

A Note from the Director

Greetings Friends of the New Hampshire Conference and beyond! Who says camp is just for kids? Not us! Adults need time apart too. Time to relax, to change the routine, to listen for God and to make new and renewed connections with others. Throughout life's journey these are basic needs and Horton Center is a place to help meet them. This guide is designed to help you prepare for your time at HC and to know what to expect. It is my hope and my prayer that you will join us this summer and let the stress of daily life melt for just a short while to reveal the profound, fun, and often neglected camper that needs to sit on a porch and read, jump in the water, sleep, walk alone in the woods, or stay up late connecting with others. And when the time comes to return home, my hope is that you will have tapped that deep well that gives purpose and meaning to living, and gained new perspective that brings a tangible sense of the divine to all facets of your life. Welcome.

Peace, Tim

Tim Hughes, Acting Director of Horton Center, New Hampshire Conferences, UCC



Welcome to Horton Center! Whether this is your first time at camp, or your twentieth, welcome. Horton Center is a ministry of the New Hampshire Conference, which is comprised of local churches. This profoundly beautiful place belongs to us all. We're partnering with pastors, lay leaders, and parents to reaffirm this ministry as an extension of your spiritual home. Horton Center's program and purpose is grounded in the mission of your local church. We are partners in ministry and no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

The mission of the New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ Outdoor Ministries is to invite all God's children to experience Christian community in the natural world.

Accreditation

Horton Center is accredited by the American Camp Association. Information on accreditation standards can be found at www.acacamps.org.



Tim Hughes –Acting Director of Horton Center

thughes@nhcucc.org

June – August Address

PO Box J, Gorham, NH 03581

Conference Address

140 Sheep Davis Rd., Pembroke, NH 03275

Registration questions: Karen Steelhammer—Administrator 207-724-3200 karen@pilgrimlodge.org

www.hortoncenter.org

Horton Center – 603-545-9660

About Your Time at Camp

Camp Leadership: Each session at Horton Center is organized by volunteer leaders called deans. Most sessions have two deans who are responsible for organizing the program and schedule. Because the deans at HC are volunteers there for the duration of your event only, they bring a fresh and exciting feel to each session. Shortly before your session is to begin, you will receive a letter from your deans either by email, or U.S. postal mail. This letter will describe the theme, outline special events, tell you special things to bring, and let you know of any deviation from information in this guide. Deans' letters are also posted online so if your event is getting close and you haven't received it, check online first, then give us a call.

Adventure Activities: Horton Center offers many outdoor adventures. Rock climbing and caving are activities that are led by the staff only. No persons should attempt to climb or cave without staff supervision. If you are going on a hike without a staff person, we recommend using the buddy system. You must let a leader or staff person know where you are going and let them know you have returned. If a water activity is planned, off site, there needs to be a Horton Center lifeguard present.

Camp Road: Please note that the camp road is steep and narrow in some places, but what awaits you at the top is well worth it! Take the road slow, 15mph or less, and make good use of the turn outs on the road. There will be a staff member at the bottom of the road to greet you and give you further instructions. **The camp road is open for two way traffic. Please drive slowly!**

Arrival and Departure: Many of our Adult camps are flexible in arrival and departure dates, unlike our youth and family camps. Please inform the camp office of your arrival and departure dates and times.

Visitation: Please do not arrange visits from non-participants during your event

At Camp

Camp Store & Ice cream: The camp store sells postcards and stamps, Horton Center T-shirts, hats, and flashlights, memorabilia, and necessary items such as toothbrushes and combs. Started in 2013, all new Horton Center wear will be certified sweat-shop and child labor free! Horton Center also sells ice cream during afternoon ice cream time for \$1 a cone. All proceeds from the Horton Center store go directly to support the ministry of Horton Center. At adult camp events the store will accept cash, check, and credit cards, whenever it is open during your session. Store accounts are not necessary during adult camps.

Mission Project: Horton Center will participate in a summer long, camp wide mission project. Campers will focus on the mission project through hands-on engagement and learning, with an opportunity to give an offering. Your dean's letter will include more information about the summer mission for this year.

