Silver Lake is the Outdoor Ministry program of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ.

www.silverlakect.org

2018 SUMMER CAMP

Beyond Belief
THE UNIVERSE OF GOD

www.silverlakect.org

223 Low Road, Sharon, CT 06069 • 860-364-5526 • slcc@ctucc.org

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SUMMER PROGRAM SCHEDULE INSIDE

Summer 2018
COME TO SILVER LAKE
Changing Lives
Since 1957

“Finding my daughter somewhere, for the first time, to grow and spread her wings in a welcoming, safe, and loving place ... Silver Lake was the only answer. And for her, it is now her home away from home, too.”

KATE AYCOLLIE

“Both our sons have had such wonderful things to say about their time at camp. They loved the entire staff from kitchen to waterfront, and especially the Stepping Stones conference deans and staff. Rev. Rhonda Myers and Issac Monts, were so incredibly warm and caring. They focused on racial justice issues and my son wept as he retold me the moving injustices he learned about. Through his tears he said, ‘I am sad but am happy that Silver Lake has a conference where we can learn about this and do better.’ They cannot wait until next time. It was truly a moving experience of growth and faith formation.”

MARISOL & DON

www.silverlakect.org
I am excited you are thinking about joining us this summer at Silver Lake! Our well trained staff of caring young adults is ready to welcome you to the outdoors for a week of fun, faith, friends, and more.

Silver Lake is a place where you can step away from the ordinary and immerse yourself in the splendor of nature. Come surround yourself with a community that loves and supports you just as you are. Explore who you are becoming and how you want to be in the world. You will meet folks from different settings, and your new community will help you learn and grow in new ways, deepen your faith, and even try new adventures you never imagined. That could be leading a song in worship, making something in the pottery class, or kayaking across the lake for the first time. It can also be climbing higher, further, faster than you ever thought possible.

We are blessed to have a brand new Executive Director, Rev. Ryan Gackenheimer. He is ready to welcome you to Silver Lake. He will be chaperoned by Debby Kirk, Isaac Monts and other adult leaders. Churches may also organize a group and travel independently.

Registration opens mid-January at www.eryeucc.org.

For More Information
Contact Debby Kirk, CTUCC Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries debbyk@ctucc.org or 860-781-7203

"Silver Lake is a beautiful spiritual Christian camp that combines people from all religions, races, and ages to make a week seem like a lifetime. I felt loved this week."

"My group made me feel accepted by calling me by my proper name/pronouns and were really sweet."

"I felt especially close to God on the high ropes because I am climbing to God."

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Silver Lake Conference Center Mission Statement
Silver Lake Conference Center, a year round outdoor ministry of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, is called to covenant with God and with the churches and people of the conference in the work of forming life-sustaining leaders for the church and the world, by offering:

- Experiences of inclusive and nurturing Christian community
- Opportunities to grow and participate as Christ’s disciples
- A model of sustainable environmental stewardship of God’s world.

We worship, learn, play, serve, and work together, respecting the right of private judgement. We seek to provide a safe environment of acceptance regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, reflecting our unity in Christ and respecting the faith journeys of all of God’s children.

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**Eastern Regional Youth Event**
**Building a Just World for All**

UCC youth and friends ages 13-18 are invited to the Eastern Regional Youth Event (ERYE). This event will be held at California University of Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, on July 19-22, 2018. Join with teens from Maryland to Maine and experience the diversity of the wider church. ERYE offers young leaders an opportunity to grow in spirit through worship, work, play, service, and recreation. The cost for the event is $350 per person, which includes registration, meals, and housing on the Cal U campus for three nights. Transportation is additional, and the Connecticut Conference will join with MA and RI to provide coach bus service. Scholarships are available. Individuals may sign up for the CTUCC trip, which will be chaperoned by Debby Kirk, Isaac Monts and other adult leaders. Churches may also organize a group and travel independently.

Registration opens mid-January at www.eryeucc.org.

**For More Information**
Contact Debby Kirk, CTUCC Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries debbyk@ctucc.org or 860-781-7203

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**Simply Smiles Mexico Trip**
**April 14-21, 2018**

Travel with Silver Lake to the Simply Smiles Home for Children in Oaxaca, Mexico. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services.

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**Life at Silver Lake**
**It’s my first time at camp**

Welcome! We’re glad you’re here! And you will not be the only one here for the first time (even if you’re in high school). Our conferees (campers) tell us they make new friends on the very first day of camp, every year. You’re in for a week of outdoor fun with a whole conference (your camp group) full of new friends.

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**Simply Smiles Mexico Trip**
**April 14-21, 2018**

Travel with Silver Lake to the Simply Smiles Home for Children in Oaxaca, Mexico. The children who live at the home have been abandoned, orphaned, or sent by child services. While volunteering, you will help care for the children, help with their homework, prepare meals, and show them love. By giving your time, attention, and love, you will help them overcome their difficult starts in life. Visit www.simplysmiles.org to learn more.

**For More Information**
Contact Debby Kirk, CTUCC Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries debbyk@ctucc.org or 860-781-7203

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**Open House**
**Sunday, May 20**

Silver Lake staff, counselors, and deans are ready to introduce you to camp! Take a tour on foot or hop on the hayride. See the cabins and other buildings, find out where the Freds (bathrooms) are, and check out the ropes courses and the waterfront.

A visit to Silver Lake before camp is the best way for a first time conferee to know what to expect – you might even run into a new friend who will be in the same conference this summer! We’ll provide the cookies, you bring your questions. See you there!

RSVP for Open House to sls@ctucc.org by May 12.
Come to camp! Pick the conference for you and register online today! www.SilverLakeCT.org

Registration Opens January 15, 2018