

UYC 2023

RACE TO YOUR CROWN



TABLE OF CONTENTS

President’s Letter.....	3
Applying for Camp.....	4
Your Imperishable Crown	5
Race to Your Crown	6
Accidents Happen/Scholarships.....	8
What to Bring/What Not to Bring.....	9
Pre-teen Camp Descriptions and Details	10
Teen Camp Descriptions and Details.....	17
Boundary Waters Adventure for Young Adults.....	23
2023 Camp Dates.....	24



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!

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Stories and movies have been made about people wandering lost in a desert. They are thirsty, hungry and tired, praying for an oasis where they can be refreshed and feel safe and secure.

Perhaps you, as a teen or young adult, have felt that way when you are out in the world, at school, college or at work. You know what is right and wrong because you know God's way and you know what the way of the world leads to. You see it all around you. Your classmates, coworkers, and society are grappling for answers, trying to find happiness, peace and contentment.

But the "answers" that they come up with, such as "woke" ideology, sexual ideas that are foreign to your mind and nature and a breaking down of all you've been taught, are not the way to what they are looking for.

They are looking for that "oasis" in life, but they are looking in all the wrong places and you are having to watch and see the futility of lives headed in the wrong direction.

United Youth Camps provide a unique, refreshing and renewing opportunity for you to be away from this world and its ideas and be with people of like mind. You will be with young people and adult staff members and ministers who are like you, who believe what you believe and who have been taught the way to a happy, productive and abundant life.

God, the Bible and His way of life will be at the center of your camp experience and you will see and experience first-hand how bright, vibrant and fun life and activities can be. We hope that what you experience here will show you that God's way is the way to the joy, peace, harmony and satisfaction—the oasis in life that

everyone wants. The world just does not have the blessing and advantage of knowing God's way the way that you do.

"Let them praise the LORD for his great love and for the wonderful things he has done for them.

"For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things" (Psalm 107:8-9, New Living Translation).

"The fear of the LORD leads to life, and he who has it will abide in satisfaction; he will not be visited with evil" (Proverbs 19:23).

Having been a pastor for years, I have heard numerous young people come back from camp, saying what a wonderful time they had. At camp, the activities, fun, time spent together and daily life are all better.

Camp is a great opportunity to meet new friends that will last a lifetime while you learn God's way—a way that will last and lead to joy and happiness for eternity.

This year's camp theme, "Race to Your Crown," will help you understand better your calling and provide you with the biblical tools and directions on how to live a full life now and forever.

There will be plenty to learn, discuss and do in the 2023 UYC program. And it will be a welcome "oasis" for you from the misguided direction of the world. It will renew your faith in God's way and give you the energy and desire to follow Him.

May God be with you all!



Rick Shabi

APPLYING FOR CAMP

Whether you plan to attend as a camper or as staff, being part of camp can be the highlight of the year! With some planning ahead of time and filling out your application completely and in a timely manner, you can make the process easier and seamless for everyone. Here are a few things to think about as you plan.

1. Plan early! Decide which camp or camps you want to attend. Please do not apply for two camps if they are at the same time, either as a camper or staff.

2. Earn and save for camp. Thanks to generous support from the United Church of God, tuition for UYC programs is very low when compared to similar summer camps. Still, there is a tuition fee and often families find they need to save ahead of time in anticipation of camp.

Many campers find that they appreciate the camp experience more if they work during the year

and save as much as they can for tuition. If you are planning to be a camper this year, talk to your parents about possible ways to earn some of the tuition. You might be surprised at the possibilities!

3. Apply online. The UYC webpage for camp applications will be open by March 1. You will need some basic information such as your address, phone numbers, medical insurance coverage and medication or allergy needs.

4. Read the acceptance letter carefully! When you are accepted to camp, you will receive an acceptance packet so please take time for you and your parents to review the letter. The acceptance packet will include a transportation form that needs to be filled out and sent to the camp director as soon as you know your travel plans.

5. Get prepared physically. The camp schedule is full of activities

and therefore may be more physically demanding than a normal summer routine. The activities are very enjoyable and rewarding when campers fully participate in everything. Why not keep active in the weeks before camp? More information should be included in your acceptance letter so you can begin preparing.

6. Get prepared spiritually. During the weeks before camp, spend extra time praying about camp and what you will learn from being a part of it. This would also be a good time to review some of the Teen Bible Study Guides posted at: ucg.org/bible-study-tools/teen-bible-study-guides. These guides on Christian living are all helpful to review and think about before attending camp.

Plan now to have your best and most rewarding year of camp ever!

Rex Sexton

Apply online at: ucg.org/online-registration

If you'd like to make a donation to help support UYC, you can use the form below or donate online at: donate.ucg.org

2023 UYC Fund (GENERAL)

- 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.
- 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.
- Attach postage to enclosed envelope and mail to: *United Youth Camps Fund, P.O. Box 541027, Cincinnati, OH 45254-1027*

Your PIN: U _____

Donation Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Name

Address

City

State/Province

Zip code



UYC 2023

YOUR IMPERISHABLE CROWN

Anyone who has ever competed in a long-distance race or set a long-term personal achievement goal knows it takes education, training, discipline and endurance to finish. Much has to be evaluated before beginning and sacrifices have to be made along the way.

God is calling you to join in a race in which every finisher will receive an imperishable crown. The overall Christian living theme for camp this year is “Race to Your Crown.” The daily Christian living themes will expand on this overall theme to provide vision and instruction on how to be victorious.

“Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown” (1 Corinthians 9:24-25). Imperishable means incorruptible, not capable of corruption, wear, deterioration or wasting.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,” (1 Peter 1:3-4). Later in his letter Peter calls it the, “crown of glory that does not fade away” (1 Peter 5:4).

To finish the race, we must train to be victorious, which requires discipline of the heart, soul and mind. We have to know the goal and be certain of the path to follow. “Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified” (1 Corinthians 9:26-27).

