

# 2013 CAMP INFORMATION GUIDE

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## WHEN TO REGISTER

Deadline is June 6, 2013

## HOW TO REGISTER

See the First UCC Pilgrim Point Registration Packet, which is available at the First UCC office or online at [www.firstucc.org](http://www.firstucc.org).

## HOW TO GET MORE INFORMATION

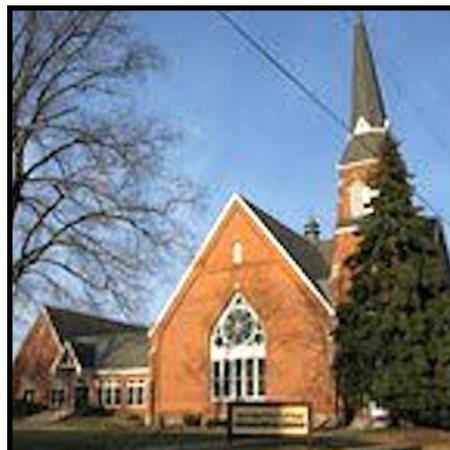
- [www.firstucc.org](http://www.firstucc.org)
- [www.pilgrimpoint.org](http://www.pilgrimpoint.org)
- Phil Kasten (email: [philkasten@gmail.com](mailto:philkasten@gmail.com) or cell: 763:443-5817)

# PILGRIM POINT

camps & retreats,



FIRST UNITED  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Northfield · Minnesota



First UCC's  
Third Annual  
Intergenerational  
Family Camp

• • •

July 19-21, 2013

• • •

This Year's  
Theme: 'Radical  
Hospitality'

***Dear First UCC members and Friends,***

We are hopeful that you will join us for our Third Annual Intergenerational Retreat weekend at Pilgrim Point Camp. Not only is this a lot of fun with a great group of all ages from our congregation, but it is a sacred place to commune with God and nature, and you will emerge refreshed and renewed!



FIRST UNITED  
CHURCH of CHRIST  
Northfield · Minnesota

PPC is our Minnesota Conference UCC Church Camp on Lake Ida, near Alexandria, MN. The camp is on a prominent point extending from the east shore into the middle off the lake, with many waterfront activities (including lifeguards) and a large recreational area.

We will arrive for Friday dinner (either by coach bus or on your own) and stay through Sunday morning. This is open to everyone of all ages and family types, and you may invite others from your community to join us. We welcome everyone to join for an intergenerational gathering in a beautiful and spiritual lakefront setting. This has helped build community among camp participants, and equipped us with tools to continue practicing our faith and recognize the interconnectedness between all and with nature. Be sure to read Michael Garlitz's testimony and look carefully through the information packet – pictures tell the story well!

There will be facilitated activities each day with Pilgrim Point and First UCC staff leadership, in addition to five meals, snacks, and a daily vespers campfire. Recreation includes a beautiful sandy swimming beach with an aqua slide and lifeguards as well as opportunities to kayak, canoe, enjoy playgrounds, ball field, basketball hoops, fish, or perhaps read or do a craft. Hopefully may have yoga in the morning or you can explore the grassy Labyrinth or take a nature hikes. There are several playgrounds, a ball field, and even a Frisbee Golf Course. We might even be arranging for pontoon rides! There will be time for us to engage in activities as a congregation and small groups. We are also looking for volunteers to offer to lead whatever might be of interest.

The accommodations are comfortable and clean. There is a dining hall and recreation hall (both air conditioned!) as well as a large common room in our church's own Lodge with sofas, tables for puzzles and games, etc. We will need volunteer help as well, so please let us know how you'd like to help.

