

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT NCNC UCC YOUTH & OUTDOOR MINISTRIES

Youth and Outdoor Ministries programs of the Northern California Nevada Conference United Church of Christ offer 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 and 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 leaders dedicated to Christian principles of love.

We invite participants to have experiences at our sites at Camp Cazadero, Camp Tamarack, and other settings suited to particular church community or program needs. It is our intention that each 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 youth and outdoor ministries programs, the conference Outdoor Ministries Committee, Youth Ministry networks, 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 at national and international levels and ecumenically.

It is our hope and commitment that the NCNC UCC youth and outdoor ministries programs 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.