Everyone serving in the United Youth Camps program recognizes the challenging times our young people are facing. We want to do our part to support the parents

and encourage the youth to “press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14).

In his letter to Timothy, Paul wrote, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.” (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

This year the decision was made to more tightly integrate the pre-teen, teen and young adult camp programs together. We want to build upon the foundation that has been laid and enhance the camp experience for our young people as they progress from age five all the way into their young adult years, so that one day we all receive our imperishable crown!



Len Martin,
UYC National Coordinator

RACE TO YOUR CROWN!

Taking the First Steps

From the time that our children are little we struggle to keep them in shoes. They grow so quickly! When they are babies, we give them socks and little booties, yet almost overnight they become toddlers, and we are looking for shoes to fit them. From then on it becomes a race to keep up with their growth. We celebrate when they begin crawling, and we can't wait to see their first steps, but before we know it, they are running.

This year's camp theme is "Race to Your Crown," and the victory of God's Kingdom is what we all want for the youth of our Church. Before they can run though, they have to learn to walk. Moses wrote to the children of Israel, "You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you" (Deuteronomy 5:33). Our preteen camps are a wonderful way for us to help our children begin their journey. They will meet other kids who they will establish lifelong friendships with. They will learn those early lessons of walking with God, and they will have fun doing it. In the Preteen Camp program, we want to help your camper start the journey and go from crawling, to walking, and then running with endurance the race that God has set before them.

David Jones

The Race

On your marks . . . get set . . . "BANG!"

The crowd surges forward, bottlenecked as they begin to move like a large herd across the starting line. The anxiousness and excitement of the start combine to propel you forward as the crowd begins to break up and you put some distance between yourself and the other racers.

The race is only just beginning, and the finish line might be 5K, 10K, 13.1 or 26.2 miles away. Over that distance, you will face various challenges and the toll of those miles all for the prize that is reserved for the end of that race.

You can't undergo a race such as this without preparation. The majority of people can't just hop off the couch and hit the starting line. You have to put in the work. Your muscles have to become stronger, your lungs have to be trained to breathe more efficiently and your mind has to be strengthened to confront and conquer the challenges that you will face.

When we consider the spiritual race to which we have been called and the crown of eternal life which our great God has reserved for those who finish the race, similar training is necessary. That training is done over a lifetime.

We grow our spiritual muscles through repetitive practice

and training in God's word. As we daily study God's word, little by little, we ensure that we're building that spiritual muscle memory and strengthening ourselves for the miles to come.

As we increase our cardiovascular fitness, we build endurance. As we persevere over the challenges that come from increased muscle exertion, we increase the ability of our body to maintain longer periods of exertion. It is this spiritual endurance that makes us capable of completing the race and receiving our crown.

Much of this depends upon our mental fortitude.

We can hone our muscles and train our cardiovascular fitness for endurance, but if we cannot face the challenges which will come our way, we will stumble, and struggle to finish. As we consider this spiritually, it's incredibly important to trust in God and be strong in our faith to be able to confront the challenges we will face.

This race that we've been called to run isn't easy. But the crown which is laid up for us, the promise from God of eternal life, is more than worth it. Put in the work and run your race with confidence.

Ben Light

Teamwork

Of all the races that comprise a track meet, the most popular, and often the most interesting, are the relay races. To succeed at running a relay, the members of the team not only combine their abilities, but they must also coordinate their efforts to attain the best result. Each individual runs what could be called a separate race, but the result of his or her efforts is just one part of the whole.

Likewise, the successful operation of camp combines the abilities and talents of various people who must coordinate their efforts to attain good results. That is true in many ways for a dorm of campers, and it is especially true for the camp staff. Each person on the staff has a somewhat individual service that requires diligent personal effort, but the ultimate result of camp comes from all of those separate efforts combined—and God makes that possible through His participation.

If you have served on staff at camp, you already understand this idea. If you are a young adult who has not yet served—you should! Helping at camp is one of the best ways to serve God though serving His people. It is also a great deal of

fun! The collaboration that occurs during a camp session builds friendships as people share wonderful experiences with others who have a common goal. In many cases, these friendships last for many years!

As a runner must train to prepare for a race, camp staff need to develop their physical conditioning for a strenuous session. There is also mental preparation in learning what to expect. More than that, the spiritual preparation of prayer, study and otherwise getting closer to God is essential.