U.S. Mail to campers: Everyone loves getting mail at camp! Have friends and family send you mail this way: Camper's Name, Name of session (ie: "Trails & Passages"), Horton Center, PO Box J, Gorham NH, 03581

A Typical Day at HC: No two days are exactly alike and no two weeks have the exact same schedule, especially for our adult camps. There are, however, rhythms to the day around which most sessions drape their program. Generally the framework of the program looks like this:

Morning – wake up, breakfast, Chapel at Chapel Rock, programming & activities

Afternoon – lunch, siesta, programming & activities

Evening – Dinner, Evening Vespers (worship), evening program

Phone Calls and Off-Hour Emergencies: Camp Phones are available for use only in case of emergency. The camp phone is 603-545-9660. Please ask friends and relatives not to call the emergency line for administrative or non-emergency reasons.

Cell Phones and other communication devices: Disconnecting from the world of electronics is a necessary part of camp community building. We recognize that adults may have family and business requirements that require them to make contact. Please do not use your cell phones and other communication devices in the company of others. Please set your phone to vibrate or silent if you must carry it with you. If you must carry your phone with you, please let voice mail answer the phone and retreat to an isolated place to check the message and return the call. The best option is to leave the phone at home. The next best option is to turn it off, leave it in your belongings at camp and check it occasionally or use it only if need be. Third, if you must carry the phone with you at camp, please honor the above guidelines.

Cabin Sharing: If you have a request for sharing a cabin please let us know. Also let your friend know that he or she will need to make the request too. When we have *both* requests, we will make the effort to lodge you in the same cabin.

Photographs and Publicity: By registering for camp, campers and parents agree that photographs taken of campers may be used for promotion by the New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ including, but not limited to: camp brochures, promotional slide shows, video presentations, Photo CDs sold to campers, the Horton Center website and other Horton Center internet sites.

Group Photos: Every adult camper will receive a photo of all the people in their camp

Tiered Pricing Information: Realizing that families have different abilities to pay, Horton Center has instituted a voluntary three-tier fee program.

- Tier 1 is our historically subsidized range and does not reflect all costs of operating our summer camp programs and site.
- Tier 2 more closely accounts for the costs of camp including wear and tear of building and grounds.
- Tier 3 more closely reflects the value of attending camp without subsidies.

Please choose the tier that is most suitable for your family. **All campers receive the same Horton Center experience regardless of what tier is chosen.** For those families that cannot afford Tier 1 additional financial assistance is available to ensure that everyone has the wonderful opportunity to attend camp.

Scholarships: Many local churches have their own camp scholarship program. Please ask your pastor if such a program is available in your church. Additionally, partial scholarships are also available from the New Hampshire Conference UCC for members of United Church of Christ churches. Application for scholarships are in the back of this guide **Applications are due by May 15.** Applications received after May 15 will be considered only if funds remain after on-time applications have been disbursed.

Medical Forms & Policies

***Health Form Requirements:** No medical examination is required for adults. Adults must sign and submit a one page health form (**FORM 4**) authorizing 'permission to treat' in the event of emergency and list emergency contacts. Either mail the health form beforehand or bring it with you. We'll have some on hand when you arrive but it's best to get this out of the way beforehand. Form 4 can be found on our web-site.

Medications: During adult-only events at Horton Center, adults may keep medications (prescription or non prescription) with their belongings. We ask that you be discreet and keep medications out of sight.

Health Care: **There is no nurse on duty for adult camps.** Adults are responsible for their own health care. In the event of an emergency participants will be brought by ambulance or arranged ride to the Androscoggin Valley Hospital in Berlin, NH. Please be advised it is over a half hour from Horton Center to the hospital.

Insect Repellent and Sunscreen: Lyme Disease and other insect-borne illnesses are a risk in any outdoor activity in the state of New Hampshire. Campers need to bring and apply appropriate, non-aerosol insect repellent. Exposure to the sun also carries risk. Campers need to bring and apply sunscreen with an SPF factor of at least 30 before outdoor activities. Please send only sunscreens and insect repellents in non- aerosol containers.

