Summer 2020
COME TO SILVER LAKE
Changing Lives
Since 1957

“My twin daughters’ first experience at Silver Lake was in 2018, and they attended again in 2019. They enjoy the positive energy and talk about their memorable adventures at camp with such enthusiasm. ‘They can’t wait to go back.’

YAMAHIE ORTIZ

“I was very pleased with Silver Lake from the Open House to pickup. It was a great first experience for my son Ansley for his first-ever sleep-away camp. It was well organized, clean, informative, engaging, and super fun. When picking up my son, he said it felt like we just dropped him off. Great overall experience for everyone. He is looking forward to doing a week next year.”

JAIME MATHESON

“All three of my kids love Silver Lake. And I love how it is an extension of our church family. Silver Lake is an important part of our summer plans.”

ROGER CRAIN

www.silverlakect.org
Welcome Friends, New and Old!

We are thrilled that you are thinking about Silver Lake this summer! It wouldn’t be the same without you. You will have a life-changing experience. You’ll make new friends, play in creation, grow in faith, learn about living and enact God’s justice in the world, receive extravagant welcome, and experience God loving you just as you are. And, you will leave your mark on us, when you bring your unique gifts and talents. We can’t wait to learn what you have to teach.

What a great way to spend your summer! Silver Lake recently went through the accreditation process with the American Camp Association and we’re proud to share that our program, which has been running since 1957, has met the standards.

And, we are offering a special welcome this year to our partners in the Southern New England Conference, and to our neighbors from New York. Silver Lake is becoming more geographically diverse each year! It is wonderful to see the good news spreading throughout the Northeast. Welcome, friends!

Thank you for being a part of this life-transforming ministry. We look forward to the ways in which we will grow together, laugh together, play together, and share God’s love together.

Rev. Ryan Gackenheimer, Executive Director • ryang@ctucc.org
Jennifer Kronholm Clark
Program Director • jenne@ctucc.org

What a great way to spend your summer!

Silver Lake, operated by the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ, is accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA). What does that mean for your camper? When you send your child to camp the best way for a first-time camper (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 soon.

RSVP for Open House to silc@ctucc.org by May 12.

Open House
Sunday, May 17
1-5 p.m.

Silver Lake staff, counselors, and leaders 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 course and the waterfront. A visit to Silver Lake before camp is the best way for a first-time camper (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 soon.

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.

A typical day

A day at camp is very busy, full of games, crafts, swimming, singing, and campfires. And you’ll have quiet time after lunch to read, write letters home, or even take a nap. You will have the chance to meet God in a very unique setting. Your conference will lead worship one night. You and your new friends will pick the songs, stories, poems, prayers, dances, and sometimes silliness that add up to a truly engaging worship service.

The camp experience

While a lot of your group’s activity will center on your theme, all conferences are camp experiences first: You will live at camp, eat in the Social Hall with the other conferences, swim in the lake, have the opportunity to check out the high and lowropes courses, dig around in the garden, or sit around a campfire. Also, each conference takes turns leading all-camp worship one night of the week.

For more information about what to expect at camp, visit our website at www.silverlakect.org/summercamp.

Silver Lake Conference Center’s Mission Statement

Silver Lake Conference Center, a year-round outdoor ministry of the Southern New England 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 of the church and the world, by offering:

• 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 judgment. 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.

UCC National Youth Event: Unite

UCC youth and friends ages 13-18 are invited to the National Youth Event (NYE). This event will be held at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, on July 22-25, 2020. Join with teens from all over the country and experience the diversity and vitality of the wider church. NYE offers young leaders an opportunity to grow in spirit through worship, workshops, service, and recreation.

The cost for the event is $375 per person, which includes registration, meals, and housing on the Purdue campus for three nights. Transportation is additional, and the Southern New England Conference is organizing coach bus service that will stop over in Cleveland. Scholarships are available.

Individuals may sign up for the SNE trip or churches may also organize groups and travel independently.

For more information, contact Debby Kirk, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, at debbyk@ctucc.org or 860-761-7103.

GRADE

“How I learned that God loves me, how important it is to preserve the environment, and that God is everywhere.”

GRADE

“I learned that God is a builder, writer, potter, peacemaker, gardener, and an artist.”

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“I learned that I have a passion for music.”

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“I felt close to God looking out at the lake during worship.”

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LEADERSHIP CONFERENCES

March 6-8
COUNSELOR IN TRAINING
Betty Gelling & Maureen Montrose
So you want to be a counselor at Silver Lake? Join us for a three-day interview and training session and become one of our future leaders! You will learn how to lead games, how to quiet a roomful of conferences, how to keep them safe, and how to help God change their lives while enriching your own. Successful completion of this weekend program will make you eligible to be a counselor or CIT in summer 2020.

