

# Camper & Staff Quotes

“

It was great! I met a lot of new people and learned so much about God and His plans. I am absolutely coming back next year! (Camper @ Woodmen)

”

“

I had the profound opportunity to work with 10 young men. Through the week I learned more about myself and my conviction to my calling, and I grew in patience and understanding and love for everything and everyone. (Staff @ Hye Sierra)

”

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“

It was a very active and energetic camp and there was so much positivity about God that it makes you want to learn more. (Camper @ Hye Sierra)

”

“

10/10—love it too much!  
Easily the camp I look forward to the most and can't stop thinking about. (Camper @ Winter Camp)

”

“

The camp experience is excellent in every way. (Camper @ Pinecrest)

”

“

The camp program is one of the most effective efforts United does. It continues to bear good fruit in the lives of our most precious resource, our children.

(Staff @ Northwest)

”

“

Camp is the highlight of my year . . . EVERY year. :) (Camper @ Cotubic)

”

### 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 and 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!

# Letter From the President

**W**hen I was 14 years old, I was perplexed about how I naturally thought. I noted that it was easy and automatic to think wrong thoughts. It took effort and conscious effort to think and do right. I really wanted to do right, but found it not to be natural. Why was it instinctive to feel jealousy, think wrong, lustful, foolish thoughts and think first about self?

I decided to ask these questions in my church's youth religion class. The minister conducting the class replied: "Good questions!" I cannot fully remember all that he answered, but I do know that the awareness of my nature was real and that he probably said some helpful things to me and the class.

At this age I was already beginning to delve into the Word of God both independently and through guided study. I wanted to know why I was the way I was and wondered what was God's purpose for making me the way He did. I had a curiosity about the world, myself and God and wondered why everything was the way it was.

I found out quickly that I was not alone, and in Scripture we see that the apostle Paul also fought a personal battle with his physical desires versus what he knew to be a

better way. "For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good. But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find" (Romans 7:15-18).

It was becoming clear to me that I needed a relationship with God, my Father and Jesus Christ. I learned to pray in a way that I had not before. It was not reading someone else's words. It was a personal conversation with my Living Savior who was interested in me. I found encouragement in Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope."

God was able to change things and me. The words of Romans 12:2 became my hope and new reality: "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

The theme for the 2017 camp season is "Building Your Relationship With God." It answers

the questions that I had from youth and what you wonder about, too. In this year's Christian living classes we will explore ways you can strengthen your personal relationship with God, and by including Him in your daily life you will discover a way forward to the kind of life that every one of us desires.

I'm excited about this year's theme because it is so practical and relevant and speaks to those matters about our lives that matter the most. How you develop a relationship with God will also become a pattern of how you build relationships with your peers, adults and your future mate. I think you will find this year at camp the words of Hebrews 10:24 will ring true: "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works."

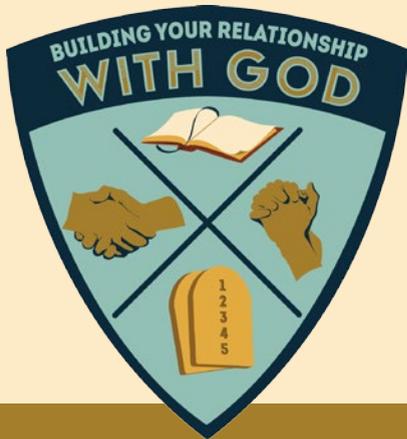
Thank you for your support of our United Youth Camps program that is an investment in our young people's future. If you are able to, would you please make a financial gift to the UYC Camp Fund to provide a scholarship for a young person who could not otherwise afford to go? We want all our young people to have an equal opportunity for this experience regardless of their or their parents' financial circumstances.

*Victor Kubik*



Victor Kubik

# “Building Your Relationship With God”



**T**his year’s theme for camp is very personal. The 2017 United Youth Camps Christian living theme is “Building Your Relationship With God.”

Campers and parents, there is simply nothing more important or more personal to each of us than “getting to know” our wonderful Heavenly Father and His Son Jesus Christ.

Campers, you know what it means to build

something—“construct by putting parts or material together over a period of time.” For us to “construct” a relationship with our Heavenly Father, it takes consistent effort on our part, plus time. You have meaningful and valuable relationships in your lives—your parents and siblings, friends, brethren in God’s Church, etc. But your relationship with God is by far the most important relationship in your life.

God greatly desires that you follow Him. He wants to be your God. Notice in Jeremiah 7:23: “But this is what I commanded them, saying, ‘Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people. And walk in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well with you.’”

As a teen God does not expect you to be perfect. No one is. God forgives us all when we repent. We then learn to do better. This builds our love toward God as we recognize how merciful He is to us and how much He takes care of us.

The chart at the bottom of the page shows some key elements of our theme. Notice the linkage between each of the four key words. Think of additional concepts and add them under each column.

“Notice that one of the key elements of any relationship is friendship. God extends His friendship to each of us. Notice in John 15:13-15: “Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.”

The camp staff is eagerly awaiting your arrival at camp this summer. In the meantime, use the time to deepen the quality of your one-on-one relationship (friendship, rewarding, obedient, closeness) with your Almighty God!



Steve Nutzman

“Building”	“Your”	“Relationship”	“God”
Plan	Personal	Closeness	Father
Construct	Ownership	Interaction	Savior
Establish	Possessive	Friendship	All-powerful
Create	Unique	Family	Creator
Develop	One-on-one	Peaceful	Loving
Foundation		Rewarding	Law-giver
Time		Commitment	Life-giver
Quality		Trust	Mentor
Grow		Two-way	Compassionate
		Harmony	Confidant
		Purpose	Merciful
		Healthy	Patient
		Link-building	Tender
		Faithful	Generous
		Loyalty	Wonderful
		Obedient	Almighty
		Respectful	All-knowing

# Serving on Staff

Camp directors are always on the lookout for individuals they believe would be a good addition to camp, so let's consider some qualifications and characteristics.

