

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Peace Camp- Peace Around The World

Family Handbook 2026



Week 1 (June 1-5)- Exploring Mexico Week 2 (June 8-12) - Exploring Japan

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PHILOSOPHY & VISION

In this Peace camp we respect the rights and dignities of each camper and staff. We expect campers and staff to treat each other respectfully despite any differences in culture, gender, race, religion and varying abilities.

Peace Camp is an opportunity for children, teens and adults to have a week together to explore the outdoors in the summer by building positive relationships in a physical and heart safe environment. We focus on learning and practicing peaceful interactions in nature through biking, hiking, singing, sharing, helping, art, stories and games. In this time together and our activities we increase our gratitude for each other, nature and healthy community.



PROGRAM GOALS FOR PEACE CAMP PARTICIPANTS

1. To provide an opportunity for campers to spend time outdoors involved in a variety of activities enjoying and exploring nature.
2. To provide campers with a variety of small group and larger group activities through art, playing, writing, singing, sharing and skill building.
3. To coach campers on friendship, team building, leadership and conflict resolution skills.
4. To give campers skills of safety awareness in all activities including walking in nature, biking, working with art materials, living in a city as well as in play.
5. To give campers positive feedback regarding skill building, self expression, responsibility, and helpfulness.
6. To give campers the opportunity to connect with peers, adults and groups.

REGISTRATION

Fees, Refunds, Cancellations, and Payment Arrangements

Parents are responsible for the camp week fee unless a scholarship has been applied for even if their child is not in attendance. Cancellation is however, fully refundable prior to May 1.

Early registrants have a reduced rate until May 1. Payments can be by check or cash, mailed in with registration, or by Credit Card on the AUUF website donations page.

Costs: Cost for the week of camp is \$325. Early registration & payment by May 1 is discounted to \$300.

Eligibility Requirements: All children having completed Kindergarten and up to 8th grade are eligible to participate. Children should have a bicycle and have at least rudimentary bike riding skills. Participants must have completed the registration and health forms and meet have adequate abilities to be outside and participating actively in all camp activities for most of the day.

Common camp activities include being part of a group and following directions of the camp counselor, arts and crafts and assorted handwork/ science projects, music and singing with mini concerts for other possible groups, bike skills and bike trips on local trails (length based on ability level as assessed at camp), playground games and competition



Nondiscrimination Statement:



Peace Camp admits campers of any race, color, sexual orientation, or national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to participants at our program. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national or ethnic origin, religion, or disability in its policies.



Children with exceptional needs: We aim to provide safe, educational, and inclusive programming for as many campers as possible. If your child has exceptional needs, please contact our office to discuss whether our program has the capacity to meet your child's needs.

CAMPER ABSENCES

Absences: If a child is still absent by 10:00 am each day, the director or designated person will call parents to verify non-attendance. However, it is ultimately the parent's responsibility to notify the camp director/office of any absences by 8am of the day necessitated .

Camp Director - Jenn Bluntach 218-910-6090 in case of emergencies. The church office number is 907-248-3737.



Substitutes: In the event a counselor is injured or becomes ill during the week your child is enrolled, a qualified substitute will lead the group. Our substitute pool includes Peace Camp volunteers from AUUF.

Emergency Notification:

In the event of a change to the camp; beginning/ending times or cancellation, notification will be made to parents by both text and announced on the AUUF RE Facebook group by 8 am of the day involved.

Any changes in programming during the week will be emailed to all participants.

In the event of an emergency during the camp day, parents will be notified by text and if time allows, attempts will be made to reach families by phone.



Vehicle policy & Parking

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Families are responsible for arranging transportation to and from camp. We ask that drivers follow posted speed limits when traveling to camp. Please follow the direction signs normal for the alleyways when entering and leaving around the property. (Counter clockwise)

Parking location: Please pull around and park each day on the East side of the playground, the designated area will be delineated by orange cones. There will be a sign-in table on the East side of the church building. Volunteers and staff should make use of street parking to the north or the north end of the parking lot to leave the driveways clear for biking activities.

Drop off/ Pick up: Drop off is between 9:15 am-9:30am and pick up is between 3:30 pm-3:45 pm. Please park in the vehicle drop off/pick up zone and remember to sign your camper in and out at the registration table each day.

Parents should plan to make drop off as quickly and gently as possible for their child. After parents sign their camper in, our trusted staff will help campers walk to their groups. After delivering your camper each morning, you are free to leave unless you are a scheduled early volunteer.

We do love our parent helpers!

Parents may visit and volunteer for activities during the day with prior scheduling.

Monday morning, - bring your camper's bike with you at sign in. Your camper will be met by their cabin leader and taken to their cabin space. Parents please take the bikes down the bike ramp on the North side of the building to the bike storage rooms which will be labeled for each cabin group.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

We begin each day coming together as a group under a large gathering tent with songs and music. The cabin groups then follow a set schedule taking them to several workshops throughout the day, such as bike skills and maintenance with bike experts, Tie dying, games, art projects.

We designed a primarily outdoors oriented camp with crafts and projects and appreciating the natural environment. There are always a few Nature projects . The songs we sing usually lead to a bike trip to meet and present a small concert for the elders at the Bartlett Center.

Policy for Biking Trips: Staff are trained and will maintain the safety of all campers. There will be 2 adult leaders and 2 cabin leaders with each biking group. Camp Leaders have been trained in proper bear safety; each leader carries bear spray on them when biking on the trails. All groups also carry first aid supplies and cell phones. Groups are divided according to skill level and ability to participate in longer or shorter rides. Bikes trips can range from 2-10 miles on the Anchorage trail system.



