



## Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

*Living the Love & Justice of Jesus*

### SLCC at Home- Family Devotions Playlist

#### Marshmallow Memories (Devotion 1)

*This series is a 'Playlist' of 5 devotionals. These opportunities were created to engage you- the parents, grandparents, caregivers and others- who support young people in their experiences of outdoor ministry or summer conferences at Silver Lake Conference Center. (SLCC) The invitation to you is to create an experience through these devotionals with your youth that enables you and them to deepen the experiences you've each had and to open a sacred space to share moments together to explore, engage, and celebrate summer camp (outdoor ministry) more fully. These are intended to be shared at home in times of physical distancing or following times of face to face programming.*

**Purpose: To recall memories of campfire experiences- either as a family or in an outdoor ministry setting and reflect on memories of favorite stories, songs, and rituals.**

One of the highlights of the camp experience for youth is the time shared at a campfire. As the day wanes and the sky begins to darken, the rhythm of camp changes. Following a full day of fun and activities, this is a time to intentionally 'wind down' at the end of the day and engage in camp rituals of singing, story-telling, and shared celebration over a roasted marshmallow s'more. A campfire offers a space to youth (as a group and individually) to relax and reflect on the goodness of their day. It enables them to let go of any challenges or concerns that youth might carry into this time of transitioning to lights out and sleep.

#### **Supplies:**

Fire pit, grill, or microwave

Marshmallows, graham crackers, chocolate bar

S'more sticks or other utensils for roasting marshmallow

#### **Read:**

*Psalm 118:24 –*

*This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it!*

You may add; **We will rejoice and give thanks for it.**



#### **Watch/Participate: Get a Glimpse!**

Get a glimpse of SLCC campfire traditions and sing-along with a few familiar songs. Gather your marshmallow making supplies, start your fire or grill and make a few s'mores. Sit, relax and share memories of favorite campfire traditions, songs, stories, moments. To get an idea of how to make a microwave oven s'more or to learn a few favorite songs, check out these videos.

(See page 2)



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Avery Lapis-SLCC Facebook Page- How to Make a S'more

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=258081451886990>

Xander's At Home S'mores

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=211697940115295>

Jenn Clark, SLCC Program Director and all- Virtual Campfire Sing-along (2 Examples from Facebook)

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=1159225754420881>

[https://www.facebook.com/SilverLakeCT/?epa=SEARCH\\_BOX](https://www.facebook.com/SilverLakeCT/?epa=SEARCH_BOX)

### **Listen/ Reflect:**

Now it's time to reflect on your day. Next to your fire or in a favorite outdoor space, take some time with your young person. Take a minute to read the Psalm verse aloud. Now it's time to share in a practice of reflecting on your day. Using something developed by St. Ignatius, pray the [Examen](#), a simple process for daily spiritual reflection.

<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-prayer/the-examen/>

Together, take a few moments in silence to reflect on:

For what moment today am I most grateful? For what moment today am I least grateful?

OR

What was today's high point? What was today's low point?

Share your thoughts. Then sing a silly camp song or two. Share stories of favorite campfire experiences together. Favorite camp memories. Read the Psalm verse again and close in prayer.

### **Pray:**

**God, your love surrounds us, in our homes, in nature, in school, at work, and yes, at camp too! Surround us with your love tonight as the stars surround our planet. As we prepare for sleep, bring us peace! Amen**