part of a relationship that was the basis of man’s walk with God. At camp, education and activities are carefully integrated in order to produce healthy outcomes in mind, body and spirit.

Again, thanks for your support of this program for our young people and the Church’s future. If you can contribute financially to provide a scholarship for a young person who could not otherwise afford to go, please consider helping in this way. We want to ensure that as many as possible have this opportunity.

May God the Father and Jesus Christ bless and keep you.

With love in Christ’s service,

Victor Kubik
President

Be Like Our Heavenly Father

Most people know their physical father, but what about their spiritual Father? The United Youth Camps Christian living theme for 2015 is “Be Like Our Heavenly Father.”

Matthew 5:48 explains: “*Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.*”

Campers, parents and brethren, in order to become like God the Father we need to get to know Him! God’s plan of salvation includes the fundamental truth that our Heavenly Father desires everyone to get to know Him in a most personal way. What an incredible future for all of humanity!

God the Father is:

- Supreme Ruler of the entire universe (1 Corinthians 15:27-28).
- Spirit (John 4:24).
- Love (1 John 4:16).
- A Family. God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ are building a family (Hebrews 2:10). You are a part of God’s family (Ephesians 3:14-15).

• Absolute righteous character based on perfect love toward all.
(For further read our booklet “*Who Is God?*” at www.ucg.org/booklet/who-god).

“Perfect”

Jesus Christ said for us to become like His Father. “Perfect” in Matthew 5:48 means “of full age.” It is from the Greek word *teleios*, which means “complete (in various applications of labor, growth, mental and moral character); completeness; of full age,

man, perfect.”

Our goal is growing in spiritual maturity to become more and more like our Heavenly Father in every way. And a major way of becoming like God the Father is follow His example of showing love to others.

The Greek word that is used in the Bible to describe the love of God is *agape*. This kind of love can only come from God and even encompasses love for one’s enemies. When a person goes through true repentance, accepts Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and is baptized (Acts 2:38-39), then God gives that person a measure of His Holy Spirit which, in turn, gives that person the mind of God and the fruits of God’s Holy Spirit, including godly love (Galatians 5:22-23).

Love Is Keeping God’s Commandments

The apostle John wrote: “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome” (1 John:5:3).

Love is outgoing concern for others but on a godly level—this is the purest love of all. It is reverence, adoration, gratitude and obedience to God. It is love to others, expressed in peaceableness, cooperation, respect and service. It is a way that travels the very opposite direction from greed, vanity, hate, selfishness, lust and war. This great spiritual Law of love is a way of life—it is an

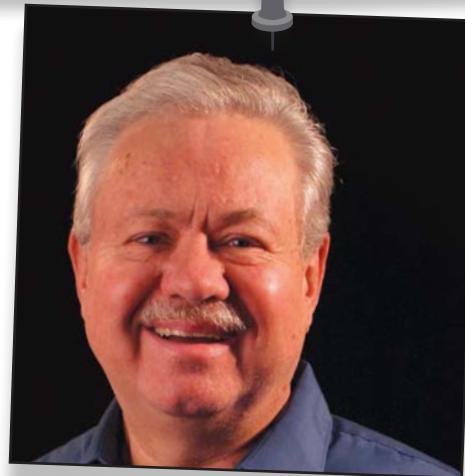
attitude of mind and heart that only comes from God (1 John 2:5, 1 John 3:10, 1 John 4:20, Ephesians 2:4, 1 Corinthians 13:1-8).

God the Father Is Real

Campers, realize that God the Father dwells in brilliant beauty (Revelation 4:1-11), constant joy and harmony, and He desires to share this with you for all eternity! Remember that He is fully aware of your life—what you are going through each day, including your frustrations, discouragements and successes. By no means is He a far-removed Father who is out of touch with His family. In fact, it is just the opposite—the Father has kept “current” with each generation of human beings as He always has since Adam and Eve. Go ahead and share with Him what is on your mind—after all, He is a Father. David wrote in “Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice” (Psalm 55:17).

Chosen Generation

As a preteen, teen, or young adult in God’s Church, God the Father has already chosen you to be a part of His spiritual Family now (1



Corinthians 7:14). Also notice what Peter wrote in 1 Peter 2:9: “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him [God the Father] who called you out of darkness

into His marvelous light.”
God the Father desires to share His eternity with you and to bless you as a member of His eternal spirit family. Our prayers are to be directed to our Heavenly Father (Matthew 6:9), and we study His Word for the specifics on how to live our lives according to His Divine will. “Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path” (Psalm 119:105).

Each of us, including you preteens, teens or young adults, are invited to have an awesome and deeply personal relationship with God the Heavenly Father. We will continue this inspiring theme at the teen camps this summer and at Winter Camp.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Steve Nutzman
United Youth Camps Coordinator

God's Standard or Your Standard?

How Tolerant Is Your Personal Moral Standard?

By Ed Dowd, Director, Camp Hye Sierra

One particular philosophy is growing in popular thinking. This philosophy is being promoted at all levels of our society; from the government to the people, from the teachers to the students, from the advertisers to the viewers. This philosophy does not necessarily discount even the role of religion in one's life. It is unbiased when it comes to financial status, and is unrestricted by national borders and oceans. The philosophy is simply called tolerance.

Tolerance, at one point in history, was simply the respectful exchange of ideas between two parties, despite any disagreement of the topic that was being discussed. However, in recent decades, it has morphed into a virtue that is being claimed with happy vigor.

Perhaps you've heard the phrase, "Those who stand for nothing fall for anything." This is a famous quote by the British Journalist Alex Hamilton that he made in a 1978 radio broadcast (not to be confused with the American Alexander Hamilton).

This quote stands, more than 30 years later, as a relevant criticism of the tolerance philosophy. Are you tolerant of the things in your environment, or do you live your life by a strict moral standard? Will you stand for what is right, or will you fall for your own opinions and perspectives?

As you drive the roads and highways, it's likely that you've seen the famous "Coexist" bumper sticker. At the heart of the "Coexist" line of thinking is this philosophy of tolerance.

The "Coexist" brand is mass marketed on shirts and bumper stickers. Most people just associate it with being against religious and social discrimination, but is that really all there is to it?

It's a belief system that tries to promote an "anything goes" mentality for everyone to get along. To coexist. Each letter is the symbol of a different personal belief system.

- C – Islam
- O – Peace
- E – Male/Female
- X – Judaism
- I – Wicca/Paganism
- S – Taoism/Confucianism
- T – Christianity

This philosophy of tolerance, including the modern day "Coexist" says that a person should be accepted regardless of their personal views on religion, sexual preference, interests, curiosities or moral standards.

While hating anyone is wrong, what this philosophy is really promoting is the idea that we should be tolerant of alternative sexual lifestyles, atheists, ouiga board users, those who worship nature and the universe, and popular mainstream religions.

It's really saying we need to accept everything everyone does. No one is wrong. No one needs to change.

to the tolerance philosophy, but it is God's definition. Jesus Christ's example is so much more powerful and transformational than simple, empty acceptance of sin. This verse is God's way of saying that He won't tolerate disobedience to His laws. Jesus Christ makes it plain that to have a relationship with Him, there is a single, non-customizable standard—God's laws.

While God makes this point throughout the Bible, He concludes with this same concept in Revelation 22:14: "Blessed are those who do His commandments that they may have the right to the tree of life and may enter through the gates into the city."