## Qualifications

Some positions require specific qualifications. We look for RNs, LPNs, or EMTs to serve in our medical/first aid roles. Our camps are also generally looking for at least one and sometimes as many as 10 lifeguards. Some camps are able to prepare their own meals, but this requires someone to have a food safety certification. Other positions that benefit from or require certifications are archery, riflery, kayaking, water skiing, ropes courses, rock climbing and snowboarding.

## Characteristics

A key characteristic is the willingness to serve in any way. You're not there to just meet people or sit in the staff lounge. Staff will have time

to visit, but during the day you are expected to work.

Equally important is the living example you provide. The apostle Paul wrote, "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1), and, "Avoid the appearance of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:22). Camp directors seek people that are striving to model biblical behavior year round. This is why camp directors rely on ministerial evaluations. When camp is over, many campers will connect with staff members via social media. What will they see on your page? Anything with the appearance of "evil" or "worldliness"?

## Reasons Not to Serve at Camp

It's not about you, your traditions or reunions. Serving at camp should never be for reasons like, "I've always gone to camp," or, "It's a tradition," or, "I want to be with my children (or grandchildren)."

Camp directors have to assemble the best staff possible. The apostle Paul

instructed Timothy twice in one verse (1 Timothy 5:21) to do all things without prejudice (preferring one person over another) or partiality (favoritism).

## Passing the Baton

Camp directors must also maintain a balance between "seasoned" staff and providing a pathway for new people to serve. As much as we appreciate those who have served on staff for many years, no one is in a position "for life." Camp directors must provide opportunities for growth in future leaders, while also utilizing the talents of experienced veterans. So please do not be offended if you are not accepted to camp.

This overview is to help everyone understand why staffing our camps is one of the greatest challenges for our camp directors. If you believe you have the qualifications, characteristics and proper motivation to serve at any of our United Youth Camps, you are encouraged to apply!

*Len Martin*

# How to Apply for Camp

You have decided to attend camp this summer and are excited about the experiences to come! What next? What are the important steps to make sure your dream of joining your friends for a great week of camp goes smoothly? Every year there are few campers who arrive at camp without being completely registered. In some cases there are "items" missing, such as a current facial picture on file, tuition not paid, or a misunderstanding of a scholarship or needed clothing items to bring. So don't neglect the details!

## Registration begins March 1, 2017.

1. Go to <http://uyc.ucg.org>  
Select teen or preteen camps, then

select which camp or camps you would like to attend. Carefully read the director's information posted and make sure you can travel to camp and back home.

2. Fill in all of the information online. Parents and campers should read over the application carefully before it is submitted.

3. Upload a current picture. This is important and required by camp standards. The photo must be taken within seven days of the upload date and should be head and shoulders only. Please do not use an old picture or one of an activity. Your application is not complete without the photo.

4. Plan for the tuition payment. Some camps may require tuition to be paid before acceptance to camp. Many campers earn money all year and save for camp. If you need to

apply for a scholarship, begin by talking to your local pastor about what local funds are available. If no local assistance is available, campers can apply through the camp directors to the national scholarship fund.

5. Once you have been accepted, you will receive an acceptance letter via e-mail with all of the information you need. Please read the letter carefully together with your parents! Every year camp directors receive dozens of calls and e-mails asking questions (such as tuition amounts or address to send it to) that are answered clearly in the acceptance letter. Please be considerate of your camp director and read the letter carefully.

6. Get ready for a fantastic week of learning God's way of life, meeting new challenges, and making new friends.

## First-Year Campers

My name is Lily Puckett, and this past year I went to Camp Woodmen. I had never been to a teen camp before, and I was really nervous about going. I worried so much that I made myself sick sometimes. What did they do at the teen camp? Who would I meet there? Old friends? New friends? Would I make new friends? My sister Crete had been to teen camp before, and I've always wanted to go and see what it was like. Plus, it wasn't fair to hear about all the fun she had at camp when she came home.

When I found out that I could go this year I was so excited. I had always wanted to go to Camp Woodmen to try all the different activities. Plus I had heard that Christian living classes were interesting because they taught lessons about God and God's way of life. One of my favorite activities was the high ropes. When I first saw it, I wanted to start climbing on it right away. I couldn't wait to see how far up I could go. I was shocked that I was able to climb all the way up with just a little bit of help. My dad was there cheering me on with my dorm, and that made me feel really good.

Before camp started I wasn't sure if I was going to fit in or feel comfortable around people that I didn't know. But I was still determined to make it a great time. I knew that some of my friends would be going to camp so that helped. I also knew that the staff would be kind and supportive in whatever activity I was doing. There is also this thing called the Zone, and in it everyone is kind, works together and tries to live like God. This helped me have fun at camp.

So if you are thinking about going to camp, I recommend doing the following to get ready. Plan to study your Bible and take notes during Christian living classes to learn even more about God. Bring a positive and can-do attitude so you and your dormmates will have fun at activities. And don't forget about dance class and showing off your dance moves. I hope to see you at Camp Woodmen this year.

*Lily Puckett (Camp Woodmen)*

## It's About the Campers

Folks, camp is a highlight of my year! For one refreshing week we are off the grid, away from the distractions and influences of the world. Immersed into an environment where real spiritual growth can take place in both the campers and staff combined!

