



Frequently Asked Questions

Please see our *Parent & Camper Guide* for detailed information regarding health forms, what to bring and what not to bring - packing list, and other important details. It is available online at www.hortoncenter.org or by calling 603-545-9660

Why do I see three prices listed?

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

Are scholarships available?

Yes, for those families that cannot afford Tier 1 additional financial assistance is available. The deadline for scholarship applications is May 15. Please ask your pastor if additional support is available from your church. Scholarship applications are available online, or by emailing karen.hortoncenter@gmail.com, or calling 207-724-3200. We at Horton Center don't want any child or youth to miss coming to camp due to financial need, so please ask for an application if you need it.

How do I register?

The quickest and easiest way is on our website: www.hortoncenter.org. Just click "Register" and follow the prompts. You may register with no deposits due until Jan 15th, when a \$100 deposit is required to secure your registration. The balance is due by June 10. A \$25 fee will be charged to switch sessions. If COVID19 prevents us from having in person camp you will be offered the option of a refund or to keep any payments in your account for the future. A \$25 fee will be charged to switch sessions. A few weeks before your session, you and your child will receive a letter in the mail from your dean (deans are volunteer program leaders from UCC churches) with details about your session.

What if I can't get online?

You may mail in hard-copy registration forms to Karen Steelhammer at 103 Pilgrim Lodge Lane, West Gardiner, ME 04345. Registration forms are available online or by calling 207-724-3200.

What about Health Forms?

Health forms are required for everyone who participates in a Horton Center program, on-site or off. For youth, there is a form for parents to fill out (can be done online with registration), and a form for a doctor to fill out. Please go to www.hortoncenter.org for details.

What do we need to know about you?

Everyone is differently-abled. In order for us to help your child have the best experience possible, the Directors and your dean need to be aware in advance of any physical, emotional, or behavioral needs a child may have. While we are not equipped to handle every differently-abled camper, we will do our best to offer special support to as many children as we can. Please contact Executive Director Tim Hughes (thughes@nhucc.org) before registration. All information shared with camp staff will be kept confidential. When registering, please include all specific, relevant information.

What's a day at camp like?

Each day and session is a little different at Horton Center. Most sessions follow a basic flow of wake up and breakfast, followed by chores and morning chapel. Next comes Faith Discovery time with games and challenges. Then we all eat lunch and take a break after called "nests". The afternoon is filled with two activity blocks, where campers choose from possibilities such as arts and crafts, hiking, caving, rock climbing, archery, swimming, silly and fun games, music, and more! Dinner is served, followed by evening chapel and evening program. We end our day by singing together around the Peace Pole. Then it's off to cabins for stories and sleep! Horton Center promotes the unplugged, in-person & present, community outdoor ministry experience.

Can my child request a friend to be in the same cabin?

One of Horton Center's core purposes is to build community. For this reason, we arrange cabins in a way so that campers from different towns all across New Hampshire will get to know one another. We also recognize coming to camp for the first time can be full of uncertainty. Therefore, elementary (entering grades 3-6) and middle (entering grades 7-9) campers can request to be in the same cabin as one and only one friend on the registration form. The friend you request must also request you. Requesting bunkmates is not available for Senior High (entering 10-post grad) campers.

When are check-in and pickup?

Check-in is Sunday, 2-4 p.m. unless you are notified differently in a dean's letter. No earlier than 2 p.m., no later than 4 p.m., please. Pickup is Saturday between 9:00am and 10:00 a.m. sharp from the cabin/building area. Transportation to and from Horton Center is the responsibility of the parents/guardians.

What are the behavioral expectations?

We want campers to have a fun, safe, meaningful week at Horton Center. Certain behaviors deemed inappropriate (including but not limited to: fighting, bullying, hitting, stealing, destruction of or intrusion into another's property, threatening another, refusal to eat, sexual activity, or possession or use of an alcohol, illegal or misused drugs, or weapons) can result in the camper being sent home and their minister being notified.

Our Mission is to invite all God's children to experience Christian community in the natural world.