The "Coexist" model, with its tolerance-based foundation, tells each human they can have their own standard of right and wrong. You decide where the moral lines are. You can be your own judge of personal success. And if tomorrow you want to live more or less according to any given standard, that's okay too. Come as you are, there is no need to change.

When so many people discount the Old Testament portion of the Bible, I find it interesting that so many "famous" people in the New Testament actually quote it!

People like Luke, Paul, James and Peter all make direct quotes from the section of the Bible that some say no longer has any credibility in today's world. And yet Jesus Christ Himself quoted numerous times from what we now refer to as the Old Testament.

With this in mind, there is a powerful section of Scripture in Deuteronomy 30:11-20. Here are some excerpts: "I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments... But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, I announce to you today that you [will] surely perish" (verses 15-18).

God says there is only one valid moral standard, and it's based on the laws and commandments in the Bible. God makes His standard available to us.

In the verses above, we are commanded to keep God's laws; not our version of them or what we think seems right to us (see Proverbs 14:12).

Blessings and pure happiness occurs when we live according to God's standard!

So what standard are you living by? Your own customizable, tolerance-based version of "love me for who I have become?" Or God's standard, which is summarized in Matthew 22:36-40: "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind... And the second is like it: you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law . . ."

Make a commitment today to think and live according to God's moral standard.



Nothing is evil. God isn't judging anyone for their actions. Don't tell me I'm wrong. Don't tell me I need to change. Don't tell me what I'm doing is evil. Don't tell me that "your" God is against what I'm doing. Don't judge me. Simply accept me for who I am and what I am doing. And in return, I'll accept you as well.

Despite the silent, and yet widespread, acceptance of the philosophy of tolerance, we must ask ourselves a vital question. Is this philosophy really biblical? If we are to identify ourselves as ones who think vertically, then should any variation of the tolerance philosophy have a home with us? Simply asked, does God allow us to customize our own moral standards?

Jesus Christ made a very blunt statement in John 15:14: "You are my friends if you do what I command you." Whoa! This doesn't sound like the definition of "love" according

God is not looking for us to create our own standard of right and wrong. He has already outlined and documented it for us! We just have to make the commitment to utilize it and live by it!

God is very clear in scriptures like Proverbs 6:16-19, Isaiah 5:20, Romans 1:25-32, 2 Timothy 3:2-5 and others that His standard is the only standard by which we should be living. We can't justify why we think alternative lifestyles are okay. Or why sex before marriage is okay. Or why it's okay to tell small white lies. Or why we should have the right to experiment with drug or alcohol use. Or why... or why... or why... The list to justify why our own personal standard is okay could get quite lengthy!

What Does It Mean To Be Made In The Image of God?



By Rex Sexton

This year our Christian living theme for all UYC camps is “Become Like Our Heavenly Father.” God’s word tells us that we are all made in the image of God, but we are also instructed to “*be conformed to the image of His Son* (Romans 8:29).” One of our goals at camp this year is to help campers understand how these truths apply to them.

On the sixth day of creation, God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness” (Genesis 1:26). Physical man was made out of the elements of the earth, but in the image and likeness of his Creator.

In other words, just as children resemble their human parents, so all humans resemble our Creator. Although God is spirit (John 4:24) rather than physical, all humans bear a physical resemblance to Him.

Thus God the Father and Jesus Christ finished their work with a “personal touch.” God formed man from the earth and gave Adam life by sharing His own breath (Genesis 2:7). This was not done for the animals, only man. From this we understand that man is unique among all God’s creations, having both a material body reflecting God’s image and an immaterial

spirit that can be combined with God’s own Holy Spirit. We call this the spirit in man (Job 32:8).

The image of God imparts special meaning, harmony, intelligence and design to human life. To be human is to be created in the image of God and have some of His qualities.

Having the “image” or “likeness” of God means, in the simplest terms, that we were made to resemble God. 1 Corinthians 11:7 tells us that man is “the image and glory of God.” But in what ways are we the image of God?

1. God Has Bodily Shape.

The Bible makes many references to our Creator’s various body parts such as hands, fingers, mouth, eyes, hair, head, face, legs, and heart. Every writer who recorded for us a vision or image of God the father or Jesus Christ in glorified form described them in human form. Revelation 1:13-16 is a well known example.

2. God is Creative.

He plans and builds things. This is one very large difference between humans and animals.

We live in a world of marvelous inventions, and creativity is wonderful if what we conceive and build is in accordance with God’s laws and commandments.

Sadly, Satan can influence man’s mind to imagine and create evil. The entire world became this way in the time of Noah. Genesis 6:5 describes that time this way, “Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”

Society is rapidly going the same direction again, just as Jesus Christ foretold about 2,000 years ago (Matthew 24:37).

God wants us to use our creativity to glorify and reflect Him. Psalm 37:4-5 is often used as memory verses at camp. “Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.”

Desires of the heart that conform to God’s purpose for our lives are blessed by Him.

There is always a right way if it is according to God’s will—understanding that God’s will is revealed in His law and His plan for reproducing Himself.

Think about a world where everyone’s thoughts and desires of their hearts will be only good and righteous all the time!

3. God Has Feelings and Emotions.

The accurate single word description of God is that “God is Love (1 John 4:8, 16).” He expresses His love towards us in many ways, most profoundly by sending His Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins. He also gives us the Ten Commandments, which show us how to express our love for Him and to our fellow man.

The Ten Commandments protect people from murder, theft, adultery, slander, and they show love and honor toward our wonderful God.

These laws show that God expects us to respect others who are also made in the image of the great God.

While love is God’s primary emotion, the scriptures show that He has others we can identify with.

Several accounts in the book of Numbers show us that God can become angry when people sin and rebel against Him because He desires the very best for everyone,

and He does not want people hurt by the results of sin.

God also displays emotions, such as grief (Genesis 6:6), jealousy (Exodus 20:5), pleasure (Psalm 149:4), and pity (Psalm 103:13).

How Can We Become Like Our Heavenly Father?

What is our ultimate purpose? Why did God choose to make us in His image in many ways, with a human spirit that can comprehend spiritual things, but not completely like He is?

Perhaps the best answer is in Malachi 2:15. In this verse the prophet Malachi asks why God created us and gave us a spirit that enables us to understand our Creator—and then gives the answer: He seeks godly offspring. This is an incredible verse tells us that God is building His family of beings who will be like Him in every way!

The apostle Peter wrote that though we have God’s physical image already, we need to partake of the divine nature. He describes this “divine nature” as having faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, kindness, and brotherly love (2 Peter 1:4-7).

Philippians 2:5 tells us to “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus...” A change of mind and heart is a life-long process and is the key to success in this life and forever.

We understand that we are made in God’s image and are to be partaking of the divine nature.

Becoming like our heavenly Father in mind and spirit is the only way to be “complete” or “perfect” as Jesus Christ told us to do in Matthew 5:48.

That is what it means for us to be made in the image of God.

2 Timothy 1:7

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”
2 Timothy 1:7

To the new camper who is nervous about camp,

I think we were all nervous about camp our first time. You don’t know what to expect, if you will fit in, or if you will like it at all. You are not alone.

Last summer was my first year of camp. Before I went, I was really nervous. I thought of every possible thing that could go wrong and just in general assumed that I would hate it. I think the thing I was most concerned about was the dance.



I’m extremely shy, and I didn’t think I could handle all the people and the noise. But as I said, that was before I went to camp.