As I reflect on the years I have served at summer camp I'm always drawn to drill down and ask myself some tough questions about how I served. One that I like to ask myself and I'll ask you is this: "Was serving at camp less about me and more about the campers?"

If I'm honest with myself I have to admit there were years that I served at camp where it was more about me than the campers. I thought it was a week for me to have fun, to see my friends, and to socialize to the max with them! There's no problem having fun and seeing your friends, but it can be if it's the chief motivator of why we serve at camp.

We serve at camp to serve God and the youth. A byproduct of serving for those reasons is the fun we can have on staff, the relationships that are built, and the spiritual growth we can have by being in a leadership role.

Am I saying I've mastered this? Nope! Have I gotten better? Yes! Each year I try to make this Christian walk a little less about me and more about God and Jesus Christ and others! Each year at camp I try to make it less about me and more about the campers!

This 2017 camp season, while serving at camp, will you join me in making camp a little less about ourselves and more about the campers and others? I think what you will find is that when we do this, camp becomes even more fulfilling! When we decrease for the sake of others we are adopting an attitude of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He didn't come for Himself, but for everyone else. Let's put this attitude into action this 2017 camp season.

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bond-servant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross" (Philippians 2:5-8).

*Jacob Mammen*

**Read more camper and staff articles online!**

<http://uyc.ucg.org/personal-experiences>

# What to Bring to Camp

## Pictured Items

1. Sleeping bag
2. Pillow
3. Backpack or suitcase
4. Clothes for the week
5. Sneakers (hiking boots for some camps)
6. Toiletries/sunscreen
7. Appropriate swim-suit/water shoes
8. Towels/washcloths
9. Water bottle
10. Camera

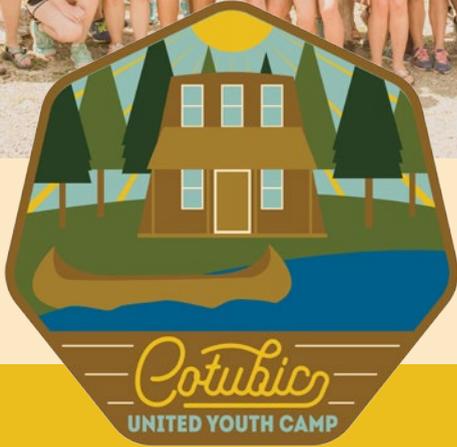


## Here's what else you should bring to camp!

- Positive attitude
- Appropriate-length hair of a natural color
- Bible and notebook
- Sabbath attire
- Necessary sports equipment (e.g. baseball glove, knee pads, swim goggles)
- Daypack

## What Not to Bring

- Expensive jewelry (including valuable watches) or large amounts of cash
- Rollerblades, skateboards or scooters
- Alcohol, tobacco products, marijuana or illegal drugs (prescription drugs must be turned in at registration to the camp medical team).
- Electronics: all types of music players, headphones, video games, computers, walkie-talkies, iPads, MP3 players, DVD players, TVs, radios, etc.
- Tight or revealing clothing, short shorts, clothing that shows underwear; no bare midriffs, halter-tops or immodest swimwear
- Dark gothic apparel or adornment (including black nail polish)
- Frayed or torn "grunge" clothing
- Improper wording or messages on clothing or camp gear
- Body piercings
- 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).
- Matches, lighters, fireworks, firearms or other weapons unless written permission is given by the camp director
- 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.



## Details

**Dates:** June 18-25. Staff should plan to arrive at Camp Cotubic Saturday evening, June 17 at 6:45 p.m. Campers should plan their arrival sometime between 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, June 18, and departure by 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 25.

**Camper age range:** 12-18

**Staff minimum age:** 18 (high school graduate)

**Camper tuition:** \$290 for payments postmarked by May 1, 2017; \$330 after May 1 (\$40 late fee)  
**Staff fee:** None for experienced staff, \$145 for junior staff

**Send payment to:** Len Martin, PO Box 337

Delaware, OH 43015

**Make Checks Payable to:** "United Camp Cotubic"

**E-mail:** len\_martin@ucg.org

**Phone:** (614) 588-2637



Camp Cotubic is located on 150 serene acres of fields and trees and includes a beautiful 14 acre lake for exciting water activities. It is located near Bellefontaine, Ohio. Camp Cotubic is approximately 60 miles northwest of Columbus and about 60 miles northeast of Dayton.

## Dorm Life and Spiritual Activities

Campers will be assigned a dorm based on their age. This arrangement will provide them a great opportunity to build positive and lasting relationships with other campers their age who are also looking to follow God in their lives. Each dorm also has two counselors that serve to guide the dorm in a positive direction and help develop meaningful relationships inside and outside of the dorm. The counselors promote fun and teamwork while primarily pointing the campers towards building a deeper relationship with the Father and Jesus Christ. All of this will be accomplished through daily activities that include sports, team building, Christian living, campfire, dorm time, dances, and other activities. The

week at Camp Cotubic will conclude with a wonderful Sabbath rest, a nice semi-formal banquet and an evening dance. All campers will be sleeping on bunk beds with mattresses and will need to bring their own bedding (sheets/blanket or sleeping bag), as well as their own pillow and towels.