Regarding registration, there again are no set fees. Many commented that they felt the experience was worth far more than they were asked to pay in the first year, and that we should ask for more from each camper, yet we didn't want to place undue financial burden on others and raise the rates. As with the new stewardship model, we turned to open donations and this inspired generous giving (spiritually motivated vs. financially). We would like all to attend and give as they are able. We have faith that collectively all will contribute a dollar amount that not only covers the basic expenses but more generously -- to reflect their support for our time and the ministries at Pilgrim Point. For those who still need a suggested dollar guideline, our basic expenses are ~\$150 per adult, less for children. Amounts that exceed our costs will be gifted to Pilgrim Point, as this camp is an asset to our church as well as to the entire Minnesota Conference. We are a designated "Friends of Pilgrim Point" Congregation for our gift last year, and we hope to continue leading in this way. Note that space on the bus and lodge/cabins/campground is limited, and will be filled in the order registration forms and payments are received (prefer full but partial is acceptable), so please send in your registration ASAP.

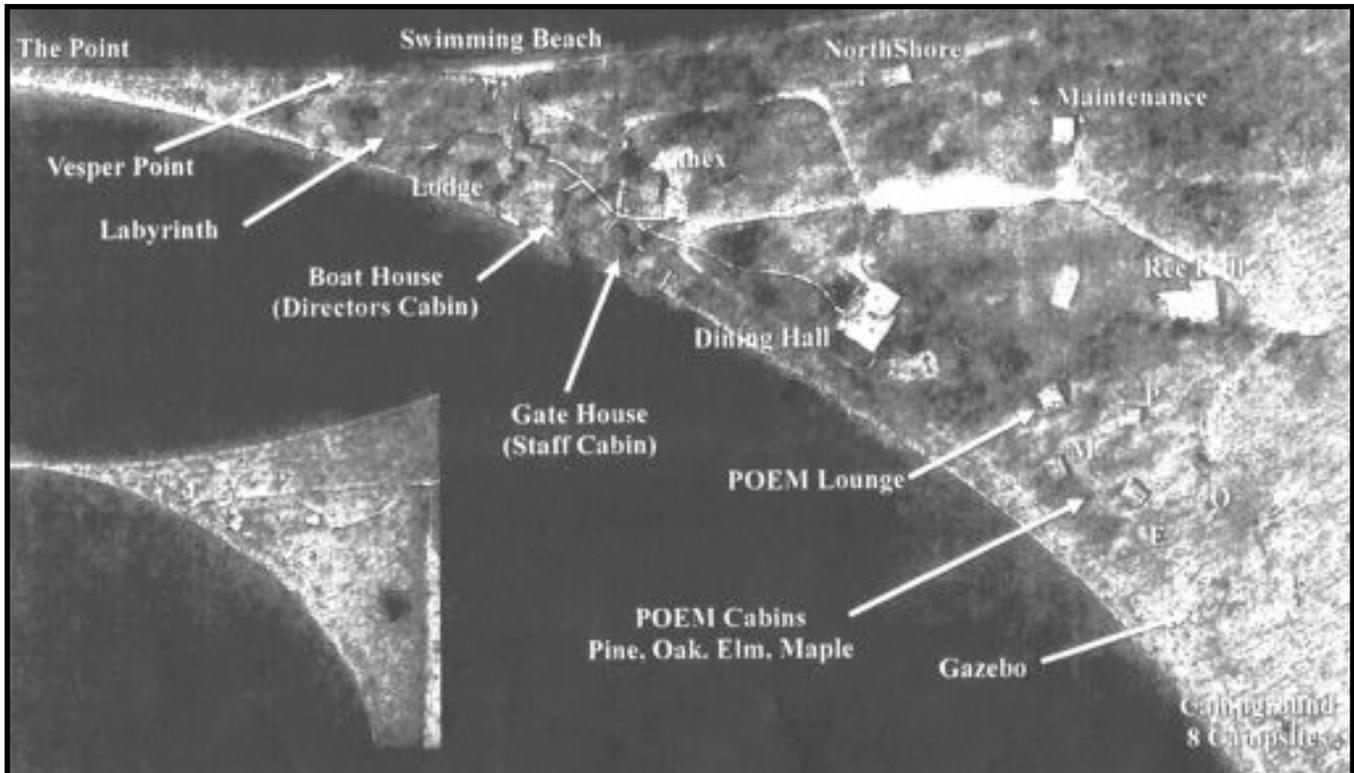
For more information about Pilgrim Point, please visit their website at [www.pilgrimpoint.org](http://www.pilgrimpoint.org).