When I first got there, I was shy, but when I met my counselors and mixed in with some of the other girls in my dorm, I could tell that camp

wouldn’t be so bad. Everyone in my dorm was nice, and everyone encouraged each other. It was great! I had fun at all of the activities, and my counselors were really cheerful and helpful. The first dance went better than I thought it would, too.

After a few days, I encountered something else that I was nervous about: the high ropes course. I happen to be scared of heights, but I didn’t know that until I tried climbing the telephone pole. I couldn’t get to the top of it. I didn’t make it to the top of the rock climbing wall, either.

When you get scared of something like that, don’t waste all your time thinking about how terrible you are at it, or that you can’t conquer the

fear. Tell yourself that you will defeat that fear and do your best. It will make your first year of camp much easier.

I wish now that I had not wasted time thinking about the scary things I would encounter at camp. I wish that I had spent my time thinking about how I would overcome those fears. If I had done that before camp, it would have made camp even more fun than it turned out to be.

So my advice to new campers is to think about how you will overcome your fears before camp, so you won’t think twice about it when you face your fears.

Hope to see you there!
Emma Cortelyou

A Dream Come True

Sharing My Silent/Signing World at Camp Hye Sierra

By C. Don Bridenthal

My wife and I, along with our daughter, were privileged to participate in our first UCG youth camp experience as staffers (and our daughter as a camper) at camp Hye Sierra last summer. It was a dream come true for me! My dream was this: to share a world of silence and sign language with the campers and staff.

My own journey in a world of silence began at the age of 4, when I became totally deaf from complications of spinal meningitis.

Although at first I attended regular schools and relied on lip reading and speaking, it wasn't until I entered college that I realized I needed to learn American Sign Language to be able to benefit from the interpreting offered in the classrooms.

Around the same time, sign language was making inroads into God's Church with interpreters signing sermonettes and sermons!

Although last summer was our first time at United Youth Camps, camp was something we were already familiar with. My wife and I were first introduced to camp through our

sons, who attended for many years. We had "heard" of the wonderful atmosphere at camp—the Zone—and we got a glimpse of it seeing the wonderful attitude and spirit our sons brought home from camp.

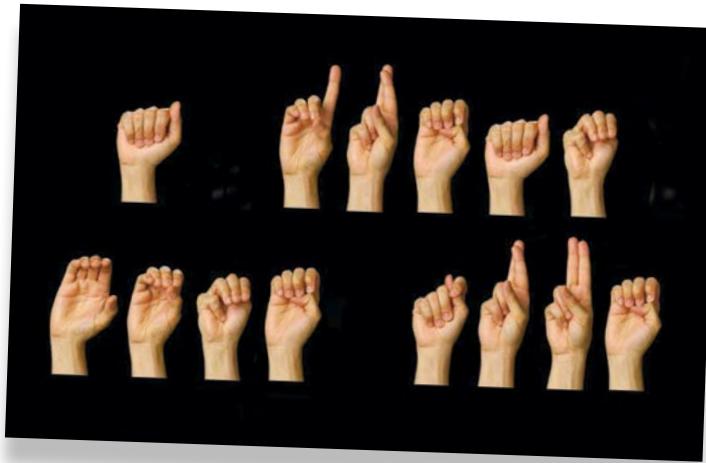
Last fall, an opportunity presented itself to teach sign language at a UYC camp. But a sign language class would be quite different from all other activities.

Why teach American Sign Language to the campers?

Presently, ASL is the third most used language in the United States, with more than 30 million people with hearing impairments. In addition, there are around 30 deaf brethren in UCG who utilize ASL interpreters in church. Who knows how many more deaf brethren God will call?

With this in mind, I realized that being able to teach campers would open up opportunities for them to

serve the deaf both in the Church and in the community. And it would also be about communication and



building bridges.

We fell in love with Camp Hye Sierra. It was wonderful to be around God's people—staffers and campers alike—and to see them in godly action, participating in daily Christian living classes, volunteering in the kitchen, dorm and activity duties, and sitting together for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Looking around camp, we saw a happy people! The Zone rubbed off on us!

My wife and I loved teaching sign

language to the eager campers. My wife would voice for me while I signed instructions. Our lessons included learning the manual hand alphabet, signs for colors, numbers and Bible terms. We showed a short film on how sign language started in America, and even had time to play various "sign games."

In one activity during lunch period, we passed out 100 pocket notebooks and announced a 10-minute period of silence where everyone conversed by writing back and forth to each other, as well as using some of the sign language they had learned.

The fulfillment of my dream to ignite or spark an interest in sign language in the campers as well as staff was realized when I saw attentive, listening and even enthusiastic communication in our activities.

I knew then that we had made a positive impact on their lives—and all in just our first year serving. I hope that many of you will continue to build upon your ASL skills.

Next year, we plan to continue where we left off. Come join us and learn our language of signs!

Photo: Lifeprint.com

Camp Friends Forever

By Matthew F. Lyons

Last July I turned 18. It was almost like any other birthday that I have had over the years. All my friends wished me a happy birthday; some even did so multiple times. The presents were great, especially the bright, colorful ones that go with my personality.

But something was different this time. Having just graduated from high school a few weeks before, doubts and worries about my future drifted in my mind, blazing with a fear of the unknown. "How am I going to buy a car to get around?" "How am I going to pay rent?" "Will I need another job?"

More thoughts like these bounced around in my head. One thought, though, seemed out of place. "Aw, man. This is the last year I get to be a camper at Hye Sierra."

Of all the thoughts I could have, why that one? Decisions and actions I make during this part of my life will probably affect me for years to come, and I still brewed over one week in the year? I

mean, didn't I remember all those hot, sleepless nights, trying to stay perfectly still because if I moved the old springs in the mattress would creak and wake someone up? What about endless activities under the scorching California sun? And standing at 7:00 in the morning, before breakfast, at flag-raising feeling like you're going to fall over? Wait. I need to stop there, because I am forgetting the best parts of camp.

One of the most unique things about camp is the Zone. It's a term we use at camp to signify following God's laws and His way. Primarily, it's based on the Ten Commandments and

the Golden Rule, treating your neighbor how you would want to be treated. Yet somehow it seems to also be an umbrella of some sort. Shunning and banishing cursing, inappropriate jokes, and other worldly and degrading acts, the Zone helps to keep the environment positive.

What else helps create this positive environment? Well one part of it is the great activities we do at camp.

I'll never forget the great times I had playing capture the flag. Oh those epic dives as one camper tries to tag the opposing team's player before he crosses the line. Or the intricate plans we made to win, like

"CHARGE!"

Kayaking will also always be one of my favorites. At times, it can be quite peaceful. It's just you, your friends, and the beautiful water, trees and sky. But at a toss of a ball, the peaceful water suddenly becomes a surface of rough wavelets, caused by the swift strokes of campers as they glide across the water, racing for the ball.

There is one other part to this unforgettable camp environment. This part is so significant that camp could not function without it. It's so fun, that it continues to affect me today. And that part is friends. Friends make the tiredness and heat fade away. The negatives just don't seem to matter anymore.

They also make the activities and games just great.

So as I begin a new stage in my life, I am glad I have hundreds of wonderful memories that, as they settle in my mind, I can look back on.

But what I am happiest about is the memories that I will make now and in the future, because for every July to come, I will still have my friends.



Camp Cotubic

Ohio: June 14-21

Kicking off the 2015 summer camp season, the first teen camp of the summer is Camp Cotubic! Come prepared for a lot of fun and excitement as you make new friends and reunite with old friends. Camp Cotubic is on 150 beautiful acres of trees, lush grass, and includes a 14-acre lake for a variety of fun water activities! Located near Bellefontaine, Ohio, Camp Cotubic is approximately 60 miles northwest of Columbus and about 60 miles northeast of Dayton.