## Travel

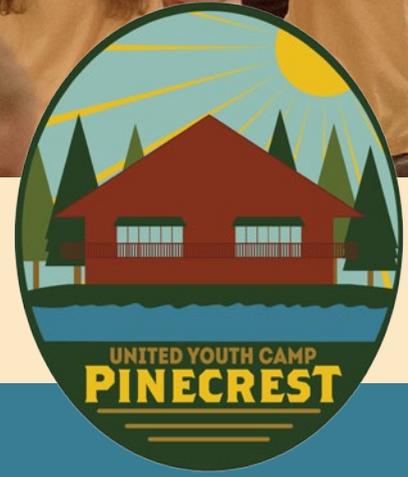
Arrival by airline is possible through the John Glenn Columbus International Airport (CMH), and we can arrange no-cost transportation between Camp Cotubic and the airport.

## Activities

Although it's possible a few activities may change, it is intended that this year activities will include basketball, sand volleyball, field games, archery, softball, waterfront activities (swimming, the blob, trampoline, 170-foot water slide), high ropes course, arts and crafts, climbing wall/zip-line/giant swing, team building and dance class.

*Len Martin*





**C**amp Pinecrest is a 300-acre facility located in the wooded, rolling hills of southeastern Missouri.

Finally, relationships are an important part of the UYC program. Each day will include plenty of fellowship time for everyone.

### Activities

Campers will have the opportunity to sharpen or develop new skills in a variety of sporting activities including softball, volleyball, ultimate Frisbee and speed-away. Teamwork is promoted at the ropes course and novelty olympics. Other activities include archery, riflery, swimming, pickle ball, launching off the blob into the lake, rock climbing, rappelling and journalism. Additionally, we will be offering a dance class for the first time.

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 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 will start with all campers gathering for Christian living. The 2017 theme is "Building Your Relationship With God."

### 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 a recommendation from their pastor. Every staff member must complete pre-camp training, and some activity positions require specialized training or experience.

### 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*

### Details

**Dates:** June 23-30, 2017. Staff should plan to arrive at Camp Pinecrest Thursday afternoon, June 22 by 3 p.m. Campers should plan their arrival sometime between 1-4 p.m. on Friday, June 23, and departure by 10 a.m. on Friday, June 30.

**Camper age range:** 12-18  
**Staff minimum age:** 18 (high-school graduate)

**Camper tuition:** \$300

**Staff fee:** None for staff

**Send payment to:** Gary Smith, 2519 Diamond River Drive, Rosenberg, TX 77471

**Make Checks Payable to:** "Pinecrest Camp Fund"

**E-mail:** gary\_smith@ucg.org

**Phone:** (713) 582-0050





## Details

**Dates:** July 2-9; staff arrives on June 30.

**Camper age range:** 12-18  
Staff minimum age: 18 (high school graduate)

**Camper tuition:** \$350

**Staff fee:** None for staff

**Send payment to:**

Jim Tuck, Camp Hye Sierra  
21991 North Reis Drive  
Maricopa, AZ 85138

**E-mail:** jim\_tuck@ucg.org

**Phone:** (520) 635-4837



**H**ye 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. This 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.

## Dorm Life and Spiritual Emphasis

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. 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.

## Activities

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.

In addition to our open evening activities, mix and mingle time, as well as our two popular dances, we are excited to offer kayaking, rock climbing, dance, and other exciting activities. To bring camp to a close, we conclude with the formal banquet.

## Staff Information

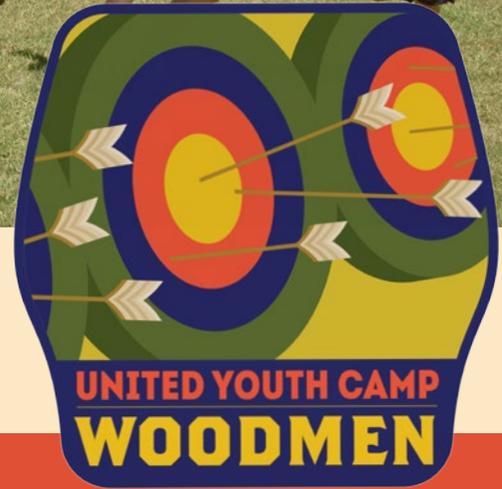
We have many service opportunities for good counselors and activity staff, as well as drivers, kitchen staff, dish crew, janitorial, those certified in lifesaving skills, and staffers experienced in rock climbing. All staff members must arrive on Friday, June 30, by 4 p.m. for staff training.

## Travel

Camp Hye Sierra is located about 45 miles or 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 July 2 between 2-4 p.m. Camp ends at 8 a.m. on Sunday, July 9. All staff and camper departures should occur between 8-10 a.m. Please, do not schedule any departing flights before 11 a.m.

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

*Jim Tuck*



**C**amp Woodmen is in the beautiful wooded rolling hills of northern Alabama. It is located near Blountsville and is approximately 60 miles north of Birmingham.

### Dorm Life and Spiritual Emphasis

United Youth Camps are more than just activities. Camp is centered on the Bible and focused on strengthening our relationship with God for campers who are trying to live God's way all year long. Campers will be assigned a dorm based on their age. This provides them a great opportunity to build positive and lasting relationships with other campers their age who are also striving to follow God.

### Travel

Transportation will be provided to/from

Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport (BHM).

### Activities

Although it's possible a few activities may change, the following activities are planned: archery, basketball, Christian living classes, dance class, high ropes, riflery, sand volleyball, softball, speedway, swimming and water sliding, team challenge and ultimate Frisbee.

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 2017 and make memories you will cherish forever!

*Shawn Cortelyou*



### Details

**Dates:** July 23-30, 2017. Staff should plan to be in the Gadsden, Alabama, area for Sabbath services, July 22, at 2:30 p.m. CDT. Campers should plan their arrival between 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, July 23, and departure by 10 a.m. on Sunday, July 30.