Outdoor Activities

Children participating in our programs should come prepared with appropriate clothing for the weather including footwear to enable them to participate in all camp activities, and to explore Alaska in all weather conditions. Staff are trained and will maintain the safety of all campers. Camp Leaders have been trained in proper bear safety

Meals, Snacks, and Beverages:

Students will be active all day. Families are asked to provide nutritious snacks, a sack lunch, and a beverage (water or 100% fruit juice. We suggest that parents send nutritious snacks and meals; fruits and veggies, a sandwich or protein replacement.

2 labeled snacks should be quick and easy, and then a more substantial lunch.

Counselors will encourage campers to drink water throughout the day and encourage campers to eat their snacks and lunches during designated times.



Discipline/Behavior Management:

Many behavior problems common at school and home disappear when students are in an outdoor setting

When it is necessary to modify the behavior of children, positive behavior management techniques are used.

If a child is unsuccessful in meeting the behavioral expectations of our program, a parent conference is arranged.

If the behavior continues, this could result in dismissal from camp. Corporal punishment is never a component of our program.

SAFETY POLICIES



Rules Concerning Personal Belongings:

Every child will keep his/her belongings in a personal daypack. Each camper will need an appropriately sized and maintained personal bicycle for use at camp all week. They will also need a helmet that fits! Bicycles & helmets will remain at the camp overnight in the locked building.

If families need use of the bicycles during the week, they will need to be brought back each day.

We ask that all non-essential personal belongings such as, cellphones, sports equipment, electronic games, and cards be left at home. **AUUF/Peace Camp is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items while at camp.**

Drugs and Alcohol Policy: Tobacco products, smoking, alcohol, drugs are prohibited in all Peace Camp programs; and on the grounds of camp and any other areas camp programs may take place.

Weapons: As per AUUF policies, firearms and explosive devices and other weapons are not to be brought onto AUUF property with the exception of law enforcement officers acting in their official capacity. Failure to comply with this policy shall be grounds for removal from AUUF property.

Animals: Pets are prohibited unless approved for a specific activity.

Liability Insurance; Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, sponsoring entity, has a million-dollar general liability insurance policy. We do not carry health & accident coverage for campers; you must carry your own insurance.

Illness or Injury:

We do not have a Health Center at Peace camp. We will have a nurse who will review all campers medical information prior to camp and will be available nearby by phone during the week. We will have 1st Aid supplies available for minor scrapes.

If your camper is injured or becomes ill while at camp, attempts will be made to contact the child's parent/guardian to discuss next steps and if the camper needs to go home for the day. This will be via phone, or text depending on the severity of the illness/injury.

If parent/guardian is unreachable, staff will attempt to contact the emergency contacts listed on the medical form. Staff will document this in the health log. If no one is reachable and it is not advisable for the child to continue with group activities or is requiring medical attention; Staff will continue to attempt contact with the parents. In case of severe injury, 911 will be called and the child will be taken to a local medical facility by paramedics.

In the event that your campers health changes after registration and health forms are submitted, please contact the camp in writing with the new health information.

If your camper is injured or becomes ill during the camp week, please notify the camp before camp begins on the subsequent day to the health issue.

Medication: Peace Camp staff members are not authorized to administer any medication(s) to children, including aspirin and topical applications such as sunscreen. If medicine needs to be administered while your child is in our program, we will need the child to self administer or the parent will need to come and administer the medication. Epi pens should be carried by the child in their backpack, if needed.

Childcare: Morning before care will be at the camp by prior registration and arrangement 8am-9:15am with childcare teens. Afternoon camper care is 3:45pm - 5:00pm.



Child Abuse Reporting:

Alaska State Statutes and Anchorage Child Care Center Regulations require that all licensed child care providers report all incidents of suspected or actual abuse and neglect of children regardless of whether they occur in or are related to the facility. This facility is therefore obligated by law to report such incidents within 24 hours to the Alaska Division of Family and Youth Services Child Protection Office: 269-4000. Centers are required to notify the Municipal Child/Adult Care Licensing Office of incidents which allege a child was abused or neglected when the center is responsible for the child.

Municipal Child/Adult Care Office: 343-4758 or 343-6730.



PEACE CAMP

CAMPER SKILL BUILDING OUTCOMES

- Campers will learn basic skills for making and maintaining positive social connections.
- Campers will learn basic skills for resolving differences with others.
- Campers will learn basic safety skills in biking and walking on trails and in urban areas.
- Campers will learn to check and remedy the safety features on their bikes such as brakes, tires, wheels, seats before riding their bikes.
- Campers will gain self awareness regarding feelings, wants and needs.
- In the context of the camp experience campers will learn independence skills regarding their needs for comfort in the out of doors during different weather conditions and activities.
- Campers will become aware of self sufficiency skills and learn to ask for assistance to insure their safety and comfort.
- Campers will learn to contribute to team and group activities cooperatively and playfully.





PEACE CAMP

JUNE 1-5 AND JUNE 8-12, 2026

9:30AM-3:30PM

K-8TH GRADE

Our annual Peace themed camp is designed to develop skills and attitudes: to build harmony in oneself, manage conflict with others and appreciate the natural environment.

Filled with loads of summer fun, music, crafts, bicycling and other adventures!

Our camp for children who will be in 1st - 8th grade is held outdoors with age based cabin groups meeting under tents and canopies..

Accreditation: Peace Camp is accredited by the American Camping Association 5000 State Road 67 North Martinsville, IN 46151-7902. We joined the Association in January 2024 and are certified with safety protocols and standards at our camp.

Peace Camp (TDC) is a program of The Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, a 501c3 non-profit.