God First!

One of the main purposes for camp is to help you learn more about God's amazing plan and your special place in that plan! Come prepared to learn more about God's way of life and to build good, proper and meaningful relationships with other campers and the staff. We want you to leave at the end of camp stronger in your knowledge and belief that God's way works! So each day will begin with an interactive Christian living Bible study and the day will conclude with a campfire program that will include songs, skits, challenges and a story to wrap up the day.



Details

Dates: June 14-21 (staff should plan to arrive for Sabbath services June 13)

Camper age range: 12-18

Staff minimum age: 18 (high-school graduate)

Camper tuition: \$280 (for applications prior to May 1); \$300 (after May 1).

Staff fee: \$0 for experienced staff, \$140 for junior staff

Send signed forms and check to:

Len Martin
P.O. Box 337
Delaware, OH 43015

E-mail: len_martin@ucg.org

Phone: (614) 588-2637

Make check payable to:
United Camp Fund - Cotubic

Each day starts with all campers gathering for Christian living. The 2015 theme is "Be Like Our Heavenly Father."

Activities

Although activities are subject to change, depending upon staff qualifications and other factors, the planned activities include basketball, newly renovated sand volleyball court, field games, archery, wilderness skills, swimming (with the blob, trampoline and 170-foot water slide), high ropes course, arts and crafts, climbing wall/zip-line/giant swing, media, and dance. Camp will conclude with a peaceful Sabbath rest, followed by a dinner banquet and final dance.

Dates and Times

Campers should plan their arrival sometime between 2-4 p.m. on Sunday,



June 14, and departure by 10 a.m. on Sunday, June 21. Arrival by airline is possible through the Port Columbus International Airport (CMH) and we can arrange no-cost transportation between Camp Cotubic and the airport. Staff should plan to attend Sabbath services in Dayton, Ohio, on June 13. There will be a potluck after services, followed by staff orientation, before driving to Camp Cotubic.

Len Martin, Camp Director



Camp Pinecrest

Missouri: June 19-26

Camp Pinecrest is located in the wooded, rolling hills of southeastern Missouri.

Activities

Campers will have the opportunity to sharpen or develop new skills in a variety of sporting activities including softball, volleyball and speed-a-way. Teamwork is promoted at the ropes course and the Amazing Race—Pinecrest version. Other activities include archery, riflery, swimming, Nerf tag, launching off the blob into the lake, rock climbing-rappelling and journalism. New to Pinecrest this year will be paddle boarding. The week will end with a dance.

While fun is definitely part of the program at Pinecrest, the camp is more than just activities and challenges. God and His Word are central to the design and fun of the United Youth Camp program. In fact, it is our goal that all young people would come away from camp with the crucial lesson of remembering their Creator while still in their youth (Ecclesiastes 12:1).

Each day starts with all campers gathering for Christian living. The 2015 theme is "Be Like Our Heavenly Father."

Finally, relationships are an important part of the UYC program. The schedule will also include plenty of fellowship time for everyone throughout the 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, or need the recommendation of their pastor. Every staff member must complete pre-camp training, and some activity positions require specialized training or experience.

All campers should arrive between 1-4 p.m. on Friday, June 19, and should plan to depart from camp by 10 a.m. on June 26. Staff orientation and training will begin on Thursday, June 18, 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, Camp Director



Details

Dates: June 19-26 (staff should arrive June 18)

Camper age range: 12-18

Staff minimum age: 18 (high-school graduate)

Camper tuition: \$300 (if submitted on or before May 1, \$305 if after)

Staff fee: \$0

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 Hye Sierra

California: June 28-July 5

Hye Sierra is a beautiful and serene 160-acre camp located amidst the magnificent pines and regal redwoods of California's Sequoia National Park. Our focus at Hye Sierra is showing that God's way truly works in this modern age. Hye Sierra's remote location allows us to craft a unique Zone environment to help you foster a focus on growing as a Christian and building lasting relationships with your fellow brothers and sisters.

Compass Check starts our morning each day and focuses our thoughts and attitudes toward godly values. As we carry out the day's activities, we

practice these principles and values in ways designed to help you apply those principles into your everyday life. We end the day as a camp family, together by the campfire, where we continue to build relationships, learn Biblical principles, and have a blast.

At Hye Sierra, we know that building lasting godly relationships with others is extremely

important and we've built a lot of time into the schedule to foster those opportunities for you. In addition to our open evening activities, mix and mingle time, as well as our two popular dances, this year we are excited to offer a wide variety of exciting challenge activities, team sports, as well as dance, drama, and sign language. To bring camp to a close, we conclude with the formal banquet which brings campers and staff together for a final evening of conversation, laughter and even some tears.

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

Staff Information

We have many service opportunities for good counselors and activity staff, as well as drivers, kitchen staff, dish crew, janitorial, those certified in lifesaving skills, and staffers experienced in rock climbing. All staff members must arrive on Friday, June 26 by 4pm for staff training.

Transportation

Camp Hye Sierra is located about 45 miles/1 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 June 28 between 2-4 p.m. Camp ends at 8am on Sunday July 5. All staff and camper departures should occur between 8-10 a.m. Please, do not schedule any departing flights before 11am.

Ed Dowd, Camp Director



Details

Dates: June 28-July 5 (staff training begins June 26)

Camper age range: 12-18

Staff minimum age: 18 (high-school graduate)

Camper tuition: \$335 (if submitted on or before May 1, \$350 after May 1)

Staff fee: \$0

Send signed forms and check to:

Ed Dowd, Camp Hye Sierra
1425 N. Chambers St.
Wichita, KS 67212

Health Form Scan/E-mail:
ed_dowd@ucg.org

Phone: (316) 722-3248



Camp Woodmen

Alabama: June 28-July 5

We are looking forward to a wonderful Camp Woodmen 2015! The schedule will include: archery, basketball, Christian living classes, dance class, high and low ropes, riflery, sand volleyball, softball, speed-a-way, swimming and water sliding, and ultimate frisbee.

Dates and Times

Staff members should plan to attend an afternoon Sabbath service on June 27 in the Gadsden, Alabama, area. Staff orientation and training will follow that evening and Sunday morning. Specific details will be sent later to all staff members accepted.

Camper registration will occur from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, June 28. Checkout and departure for everyone will be from 9-11 a.m. on Sunday, July 5.

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

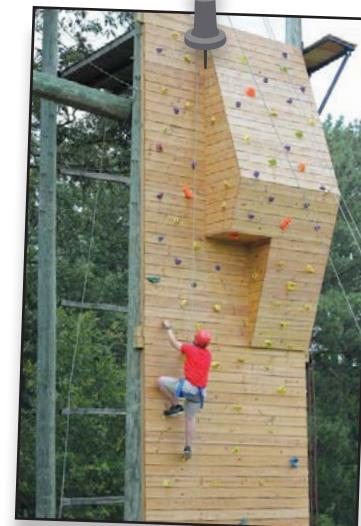
We are always on the lookout for staff members who hold current certifications in nursing, lifeguarding, first aid and CPR. Questions about specific staff needs should be sent to the camp director.