**Camper age range:** 12-18

**Staff minimum age:** 18 (high school graduate)

**Camper tuition:** \$260 if paid by June 12, 2017; \$290 after June 12 (\$30 late fee)

**Staff fee:** No charge

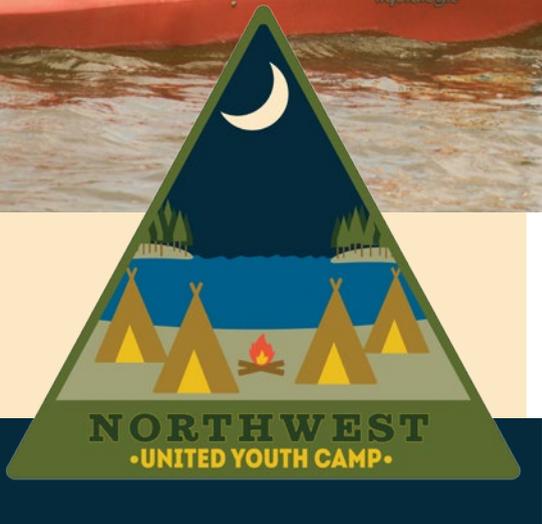
**Send payment to:**

Shawn Cortelyou  
3516 W. Village Road  
LaPorte, IN 46350

**Make Checks Payable to:** "United Camp Woodmen"

**E-mail:** shawn\_cortelyou@ucg.org

**Phone:** (309) 973-6362 (cell)



### Details

**Dates:** July 23-30

**Camper age range:** 12-18

**Staff minimum age:** 18 (high-school graduate)

**Camper tuition:** \$385

**Staff fee:** \$150

**Send payment to:**

PO Box 1124, Camas, WA 98607

**Make Checks Payable to:** "United Camp Fund—Northwest Camp"

**E-mail:** rex\_sexton@ucg.org

**Phone:** 360-798-2921



**T**his year will be our seventh year of Northwest Camp at Camp Magruder, located just south of Rockaway Beach, Oregon.

At Camp Magruder, campers enjoy a clean, nearly private mile-long lake as the eastern border of camp, and over a half-mile of scenic and clean ocean beach on the west. The dorms, dining hall and other camp facilities are among the best in the region, and improvements are made every year. UYC staff chooses the menu for the week, and the Maguder staff prepares the meals.

### Activities

Last year Chinook Pass Outfitters brought their horses and we have them reserved for 2017! We are planning an evening ride on the coast and a kayak trip down the Nehalem River.

Activities planned are volleyball, speedway (one boundary of the field is the ocean), skim-boarding and riding boogie boards in the waves. Other activities include swimming, waterskiing, archery, pickle ball, dance class and softball. We will also have two dances during camp. The dance instruction classes have been a huge success over the years.

### Dorm Life and Spiritual Activities

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 when they return home.

Every year campers build friendships that will last a lifetime. Our goal is to establish a godly atmosphere for campers.

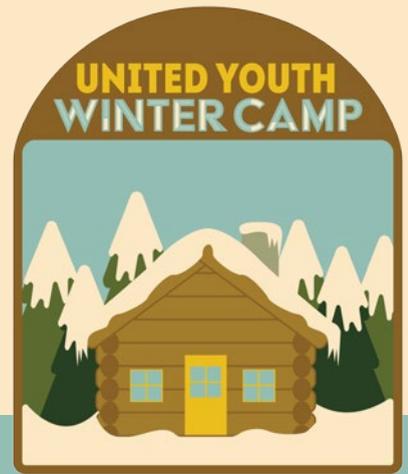
### Travel

Camp Magruder is located about 1 1/2 hours drive time from Portland, Oregon. Campers should arrive at Northwest Camp between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 23. Departure will be on Sunday, July 30, between 9 and 10 a.m. All pertinent information about Northwest Camp will be available on the UYC website.

### Staff Opportunities

The camp experience is made possible by our dedicated volunteer staff. For those serving on staff, camp is a week 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 and live God's way of life.

*Rex Sexton*



**W**inter Camp is unique in the UYC program as the only camp operating in the cold winter months. Plans for this year’s camp are not yet finalized. Please continue to check the UYC website for more information.

### Dorm Life and Spiritual Activities

Campers will be assigned to a dorm with a mix of ages and have two counselors that serve to guide the dorm in a positive direction. Each dorm will also have a close relationship with assigned “dorm parents,” who assist the counselors

at times, support the dorm in their activities and spend time with the dorm before lights-out.

### Activities

Activities will include arts and crafts, the amazing race, broomball, dance class, field sports, game room, science center, snowboarding, team building, tubing/tobogganing and winter survival. We plan to bring back similar activities as we are able.

The spiritual component of winter camp will include daily compass checks and Christian living classes, as well as Bible class, Bible Q&A sessions, Sabbath services and plenty of fellowship time!

### Details

**Dates:** TBA

**Camper age range:** 12-18

**Staff minimum age:** 18 (high-school graduate)

**Camper tuition:** TBA

**Staff fee:** None for staff



## 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. 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 2016 policy and claim form. Here is a brief description of what is typically included:

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.



There is nothing more precious to us parents than our children. Children are a great blessing from our great God, and we are told that we are all to become like little children if we are to inherit the Kingdom of God. It is such a joy to see the enthusiastic, smiling faces of our preteen campers every summer. Young children are naturally excited and energetic, and there is always a genuinely infectious positive,

## Plan to come to the UYC Preteen Program!

friendly atmosphere at our camps.

Each of our preteen camps has special features to offer, and every one of our camps is committed to providing a safe, enjoyable, challenging, exciting and peaceful camp experience for our young children. We strive to have a balance between a variety of stimulating physical activities and many spiritually enriching and uplifting opportunities to learn more of God and His ways.