***Regards, Phil Kasten***

# Welcome to

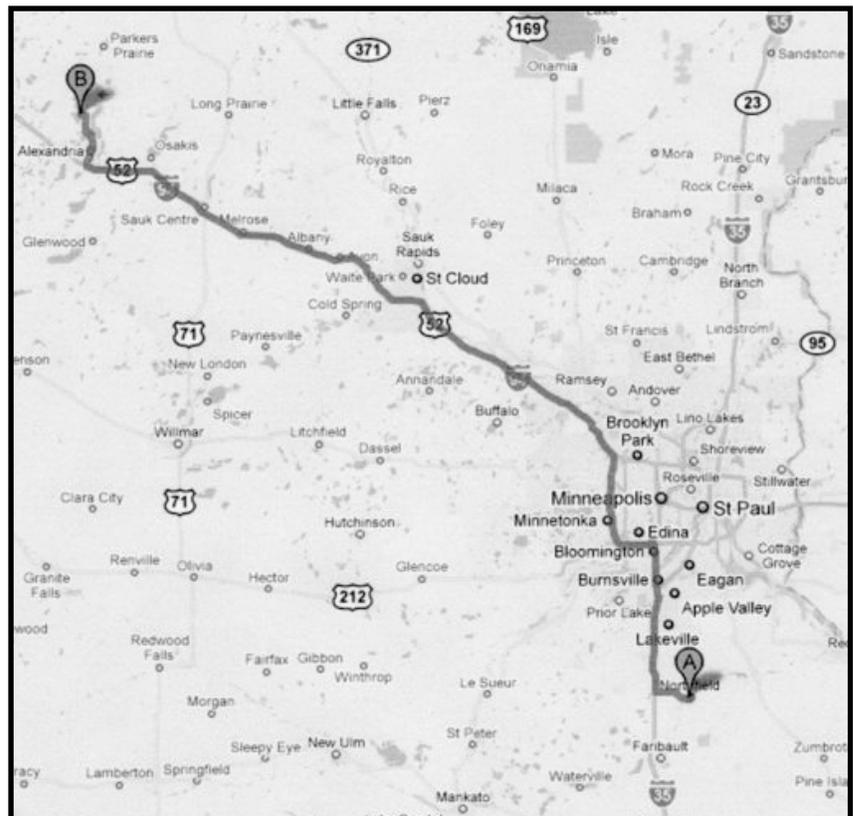
# PILGRIM POINT

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**Pilgrim Point Camp is a ministry of the Minnesota Conference of the United Church of Christ. It is situated on Lake Ida near Alexandria.**

**Pilgrim Point ("B" on the map at right) is about 180 miles northwest of Northfield ("A" on the map)**



# Facilities at

# PILGRIM POINT

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## Vesper Point

Vesper Point is a serene worship space where you can be spiritually nourished and hear from the Still Speaking God.



## Waterfront

This area offers swimming, canoeing, kayaks and water toys to make this the place to be on summer days!



## Campground

The campground has eight electric hook up sites and a short walk to the Gazebo for restrooms and showers.

## Dining Hall

Our Dining Hall seats 120 people around circular tables that fosters a sense of community.



## North Shore Cabin

The North Shore Cabin sleeps 16 with two restrooms and showers. There is also a fantastic view of Lake Ida.

## POEM Cabins

There are 4 POEM Cabins (Pine, Oak, Elm and Maple Cabins) that sit up on "The Hill" at Pilgrim Point.