We would appreciate your prayers for God's blessing on our efforts to build a safe, Christian zone that provides a foretaste 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 2015 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, Camp Director



Details

Dates: June 28-July 5 (staff should arrive June 27)

Where: Blountsville, AL (northern Alabama)

Camper age range: 12-18

Staff minimum age: 18 (high-school graduate)

Camper tuition: \$260

Staff fee: \$0

Send signed forms and check to:

Shawn Cortelyou, Camp Woodmen
3516 W. Village Road
La Porte, IN 46350

Health Form Scan/E-mail:
scortlu@gmail.com

Phone: (309) 973-6362



Northwest Camp

Oregon: July 26-August 2

This will be our sixth year of Northwest Camp at beautiful Camp Magruder, located just south of Rockaway Beach, Oregon. The spectacular setting of the coastal mountains, rivers, lakes, and the Pacific ocean help make the week at this UYC camp unforgettable.

It is hard to imagine a more perfect or beautiful place for a summer camp! Campers enjoy a clean, nearly private mile-long lake as the eastern border of camp, and over a half-mile of pristine ocean beach on the west.

This year we are planning another evening ride on the Oregon Coastal Scenic Train. Everyone enjoys the beach activities: Volleyball, Speedway (one boundary of the field is the ocean), Skimboarding, and riding boogie boards in the waves. Other activities include Swimming, Waterskiing, a kayak trip down the Nehalem river, Archery, Pickle-ball, Dance class, and Softball. We will also have two dances during camp. The



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 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. Our goal is to establish a Godly atmosphere in which campers can be enriched for a lifetime.

Transportation

Camp Magruder is located about 1½ hours drive time from Portland, Oregon. Campers should arrive at Northwest Camp between 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, July 26. Departure will be on Sunday, Aug. 2, between 9-10 a.m. If you fly to camp, we will provide transportation to and from the Portland airport between 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM on July 26th. Departure flights should be after 1:00 PM on August 2nd. Please be sure and fill out the transportation form and confirm that it has been received if you plan to fly!

Details

Dates: July 26-Aug. 2 (staff should arrive July 25)
Camper age range: 12-18
Staff minimum age: 18 (high-school graduate)
Camper tuition: \$365 (U.S. dollars only)
Staff fee: \$0
Send signed forms and check to:
UYC Northwest Camp
P.O. Box 317
Wauna, WA 98395
E-mail: rex_sexton@ucg.org
Phone: (360) 798-2921
Fax: (866) 221-5926

Staff

The Camp experience is made possible by our dedicated volunteer staff. For those serving on staff, camp is a week of hard work and many rewarding memories as we are privileged to be a part of helping God's young people grow in the knowledge of Him. Activity staff should plan to arrive in time for Sabbath services at 2:00 PM on July 25th.

The deadline for staff and camper applications is May 1. We are looking forward to a great experience for everyone on the beautiful Pacific coast this summer!
Rex Sexton, Camp Director



Winter Camp

Wisconsin: December 27-Jan.3

Winter Camp is unique in the UYC program as the only camp operating in the cold winter months. We get to know the snow using a facility located on 650 acres of beautiful Kettle Moraine land in south-central Wisconsin!

We have a mix of outdoor activities to learn and play in the cold and snow, as well as a number of indoor activities to warm back up. The Christian living and Bible instruction are the core of our program as the campers are taught how to live God's way of life.

This year Winter Camp will again run for seven days, from camper check-in on Dec. 27 until check-out on Jan. 3. Staff will arrive on Dec. 25. No-cost transportation will be provided between camp and these airports: Mitchell (Milwaukee); Chicago (O'Hare and Midway). Arriving flights for campers should be on Dec. 27 by noon. Departing flights should be on Jan. 3 no earlier than 1 p.m.



Activities

Activities for 2015 will tentatively include: arts and crafts; the Amazing Race; broomball; dance; field sports; game room; science center; snowboarding; team building; tubing/tobogganing; winter survival; zip-line and low-ropes. All these will be supplemented by bunco and two dances! The spiritual component of winter camp will include daily compass checks and Christian living classes as well as Bible class, Bible question-and-answer sessions, Sabbath services and plenty of fellowship time!

Winter Camp offers a unique camp experience unlike any of our UYC Summer Camps. Come be with us in 2015 and see for yourself!

Dan Dowd, Camp Director

Details

Dates: Dec. 27-Jan.3 (staff should arrive Dec. 25)
Camper age range: 12-18
Staff minimum age: 18 (high-school graduate)
Camper tuition: \$310
Staff fee: \$0
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



Winter Leadership Camp

Wisconsin: Dec. 25-Jan.3

Winter Leadership Camp is held concurrently with Winter Camp. Much like the Challenger Camps, Winter Leadership Camp is a unique opportunity for young adults to grow in their leadership skills while also gaining experience in the UYC program. It is a great stepping stone to serving at other UYC camps.

Winter Leadership Camp is held at Camp Timber-lee—a wonderful facility located on 650 acres of beautiful Kettle Moraine land in south-central Wisconsin!

Young adults (high school graduates, ages 18-25) are encouraged to participate in this camp serving alongside activity staff and counselors. You will enjoy some of the regular winter camp activities as a group, but



you will also have additional Bible classes, seminars and question-and-answer sessions focused on leadership in the camp setting, local congregations and life in general. There will be many opportunities to lead and serve including giving speeches and sermonettes, planning and hosting one of the camp dances, and serving daily snacks to the campers. If you

are a young adult graduating from the teen camp experience, we would love to have you come and give back to the UYC program and to begin to learn more about godly leadership. Tuition for winter leadership camp is \$200. You will arrive on Dec. 25 and leave Jan. 3. Apply as staff and select the leadership camp tab.

This year Winter Camp will again run for seven days, from camper check-in on Dec. 27 until check-out on Jan. 3. As staff, you should plan on arriving on Dec. 25. No-cost transportation will be provided between camp and these airports: Mitchell (Milwaukee); Chicago (O'Hare and Midway). Departing flights should be on Jan. 3 no earlier than 1 p.m.

Activities

As a Winter Leadership Camp participant, you will serve alongside activity staff having an opportunity to assist in several different areas. Christian living, Bible studies and seminars are geared specifically to your needs as indicated by your survey responses. We will also make an effort to have you assist in activities that are most interesting to you.

Come join us to learn, grow, serve and play! Winter Leadership Camp is an awesome opportunity!

Come learn to serve!
Dan Dowd, Camp Director

Details

Dates: Dec. 25-Jan. 3

Participant age range:

18 (high-school graduate)-25

Staff fee: \$200

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

Ohio: TBA

The Challenger East program seeks a small but dedicated group of young adults who are ready to take to the woods of early America's heartland later this summer. Challenger is a wilderness-based adventure, leadership mentoring program for young adults in the Church who are age 18 or older.

Set in the Appalachians of northeast Ohio, the five-day camp challenges participants with off-the-grid, wilderness skill-building through primitive archery, stick and stone tool basics, fly-fishing, flora and fauna identification, pioneer fire-building skills and camp cookery. Participants will experience intriguing tasks of pioneering societies like early America's pathfinders.

The program's capstone is to teach wise leadership from God's Word. This entails a study of the biblical wisdom of David, Solomon and especially Jesus Christ. David focused on the wisdom of God's Law (Psalm 119). Solomon drew insight from his keen knowledge of the creation: "...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). As Creator, Christ taught pure,



spiritual wisdom from His own handiwork: "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" (Matthew 6:26).

By focusing on wisdom-building from Scripture, the creation and lessons from practical skills Challenger East equips participants to better serve God, His people and the gospel of His soon-coming Kingdom.