In 2017 our camps will feature events such as archery, canoeing, field games, arts and crafts, fishing, hiking, caving, zip lines, horseback riding, novelty Olympics, swimming, treasure hunts, gaga ball, team building games, dance classes, river floats, etc. Many of our camps also have campfires and sing alongs that everyone enjoys.

I hope you, parents and teens, will strongly consider serving on one of our camp staffs so you may help in

ensuring a safe and successful camp for the preteen age children in your area. And parents: Do consider sending your preteen child to camp this summer. What greater benefits are they likely to enjoy this summer than from an exciting four-day camp with other children, teens and adults in God's Church?

This summer's preteen camp applications will all be online this spring to make the process a bit more streamlined and less time-consuming. So please take a little time to consider sending your preteen child to camp this summer and then follow the instructions found online.

Make plans now to join us for a very memorable camp experience in 2017!



Mark Welch

## Camp Nacome — Tennessee

the Nacome Camp and Conference Center, it was decided that our camp program should carry the name of our hosting facility.

This year volunteers from the Nashville and Murfreesboro congregations completed several service projects at Nacome on Sunday, Dec. 11. Projects included building a new foot bridge and several new firewood stands, splitting firewood and clearing away leaf debris from camp buildings. Everyone who participated had a great time serving.

Camp Nacome will be held on May 28-31, with staff to arrive on Saturday, May 27. Our activity program will provide a variety of challenging and fun opportunities for campers to learn about God's way of life while making new friends. We start each day with Christian living



followed by a day full of activities: like caving, archery, human foosball, nature exploration and crafts. These are just a few of the activities planned for this year. Make plans to join us this year at Camp Nacome.

Matthew Puckett

### Details

**Dates:** May 28-31

**Coordinators:** Matthew Puckett

**E-mail:** mtpuckett@gmail.com

**Phone:** (615) 557-6535

**Application Deadline:** May 1

These are exciting times at Camp Tomahawk. We're changing our camp name from Camp Tomahawk to Camp Nacome (Na-Co-Me). For many years, Camp Tomahawk was held at the Nathan Bedford Forrest Campground in Camden, Tennessee. During that time, there were many wonderful memories. But after several years at

## Piney Woods — 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 once again 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 9, to Wednesday, July 12, 2017.

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, sports, music, gaga ball, team building activities, a dunking booth and much more. Lots of water activities to whet the kids' appetites!

We are looking for dedicated

**Details**  
**Dates:** July 9-12  
**Coordinator:** Jim Moody  
**E-mail:** jim\_moody@ucg.org  
**Application Deadline:** June 1

and patient teens and adults to serve in all areas of camp, including as counselors, activity coordinators and staff. We encourage everyone who is interested (from young to not-as-young) to apply no later than June 1, 2017.

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!

*Jim Moody*

## Ironwood — Minnesota



Preteen Camp Ironwood Welcomes You!

Preteen Camp Ironwood in southeastern Minnesota welcomes campers (ages 5-13) to experience fun-filled activities in a positive, loving and caring environment.

Camp Ironwood takes place at the Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch. The theme of this year's camp is: "Our Awesome God and His Creation." Our goal is to enrich our children's relationship with God and with other people. Activities include daily Christian living and music classes, zipline, swimming, horseback riding, field games, team challenge, climbing wall, arts and crafts, archery/BB guns, slingshot, creek walk, mini-farm and campus improvement. Evening activities include a game night, campfire sing-along, novelty olympics, a carnival and a treasure hunt. It's a busy four days, but kids will leave full of memories to take home and remember for years to come.

We welcome and encourage both teens and parents to consider

**Details**  
**Dates:** July 16-19  
**Coordinators:** David & Jolinda Schreiber  
**E-mail:** david\_schreiber@ucg.org  
**Application Deadline:** June 16

serving at Camp Ironwood. Parents who come to serve and have a camper and teen serving at the camp, as well as a young child (age 2-5) may bring the younger sibling, who may participate in daytime mini-dorm activities. (Mini-dorm campers stay with the parent each night.)

*David & Jolinda Schreiber*

## Camp Colorado — Colorado

### Details

**Dates:** July 16-19

**Coordinator:** Mark Welch

**E-mail:** mark\_welch@ucg.org

**Application Deadline:** May 1

Join us for a summer camp experience that our preteens (age 6-12) will remember for a lifetime! Nestled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, at the base of Mt. Meeker, we will once again enjoy Camp Colorado at the Highlands Presbyterian Camp and Retreat Center in Allenspark, Colorado. This year camp will be July 16-19, so the weather should be fabulous. It will surely be a great time to enjoy evening campfires

and sing-alongs!

Our most important goal is to provide a safe, spiritually enriching environment for our preteens and our teen and adult staff. We will learn more of God's way through numerous compass checks and Christian living classes given by a variety of staff members. Our preteens also get involved and excited about our daily Bible challenge around the campfire. Once again our children will have an opportunity to learn to serve and to exemplify Christ-like traits on a daily basis. We will also strive to have the proper balance with many physically enriching activities.

We will enjoy archery, canoeing, nature hikes, arts and crafts, field games, multi-ball, and hopefully horseback riding.

Teen and adult staff members are appreciated as they strive to make camp a highly rewarding and



enjoyable experience for everyone. Please consider joining us at Camp Colorado this year!

Applications will be available online this spring.