## Rec Hall

The Rec Hall is the first building you see and is one of our larger buildings that is excellent for programming.

## The Lodge

The Lodge has a lounge with views of Lake Ida and a cool breeze.



# Looking back at past FirstUCC Weekends

PILGRIM POINT  
camps & retreats,



Photos Courtesy of Sarah Forster

# Looking back at past First UCC Weekends

PILGRIM POINT  
camps & retreats,



*Photos Courtesy of Sarah Forster*

# Looking back at past First UCC Weekends



## *What I Did At Summer Camp—As An Adult*

**By Michael Garlitz**

I went to summer camp. And boy, did I have a great time!

Last month, my family joined other members of First United Church of Christ of Northfield on a trip to Pilgrim Point, a lakeside retreat near Alexandria operated by the Minnesota Conference of the United Church of Christ.

To be honest, I didn't know what to expect from camp.

Spending a weekend with people from our church would be nice, of course.

But what about the beds?

What about the mosquitoes?

And, most importantly, what about the food?

My only experience with camp was making two trips to week-long "Outdoor School" during my youth—once as a sixth-grade camper and the other as a counselor during my senior year of high school. But that felt too much like school, with cafeteria lunches, tests, homework and teachers. And besides, the first time I was there, I was bullied. And the other time, I got caught kissing a classmate I didn't even like.

So, my expectations for going to Pilgrim Point weren't too lofty.

But going to camp as an adult is different than going as a child. Instead of fun and games, you look for peace and quiet. And instead of searching for someone to pal around with, you're looking for camaraderie.

I found peace, quiet and camaraderie at Pilgrim Point.

Listening to the rippling water of Lake Ida can soothe the most tense soul and silence the most annoying whine from my children.

As far as camaraderie goes, I had several thought-provoking discussions with members of other churches staying at the retreat that weekend. And, I reconnected with people from my church I thought I already knew.

It's amazing what you can learn about people when you remove them from their everyday surroundings and stresses and have a chance to talk about what really matters in life.

Pilgrim Point is set up like a traditional sleep-away camp, with rustic lodges and cabins, a beach, athletic fields and lots of trees. For vespers and Sunday morning services, there is a small clearing with wooden benches and a weathered cross on the waterfront.

As my adult needs were being fulfilled at camp, I did have time for fun. For instance, after dinner the first night, my kids and I played kickball against another family.

And, the following day, many campers made masks from materials like cardboard, paper maché, pipe cleaners and ribbon. While everyone else made wildly creative masks in a variety of shapes and sizes, my mask consisted of precisely cut construction paper square and triangles, all laid out in groups of three.

I'm not sure what that means.

Leaving Pilgrim Point was tough, as I fell in love with the retreat and grew fond of the people I discovered there. There is little doubt that my family will return soon.

For the record, the beds were cozy, the mosquitoes were numerous and the food was top-notch.

What else could you ask for

***This blog was posted on Northfield Patch  
([www.northfield.patch.com](http://www.northfield.patch.com)) on Aug. 2, 2011***

# FYI ...

## What to bring with you on your trip

- Sleeping bag or linens and pillow
- Bible
- Writing paper
- Pencil or pen
- Towels
- Washcloth
- Soap
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Sunscreen
- Non-aerosol insect repellent
- Money for offering
- Money for Point Shop (*the Point Shop will only be open on the day you arrive and the day you leave*)
- Swimsuit
- Water bottle
- Fishing gear (*optional*)
- Camera (*optional*)

## Items you should NOT bring with you

- Electronic games
- Boom Boxes
- Ipods
- MP3 players
- Aerosol cans
- Tobacco of any kind
- Cell phones
- Fireworks
- Firearms
- Anything that might upset you if you lost it