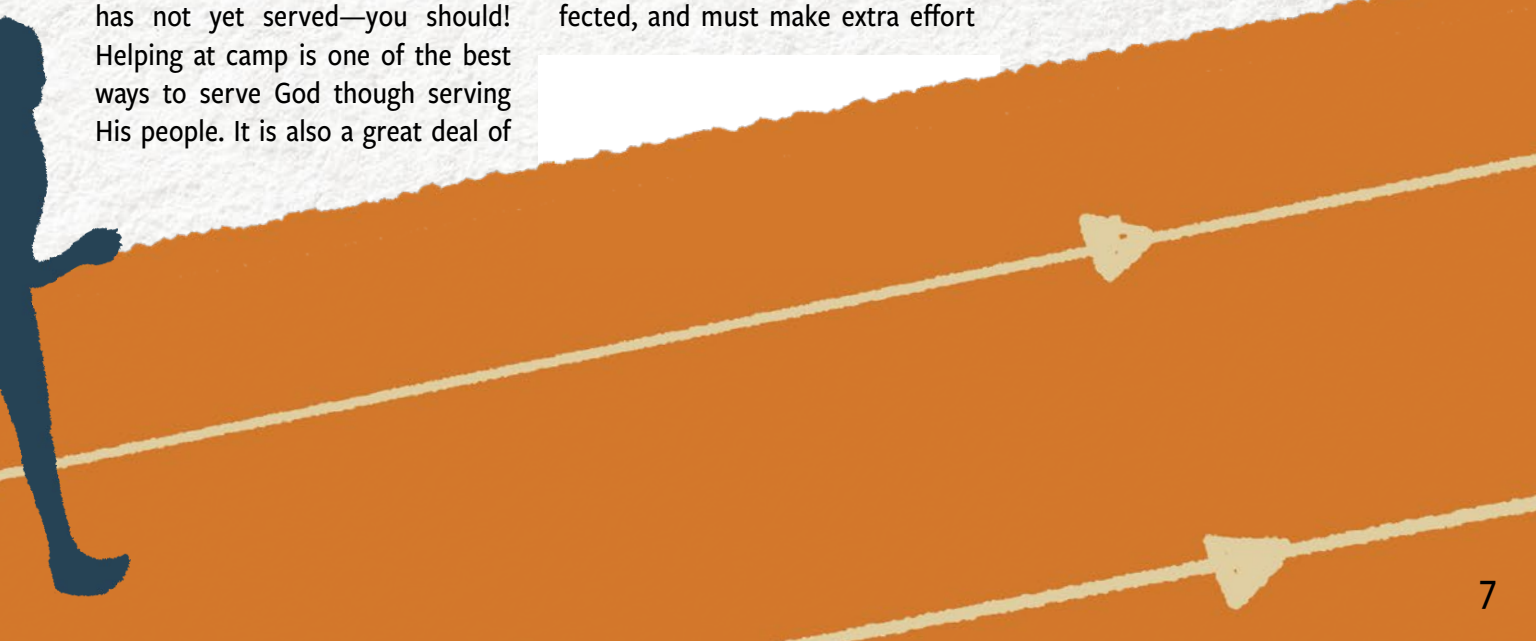
Additionally, as a relay team must practice hand-offs and transitions, camp staff must prepare to work as a team. The Camp Director leads the overall effort and sets the tone. Then, counselors and activity leaders coordinate specific groups that work together throughout the camp session. Each individual member of the team is important.

Imagine what happens when a runner in a relay race stumbles or drops the baton. All the team is affected, and must make extra effort

to recover. That type of thing sometimes occurs at camp. People make mistakes, have misunderstandings, fall ill and so on—but the team comes together to recover. Being part of the team at camp can be wonderfully encouraging and inspiring. And that is aside from the positive effect it has on the campers!

Young adults who are already sold on the camp staff experience, may also want to consider participating in a Challenger program, designed just for them. This summer approximately fourteen young adults will have the opportunity to experience an adventure in Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Teamwork and cooperation are keys to success, and to building and strengthening friendships. The wild and beautiful scenery is breathtaking. There is nothing quite like it, so check out the Boundary Waters page in this magazine, and consider joining the adventure.

Frank Dunkle



ACCIDENTS HAPPEN

Even when you think you've done all you can to avoid them, accidents can 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 online in early June for the 2023 policy and claim form. 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. This information can also be found at uyc.ucg.org/camp-accident-insurance.

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.
- Must file notice of the incident 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.

Need Some Help?

Scholarships are often available for campers who need help with camp tuition. Ask your pastor about applying for a UYC scholarship. Scholarships are usually for 50 percent of the camp tuition but may be more.

WHAT TO BRING

- Positive attitude
- Sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Backpack or suitcase
- Clothes for the week
- Sneakers (hiking boots for some camps)
- Toiletries and sunscreen
- Appropriate swimsuit and water shoes
- Towels and washcloths
- Water bottle
- Camera
- Bible and notebook
- Appropriate-length hair of a natural color
- Sabbath attire
- Daypack
- Necessary sports equipment (e.g. baseball glove, knee pads, swim goggles). Necessary equipment may vary depending on the camp's needs. Look in your acceptance packet or contact the camp director for specifics.

WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Expensive jewelry, including valuable watches or large amounts of cash
- Rollerblades, skateboards or scooters
- Alcohol, tobacco products, vaping, marijuana (including any of its products, CBDs or for any claimed medical treatment) or illegal drugs. (Prescription drugs must be turned in at registration to the camp medical team)
- Tight, revealing or inappropriate clothing, short shorts, clothing that shows underwear, leggings/tights/yoga pants (unless worn under appropriate clothing), bare mid-riffs, crop-tops, halter-tops, backless tops, strapless tops or plunging necklines. Dresses and skirts should be approximately knee length or longer
- Swimwear must be modest one-piece or tankini for ladies; standard trunk or board short for guys. Tankinis are permitted for ladies provided they meet the following guidelines: reasonable boy cut shorts or standard bottoms, no French-cut or bikini bottoms, full coverage tops and no exposed waist area or cleavage
- Electronics. Cell phones, smartwatches and electronics must be turned in at registration and returned at check-out. Cell phone usage for calling home during camp is at the individual camp director's discretion
- Cards or games
- Inappropriate wording or messages on clothing or camp gear
- All jewelry must be removed during daily activities. Details will be in your camp acceptance letter
- Snacks. No "care packages" of snacks or sweets mailed to campers or staff
- Matches, lighters, fireworks, firearms, pocketknives or similar items (unless written permission is given by the camp director)

**Location:**

Camp Luz
152 Kidron Rd
Orrville, OH 44667

Details:

Campers: ages 6-12 (\$150,
\$125 for each additional child)
Teen staff: ages 13-19 (\$75)
Adult staff: ages 20+ (\$50)

Payment:

Payable to: United Camp Buckeye
Send to: Len Martin
PO Box 337
Delaware, OH 43015