*Mark Welch*

## Camp Buckeye — Ohio

### Details

**Dates:** July 30-Aug. 2

**Coordinators:**

Len & Julie Martin

**E-mail:** len\_martin@ucg.org

**Phone:** (614) 588-2637

**Application Deadline:** June 1

Camp Buckeye has become one of the "must-go" summer destination for so many children in the Church! Here they will develop physically, mentally and spiritually by being immersed in a safe, caring atmosphere where the focus is to learn more about God and how to live God's way. Our goal is to help your children learn how to practice the Golden Rule and the two great commandments as spoken by Jesus Christ in Matthew 22:35-40.

We encourage all children ages 6-12 to come to Camp Buckeye! We are returning for our sixth consecutive year to Camp Luz in Orrville, Ohio. It is a wonderful facility that allows us to have daily activities including Christian living, archery, arts and crafts, Bible skits, canoeing, court games, fishing, field games, luzball, a campfire with kettle corn and sing-along.

Please apply early, as last year we exceeded capacity, and we were barely able to "squeeze" a few more children into some of the dorms!

If you desire to serve at camp, please know we do our best to include as many people as possible but not all applicants will be accepted.

We look forward to seeing you at camp Buckeye!

*Len & Julie Martin*



## Northwest Camp — Oregon



Northwest Preteen Camp 2017 will be held again in the beautiful foothills of Mt. Hood in Oregon, Aug. 1-4. The theme for this year will be “The Fruit of the Spirit”: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. The theme will provide a multitude of ideas for counselors, arts and crafts staff, activity directors, and Christian living teachers. A big thank-you goes to the parents and volunteers who sacrifice time and finances to be part of a great service to God’s youth.



The following is a list of activities to look forward to at Northwest Preteen Camp:

- Swimming
- River float
- Archery
- Sports classes
- Dance and music
- Campfire
- Arts and crafts class also

## Camp Seven Mountains — Pennsylvania



16, 2017. Swimming, boating, volleyball, and human foosball are just some of the many activities! Our younger campers sleep in dormitory style cabins, complete with hot showers and bathroom facilities. Older campers have an opportunity to sleep out in the woods on Boy Scout platform tents.

Each day starts with breakfast and Christian living classes, followed by morning and afternoon activities. We wind down the day with camp-wide games of dodgeball or capture the flag and then enjoy campfire activities and sing alongs.

One of the more special aspects of our camp is that we enthusiastically welcome parents and grandparents, as well as younger and older siblings. Kids aged 0-3 have their own morning minicamp. Older siblings can apply as staff,



Come join us in central Pennsylvania at the Seven Mountains preteen camp hosted Sunday, Aug. 13, to Wednesday, Aug.

### Details

**Dates:** August 1-4

**Coordinator:** John Cafourek

**E-mail:** john\_cafourek@ucg.org

**Application Deadline:** May 1

provides a service project for the shut-ins and special creations to take home.

Campers and staff come from all parts of the northwest, plus visitors from other states and even other countries. If you would like to join us this year, please check out the UYC website and be sure to complete the online application by May 1, 2017.

*John & Sandy Cafourek*

### Details

**Dates:** August 13-16

**Coordinators:** Rachel Massie & Lindsey Massie

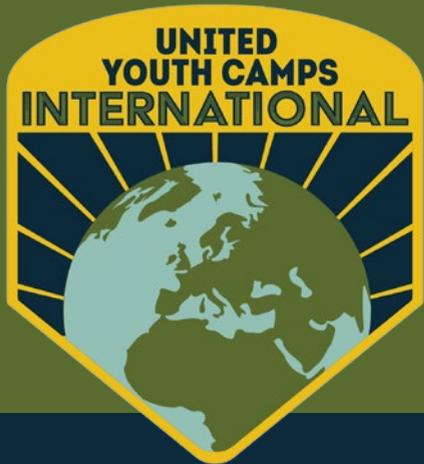
**E-mail:** rachelmassie@gmail.com

**Phone:** (610) 683-6621

**Application Deadline:** May 1

and parents and grandparents can fellowship and/or volunteer around camp. Be sure to bring your own tent to enjoy our full family approach. You can also bring your own Wi-Fi hotspot and work in a beautiful setting. Children age 6 and under must have an adult present at camp.

*Rachel Massie  
& Lindsay Massie*



## Camp San Gil, Colombia

### Details

**Dates:** June 22-27

**Camper age range:** 12-18

**Staff minimum age:** 18 (high school graduate)

**Camper tuition:** U.S. \$250

**Staff fee:** No charge

**Deadline:** May 15

**E-mail:** [scott\\_hoefker@ucg.org](mailto:scott_hoefker@ucg.org)

**Phone:** (704) 628-6383

Come join us at our UYC summer camp in Colombia! We are returning to Hotel San Gil del Campo, located in San Gil, Santander, Colombia, between Bucaramanga and Bogotá.

The cost of the camp will run U.S. \$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. There is no tuition fee for staff. Partial scholarship for staff airfare may be available.

Adults who are 18 or older and are a high school graduate 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 only.

Last year, we had an attendance of 19 campers from Colombia and Venezuela with a full array of Bible discussions or Christian living classes, song leading training, swimming, *fútbol* (soccer), volleyball, a dance, amazing race, a visit to PANACHI—Parque

Nacional del Chicamocha, Bible skits and plenty of free time to relax and fellowship, including the sought-after mid-afternoon siesta.

We plan to have many of the same activities. Each day will include an interactive compass check. Additional question-and-answer sessions (focusing on biblical and Christian living topics) will also be offered. Along with several fun and challenging activities, extra time for fellowship and relaxation 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 lasts a lifetime.

If you are interested in attending please contact Scott Hoefker.

