



ILLINOIS CONFERENCE UCC CAMP SUNDAY 2026

The ILUCC Outdoor Ministries Committee is encouraging churches in the Illinois Conference to host a “Camp Sunday” sometime in April. You pick the Sunday – we provide the resources and ideas! The theme is: **“Explore the Outdoors. Engage Your Faith.”** As you might be aware, both Tower Hill and Pilgrim Park are becoming their own separate 501(c)3 organizations and will no longer be owned by the Conference. However, the Conference’s support of Outdoor Ministries and our two beautiful camp sites continues on!

In this document you will find information about the camps and ideas for hosting your own CAMP SUNDAY! In addition, we are also providing the following resources:

- A worship bulletin including liturgy that is adaptable to your needs/format.
- Ready to print bulletin inserts with information about Tower Hill and Pilgrim Park.
- A sample sermon.

Ideas for hosting a successful Camp Sunday:

- ❖ Mission Moment:
 - Do you have people in your church who have been to camp either as a youth or an adult? Invite them to speak about what camp means to them.
 - If you would like to have someone speak but don’t have someone from your church who can, we have a list of folks at the end of this document who are willing to come!
 - We are also hoping to have a video created that you can use, but it is still in process.
- ❖ Camp Songs:
 - Do you and your church have some favorite or beloved camp songs? Include them as part of your worship service that day.
- ❖ Promote your Camp Sunday in advance
 - Find ways to be creative about it
 - Encourage people to wear camp shirts to worship that day
- ❖ Collect an offering to support the camps – you can even do a month-long collection!
 - Donation information can be found on page 3 of this document.

General Information and Talking Points

About Pilgrim Park

Pilgrim Park is in Princeton, Illinois. It was established in 1946. Pilgrim Park has grown to 155 acres that includes a mix of forest and prairie land. There are four main lodge buildings as well as eight cabins on site in addition to a pond, creek, pool, sports courts, team building courses, and trails. Pilgrim Park offers a variety of activities, including archery, nature walks, and exploring in paddleboats and canoes.

About Tower Hill

Tower Hill is in Sawyer, Michigan. It was established in 1923. Tower Hill has grown to 60 acres of old dune forest land and includes a private beach on Lake Michigan. It hosts visitors in a wide array of lodgings, including three retreat buildings, four A-frame buildings, a large conference center, cabins, cottages, and a campground. It too offers a variety of activities, including team building/low ropes, sand volleyball, archery, hiking, and orienteering.

Talking Points

- CAMP IS FOR EVERYONE!
- Both camps offer spacious dining halls and attractive spaces for meetings.
- Adult accommodations are ready for your arrival with bed linens and towels provided.
- Scholarships are available.
- Different ways to use the camps outside of sponsored events:
 - Family reunions, weddings or other celebrations
 - Church retreats – just for a day or overnight retreats
 - ‘Praycations’ or solo retreats
- Both sites are open all year long.

Speakers Available

- Rev. Sarah Lohrbach - Mundelein, IL – will travel up to 50 miles
 - 708-303-6063 (work), sarahlohrbach@ilucc.org
- Ernie Potter – Gilman, IL – will travel anywhere
 - 815-265-4960, epotter@egpcpa.com
- Rev. Sally Scheib – Elmhurst, IL, will travel up to 25 miles
 - 708-307-3230, satscheib@aol.com
- Rev. Connie Leader – Quad Cities – will travel 100 miles
 - 309-738-0107, connie1leader@gmail.com
- Rev. Carol Currier-Frighetto – St. Charles, IL, will travel an hour away
 - 815-277-6041, ambsnana@aol.com
- Rev. Mary Alice Sutter, Springfield, IL, will travel an hour away
 - 217-891-0499, maksuter.23@gmail.com
- Rev. Tracy Heilman, Sawyer, MI, will travel up to 3 hours
 - 779-210-0016, traceyheilman@towerhillcamp.org



HOW TO DONATE



In addition to coming and experiencing our camps firsthand, another way you can support our camps is financially. You can donate to support both camps at the same time or donate directly to a specific site. Directions for how to donate can be found below.

Donating to ILUCC Outdoor Ministries to Support Both Camps

- By check:
 - Make check payable to Illinois Conference UCC.
 - Include “Outdoor Ministries” in the memo line.
 - Use the remittance form here: <https://tinyurl.com/ILUCCRemittanceForm>
 - Mail check and remittance form to the address at the top of the form.
- Online: <https://tinyurl.com/ilconfdonationpage>

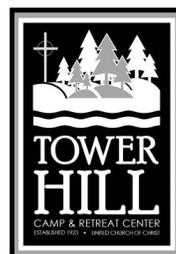
Donating to Tower Hill Camp

- By check - Make check payable to Tower Hill Camp and mail donations to:
Tower Hill Camp
12173 Tower Hill Rd
Sawyer, MI 49125
- Online: <https://towerhill.campbraingiving.com/>

Donating to Pilgrim Park Camp

- By check - Make check payable to Pilgrim Park Camp and mail donations to:
Pilgrim Park Camp
26449 1340 N Ave
Princeton, IL 61356
- Online: <https://pilgrimpark.campbraingiving.com/>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!



United Church of Christ

Outdoor Ministries