Contact:

len_martin@ucg.org
(614) 588-2637

July 30-August 2, 2023

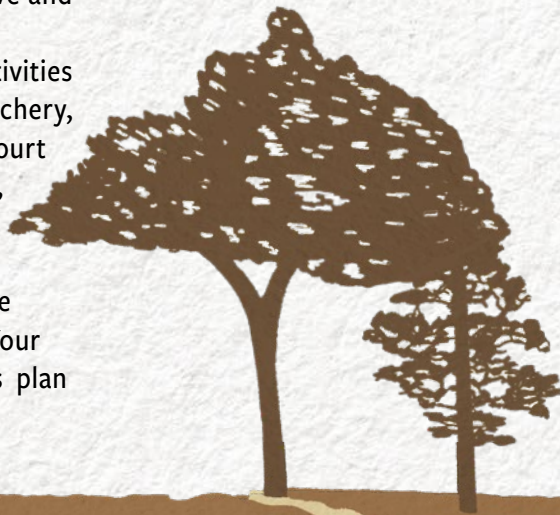
Camp Buckeye will once again begin on the last Sunday in July at the Camp Luz facility in Orrville, Ohio. Our goal at Camp Buckeye is to provide children ages 6-12 with an environment that focuses on living God's way. We strive to make a positive difference in their lives and encourage them to value time together with other children who are also striving to live God's way of life, so camper dorms are arranged by age. This helps the children to develop physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually, while they live, eat, serve and play together.

We have a variety of activities such as Christian living, archery, arts and crafts, canoeing, court games, fishing, field games, swimming and more. The daily Christian living lessons will center around the overall theme of "Race to Your Crown" and illustrate God's plan

for their lives in three easy-to-remember steps, "Ready, Set, Go!"

We are always looking for volunteer staff who have patience and a strong desire to provide the safe atmosphere that we call "the Zone," which is critically important to the success of the program. Additional information will be posted at ucg.org. We tend to fill up every year, so the sooner you apply, the better your chances of being accepted!

Len Martin



Application deadline: June 1, 2023



Location:

Highlands Presbyterian Camp
1306 Business Hwy 7
Allenspark, CO 80510

Details:

Campers: ages 5-12 (\$150, each additional \$100), under 5 (\$75)
Teen staff: ages 13-19 (\$75)
Adult staff: ages 20+ (\$50)

Payment:

Send to: David Jones
157 Camino Real
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Contact:

david_jones@ucg.org
(605) 592-6165

**June 18-June 21, 2023**

We invite campers (ages 5-13) to come join us for an amazing preteen camp experience in the gorgeous Rocky Mountains of Colorado! Preteen Camp Colorado is located at Highlands Presbyterian Camp and Retreat Center in Allenspark, Colorado. Our camp is located 16 miles south of beautiful Estes Park and near the Rocky Mountain National Park with unbelievable scenery and vistas! Our days are warm, our evenings are cool and the mountains are spectacular.

Preteen Camp Colorado is designed to help encourage, strengthen and build lasting relationships with our campers while pointing them always towards their growing relationship with God as future sons and daughters of His coming Kingdom. Each day's activities will center around challenging our campers physically, as they learn to grow spiritually through overcoming obstacles. Activities will include: Christian living, nature hiking, shimmying through rock crevices, outdoor sports, outdoor olympics, archery,

canoeing/kayaking/paddle boarding, arts and crafts, campfire, sing-alongs and a youth choir (featuring our campers and our teen staff).

Each day will begin with Christian living class, in which campers will have opportunities to learn principles for how to grow and strengthen their relationship with God. The camp theme will be woven into every activity throughout the day, and campers will see God's way in action as the staff works to support them in all that they do. At Camp Colorado, we try to show our campers each day that God's way works and is a blessing! Come learn godly lessons and build friendships that will last throughout your lifetime.

We hope to see you this year at Camp Colorado. We are a family camp that thrives on the whole family being a part of our success. We welcome parents and teens to attend with us this year and serve on our staff. We would love to have you join us at Camp Colorado in 2023!

David Jones



Application deadline: May 1, 2023 (\$20 late fee after May 1)



Location:

Florida Elks Youth Camp
24175 SE Hwy 450
Umatilla, FL 32784

Details:

Campers: ages 5-12 (\$175)
Teen staff: ages 16-19 (\$100)
Adult staff: ages 20+ (\$50)

Payment:

Payable to: United Camp Florida
Send to: Bert Merring
610 Rob Roy Dr.
Clermont, FL 34711
Venmo: @campflorida
Zelle: gunnerfan78@gmail.com

Contact:

bertricia@gmail.com
(321) 947-9103

May 29-June 2, 2023

Camp Florida starts Monday May 29, at the breathtaking Florida Elks Youth Camp in Umatilla, Florida. Within a short drive from Orlando and attractions, this camp is built for fun on 410 beautiful acres.

Our goal is to provide an environment in which each camper will grow and strengthen their relationship with God and each other. This year we will focus on teaching God’s way of life and guiding campers in their race to their crown.

Camp Florida will provide a variety of activities including daily Christian living, archery, arts and crafts, campus improvement, campfire, canoeing, field games, swimming and high ropes course for campers 9 years and older.

Dorms are arranged by age. Campers should be ages 5-12 (as of May 29). To attend, campers must have successfully slept away from parents/guardians for the length of camp and be able to shower without assistance.

We are always looking for volunteer staff who have patience and a strong desire to provide the safe atmosphere that we call “the Zone,” which is critically important to the success of the program. Teen staff as young as 16 are welcome without a parent or guardian accompanying them.

Additional information will be posted at uyc.ucg.org. The sooner you apply, the better! Come join us and make memories that will last a lifetime!

Bert & Tricia Merring



Application deadline: May 1, 2023

Location:

Camp Gilmont
6075 State Hwy 155
Gilmer, TX 75644

Details:

Campers: ages 5-12 (\$175, \$150 each for 3+ kids from the same family)
Teen staff: ages 13-18 (\$90)
Adult staff: ages 19+ (no fee)

Payment:

Payable to: United Camp Texas
Send to: Jim Moody
United Camp Gilmont
PO Box 1111
Hawkins, TX 75765
Venmo: contact director for info

Contact:

jim_moody@ucg.org
(903) 681-1437

**June 4-June 7, 2023**

Photos from Camp Gilmont website



We welcome all preteen campers (ages 5-12) to the East Texas Piney Woods, where Camp Gilmont will host this year's South Central Region UCG preteen camp. Prepare to experience a tremendous four-day camp experience where you will learn about our awesome God, make new friends and have fun in a caring and positive environment. Camp Gilmont's 400+ acres of lush forest, hills and lakes are located several miles northeast of Gilmer, Texas. Camp will run from Sunday, June 4-Wednesday, June 7, 2023.