$130 Limit 24

AGES 16 & 16

2020 GRADS

April 3-4
COUNSELOR RETREAT
Jennifer Kronohl Clark
Group games, cabin and faith exploration, homework, bugs, fun, sun, outdoor adventure. We'll cover it all! Learn how to make the magic of camp happen for your campers, while keeping them safe. This retreat is open to all who serve as counselors at Silver Lake, whether it's your first time or your 20th time. Join us for a weekend of community building and skills training and get ready to have the best week of your summer! This weekend fulfills the mandatory training requirement for counselors serving in 2020.

$45 Limit 20

AGES 16 & 16

2020 GRADS

SUMMER 2020 SCHEDULE

Week 1
June 28-July 4 • Chaplain: Rev. Chris Hart

Week 2
July 5-11 • Chaplain: Rev. Da Vinci McCallister

Week 3
July 12-18 • Chaplain: Rev. Nancy McHugh

Silver Lake ENCOUNTERING GOD’S LOVE IN CREATION

Come to camp! Pick the conference for you and register online today! www.SilverLakeCT.org

Registration Opens January 15, 2020

WHY ARE THERE THREE PRICES? Actual Cost / First Discount / Second Discount

Week 1

MY LOVED ONE & ME
HALF WEEK, JUNE 30-JULY 1
Amie Gigaree & Ellen Willert
Take your loved one – aunt, uncle, grandparent, you name it – on a camp adventure! Dive into the waterfront, sing at high hopes, create artwork at the Art Grotto, and learn about your faith. The group will have a solo adventure, and you can fly on your own! $585 / $525 / $475 PER PAIR

PLUS ADULT

TE FITI, OHANA,
MOR’DU, & THE ELEMENTALS
Miranda Moeller
Love yourself, love your neighbor, love God – it’s the Silver Lake way! Explore the Silver Lake loves through familiar animated characters and beloved stories, while learning more about your own faith and friends. $585 / $525 / $475 Limit 40

BON VOYAGE
AND HAPPY TRAILS
Scott Brady, Brittany Anderson, & Austin Farmer
Want to travel and hike on an explorer? Sailboats, canoes, kayaks, and trails are ready for you to experience a week of floating, boating, and hiking adventures! Find God on the water and on the trail, exploring your faith through teamwork. Pack your hiking boots and come along! $635 / $575 / $535 Limit 32

SILVER LAKE SINGS
Betty Gelling & Maureen Montrose
Let’s bring Broadway to Silver Lake this summer! We’ll explore faith and prayer through music, singing show tunes, and performing our favorites. From Gandalf to Hermione, we’ll take a musical journey of faith – including attending a show – while making the camp life of swim, time, ropes, and campfires. $635 / $575 / $535

JUST CAMP
Jack Perkins Davidson
Looking for an experience of faith that’s more relevant to who we are today? JULI Camp stands for Justice & Service Training Camp. We spend half the week in the lake learning & playing and half the week in New Haven serving & exploring. Through fun adventures we’ll discover the biblical call to co-creating a world meant for our joy! $585 / $525 / $475 Limit 16

STEAM TEAM
Sara & Dan Khra
If you love science, technology, engineering, art, or math, then this conference is for you! We’ll build boats like Noah, do experiments with water, and play with important numbers from the Bible. Nature hikes, campfires, and swimming will inspire us to make our own works of art. Come stretch your creativity as we enjoy the wonder of God’s creation. $385 / $325 / $275 Limit 24

WELCOME TO WAKANDA
Rhonda Myers
You won’t find Wakanda on any map, but if you look carefully, you will see that it’s all around us! African explorers, artists, and scientists have used their talents throughout history to make the world a better place. Let’s discover how they did it and how we can do it, too. This is an intentionally diverse conference. $585 / $525 / $475 Limit 40

WHATCHA SEE IS WHATCHA GET
Ken Peterson
When our words don’t match our actions, it hurts others. But in card tricks and magic, Whatcha See isn’t always Whatcha Get! Let’s get real and start walking our talk and take home 10-15 tools to impress your friends! Camp stuff will reign, so come for fun! $585 / $525 / $475 Limit 40

ON SACRED GROUND
Patrick Collins
The world in which we live is filled with history, mystery, and wonder. Have you ever wondered how we can draw on the past to guide how we care for the earth today? We will learn some of the history of the land and explore our surroundings with hikes and other adventures. Join us as we shape the future of our earth by learning about its sacred history. $635 / $575 / $535 Limit 32

STILL SINGING
Whendi Cook, Val Tuson, & Vit Urbanowski
Bring your dramatic voice, your dancing feet, your brilliant musical instrument, and any other of God’s gifts to you that you want to share. We will explore where God’s faith meets the issues of today as we write, compose, and perform an original biblical musical for a joyous experience of worship. $655 / $595 / $545 Limit 20

TEAM LEGO
Kristen Kleiman
Everything is awesome when you are a part of a team! During a fun-filled week, we will build connections with God, creation, and each other as we play and create in multiple building projects. $585 / $525 / $475

GOD SONG
Allie Nelson
Do you love to sing, act, write, dance, create art, play an instrument? Join us as we form a community of creative spirits, discovering each other’s talents. $585 / $525 / $475