(We know this isn't much fun to read, but my oh my it makes everyone's life easier!)

Policies and Procedures

Open Registration Policy: Anyone may attend Horton Center. Campers do not need to be a member the New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ. Rules concerning acceptance and participation in all New Hampshire Conference Outdoor Ministry events are the same for everyone without regard to race, color, sexual orientation, gender, or national origin

Payment & Refunds: There is no refund for campers sent home for illness, homesickness, or discipline. A non-refundable deposit of \$100 for week-long sessions and \$50 for shorter events is required with the initial registration. The balance is due June 10th. We do not accept payment at camp. If payment is not received on time, campers may forfeit their spot to others on the waiting list. If a camper withdraws more than two weeks before the start of a session the deposit will be forfeited, while any additional payments that have been made will be refunded. If a camper withdraws two weeks or less before the start of a session the parent (or adult camper) will be responsible for the full camp fee; no refunds will be made.

Open Invoices: Individuals with an unpaid balance from previous years will not be allowed to register until past balances are paid. Payments received will be used to pay open invoices from previous years and not toward registering for new events.

Event Cancellation: All events are subject to cancellation due to insufficient registration. If an event is cancelled, full refund of payments (including registration deposit) will be made. Confirmation notices will be sent after a registration is received and accepted. Online confirmation is by way of email.

Personal items: Campers are free to bring personal items such as musical instruments, (larger instruments are usually left in the lodge), CDs, and sporting equipment, provided their name is written on the item. The New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ is not responsible for lost, stolen or broken items. We recommend writing your name on all items, including clothing.

Pets: Personal pets are not allowed at Horton Center. Service dogs are permitted, please let the Director know in advance if you plan to bring one.

Alcohol and Drugs: Alcohol and other drugs are not permitted at Horton Center or Outdoor Ministries events. Drugs include inhalants such as gas or glue and the misuse of over the counter or prescription medicine. Anyone using or possessing alcohol or illegal drugs or misusing prescription drugs will be sent home immediately and the camper's minister will be notified.

Smoking: All camps and events sponsored by the Outdoor Mission Group are tobacco-free.

Fireworks: Fireworks are not permitted at Horton Center or at New Hampshire Conference Outdoor Ministries sponsored events. Anyone using or possessing fireworks will be sent home immediately and their minister will be notified.

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR CAMP!

A Quick Review for **Adult** Sessions

<p>WHAT TO BRING:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Casual relaxing clothes ▪ Warm clothes for cold days and nights ▪ Warm sleeping clothes ▪ Rain gear ▪ Shorts ▪ Jeans/pants ▪ Sweatshirts ▪ Bible ▪ Notebook or stationary and pen ▪ Bathing suit, shoes that can get wet & towel ▪ Shower shoes ▪ Musical instruments ▪ 1 nice outfit (not <i>too</i> formal) ▪ Bathroom items in an easy to carry bag or Bucket (towels, washcloth, soap, Toothbrush, floss, comb/brush etc.) ▪ Sleeping bag & sleeping pad for sleep-out (like Thermarest) ▪ Pillow ▪ Comfortable sneakers/hikers, please NO FLIP FLOPS for safety ▪ Flashlight or headlamp ▪ Insect repellent (non-aerosol please!) ▪ Sunscreen (SPF 30 or more) ▪ 2 Water bottle with camper’s name written on them ▪ Items listed in your Deans’ letter ▪ Money for store and mission (look to the right) ▪ White T-shirt for tie-dye or other art project. 	<p>Personal items policy:</p> <p>Camperers are free to bring personal items such as musical instruments, (larger instruments usually are left in the lodge), compact discs, and sporting equipment provided their name is written on the item. The New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ is not responsible for lost, stolen or broken items.</p>
	<p><i>There’s no wi-fi; let it go for the weekend.</i></p> <p><i>Please be discreet about cell phones and medications.</i></p> <p><i>Think about how you will make this experience prayerful.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
	<p>For Hike Day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two water bottles – that’s right, TWO! • Small backpack <p>Comfortable hikers/sneakers</p>
	<p>The Camp Store</p> <p>Upon arrival there will be a table where you can set up an account for the store. Credit Card are accepted at the store.</p> <p>Mission Project – We encourage campers to bring an offering for our summer mission project.</p>

Health Forms: You’ll need to fill out and sign FORM 4 in the back of this guide and list emergency contacts. You can do this when you get to camp, or mail in the form that is available on line.