Applications are available from Challenger East director Randy Stiver at randy_stiver@ucg.org.

Details

Dates: TBD—early August

Participant age range:

18-30

Tuition: \$60 (upon approval)

Send signed forms and check to:

Randy Stiver

(address TBA)

E-mail:

randy_stiver@ucg.org

Phone: (740) 739-7248

When other details are determined they will be posted on the Challenger East tab of the UYC webpage.



Clothing and Personal Items At Camp



- Positive attitude
- Appropriate-length hair of a natural color
- Sleeping bag/pillow
- Sunscreen

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)

Daypack

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

- Bible and notebook

What to bring to camp

What not to bring to camp

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

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

- 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.

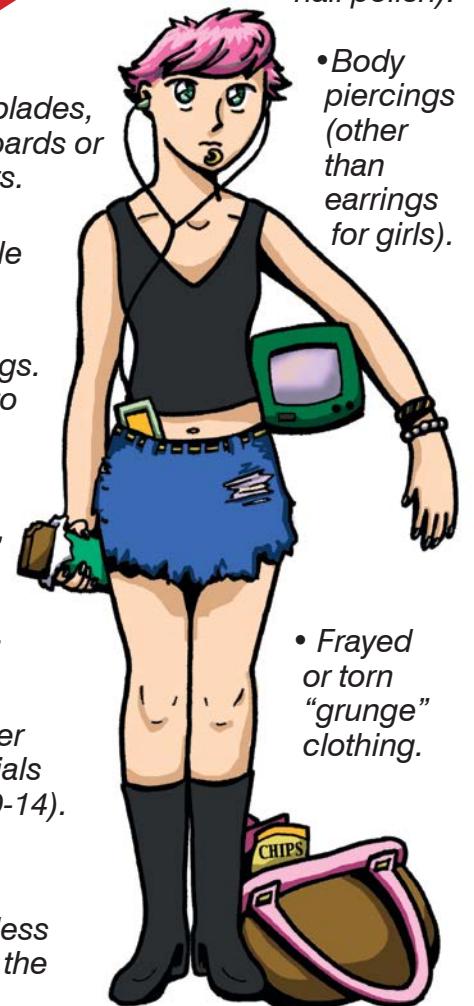
- Cell phones are best left at home or with your parents, but if you bring a cell phone to camp, please turn it in at registration. It will be returned to you when you check out of camp. Cell phone usage for calling home during camp is at the individual camp director's discretion.

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

- 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.

- Improper wording or messages on clothing or camp gear.

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



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

- Body piercings (other than earrings for girls).

- Frayed or torn "grunge" clothing.

Letter From the Preteen Camp Coordinator

Dear preteens, parents, and brethren,

Those of us involved in planning for our preteen camps are looking forward to another excellent year in 2015. Last year we had approximately 330 preteen campers and 340 staff members, with many being teenagers. Camp is an extraordinary opportunity for our young campers to learn about God's way, have fun, and do it all with other preteens in God's Church. Our dedicated adult and teen staff put Christ-like service into practice, which makes a big difference in the lives of our preteen campers.

There is great excitement and energy at all our preteen camps, and we look forward to more of the same this year. Preteen camp is an opportunity to have fun, make



new friends, and in some cases, see friends we haven't seen since last year's camp. These camp experiences really are priceless, and the United Church of God leadership sees the value in as many preteens attending camp as possible. We have lots of fun activities for our children, but we always strive to teach them valuable lessons that will give them needed guidance and direction throughout their lives.

God's way really does work, and it is experienced at our preteen camps firsthand!

If you are a teen or an adult, consider spending a few days of your summer (or winter) serving at one of our preteen camps. In the past we have always had a fabulous ratio of staff members to campers. This helps ensure that our camps are always safe and there is plenty of supervision and care for all our campers.

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

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>. If you have questions or need more information, you may also contact the appropriate camp director listed.

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

Sincerely,
Mark Welch, Preteen Camp Coordinator

Camp Tomahawk

Tennessee: May 30 June 3

Details

Coordinators: *Matthew & Melissa Puckett*
Phone: (615) 557-6535
E-mail: *mtpuckett@gmail.com*

Camp Tomahawk is returning in 2015 and will be held at the site of the NaCoMe (Nah-Co-Me) Camp and Conference Center in scenic Pleasantville, Tennessee.

We'll start off the day with Christian Living class followed by activities like archery,



caving, arts and crafts, creek walks, nature education, low ropes, a swimming hole, hiking, fishing and "funyaking"—just to name a few.

Then each night we'll have a special activity planned, like movie night, complete with popcorn and novelty Olympics, complete with the big red ball. We'll close each day with campers and dorm parents reflecting on God's teachings through a compass heck. We'll talk about how our actions and words should demonstrate our commitment to God and how we should put him first, others second, and ourselves last.

Come spend this summer with us at Camp Tomahawk and see old friends, make new ones all the while creating great camp memories with God's family, His creation, and His way of life in a truly picturesque environment.

Dates are May 30-June 3.

Matthew & Melissa Puckett

Camp Colorado

Colorado: June 7-10

Details

Coordinators: *Mark & Barbara Welch*
Phone: *Home/Cell (918) 724-4166*
E-mail: *mark_welch@ucg.org*

Consider joining us this summer for a fun, exciting, and inspiring camp experience in the beautiful Highlands Camp and Retreat Center at the base of majestic Mt. Meeker, which is nearly 14,000 feet in elevation! Camp Colorado will be having its sixth annual summer preteen camp on June 7-10, 2015.

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

Our camp facility is first-rate and the food is outstanding! Camp is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends and to strengthen friendships from the past. Everyone will enjoy the natural beauty of God's inspiring



creation and develop bonds that will last a lifetime.

We greatly appreciate the dedicated teens and adults serving 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 at Camp Colorado! Please send in your application as soon as possible, but no later than May 1. Important details for camp are found on our website.

Mark & Barbara Welch

Camp Piney Woods

Texas: July 12-15



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 run from Sunday, July 12 to Wednesday, July 15, 2015.

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 swimming, fishing, sports, music, gagaball, team building activities, a dunking booth, and much more.

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 no later than June 1, 2015.

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

Coordinator: *Jim Moody*
Phone: (903) 681-1437
Mail applications to:
United Church of God East Texas, ATTN: Camp Piney Woods
P.O. Box 1111
Hawkins, TX 75765.
E-mail: *jim_moody@ucg.org*

Seven Mountains

Pennsylvania: August 9-12

Details

Coordinators: *Rachel Massie and Lindsey Massie*
Contact info: *willow527@yahoo.com*
Phone: (610) 683-6621

Come join us for our first year at Seven Mountains camp! Like camp Kiwanis, Seven Mountains has a whole family approach to teaching God's way of life. Our campers range from age 4-12, but we strongly encourage parents to bring the whole family. Come camp out with us or volunteer! We have activities for our youngest campers (ages 1-3) while parents and older siblings can volunteer and serve our campers at camp, or just fellowship. If you don't have vacation time, you can drop off your 7-12 year olds for an amazing three days. If you can work via computer, there is cell service, so bring your own wifi hotspot and come work in a beautiful setting.

Unlike camp Kiwanis, Seven Mountains is not as rustic and has more modern dorms for our

campers. Some even have their own bathroom and showers.

Last year, our 50 campers enjoyed sports, fishing, bonfire time, Christian living classes, and teambuilding activities. This year

we will be adding newer activities such as swimming, boating, and more.