# Policies and Procedures at Pilgrim Point

## **AVAILABLE TO YOU**

- \* There is water in a cooler in the dining hall. All tap water is drinkable!
- \* There is recreation equipment in a closet in the Rec. Hall: bats, softballs, croquet set, volleyball, kick balls, soccer balls, Frisbees and bases. Please make sure all equipment is put back every evening.
- \* A golf cart is available for persons of limited mobility.
- \* For any maintenance or housekeeping needs during your stay please notify the Site Director or Weekend Host.
- \* The Point Shoppe will be open at various times for your camp essentials and Pilgrim Point wear. Hours will be posted for times during your stay.
- \* Use of equipment, meeting rooms, and other Camp facilities are usually on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **WATERFRONT**

- \* No one shall use the beach or swimming area unless our lifeguard is present. Children under 18 must pass a swim test if they wish to swim in the deep end of the swimming area. Swimming is not allowed outside the swim area. Children must be accompanied by an adult in order to walk past the vespers area.
- \* Lifeguard supervision will be provided during certain hours as are posted at the Camp. most typically during the afternoon recreation period. Any additional hours need to be arranged with the Site Director and are subject to lifeguard availability and lifeguard fee.

## **BOATS & PONTOON**

- \* All persons must wear a correctly-sized lifejacket (adults included) while using any boat, canoe, kayak, pontoon boat, or other water craft at the Camp, whether such watercraft belongs to the Camp or any third party. Lifejackets of various sizes are available under the Boathouse. An adult must accompany all minors in the Boathouse storage area and assure each minor properly wears a correctly-sized lifejacket.
- \* If you wish to use a canoe or kayak belonging to the Camp, please arrange use with the Site Director or the Waterfront Director. Use of such water craft must comply with any rules or requirements posted at the Boathouse or provided by the Site Director or Waterfront Director. Boaters under age 18 need an adult chaperone (at minimum, one adult per every three water craft). Please return equipment used including canoes, kayaks, paddles, and lifejackets to their original storage area.
- \* Pontoon boat rides are possible with advance notice and available staffing. Only staff members are

allowed to operate the pontoon per our insurance company.

- \* Groups may bring their own boats but are responsible for following all the policies of the camp. Use of privately-owned boats in connection with any Camp activities or program must be arranged and approved in advance by the Site Director.
- \* All use of Camp boats, canoes, and kayaks are at the user's sole risk.

## **LINENS/BEDDING**

- \* There are no linens available at this time to rent or use, and groups are expected to bring their own sleeping bags or sheets and blankets.

## **SEVERE WEATHER / SHELTERS**

- \* During severe weather the Site Director monitors weather reports, watches and warnings. The Site Director will notify all campers if a threatening condition arises either by visiting each building or ringing the bell without pause for several minutes, even during the night. Designated shelter areas include the POEM lounge bathrooms, Annex bathrooms, the hallway and bathrooms in the Lodge and the Rec. Hall bathrooms.

## **MEALS**

- \* Only Camp staff is permitted to be in the kitchen due to food regulations and codes. If you need something out of the kitchen (i.e. communion ware) the kitchen staff will provide for it before or after a meal.
- \* There are two mealtime bells. The first will be fifteen minutes before a meal. This is a setters' bell. Please assign someone within your group to the table setting duty. The second bell indicates that the food is ready to be served. After supper and at the last meal of camp, please stack the chairs and sweep, so the floor is ready for staff to mop. There are brooms in the closet next to the men's bathroom. At the first meal please wait for the Site Director to welcome you.

## **DIETARY REQUEST**

- \* The kitchen staff works hard to provide a tasty, nutritious, and well balanced diet. We will attempt to accommodate food allergies that camp users tell us about in advance and vegetarian diets, but not special diets. If you wish to know the menu or make allergy accommodations, please call the Site Director one week in advance.

## **FOOD IN CABINS**

- \* To keep critters out of cabins and the dining hall, please bring scalable containers to store food and snacks that are brought to camp.