Please do not Bring: Alcohol or illegal drugs; weapons; pets; valuables; jewelry; computers; fireworks, skate boards or in-line skates.



Horton Center Scholarship Application

Due: May 15

Please check with your local church pastor to see if a HC scholarship is available from the church.

All applications must be **signed by a United Church of Christ minister** (unsigned or incomplete applications will be returned without being processed. If the application is re-submitted and received after May 15 it will be considered a late application.) Scholarships received after May 15 will be considered only if any funds remain after all on-time applications have been processed. *All applications are confidential.*

There are a limited amount of funds for distribution. Please apply only if you are truly in need in order to attend camp. The amount of scholarship offered will be dependent on the number of applications received by May 15. Scholarships do not exceed one third of the camp fee.

Camper Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent/Guardian email: _____

Church (include town name) _____

Session and Date of session _____

Signature of United Church of Christ Pastor (required) _____

Name of Pastor & Church _____

Number of members in household: _____ Annual Household Income: _____

Other Scholarships granted (local church, community, etc): _____

Amount Requested from NH Conference Scholarship Fund _____

Parent/Guardian, or Adult camper signature (required) _____

Send this completed form to: Horton Center Scholarship Request,
140 Sheep Davis Rd. Pembroke, NH 03275

Due May 15



Request for a Horton Center Counselorship

Thank you! Our program would not exist if not for the incredible gift of time offered by our counselors. Thank you for valuing the ministry at Horton Center enough to offer your time.

About Counseling: If you would like to counsel but are not sure how to begin, start by contacting us at camp. (karen@pilgrimlodge.org or 207-724-3200) We'll ask you if you have particular weeks in mind. So what is it like these days to be a volunteer counselor at Horton Center? First and foremost, it's about making sure that each camper is safe, welcomed, and having the best week of their summer. From the start, you'll be supported by the Deans (volunteer leaders, 2 per session), and the staff. You'll go through a training session before camp. **You'll arrive the day before the campers at Horton Center,** to connect with your co-counselors, Deans, and go through additional camp led training. When the campers arrive Sunday, the fun begins! Two counselors stay in each cabin. Counselors go through the day with their campers, sometimes co-leading activities. We make sure you get a rest in the afternoon, after a daily meeting where you check-in with the Deans and counselors. Afternoon and evening program is a blend of counselor led and staff led activities. Being a volunteer counselor at Horton Center is fun, tiring yet energizing, and can have a deep impact on the life of a camper. You'll be asked to read a short book on counseling. You'll also need reference forms and a background check authorization.

Counseling when your child is at HC: Some parents hope to counsel when their child is at camp. You know your child, and whether or not this is a good idea for them. We find that for some younger children it works out fine, although most grow more independence coming alone. Middler and Senior High campers usually tend to do better given their own time and space at HC. Unless there are extraordinary circumstances, we will not place your child in your cabin. It is difficult to step out of the role of parent and trying to be a camp counselor to your own child.

Counselorships: Counselors do not pay to come to camp! If you have an immediate family member attending camp this summer, you can receive a \$50 Counselorship (\$25 for the half-week long session) toward his or her camp fee. Please, immediate family only. Counselorships are not offered to CIT's and are not to be used for oneself. Counselorships must be applied in the same year that you counsel.

Date: _____

Counselor Name: _____ Phone _____

I am counseling for this session: _____

Please apply my Counselorship to (camper's name) _____

Attending this session: _____

This camper is my: (son, sister etc.) _____

Counselor's signature: _____

You can mail this form (140 Sheep Davis Rd. Pembroke, NH 03275) or bring it with you to camp. If you're counseling after you camper's session, it is helpful to us to have this form *before* the camper's session begins.