2023 UU & Local Summer Camps
for All Ages and Whole Families
In Our Central East Region & Beyond

Tracy Breneman, updated May 19

There are wonderful opportunities to connect with UUs from all over the continent this summer. Most camps have opened registration and will fill quickly. Register as soon as possible. Some camps are also hiring - look for purple text below.

NEW White Plains YWCA, Y Leaders Womxn Bootcamp,
https://ywcawpcw.org/womens-research-and-education-fund/yw-leaders
MS/HS, Ages 11-14, 9:00am-2:00pm, August 7-11
HS/YA, Ages 15-21, 9:00am-2:00pm, August 14-18

Eligibility: Y Leaders is open to those who identify as female, womxn, non-binary and gender-nonconforming; currently enrolled in school; between the ages of 11 and 21; and a resident of Westchester (college addresses included).

The Y Leaders Program at YWCA White Plains & Central Westchester is a leadership initiative that aims to equip young womxn with the tools they need to be effective and empowered leaders. Our summer 2023 bootcamp program (click here for application form) will take our participants through 5 days of interactive workshops that teach you how to develop strong communication skills, create daily affirmations for good emotional wellbeing, understand your values, beliefs, priorities and passions and boldly navigate spaces with confidence and ease. With our program partner One Love Foundation (https://www.joinonelove.org/), you will also identify the tools and resources needed to build healthy and supportive relationships in life and leadership!

CERSI, Central East Region Summer Institute California PA, www.cersiuu.org
July 9-15, 2023 Family Summer Camp, in person and virtual

CERSI is an annual event where Unitarian Universalists from mostly Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland and other nearby states gather for a week together to learn new things, have fun, connect with old friends and make new ones. This is an event for kids, families, adults, partnered people, individuals and everyone in between. We stay in university dorms with real beds, private bathrooms and air conditioning. We have a big, grassy area between our two dorms where we have a lot of our events, eat in the dining hall, and use university buildings around campus for learning, fun, sports, swimming, and gathering.

Ferry Beach in Saco, ME, www.ferrybeach.org
April-September 2023 www.ferrybeach.org/schedule.html

With 32 acres and 19 buildings, Ferry Beach is a retreat community center with 1000 feet of beachfront in Saco, Maine. It is a collection of meeting spaces, wide porches, an art and pottery studio, an outdoor chapel, a performance space, many gathering places and a wonderful dining hall. Ferry Beach offers summer conference weeks for children, youth and young adults as well as individual weeks for families (all families), men, women and the LGBTQ community. Most summer conferences are weeklong events, while others may be 3-4 days. There is quilting, writing, dancing, drumming, drawing, weaving, kayaking, educating, communicating, performing, and more...workshops focusing on intergenerational families, military families, transracial families, and gay families.

Murray Grove, Camping in the Grove in Lanoka Harbor, NJ, www.murraygrove.org
August 6-12, 2023 Youth Camp for rising 4th-7th graders
August 13-19, 2023 Senior Camp for rising 8th-10th graders

Camping in the Grove offers children and youth a week-long camping experience on a beautiful 20-acre campus that is the traditional birthplace of Universalism in America. This is a sleepaway camp with a focus on community building, youth empowerment and deep fun! Come along as we make new friends, share lots of laughs, try new things, and make deeper connections to our UU community and faith. Campers are housed in our two on-site lodges and dine in our dining hall. Our grounds include hiking trails, gardens, a salt-water pool, basketball courts, gaga courts, disc golf, a labyrinth, an outdoor campsite, and more. Senior campers may enjoy a night sleeping out under the stars!

MURRAY GROVE IS HIRING CAMP COUNSELORS

Looking for a fun and enriching Summer experience? We invite youth age 16+ who have attended summer camp programs in the past to connect with us at campdirector@murraygrove.org. Tracy would be happy to provide a recommendation.

Star Island on the Isles of Shoals, NH, starisland.org
May-September, 2023 Programs for children, youth, adults, and families

Star Island is a UU conference center on one of the nine Isles of Shoals located seven miles off the coast of New Hampshire and Maine. All are welcome to explore the island for a day, enjoy a meal, spend the night, or attend a conference. For the last 100 years, Star Island has offered an all-inclusive summer camp experience for families and hosted a wide variety of themed conferences and personal retreats.

Sophia Fahs UU Family Camp in Kent, CT, liacuu.org/sophia-fahs-summer-camp
August 13-18, 2023

Sophia Fahs Camp is organized by the Long Island Area Council of Unitarian Universalist Congregations and is open to all UUs.

SUSSI, Southeast UU Summer Institute in Cullowhee, NC, www.suusi.org
July 16-22, 2023 Intergenerational and Family Retreat

SUUSI is an intentional community of UUs and kindred spirits. Each year in July, we gather at Western Carolina University (WCU) in Cullowhee, North Carolina, tucked in a valley amidst the Blue Ridge Mountains, in the ancestral home of the Cherokee Nation. WCU offers a beautiful and accessible campus close to the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
We are a multigenerational community, providing intergenerational activities and events to meet the various needs of our diverse participants. Nature trips, workshops, worship, and nightlife opportunities are plentiful. SUUSI strives to provide a full and meaningful experience for all members of your family, whatever their age, ability, personality type, or sleep schedule. This summer, join us for the second-largest gathering of Unitarian Universalists in the world!