Camp Ironwood

Minnesota: July 12-15

Details

Dates: July 12-15

Campers:

Ages 5-13 (Mini-dorm activities available for children ages 2-5, whose parents are volunteering to serve at the camp)

Staff Needed: Teens (ages 13-19) and Adults

Coordinator: Dave & Jolinda Schreiber

Phone: (507)-377-8151

E-mail: david_schreiber@ucg.org



atmosphere in a nurturing and caring family environment. Activities include daily Christian living, music classes, a zip line, swimming, horseback riding, team challenge, the climbing wall, arts and crafts, archery, mini farm animals, game night, novelty olympics, and more!

It's a busy four days. The friendships, camaraderie, nurturing family environment and living, working, and playing together according to God's laws, is an experience that campers and staff who attend Camp Ironwood this summer will not soon forget.

Preteen Camp Ironwood is located about 90 miles south of the Twin Cities, and just 15 miles west of Rochester, Minnesota. Campers (ages 5-13) are invited to experience fun-filled activities in a positive, loving and caring environment, July 12-15, 2015. The theme of this year's camp will be from 1 Corinthians 13: "Love is..."

Camp activities are designed to enrich children both spiritually and physically by experiencing a camp

Camp Buckeye

Ohio: August 2-5

Details

Coordinators:

Len & Julie Martin

Phone: (614) 588-2637

E-mail: len_martin@ucg.org

Camp Buckeye is returning again to Camp Luz in Orrville, Ohio. We encourage all children ages 6-12 to come and enjoy a positive, rewarding and uplifting camp experience. Camp will enrich children physically, mentally and spiritually by creating a safe, caring atmosphere to learn how to strengthen their relationship with God, family and friends.

Each day begins with Christian living classes, and additional activities include archery, arts and crafts, Bible skits, canoeing, court games, fishing, field games, swimming,

Luz-ball, a campfire with kettle corn and sing-a-long. There is a large pond for fishing and canoeing and a separate swimming pond with a floating platform and diving board.

We always encourage parents and teens to consider serving at Camp Buckeye. We do our very best to include as many people as possible, however last year we had far more staff applications than we could handle, and as a result we did have to decline several staff applications.

Len Martin, Camp Director



Camp Northwest

Oregon: August 2-5

Details

Coordinator: John & Sandy Cafourek

Phone: (503) 587-7053

E-mail: john_cafourek@ucg.org

Camp Arrah Wanna, near Mt. Hood in Welches, Oregon, provides a millennial setting for campers and adult and teen staff.

The theme for this year is "Let Your Light Shine." We will focus on Christ's words in Matthew 5:14 and 16.

Think of all the ways light is in our world and the power of light: dome lights, lighthouses, twinkling stars, beacons, firelights, light bulbs, night lights, reflectors, spot lights, lightning bugs, glowing embers, lanterns, fireworks, and lightning. Think of the power of a good example and let your light shine.

Activities at camp will be Christian living classes, archery, arts and crafts, campfire, dance

class, a river float on the Salmon River, swimming in a heated pool, and sports.

Come join us Sunday through Wednesday, Aug. 2-5. Get a camper and/or staff application online at <http://uyc.ucg.org> or contact the director John Cafourek at john_cafourek@ucg.org.

The deadline for applications is May 1, 2015.



Camp Southwest

Arizona: December 20-24

Details

Coordinators: Nathan & Jacqueline Ekama

Phone: (480) 438-6911

E-mail: ekama.nathan@gmail.com

Join us this winter in Arizona's beautiful Estrella Mountain Regional Park from December 20-24, 2015 for a fun-filled week of games, crafts, and activities including: Christian living, compass checks, horseback riding, arts & crafts, field games, campfire activities, and more.

The Southwest Preteen Camp is modeled after a family campout, so preteens and their parents/guardians can experience camp together. Children from the ages of 4 to 12 are welcome to apply as campers. (Younger children can also come with their families.) We encourage older kids (over age 13) and adults to apply for staff.

Applications are available online. Please e-mail your application to ekama.nathan@gmail.com by Nov. 15, 2015.

Nathan & Jacqueline Ekama, Directors



Details

Dates: June 25-July 1
Camper age range: 12-18
Staff minimum age: 18
(high-school graduate)
Camper tuition: \$250 USD
Staff fee: \$0
E-mail:
scott_hoefker@ucg.org
Phone: (704) 628-6383

Come join us for another year at our UYC Summer Camp in Colombia, South America! The dates for camp are June 25-July 1, 2015.

We are currently planning on once again using Centro Recreacional

Teyuna just outside of Santa Marta, Colombia. However this location is being finalized and may change. The cost of the camp will run \$250 per person, which does not include airfare and transportation to and from the camp. Arrival from international areas by airline is possible through the El Dorado International Airport in Bogotá.

Ages for campers are 12-18 years old. Adults who are at least 18 years old and who have graduated from high school are encouraged to apply as staff. We are looking for mature, energetic and engaging staff whose priority is serving the needs of the campers. This camp is for bilingual or Spanish-speaking attendees.

Last year we had an attendance of 25 campers from Colombia, Chile and Guatemala, with a full array of Bible discussions or Christian living classes, song-leading training, swimming, water slides, fútbol (soccer), volleyball, a dance, two afternoons spent at a nearby beach, Bible Pictionary and trivia, and plenty of free time to relax and fellowship (including the highly sought-after mid-afternoon siesta).

This year we plan to have many of the same activities. Because our focus at camp is building life-long relationships with God and each other, days again will include an interactive compass check. Additional question-and-answer sessions (focusing on biblical and

Christian living topics) will also be offered during camp.

Along with several fun and challenging activities, extra time for fellowshiping and relaxing is added to make this camp experience a treat. Free time to enjoy talking with friends, old and new, is one of Colombia's experiences that last a lifetime.

If you are interested in attending this small but intimate camp in the inviting country of Colombia, please contact camp director Scott Hoefker.



INTERNATIONAL UYC

British Isles: July 24-August 2

Details

Dates: July 24-August 2
Camper Tuition: £200
E-mail: david_fenney@ucg.org

The 2015 British Isles United Youth Camp will take place in England at the Peak Centre in Edale, Derbyshire, from Friday, July 24, until Sunday, Aug. 2, 2015. 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 over the last decade.

The Peak Centre is set in a rural environment surrounded by hills and offers many on-site activities. Camp provides an environment for children and teens to interact with others and with the adult staff both formally and informally. The British Isles Camp usually attracts teens and children from the Republic of Ireland, Germany and the Netherlands as well as from the United Kingdom and occasionally

elsewhere.

Opportunities will be available for exploring the surrounding area, which is in a national park. Activities will include indoor and outdoor sports and games, an afternoon in Sheffield for swimming and other activities, and a day in a nearby spa town for shopping, picnicking, sightseeing and adventures in the park. Each day will include biblically-based discussions of age-appropriate topics. One traditional

highlight will be the final Sabbath and follow-on evening activities, which will include a formal dinner and talent show with performances by both campers and adult staff.

We anticipate a community of campers and adults of between 40 and 50 and aim to begin and end each day with a hymn and a prayer, with campers being encouraged to volunteer for prayers before meals and at the start and end of the day.

The cost per camper has been set at £200. For further details contact David Fenney by e-mail at david_fenney@ucg.org or phone +44 1925 763576.