FUN IN THE SUN
Brian Laps & Cameron Hall
When Jesus is your head coach, welcoming the stranger and loving your neighbor are more important than defeating your opponent. In this high-energy week we will sing, dance, and laugh throughout camp as you strengthen your faith with faith-building games and activities. $585 / $525 / $475

MACH 2
MULTI-ADVENTURE CHALLENGE
Charlie, Mary & Charles Kuehnle
Get ready for an extremely active week at Silver Lake! Each day will bring a new challenge: hiking, biking, climbing, pack out camping, treasure hunts, and more! $585 / $525 / $475 Limit 32

MACH 1
MULTI-ADVENTURE CHALLENGE
Patrick Collins
Get ready for an incredibly active week at Silver Lake! Each day will bring a new challenge: hiking, biking, climbing, pack out camping, treasure hunts, and more! $585 / $525 / $475 Limit 32

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W.O.W. WEEK OF WONDER
Jane Rowe & Bill Terpsila
Did you ever wonder what it would be like to go to summer camp? This is a week to discover what Silver Lake is all about. Through games, swimming, arts & crafts, and more we will make new friends and explore the wonder of creation. 
$585 / $525 / $475 Limit 70
WEEK 4 
July 19-25: Chaplain: Rev. Larissa Forsythe

CAUSING A COMMOTION
Libby Craig, Brad & Susie Craig
Run, jump, swim, play, laugh, learn - cause a commotion! Join all your new friends for an entire summer for a high energy week of sports, games, community, and belonging. Make a whole lot of noise in celebration of God's awesome creation! 
$585 / $525 / $475 Limit 40

FAMILY CAMP 1
HALF WEEK, AUG. 2-5
Joseph Clemmons Initiative. Email slcc@slcc.org or call the office at 860-364-5526 for more information.
Families of every size and description are welcome to gather and enjoy all that SILC has to offer. We will be challenged by the ropes courses, cool off in the lake, and much more while learning what it means to be a family, not just to each other, but to all God's people. 
$240 / $140 / $70 (per week) or $600 / $420 / $300 family cap; Limit 5 families

CLARENCE AND THE GODZOOKS’ MOST AMAZING PUPPET SHOW
Mark J. Dill, Rhiannon Craig, & Ce Kay Morris
We’re looking for Godzooks! It’s an open audition call for the Most Amazing Puppet Show! Sing, shout, and share funny voices in your perfect state of loving God and doing good! Create your own puppet and win a $500 gift card! 
$595 / $535 / $485 Limit 40

ROCK OF AGES
Amber Dove Bagley & Bowen Kirwood
The roar of the crowd. The haze of bullies. The flash of lights. Ever imagined yourself as a super hero ready to leap into action? Join us for an open audition call for the most epic roller coaster of a week where we will build connections with God, our neighbors, and at Hammer and a Nail. No prior volunteer experience is necessary but come ready to work hard and have a ton of fun in the process. If you have a care in the world and are ready to have a blast, Transportation from Connecticut to Maine is provided, and an informational meeting for parents and family will be held the evening of July 19. 
$520 / $450 / $400 Limit 40

FAMILY CAMP 2
HALF WEEK, AUG. 9-12
Families of every size and description are welcome to gather and enjoy all that SILC has to offer. We will be challenged by the ropes courses, cool off in the lake, and much more while learning what it means to be a family, not just to each other, but to all God's people. 
$240 / $140 / $70 (per week) or $600 / $420 / $300 family cap; Limit 5 families

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS
Carol Michalski & Robyn Gray
Come to make new friends? We will spend the week learning to be the best friends we can be to each other, to ourselves, and to God. Laugh, sing, play, climb, swim, worship, and become lifelong friends in your perfect state of attitude and be prepared to “Love God, love your neighbor, and love yourself.” 
$585 / $525 / $475 Limit 40

CLERGY CAMP
July 1-4
Mary Nelson & Jackie Hall
Follow clergy throughout their ministry, renewal, and worship in the woods. We’ll enjoy all the best that Silver Lake has to offer – hiking, cooking, creating, and making friends – and open up to the spiritual and vocational development. And of course a camp with everyone! Come to deepen your relationships with others and with your colleagues! This conference is open to all authorized ministers. 
$710

Camping, participate in the Challenge Course, swim, and worship for our creation. God’s creation, and of course, have fun with others! 
$585 / $525 / $475 Limit 40

SCHOLARSHIP
Our tiered pricing structure allows you to choose the cost family can afford while helping keep Silver Lake accessible to all. Silver Lake’s Scholarship Fund (from special donations) provides financial assistance to families who need it. Email slcc@ctuc.org or call 860-364-5526 for information. Many local churches also sponsor scholarships for their youth. Ask your local pastor if such support is available. Additionally, scholarship support for color of反腐倡廉 is available through the Joseph Clemmons Initiative. Email slcc@ctuc.org for more information.

SILVER LAKE CONFERENCE CENTER
Rev. Ryan Gakenheimer
Executive Director
ryan@slc.org • 860-364-2730
123 Low Road, Sharon, CT 06069
www.silverlakeco.org