Each day at Camp Gilmont will include a variety of outdoor and indoor activities beginning with Christian living classes to reinforce the fact that God's way of life works. Other activities include swimming in the pool, fishing and various

sports including basketball, kickball, hiking, mini-golf, gaga ball and more. Camp will also include crafts, team building and disc golf!

We are looking for dedicated and patient teens and adults to serve in all areas of camp, including counselors, activity coordinators and staff. The deadline for everyone who is interested (from young to not-as-young) to apply online is April 30, 2023.

If you have any questions, e-mail jim_moody@ucg.org or visit <http://ucg.org/camp/camp-Gilmont>. Applications will be available online this spring.

Camp Gilmont offers an exciting new camp experience with warm Texas hospitality. We hope you'll join us!

Jim Moody

Application deadline: April 30, 2023



Location:

Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch
7291 County Road 6 SW
Stewartville, MN 55976

Details:

Campers: ages 5-13 (\$185), 2-5 (\$75)
Teen staff: ages 14-19 (\$125)
Adult staff: ages 20+ (\$55)
Family discount: \$600 max

Payment:

Payable to: UCG SE MN - Preteen
Camp Ironwood
Send to: David Schreiber
22909 Bluegrass Road
Albert Lea, MN 56007

Contact:

david_schreiber@ucg.org
(507) 377-8151

July 9-July 12, 2023

Preteen Camp Ironwood in southeast Minnesota warmly welcomes campers (ages 5-13) to experience four days and three nights of fun-filled activities in a positive, loving and godly environment. Camp Ironwood takes place in the spectacular outdoor setting of Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch near Stewartville, Minnesota.

Camp activities are designed to enrich children both spiritually and physically in a nurturing and caring camp atmosphere. Activities include daily Christian living and music classes as well as a zipline, swimming, horseback riding, arts and crafts, team challenges, creek walk, field games, sling shot and much more. Favorite evening activities include a carnival, novelty Olympics, treasure hunt and dancing with Jelly. It's a busy four days, full of family memories to take home and remember for years to come.

Preteen Camp Ironwood has a tradition of being a "family camp"

in which dad, mom, preteens and teens are all able to attend.

Parents who come to serve on staff as counselors or activity coordinators, are able to bring their younger children (ages 3-5) who stay overnight in the lodge with dad and mom and can participate in the day-time mini dorm activities.

Teens, who are ages 14-19, are very much appreciated and needed to serve on staff as assistant counselors and activity staff as well as big brothers and big sisters to the campers. Teens enjoy special evening fellowship time with each other, once campers are back in their dorms.

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

We look forward to seeing you this summer at Camp Ironwood!

David and Jolinda Schreiber



Application deadline: May 1, 2023 (save \$20), final deadline June 1

Location:

Ochoco Christian
Conference Center
33051 NE Ochoco Hwy
Prineville, OR 97754

Details:

Campers: ages 6-12 (\$225)
Staff: no fee

Payment:

Payable to: United Church of God,
NW Preteen Camp
Send to: Jeff Richards
60116 Navajo Rd.
Bend, OR 97702

Contact:

jeff_richards@ucg.org
(541) 322-0263

**July 9-July 12, 2023**

Camp Ochoco will once again be at our new facility nestled in the Ochoco National Forest in Central Oregon, 25 miles east of Prineville. The 2023 theme for our campers (ages 6-12) will be “Race to Your Crown.”

Our activities and interactions will focus on the wonderful future that awaits each of God’s children and what we must be doing now to be a part of that future.

The Camp Ochoco facility has many great opportunities for fun activities. There is a pool, gymnasium and two sports fields. We also have a great dance studio, gaga ball pit, along with our wonderfully equipped arts and crafts room and archery range.

We invite you to join us as either a camper or staff and experience the fun and excitement of living God’s way for three days and nights. Please apply early to ensure you reserve your spot. The deadline to apply will be May 1, 2023. Please check ucg.org for updates.

Jeff Richards



Application deadline: May 1, 2023



Location:

Camp Seven Mountains
Scout Camp
227 Sand Mountain Rd
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Details:

Campers: ages 4-12 (\$50), ages 3 and under (no fee)
Staff: ages 13+ (\$50)

Payment:

Payable to: UCG Lewistown
Send to: Rachel Massie
528 North Kemp Street
Kutztown, PA 19530
Venmo: @Rachel-Massie-10

Contact:

rachlmassie@gmail.com
(484) 350-4501

July 30-August 2, 2023

Bring the whole family to experience the beauty of Camp Seven Mountains and the benefits of building like-minded friendships! Campers will enjoy human foosball, capture the flag, swimming, kayaking, volleyball, gaga ball, archery and more!

The age range for dorm campers is 4-12. Campers sleep in dormitories, complete with showers and bathrooms. The oldest campers will enjoy outdoor platform tent camping. We have activities for small campers in the mornings (ages 0-3). Parents are welcome to bring their own tent to stay on the grounds or they may find their own accommodations elsewhere.

However, children must be age 7 or older to be left at camp without a guardian.

We offer a flat rate of \$50 per person attending camp (campers, staff and guardians). Children three years old and under are free. All who attend camp must fill out an application, even if you are not volunteering. Just check, "parent/guardian" as your job preference. Early registration is encouraged to accommodate as many campers and staff as we can. This camp has been filling up quickly, and late applications may not be accepted so please plan accordingly. We look forward to seeing you!