Horton Center is a summer camp with program for children, teens, and adults that sits atop Pine Mountain in the heart of the Presidential Range Gorham, New Hampshire. Owned and operated by the New Hampshire Conference of the United Church of Christ, Horton Center is dedicated to building community and to discovering and tending the divine spark within each of us. The camp is surrounded on all sides by National Forest and includes two separate mountain peaks. Emphasis is placed on community building and exposure to the natural world. Options include rock climbing, archery, caving, and hiking as well as traditional camp activities. Our program leaders and counselors are volunteers, carefully trained and screened with protocols in place for physical and emotional safety. At Horton Center we promote a respite from our technology-centered world and allow children to unplug. We encourage campers to think for themselves and tend their own connection to creation and to others - to find a deeper connection to God and their authentic self.

Hello Horton Center Friends and Family!

In this time of such uncertainty, we all long for the solidity that is our mountain top camp- Horton Center. There is nothing like the feeling of standing at Chapel Rock with the ancient rock beneath our feet and the stunningly beautiful panoramas of the White Mountains laid out before us. We feel safe, grounded, and closer to God. We are welcomed by a loving community that accepts us unconditionally. We are connected to nature and so to our Creator. Many lives have been changed and faith journeys begun at this "thin place" where, that which separates us from the divine is less something.

I'm excited to drop the "interim" from my job title and just be Executive Director for the next two years! It may seem a strange time to be excited, and yet even with all our struggles, I see this as a time of great hope. Hope that we will work together to recover over the dreadful challenge facing us in this pandemic. Hope that we find creative ways to honor and serve God as we worship "virtually" at our churches. Hope that we will get back up on Pine Mt. for the much-needed renewal of spirit and emotional growth that intentionally happens there.

Trust Paul (Assistant Summer Director) and I are carefully planning for in-person camp this summer and doing all we can to make sure it will be safe and healthy for everyone. We don't know what tomorrow will bring but we do know that we will face it together and that when we do get there, Horton Center will be there to welcome us to the mountain to have once in a lifetime, mountaintop experiences, over and over again!

Know that we are holding you all in our prayers and can't wait to see you back at camp in 2021! We are so ready!

Peace,
Tim Hughes, Executive Director Horton Center

Volunteer to be a Counselor

Be not afraid! Counselors go through background checks and are trained and supported by the staff. Your week at camp will touch lives in ways you can't even imagine, perhaps even your own. Be transformed by fresh mountain air, beautiful country, the covenant of community, and the tangible presence of God.

Email to: HortonCenter@nhucc.org or call 603-545-9660



What is Pilgrim Lodge?

Pilgrim Lodge (PL) is our sister site owned by the Maine Conference United Church of Christ near Augusta, Maine. Set on beautiful Lake Cobbooseecontee, PL offers a similar camp philosophy. If none of the Horton Center camp sessions work for you, or if you want a second camp experience, please check out the PL website: www.pilgrimlodge.org for the latest info on their offerings this coming summer.

Contact Horton Center at HortonCenter@nhucc.org | 603-545-9660
Find us on Facebook Horton Center (Official FB Site) Follow us on Instagram @hortoncenter

We are really eager to speak to you and your church about the exciting things happening at camp!

Horton Center

Creation Speaks

2021

3 4 5 6 7 8 9 11 12 2021 Grad 16 y/o + ADULTS ALL AGES

Registration begins December 15th! No deposit until January 15th www.HortonCenter.org

SUMMER 2021 CAMP SCHEDULE

Pre Camp

Opening Work Days

May 14-16 - Deans: *Rueben Rajala & Tim Hughes*

No charge, donations accepted. Help prepare Horton Center for a summer of campers. Folks are invited to come up for the day or come for a few days to spruce up the camp. Youth 16 years or older are welcome with adult supervision and signed parent permission. See the website for registration instructions.

16 y/o + ADULTS

Confirmation Retreat

May 21-23 - Dean: *Ann Desrochers*

What does the United Church of Christ have to do with my life and my church? Do my beliefs and dreams fit with the UCC? What does the phrase, "God is still speaking" mean anyway? Come join us for a 2-night retreat so that we can talk about questions like these! Youth from NH Confirmation classes will gather for worship, music, discussion, good food and games.

\$140 / \$160 / \$190

7 8 9

Open House on Pine Mountain!