Unirondack UU Camp in the Adirondacks, www.unirondack.org
July-August 2023 for youth, families, young adults and adults - Filling up Fast!

Unirondack is a UU summer camp established by the New York State Convention of Universalists in 1951. We strive to merge our work with the UU values, and have found our program most poignantly focusing on acceptance, justice, equity, compassion, and valuing the inherent worth and dignity of all people. Things that build an inclusive and intentional community that serves our youth and we add youth empowerment and political awareness to our camp's influences. We uphold values of queerness, youth empowerment, political awareness and social justice, and a commitment to grow and change with our community. To learn more about our program, visit www.unirondack.org or email director@unirondack.org.

UU College of Social Justice, uucsj.org/currentprograms/

Dates not yet listed for experiential learning opportunities; check the website or here later

UUCSJ was created in 2012 as a collaboration between the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). All of our programs and collaborations are designed to help people cross boundaries, gain insight, imagine new ways and learn new skills to make a difference in the world. From our very creation as a bridge between the UUSC and the UUA to our work to help UUs bridge the gap between abstract ideas and embodied practice, the UU College of Social Justice provides the connective tissue supporting the spiritually grounded justice work of our faith.

UUMAC, UU Mid-Atlantic Community in Center Valley, PA, www.uumac.org

July 9-15, 2023 Programs for children, youth, adults and families

UUMAC is a fully multi-generational, intentional community, with programming in the morning for children and youth, teens, and YAs/adults. Afternoons include scheduled and ad hoc activities both on and off campus, with intergenerational time and "Night Owls" socializing after dinner. Individuals and families return year after year because UUMAC is an essential part of their lives and faith practice. Over the decades UUMAC has become many things to many people: a spiritual retreat, time for reflection and celebration, a reunion with friends, a time to revel in a community of fun-loving and like-hearted people of all ages. From the Talent Show and Open Mic, to sharing our stories during the lay-led evening vespers services, UUMAC has many ways to connect, learn, and grow together.

UU Rowe Center, Camp & Conference Center in Rowe, MA, www.rowecenter.org

June-August for ages 8-18. rowecenter.org/camps/

Rowe Camp & Conference Center is a spiritual and educational organization offering opportunities for the presentation and exchange of a wide variety of ideas and beliefs consistent with Unitarian Universalist principles and values. Our retreat center is nestled in the East Berkshires in the town of Rowe, MA. We offer three camps for ages 8-18.

Unitarian Universalist Association lists several camps, retreats, and conferences:
https://www.uua.org/beliefs/get-involved/where/camps-retreats-and-conferences

The UUA website also lists several camps and Institutes in our Central East Region:
https://www.uua.org/central-east/programs/camps

The Council of Unitarian Universalist Camps and Conferences lists UU camps all over the country: http://www.cu2c2.org/

Goldens Bridge Day Camp - Not a UU camp but run by a local UU who Tracy knows
Goldens Bridge, NY, goldensbridgedaycamp.com/

June 26-August 11, week-long camp for ages 3-13, CIT program for 14-15 year old youth

We are a small community camp focused on creative arts and the outdoors. Our unique facilities — a historic barn, the picturesque Timber Lake, spacious sport facilities, and 17 acres of undeveloped woodlands — help us offer a variety of activities. Campers will spend their days swimming, hiking, acting, doing arts & crafts, playing sports, dancing, and exploring nature. Day trips, community service projects, and special theme days help campers learn more about the world around them. Older groups will have overnight camping trips. We welcome campers aged 3 to 13 and have a Counselor-In-Training program for 14- and 15-year-olds. We believe camp should provide an opportunity for children of all backgrounds to nurture a sense of respect for one another, and to develop their strengths, knowledge, skills,

independence, and creativity. Goldens Bridge Day Camp is a welcoming place to have fun, take full advantage of the outdoors, and make each day a cherished memory!

GOLDENS BRIDGE DAY CAMP IS HIRING

Tracy would be happy to provide a recommendation. Apply here.
Please email goldensbridgedaycamp@gmail.com with questions.

Counselors: Goldens Bridge Day Camp is looking for creative & caring counselors! We are a nature-oriented, 95 year-old, progressive camp with a 150-year-old barn, ball field, seven acre lake, and seventeen acre woods. Camp dates are June 26-August 11 and the camp day for staff is 9am - 4:15pm. Salary is $2100 for the summer plus tips. Counselors must be 16 by the start of camp.

Waterfront Director: Goldens Bridge Day Camp is hiring a responsible, enthusiastic individual to direct our waterfront program for the 2023 season, June 26 to August 11. You must be at least 21 years of age and have the requisite certifications. The hours are Monday to Friday, 9am to 4pm. Salary is commensurate with experience.