Rachel Massie



Application deadline: June 1, 2023



Location:

Camp Cotubic
2158 County Road 25 N
Bellefontaine, OH 43311

Details:

Campers: ages 12-18 (\$325,
\$345 after May 1)
Staff: no fee

Payment:

Payable to: UYC - Camp Cotubic
Send to: Joshua Creech
8406 Bravestone Way
Indianapolis, IN 46239
Venmo: @UYC-Camp-Cotubic
Zelle: joshua.creech84@gmail.com

Contact:

joshua_creech@ucg.org
(513) 720-1381

**June 18-June 25, 2023**

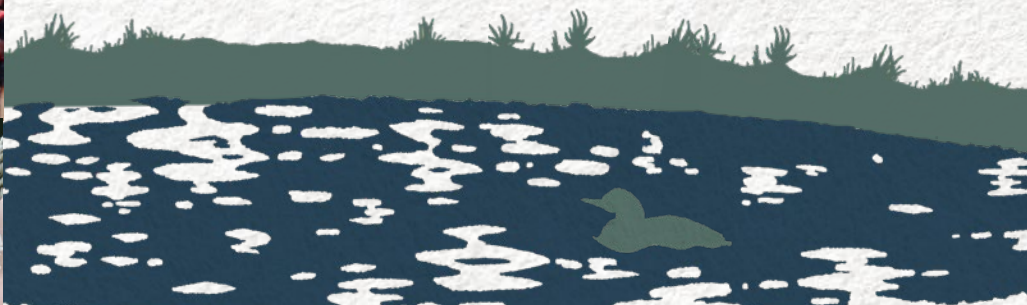
Camp Cotubic is located on 150 serene acres of fields and trees and includes a beautiful 14-acre lake for exciting water activities. It is located near Bellefontaine, Ohio, approximately 60 miles northwest of Columbus and about 60 miles northeast of Dayton.

Dorms are formed by age range, giving campers the opportunity to build positive and lasting relationships with other teens their age who are also looking to follow God in their lives. Each unit will have two counselors that serve to guide the dorm in a positive direction, helping the campers develop meaningful relationships inside and outside of the dorm. Counselors promote fun and teamwork while maintaining the priority of helping campers build 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.

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 if flights are scheduled within the suggested time frames.

Joshua Creech



Application deadline: May 1, 2023



Location:

Camp Magruder
17450 Old Pacific Hwy
Rockaway Beach, OR 97136

Details:

Campers: ages 12-19 (\$425)
Staff: no fee (high school graduates, ages 18+)

Payment:

Payable to: United Camp Fund - Northwest Camp
Send to: Ben Light
P.O. Box 2806
Clackamas, OR 97015

Contact:

ben_light@ucg.org
(503) 949-2504

July 23-July 30, 2023

It's hard to imagine a more perfect or beautiful place for a summer camp than Camp Magruder on the scenic Oregon Coast! Campers enjoy a clean, nearly private mile-long lake as the eastern border of camp, and over a half-mile of pristine 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. The sandy beach is a great location for memorable campfires as the sun sets over the ocean.

Campers and staff enjoy a variety of activities offered. Everyone enjoys the beach activities: volleyball, speedway (one boundary of the field is the ocean), skim-boarding and riding boogie boards in the waves.

Other activities include swimming, water-skiing, kayaking on Smith Lake, archery, dance class and softball. We will also have two dances during camp. The dance instruc-

tion classes have been a huge success over the years. Most of the campers know the line and group dances plus the traditional swings and waltzes.

Christian living lessons and memory verses are the core of each day. Each activity, lesson and campfire story is designed to help campers understand the principles and how to apply them when they return home. This year, the focus of our theme is to teach about the importance of the race teens are running and the prize of the crown God wants to provide them.

Every year campers build friendships that will last a lifetime. Living in a world where evil and negative influences are everywhere, friendships with teens of like mind are vitally important. Our goal is to establish a godly atmosphere in which campers can be enriched for a lifetime.

Ben Light



Application deadline: May 1, 2023

Location:

Pinecrest Camp &
Conference Center
1252 State Hwy C
Fredericktown, MO 63645

Details:

Campers: ages 12-18 (\$340)
Staff: no fee (high school
graduates, ages 18+)

Payment:

Payable to: UYC - Camp Pinecrest
Send to: Mike Phelps
1448 Callaway Ct.
Howell, MI 48843

Contact:

mike_phelps@ucg.org
(513) 256-7628

**July 2-July 9, 2023**

Once again for 2023, we will be returning to Camp Pinecrest in southeast Missouri to build a stronger relationship with God and continue building relationships with one another. Over the many years camp has been held at this location, storied traditions have developed and new ones continue to be created as campers and staff pour their hearts and love for God into our camp week.

Immersed in the environment that Camp Pinecrest provides, campers and staff come together and embrace the fun and fellowship that God wants us to have with Him and one another. As a family, we start every morning together in a Christian living talk before spreading out across the camp for the remainder of our daily activities. An engaging Bible class and Q&A session provides additional time to explore God's word. Dorms are organized "family style" (multi-age) to encourage leadership and provide support for every camper.

Campers participate in a range of activities to challenge them physically and mentally. From outdoor

activities that focus on skill and team building to a variety of indoor activities, there is something for everyone. Activities include archery, Bible class, dance class, riflery, rock climbing/rappelling, softball, speed-away, standup paddleboarding, teambuilding, volleyball and returning for 2023, an all-day river float trip for brother and sister dorms!

One of our most requested additions to camp every year is "more fellowship time." Relationships are an important part of the UYC program and teens value and appreciate the friendships that have developed over the years. At Camp Pinecrest, we provide open gym times for activities such as pickup games, gaga ball, volleyball, basketball or just to spend time with friends.

Camp Pinecrest is located 100 miles south of St. Louis, near Fredericktown, Missouri. Please Note: Due to COVID-19 challenges, we may not provide airport transportation for campers this summer. Please check with the director before finalizing any air travel plans.