**CONTINUED TO NEXT PAGE**

# Policies and Procedures at Pilgrim Point

## **RECYCLING**

\* There is aluminum/tin/plastic/ glass recycling in the green bins outside of the dining hall. Cardboard recycling is in the fenced in area, west of the dining hall.

## **FIRST AID & HEALTH EMERGENCIES**

\* We have a limited supply of basic First Aid items in the Health Office. Let the Site Director or Weekend Host know if you need any First Aid items, and they will assist you.

\* The Conference does not provide medical care or treatment and does not maintain or dispense medications.

\* Camp users are responsible for their own health and medical care and non-emergency medical transportation.

\* Emergency medical transportation is available through local emergency response groups by dialing 911. Contact the Site Director in the case of an emergency. All health emergencies must be reported and documented.

## **TOBACCO**

\* No smoking or other use of tobacco is allowed in any building or outdoors, except for a designated smoking area. The Site Director can help with guidance to a tobacco area that may be used by adults only.

## **ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES, EXPLOSIVES/ WEAPONS**

\* For safety and to protect the camp's guests, grounds, buildings, and wildlife, Pilgrim Point Camp prohibits on Camp property the possession, sale, and use of any illegal drugs or substances, fireworks (including, without limitation, fire crackers, bottle rockets, sparklers, and the like), other kinds of explosives, firearms, ammunition, and other weapons.

\* Pilgrim Point Camp is posted "No Trespassing," "No Hunting," and "The Conference Bans Guns."

## **PARKING**

\* You may park in the gravel area marked with white posts between the ball field and the maintenance shed or in the gravel lot by the POEM cabins. You may drive up to the Lodge, Annex or North Shore to unload belongings, but these are not permanent parking areas, as they are designated for fire emergencies only.

## **PETS AT CAMP**

\* Pets are not allowed in any of the buildings, with the exception of service animals. Upon arrival, the Site Director must be provided with a current proof of rabies vaccination. Owner must clean up feces and it is the owner's responsibility to keep the pet quiet at all times.

## **FIRES**

\* Open fires may be built only in the campfire area and only with prior Site Director approval. An adult camp user must be at the fire at all times and ensure it is entirely out before leaving the campfire area. Fires may be prohibited from time to time because of weather conditions. No firewood may be brought to or taken from the camp to help reduce the spread of emerald ash borer and other insect and disease problems.

## **MISSING PERSON**

\* If a person is thought to be missing, whether at the Waterfront or elsewhere at Pilgrim Point Camp, send an adult to ring the bell (in the hall across from the kitchen) until everyone assembles in the ball field. At said assembly, group leaders are to count the members of their group and report to the supervising staff person.

\* If the missing person is not found through this check, staff will take appropriate action to find the missing person, which may include, without limitation, organizing search parties and/or calling 911. Staff shall contact 911 about the missing person at the earlier of (i) any time staff may feel is advisable or (ii) if the missing person is not found within 30 minutes from the start of the search process.

\* If the missing person is found after a search process begins, the bell is to be run until all search parties have returned to the ball field.

## **ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION**

\* Drinking intoxicating beverages (which includes, without limitation, beer and wine) is prohibited at Pilgrim Point Camp. However, the Site Director may grant, in his/her sole discretion, a waiver for responsible use of a reasonable quantity of intoxicating beverages by adults 21 years of age and older for a specific occasion and limited time period at an adult only camp or retreat. No such waiver shall be granted in connection with or at any camps or retreats where persons under age 21 are present.

\* Notwithstanding this potential waiver, the Conference will not purchase, supply, or distribute any intoxicating beverages or any ingredients for their creation, and the Conference will not monitor or supervise the consumption of intoxicating beverages. All consumption of intoxicating beverages is at the consumer's own risk, and the organization sponsoring or hosting the camp or retreat is solely responsible for knowing about, monitoring and supervising use of any intoxicating beverages and for fully complying with applicable law.