*Scott Hoefker*

# British Isles Summer Camp

This international youth camp for older children and teens from the United Kingdom, other European nations and further afield, will once again be held at the Peak Centre in Edale, Derbyshire, England (see [www.peakcentre.org.uk/](http://www.peakcentre.org.uk/)). Peak Centre offers self-contained, bunk-bed accommodation for a community of up to 40 or more campers and staff.

Edale, set in a scenic valley surrounded by hills, lies within the Peak District National Park. Manchester International Airport (MAN), around 30 miles from the Peak Centre, has good bus and train connections to the Edale area.

Facilities will allow campers and staff to create an integrated community for all activities, meals and associated housekeeping opportunities. Activities will be arranged both indoors and outdoors, including

some away from the Peak Centre—such as hiking in the hills of the National Park and, possibly, an overnight adult-supervised camping expedition.

While camp's primary target age-range is the teen years, it also welcomes younger campers accompanied by a parent or older sibling. The older teens will be offered responsibilities for which they will interact with both adult staff and younger campers.

Our theme for camp will be "The Game of Life." Camp will challenge campers to understand the theme, to know their team and their opponent, and to understand which rules are crucial to win the game of life. Together, we will explore and experience what the Bible tells us about this game of life and what we can do to make it to the end. All of this will be accompanied by the

# Mexico Youth Camp

The last week of July 2016, surrounded by the quiet town of Ixmiquilpan, young people enjoyed an unforgettable camp. They will do it again this year.

Every year the Mexican United Youth Camp has a different theme to make it a solid and enriching experience. Everyone between the ages 12 and 23 gets along talking about each theme. For instance, last year the themes were "Wise Entertainment," "Types of Love," "Passion and Motivation" and "Wisdom of Proverbs." These specific topics were related to our overall general theme "Wise and Learned" (Matthew 11:25, New International Version). We point to the topics through games, conversations and artistic activities.

The camp is located two hours from Mexico City, among

mountains and fresh air. At the camp we can play several sports, enjoy the pool, play mini-golf, canopy, and also talk with the next generation of the Church. Friday nights we have interesting Q&A sessions. It's obvious the campers are thirsty to learn more of the Bible.

Those who have come (staff and campers) strengthen their relationships here since we spend so much time together overcoming limitations and proving that living God's way is the best way we can choose.

In the last few years we had some international visitors. We encourage anyone interested to get in contact with us soon if you are considering make an unforgettable stop in Mexico.

*Gabriel García*

## Details

**Dates:** July 28-Aug. 6

**Staff minimum age:** previous campers 18 years; others 21 years

**Camper Tuition:** £125

**Coordinator:** David Fenney

**E-mail:** [david\\_fenney@ucg.org](mailto:david_fenney@ucg.org)

**Application Deadline:** June 30

fellowship opportunities available within a community of like-minded campers and staff.

To allow us to develop a suitable program, will both campers and staff please apply as soon as possible, to give us time to match activities to the age-range of the campers.

*David Fenney*

## Details

**Dates:** TBA

**Coordinator:** Gabriel García

**E-mail:** [gabriel\\_garcia@ucg.org](mailto:gabriel_garcia@ucg.org)

**Staff minimum age:** 21

**Camper tuition:** Flight tickets

**Staff fee:** Flight tickets

**Application Deadline:** May 1



# UYC

United Youth Magazine

United Church of God

P.O. Box 541027

Cincinnati, OH 45254-1027

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## Compass Check

*Compass Check* magazine is mailed each quarter to all teens who live in the U.S., ages 12-19. If you are not receiving *Compass Check* and live in the U.S., please request your free subscription by e-mailing [compasscheck@ucg.org](mailto:compasscheck@ucg.org) and include your name, address, birth date and the name of the United congregation you attend. If you do not live in the U.S. you can read all *Compass Check* issues online at [ucg.org/members/compass-check](http://ucg.org/members/compass-check). This magazine is written specifically for you as a teen and it is our hope that *Compass Check* will be encouraging and instructive for you.

## 2017 Theme: Building Your Relationship with God

### 2017 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 *Beyond Today* label.
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### Teen Camp Program Dates

Camp Cotubic, Ohio ..... June 18-25  
 Camp Pinecrest, Missouri ..... June 23-30  
 Camp Hye Sierra, California ..... July 2-9  
 Camp Woodmen, Alabama ..... July 23-30  
 Northwest Camp, Oregon ..... July 23-30  
 Winter Camp, Wisconsin ..... Late Dec.

### Pre-Teen Camp Dates

Camp Nacome, Tennessee ..... May 28-31  
 Camp Piney Woods, Texas ..... July 9-12  
 Camp Colorado, Colorado ..... July 16-19  
 Camp Ironwood, Minnesota ..... July 16-19  
 Camp Buckeye, Ohio ..... July 30-Aug. 2  
 Northwest Preteen Camp, Oregon ..... Aug. 1-4  
 Camp Seven Mountains, Pennsylvania ..... Aug. 13-16

### International Camp Dates

Camp San Gil, Colombia ..... June 22-27  
 British Isles Summer Camp, England ..... July 23-30  
 Mexico Youth Camp, Mexico ..... TBA

Published by the United Church of God, an International Association, 555 Techne Center Drive, Milford, OH 45150.

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Illustrations: Matthew Hernandez; Camp Website: Tom Disher; Mitch Moss. Our thanks to the dozens of photographers who supplied photos for this publication!

United Church of God Council of Elders: Scott Ashley, Bill Bradford, Aaron Dean, Jorge de Campos, Bob Dick, John Elliott, Mark Mickelson, Mario Seiglie, Rex Sexton, Donald Ward, Anthony Wasilkoff, Robin Webber

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