Mike Phelps



**Location:**

Camp Wamatochick
5101 South Senator Hwy
Prescott, AZ 86303

Details:

Campers: ages 12-18 (\$350,
\$375 after June 1)
Staff: no fee

Payment:

Payable to: UCG Southwest Camp
Send to: Aaron Creech
PO Box 876
Roseville, CA 95678

Contact:

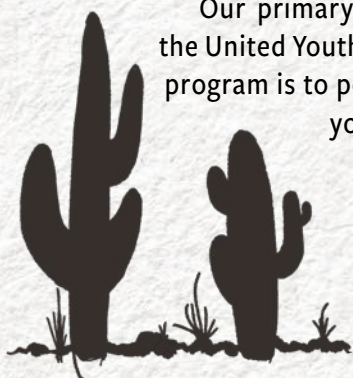
aaron_creech@ucg.org
(513) 374-9392

July 9-July 16, 2023

We will have Southwest Camp at the same location as last year, Camp Wamatochick in Prescott, Arizona. It is a beautiful 80-acre camp nestled in the pine forests in the Prescott National Forest. This will be our Southwest Region camp moving forward. We had a wonderful time here last year and look forward to building on that great time this coming year as well. It is a beautiful location with temperatures in the mid 80's during the day and around 60 at night as we are nearly 6,500 feet in elevation.

We have many onsite activities, such as arts and crafts, field sports, volleyball, mountain biking, bouldering, Bible class, dance class and others. We go off-site to a local lake where we have kayaking and paddle boarding. We also have an offsite kayak river trip that was a highlight of camp last year.

Our primary goal in the United Youth Camps program is to point our youth to their



Creator. We begin each day with Christian Living, which sets the tone for the day. As we carry out the day's activities, we put these principles into practice in ways that are designed to help us live God's way in everything we do. We end the day as a camp family, together at the campfire, where we continue to build relationships, learn biblical principles and have lots of laughs.

The foundation of camp is about building relationships, with God and with one another. Everything we do at camp strives to point back to the importance of those relationships in our life. To bring camp to a close, we conclude with the formal banquet and dance, which brings campers and staff together for a final evening of conversation, laughter and wonderful memories.

Southwest Camp is located about 10 minutes outside of Prescott, Arizona on Senator Highway (approximately two hours from Phoenix). For those flying into PHX, we will arrange free transportation to/from camp.

Aaron Creech



Location:

Woodland Christian Camp & Retreat Center
90 Woodland Camp Road
Temple, GA 30179

Details:

Campers: ages 12-18 (\$345)
Staff: no fee (high school graduates, ages 18+)

Payment:

Send to: Jay Ledbetter
PO Box 18313
Knoxville, TN 37928

Contact:

jay_ledbetter@ucg.org
(469) 452-9501

**July 21-July 28, 2023**

Beautiful Camp Woodland is set on 120 wooded acres, west of Atlanta. The dining hall and wrap around balcony overlooks a beautiful eight-acre lake and makes a great backdrop for evening fellowship.

For 2023 we are adding many more fun and exciting activities while still leaving plenty of time in the schedule to relax and get to know your fellow campers and staff. Activities include swimming in the pool, canoeing, kayaking, paddle boats, basketball, volleyball, archery, traverse wall, speedway, ultimate frisbee, softball, high and low ropes courses with a zip line over the lake, dance classes, two evening dances, campfires and more.

Dorms are formed by age range, giving campers a chance to create lifelong friendships with others of similar age and allowing for more tailored discussion activities based on maturity level.

Each dorm will have two counselors to guide the campers in a positive direction throughout the week. Counselors encourage fun and teamwork with a daily focus on the Christian living theme and the importance of building relationships with the Father and Jesus Christ.

Woodland camp begins on a Friday so we kick off the week with the Sabbath and then a dance in the evening to help break the ice right away.

All campers will be sleeping in twin bunk beds and will need to bring sheets, blankets, pillow and towels.

The Hartsfield-Jackson International airport is nearby in Atlanta, GA. Transportation to and from the airport to Camp Woodland is available.

Come to Woodland and learn more about yourself and your purpose in God's plan!

Jay Ledbetter



Application deadline: June 1, 2023

**Location:**

Lake Geneva Youth Camp
W2655 W South Street
Lake Geneva, WI 53147

Details:

Campers: ages 12-18 (\$360,
\$380 after Dec. 1)
Staff: no fee

Payment:

Payable to: UCG Winter Camp
Send to: Aaron Creech
PO Box 876
Roseville, CA 95678

Contact:

aaron_creech@ucg.org
(513) 374-9392

Dec. 27, 2023-Jan 2, 2024

(Dates are tentative; will be confirmed in next few months).

Winter Camp will take place at the same facility we have used for the past several years. It is a great facility with plenty of opportunities for new activities each year to allow us to experience the Zone in a fun winter environment. The facility offers many great activities for campers, including two indoor climbing walls and a full-size gym for volleyball and basketball. If there is enough snow there will be snowboarding, skiing and tubing. Additional activities include broomball, field sports, dance class, Bible class, two dances, an escape room, an amazing race, arts and crafts and team building activities. The activity schedule will include plenty of time for socializing.

The core of Winter Camp is built on fellowship, fun and friends, with a foundation of Bible classes and Christian living instruction specific for teens. Campers will en-

joy building friendships with one another while having a great time at Winter Camp. We will again go off-site for snowboarding with the oldest campers and we will have a selection of live performances from some campers during our final dance. There is no better way to spend your winter break than at camp with us!

Our facility has great dorms and the food is very good with a fresh salad bar for lunch and dinner. We will also have a s'mores night as well as hot chocolate throughout the week and snacks every evening.

Campers should arrive between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. on December 27. Staff should arrive December 26. Transportation will be provided for campers and staff from the Milwaukee and Chicago O'Hare airports (more details will be provided upon acceptance).