June 19 - Deans: *Tim Hughes, Tivvi Paré & Gordon Rankin*

All are welcome! No charge, donations accepted. Explore Horton Center for a few hours! New campers see where you'll be staying! Arrive at 11 and hike up to worship on Chapel Rock, followed by a cookout, tours, and games. Head home by 4pm.

ALL AGES

Week 1 - July 4-10

MADD (Music, Art, Dance, Drama)

Deans: *Tara Olsen Allen & Liz Ushinski*

Music, art, dance and drama are your thing or you want to find out if they are, come to this creative week. Sing and play songs! Create art with meaning! Move to the music or to the silence! Make up skits and play theater games! And of course all the usual camp fun like hiking, rock climbing, caving, archery games and much more!

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

3 4 5 6

Adventure Camp Jr

Dean: *Laura Hienrichsen*

What's your favorite kind of adventuring? Hiking? Rock Climbing? Camping? Canoeing? Canoeing? Come join us for this action packed week of camp and do them all! Plus all your favorite Horton Center activities like challenge course, archery, arts and crafts, singing, worship, campfires and more!

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

6 7 8

ALLED

Deans: *Rob Grabil & Ann Desrochers*

Community and Learning - Leading Every Day! Ever consider what God is calling you to do? Been Confirmed and thinking, "Now what?" Love wrestling with these and other deep questions while enjoying all that Pine Mountain and the forest has to offer? Then we want you to join our action-packed, spiritual, community-building outdoor adventure and see what amazing things might happen!

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

9 10 11 12

Week 2 - July 11-17

New Things

Deans: *LeeAnne Steenhoek & Rob Grabil*

This is a great way to spend a whole week at Horton Center for the first time! We'll make new friends and connect with old friends, we'll branch out and try new activities like rock climbing, hiking, arts and crafts, and challenges. Join us as we play together, worship together and have a great time together!

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

3 4 5



Archery 1&2

Deans: *Mike Simons & Max Gehring*

Grab your bow & quiver, and learn the ways of archery at this high-energy week! Now for Sr High too! Emphasizing safety and proper technique, we'll spend 2-3 hours daily shooting and developing skills. Lots of fun archery activities and challenges, too! Some time all together, and some separated by age, meeting all campers needs. And activities like rock climbing and hiking, too!

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

6 7 8 & 9 10 11 12

Week 3 - July 18-24

Climate Buddies

Deans: *Peter Lovett & Judy Bryant*

Everything, everyone is very good (Gen. 1:31) Climate Buddies will gently explore the natural setting on Pine Mountain - rock ledges, birds, trees, bees, streams and more! And, we will marvel at how good and interconnected everything is. Art, songs, bible stories and courageous words of Greta Thunberg will help campers to see how they can play a role in caring for God's creation. Come join us as we celebrate the natural world!

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

3 4 5

VT takes a Hike to the MT

Dean: *Laurie Chipman*

VT @ the Lake is taking a hiatus from the lake at Rock Point and hiking to the Mountain! Come join us on Pine Mountain and unite with middle schoolers from the Green and White Mountains (VT & NH). God's spirit will be in all we do at camp this week as we hike, play, pray, sing, do some arts and crafts, and discover our own courage through games, challenges, and much more!

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

5 6 7 8

Sr High

Deans: *Gordon Rankin & Max Gehring*

Whether it's your first time or your 12th time at Horton Center, come for a week that will change the world - a time to share our most fervent prayers! We'll learn how to be community together through hiking, games, Pinkham ledge sleep outs, and life changing conversations.

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

9 10 11 12

Week 4 - July 25-31

Hogwarts on the Mt.

Deans: *Megan Magrath & Wendy McLean*

You're a Wizard! Join us for an enchanted week celebrating God's wondrous wizardry Harry Potter style. Experience the magic and amazement of Hogwarts on Pine Mtn. Play Quidditch, learn 'spells', create 'charms', prepare 'potions' and make new friends. Discover the mysterious and miraculous magic God's presence can have in your life. Muggles are welcome!

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

4 5 6

Middler

Deans: *Jon Gray & Lily Nutt*

Join us for an exciting week like no other. Be part of our community as we play, pray, sing, hike, craft, chill and grow. Middler week at Horton Center will have you laughing out loud! You might even hear a story about a bird.

