



Vision and Mission Statement: NCNC UCC Outdoor Ministries

The NCNC UCC Outdoor Ministries program offers children, youth and adults of our conference churches opportunities to:

- deepen their personal faith in the Holy One;
- openly express the gifts of diversity within our united and uniting Christian community;
- embrace the values and responsibilities of earth stewardship;
- co-create new programs, directions, networks that reach the diverse needs of our congregations;
- experience empowerment, inspiration and renewed hope amidst the natural beauty and sacredness of creation;
- learn, play and work as a team, supported by dedicated leaders.

We invite participants to have Outdoor Ministries experiences at Camp Cazadero, Camp Tamarack, and other settings best suited to particular church community or program needs. It is our intention that each outdoor ministries program foster:

- exploration of one's faith through relationship, quietude, and diverse, yet unifying forms of worship and prayer;
- increased connection and networking within and between church communities;
- acceptance of our spiritual oneness and interconnectedness with creation;
- mutual respect, teamwork, and an honoring of diverse styles of leadership, communication, worship and living;
- responsible earth stewardship in living a Christian life.

We invite local church involvement with conference outdoor ministries programs, the conference Outdoor Ministries Committee, and each other in ways that expand our church and interfaith networks and enhance our common commitment to peace, justice and the integrity of creation.

We encourage participant exposure to the larger UCC network and activities in conference, national and international settings.

It is our hope and commitment that the NCNC UCC outdoor ministries program and policies be envisioned, developed and implemented in an ongoing manner by youth and adults working together in creative ways that affirm this vision and mission statement.

Northern California Nevada Conference
United Church of Christ
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Hayward CA 94541-2131

Northern California Nevada Conference
United Church of Christ
Outdoor Ministries



Counselors in Training Program



2008

CIT Camp

Sunday, July 6 -
Saturday, July 12

at

UCC Camp Cazadero

What is the Counselor-in-Training Program?

The CIT Program is sponsored and implemented by the Outdoor Ministries Program of the Northern California Nevada

Conference UCC. The goal of the program is to provide a training experience that will benefit youth at summer camps and in other settings requiring leadership skills and the ability to work effectively with other leaders and with children.



Participants in the CIT Program are youth who will be at least 16 years of age by December 31 of the year they participate in the program. Anyone interested in developing skills addressed in this program will benefit from participation. It will be particularly helpful for anyone 21 years of age and younger.

CIT Training Camp in 2008 will be concurrent with Cazadero Kids Camp for children in Grades 2-4. CITs will arrive 2 days before Kids Camp begins, have their own camp directors, spend part of the day in a learning and sharing program and part of the day in practicum, working with the staff and campers of Kids Camp. Part of the learning program is reflection on the practical experience.

Questions? Contact

Director of Outdoor Ministries
Northern California Nevada Conference, UCC
510-247-8990 or dom@ncnuc.org

What topics are included in the program?

- Exploration of personal gifts and leadership characteristics;
- Developmental characteristics of children;
- Examination of one's own spiritual life and faith issues of children;
- Role of the camp counselor;
- Legal mandates regarding child abuse and sexual harassment;
- Maintaining appropriate boundaries with campers;
- Leading games and other aspects of the camp program;

What is the cost of the CIT Program?

The cost of CIT Camp 2008 is \$350. Payment is requested once you have been accepted into the camp. Churches are encouraged to grant scholarships to youth for this leadership program.

Who provides leadership for the program?

Directors for CIT Camp are experienced volunteers in the Outdoor Ministries Program of the Northern California Nevada Conference United Church of Christ. They have particular expertise in youth ministry and working with younger children.

Directors will be chosen for their particular interest in training youth for working with younger children in the camp setting and developing skills for future leadership in other settings of the church.

A criminal background check has been completed for every adult working with children and youth in NCNC programs.

How do I apply for the CIT Program?

Get an application online at www.ncnuc.org, or by contacting the Conference Office. (See the back of this brochure.) Fill out the application form for the Counselor-in-Training program. **The deadline for applications for the 2008 camp is May 22, 2008.** All applications received by the deadline will be considered.

The application includes two reference letters which must be completed by the deadline. One should be from your pastor, church youth adviser or other church leader. The other should be from someone other than a parent who is familiar with your abilities, experiences and character.

After you are accepted into the program, you will be invited to fill out a Camp Registration Form. Return the form with payment of \$350 to the Camp Registrar, as indicated on the form. Payment must be received prior to the beginning of camp.



What else is required?

Participants must attend the all-staff Camp Rally, which will be Saturday, June 21 at Camp Cazadero.

Excuses for missing this event must be approved and a make-up exercise will be required.

Camp will begin onsite Sunday afternoon, July 6.

More specific information will be provided following acceptance into the program.