Aaron Creech



Location:

Boundary Waters
Canoe Area
(Crane Lake, Minnesota)

Details:

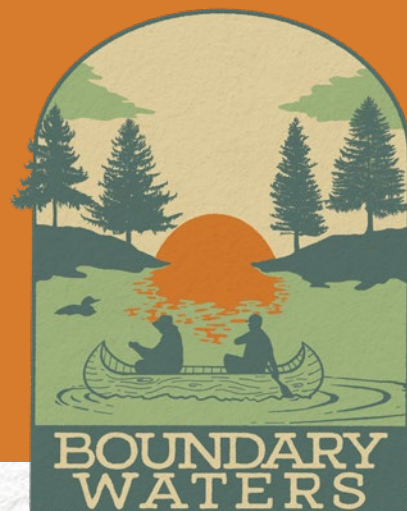
Campers: ages 18-30+ (\$150)

Payment:

Send to: Frank Dunkle
555 Techne Center Drive
Milford, OH 45150

Contact:

frank_dunkle@ucg.org
(740) 648-0041

**July 9-July 16, 2023**

The Boundary Waters Adventure program returns for the summer of 2023, and we look forward to welcoming 14 young adults on a grand adventure. The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Voyageurs National Park are wilderness areas within the Superior National Forest in northeastern Minnesota.

Participants will learn practical outdoor skills, as well as experiencing personal growth and service. The United Church of God needs leaders and pillars who can not only face difficulties with perseverance and courage, but who will also trust and work well with others, and challenge themselves towards growth in leadership and spiritual maturity. This is why BWA is in a wilderness setting.

As a participant you will be learning more about the wonderful God that created you and how to become a better servant leader in the mold of Jesus Christ. This is how you will “make positive ripples” during the BWA and beyond. And it is about bonding with a team of like-minded adventurers during your multi-day canoe trip of a lifetime. Yes, sweaty and bug bitten,

you will build friendships and learn indelible spiritual lessons traveling in a pristine wilderness, BWA style!

Participants will have numerous opportunities to explore where they are in their development spiritually and as leaders. This will involve the following components:

- Daily discussions of leadership skills and attributes, as informed by scripture
- Small group discussions and leadership opportunities – each person will have one opportunity to lead his/her group part of a day
- Exercises designed to explore who a person is, his/her values and how he/she relates to others
- Prepare a sermonette (men) or campfire talk (ladies) discussing some principle or personal experience regarding servant leadership as a Christian.

Psalm 19:1, “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.”

Please contact me if you have any questions—or would simply like to discuss the program. Then “take the challenge” and apply!

Frank Dunkle



Josh Hill/Unsplash

Application deadline: April 17, 2023

UYC

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Pre-Teen Camp Program Dates

Florida	May 29-June 2
Gilmont (Texas)	June 4-7
Colorado	June 18-21
Ironwood (Minnesota)	July 9-12
Ochoco (Oregon)	July 9-12
Buckeye (Ohio)	July 30-Aug. 2
Seven Mountains (Pennsylvania)	July 30-Aug. 2

Teen Camp Program Dates

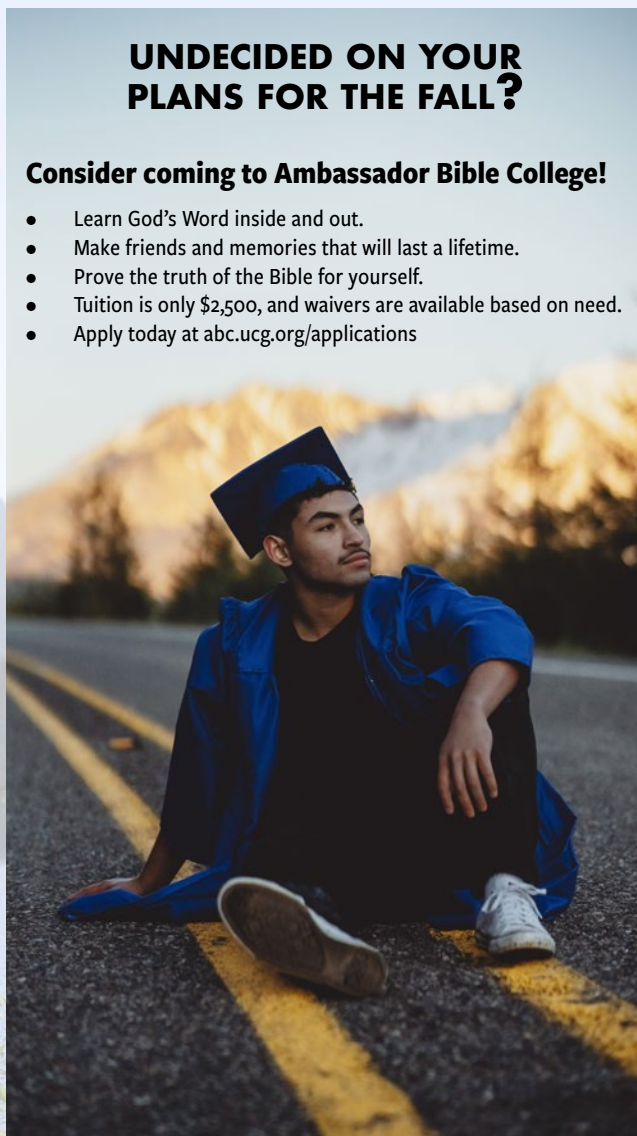
Cotubic (Ohio)	June 18-25
Pinecrest (Missouri)	July 2-9
Southwest (Arizona)	July 9-16
Woodland (Georgia)	July 21-28
Northwest (Oregon)	July 23-30
Winter Camp (Wisconsin)	Dec. 27-Jan. 2
*Boundary Waters Adventure (Minnesota)	July 9-16

**Note: Boundary Waters Adventure is a young adult camp intended for ages 18-30+*

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