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

7 8 9

Adventure Camp Sr

Deans: *Ashley Sylvester & Jack Davidson*

Love an adventure? Love to explore? Love camp-y things? Join us for an experience packed week of living-in and exploring God's backyard. Outdoor cooking, outdoor sleeping, swimming, singing, games, and all of our camp friends new and old. What a time we will have! I hope to see you here!

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

10 11 12

Week 5 - August 1 - 7



Arts and Adventures

Dean: *Sally Tinkham*

Do you love to draw, sing, dance, play music, make sculptures or act? Do you love the outdoors? Then this is the camp for you! Make lots of new friends as we try out our creative side and explore all that Horton Center has to offer: hiking, rock climbing, archery, swimming, carving, campfires, smores, and worship at our stunningly beautiful Chapel Rock!

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

3 4 5

Arts on the Mountain 1 & 2

Dean: *Anja Nordstrom & Dave Bell*

Come cultivate your creativity through the beauty of Pine Mountain. This camp will have all the arts activities you love! Whether you want to jam out, practice your acting skills, bust a move on the dance floor, or craft away there is something for you. We will build a caring, accepting community as we share our artistic gifts with each other.

\$480 / \$545 / \$650

6 7 8 9 & 10 11 12 2021 Grad

Post Camp

Peace, Faith & Rejuvenation

August 12-15 - Deans: *Enmi Sander & Alex Cross*

Formally Trails & Passages, we invite women from all walks of life to rejuvenate and ground themselves on Pine Mountain. Recharge, restore, hike, and relax with us for this guided spiritual 4-day weekend.

\$195/ \$220 / \$245

Adult Women

Family & Friends

September 3-6 - Deans: *Eddie & Stephanie Nadolny*

Families of all configurations and friends of all ages, come close out the summer with a trip to the mountain! All are welcome to join us for this 3-day, multi-generational camp Labor Day weekend. We will gather Friday night and spend two full days enjoying a full schedule of camp activities with options available for those 3-73 years young, or more!

\$155/ \$175/ \$205

ALL AGES

Confirmation

October 1-3 - Dean: *Ann Desrochers*

What does the United Church of Christ have to do with my life and my church? Do my beliefs and dreams fit with the UCC? What does the phrase, "God is still speaking" mean anyway? Come join us for a 2-night retreat so that we can talk about questions like these! Youth from NH Confirmation classes will gather for worship, music, discussion, good food and games.

\$135 / \$155 / \$185

7 8 9

Fall Work Days

October 8-10 - Deans: *Reuben Rajala & Tim Hughes*

It's the time to put camp to rest for the winter. Come for a night or two. Or bring a bag lunch and join us just for the day! Youth 16 years and older are welcome with adult supervision and signed parent permission. Horton Center is beautiful in the fall and the work is so very much appreciated! See the website for registration instructions.

NO CHARGE (DONATIONS ACCEPTED)

16 y/o + ADULTS



CAMP DURING COVID-19

We recognize that the current pandemic will inevitably have an effect on camp in the summer of 2021. We are researching and keeping current on prevention requirements and best practices. We anticipate modifications being made to many camp activities such as drop-off, pick-up, bunk assignments, meals, singing, physical contact or proximity, health checks and more. We will be using a multi layered plan including (but not limited to): testing masks, social distancing more frequent and thorough cleaning, cohort groups, and staying outdoors as much as possible. As the science and understanding of how to minimize it's spread and treat COVID19 improves, we will adjust and improve our plan accordingly. As much as we all want to get back up to camp, we will only have campers in person if we truly believe we can keep everyone safe and healthy. Please go to www.hortoncenter.org/COVID for the most current information about the extraordinary measures we'll be using at Horton Center to keep our campers, volunteers, staff, and families safe.



Youth at Synod

The UCC's (first ever virtual!) General Synod 33 will be held on July 11-18, 2021, and it's going to be great! The theme is "Rooted in Love". Plans are underway for a Youth@Synod program which will have workshops, gathering events, chat groups, social media challenges, keynotes and more! Topics will include: the environment, eradicating racism, LGBTQ concerns, global ministry and more! There will be a Young Adult program as well. Details and how to register will be found on our National UCC website: www.UCC.org. Don't miss this chance to connect with your UCC brothers and sisters from all across the country!