Register for Camp Online

HOME INFORMATION PRETEEN CAMPS TEEN CAMPS CHALLENGER CONTACT APPLY

Be Like Our Heavenly Father

respective web pages.

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!

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.
- **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 three 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.**
- **For preteen camps,** apply by using the forms for each preteen camp on their



2015 Theme: Be Like Our Heavenly Father

Mission

The mission of the United Youth Camps program is to support parents and the Church in teaching youth to develop their full godly potential – which is their calling into the Body of Jesus Christ and the work of the Church – while learning that God's spiritual laws are practical ways of living (Deuteronomy 6:6-9 & 11:19-20; Psalm 34:11; Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4). Within our mission are contained camper goals, staff objectives, biblical standards and a positive message to our teens that God's ways work!

Teen Camp Dates

Camp Cotubic, Ohio.....	June 14-21
Camp Pinecrest, Missouri	June 19-26
Camp Hye Sierra, California	June 28-July 5
Camp Woodmen, Alabama	June 28-July 5
Northwest Camp, Oregon	July 25-August 2
Winter Camp, Wisconsin	December 27-January 3
Winter Leadership Camp, Wisconsin..	December 25-January 3
Challenger East Camp, Ohio (Ages 18-30)	TBA

Pre-Teen Camp Dates

Camp Tomahawk, Tennessee	May 30-June 3
Camp Colorado, Colorado	June 7-10
Camp Piney Woods, Texas.....	July 12-15
Camp Ironwood, Minnesota	July 12-15
Camp Buckeye, Ohio	August 2-5
Northwest Preteen Camp, Oregon.....	August 2-5
Seven Mountains, Pennsylvania	August 9-12
Southwest Preteen Camp, Arizona	December 20-21

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United Church of God Council of Elders: Carmelo Anastasi, Scott Ashley, Bill Bradford, Roc Corbett, Aaron Dean; John Elliott, Mark Mickelson, Rainer Salomaa; Mario Seiglie, Rex Sexton, Donald Ward, Robin Webber

Scriptural references are from the New King James Version (© 1988 Thomas Nelson, Inc., Publishers) unless otherwise noted.



Comments from Camper, Staff & Parents Surveys

This was my best year at camp ever; I have spiritually developed this year more than any other. Thank you so much for your service these past 4 years. (Cotubic)

[Camp] has helped me strengthen my relationship with God and meet amazing people whom I love so very dearly. (Hye Sierra)

He really enjoyed all of the activities. He felt that everyone from the staff to the campers was supportive and there was a strong sense of unity. He also commented that each activity tried to use biblical principles whenever possible. (Winter)

The talks at the campfires were life-changing. (Northwest)

I think it was one of the most God-centered and intense camp experiences that I have ever had. (Winter)

This was one of the best weeks of my life and I look forward to next year. (Cotubic)

Thank you so, so much. Camp is an incredible experience. (Northwest)

It's so amazing; everyone gets so close and you feel like family. (Woodmen)

Now I understand when our boys would come home and talk about the "Zone," the family atmosphere, it was AMAZING to see God's Spirit there with us. (Hye Sierra)

It's always gives me enthusiasm to return to the churches and inspire them about God's work. (Pinecrest)

It was a wonderful, positive experience and has definitely changed my life for the better. Thank you to everyone who has made this possible. (Woodmen)

Awesome. He learned new skills, understood more about God. The leaders and counselors were friendly and supportive. The other kids were great. He could not stop talking about it for days. (Cotubic)

I see the need for camps being more important each year due to the negative impact the world is having on our youth. Camp made a positive impact on me. (Woodmen)

I absolutely, positively love it. I'm so coming back next year. (Winter)

She commented that the Sabbath is her favorite day because she can really get to know others better without running around all day. She feels that she is growing spiritually and physically every year she goes. (Cotubic)

She did not want it to end! She missed everyone & kept talking about how there was a spiritual lesson of camp, not only to make friends & have fun. (Winter)

I love camp so much it has really helped me understand more about God. I wish everyone could go to camp. (Hye Sierra)

It was a wonderful, positive experience and has definitely changed my life for the better. Thank you to everyone who has made this possible. (Woodmen)

A totally great learning experience; wonderful to be with friends of the same faith and in an environment that encourages and looks to God. (Pinecrest)

[My daughter] shared with me multiple times that this camp experience was a "turning point" in her life. (Northwest)

Being able to see the girls in my dorm grow and bond throughout the week was a really touching experience, and I was so happy to help and support them in any way I could. (Northwest)

I think the bonds of friendship are stronger... and the depth of knowledge learned and the [desire] to talk about it is much greater than before!! (Woodmen)

Her favorite camp so far. She loved the relaxed, family atmosphere, and how easily approachable [the staff] were to talk to, with just about anything. (Hye Sierra)

2015 UYC Camper Shirt Design Contest

Calling All Camper and Staff Artists Ages 13-25!

Do you want to see your artwork printed on hundreds of shirts?

This year we want you to design the 2015 UYC camper shirts! The submitted design can be hand drawn or computer designed in any format. The deadline for submission is April 1, 2015.

A 50 percent scholarship will be offered for a 2015 camp if the winner is a camper. The winning artist will also be featured in a future *United News* publication and their artwork printed on all 2015 camper shirts!

More details, including how to submit your design and design requirements, can be found at the UYC website at uyc.ucg.org.

One of your designs will be chosen!

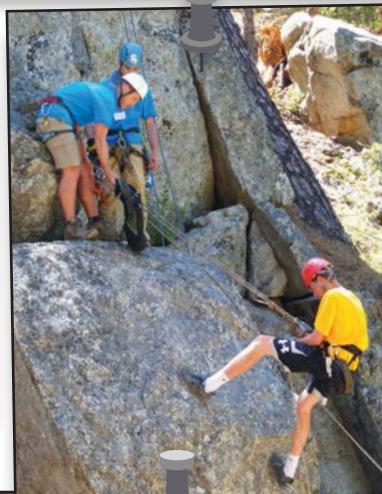
It's time to get creative!

Artist must be between the ages of 13-25 and a current or past camper or staff at a UYC teen camp. One submission per person. Artist must be regularly attending the United Church of God. The winning artist will be featured in a future United News publication, in Church-sponsored social media, and their artwork (if practical and permissible) printed on the 2015 (or other future) camper shirts and/or other UYC items. A complete entry includes both the signed Submission Form and Artwork. Upon receipt, artwork becomes the sole property of the United Church of God.



UYC Fund 2015

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 Camps Fund will be much appreciated. Fill out the 2015 UYC Fund form, cut it out and send it in with your donation. Thank you.



2015 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 Camps 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 Camps Fund, P.O. Box 541027, Cincinnati, OH 45254-1027

Your PIN:

Donation Amount Enclosed

U _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____

Zip code _____

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. 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 2015 policy and claim form. Here is a brief description of what is typically included:

- A sickness component, covering up to \$5,000 in medical expenses should that occur.
- The policy will pay primary (first)

before other personal or group insurance.

- There is no deductible.
- Notice of the incident to be filed within 30 days and initial medical expenses must be incurred within 90 days.
- Benefits paid for expenses incurred for up to three years after the incident.
- Includes a \$10,000 accidental death benefit (subject to a policy aggregate maximum).

- The accident expense limit is \$25,000.

In the event of an accident, the camp director will send a partially completed insurance claim form home from camp with an injured camper. However, timely notification to the insurance carrier and filing of the claim is the responsibility of the camper's family and not United Youth Camps or the medical facility where they may be treated.