



Outdoor Ministries April = “To Open”

“April” is derived from the Latin word **aperit**, which means to open. This is so appropriate for Templed Hills Camp and Outdoor Ministries. April is traditionally a month where we are flung open in so many ways! This year is no exception. As we emerge from the long winter cooped up in our houses, this year more than ever, we look forward to gathering again in God’s great Outdoors! Site reservations are now open in our new online reservations system, Sumer Camp registration is open, spring cleaning and repairs are in full swing, summer camp staff hiring is in process, and God’s creation is in full

bloom. After more than a year of isolation, Templed Hills is a great place to reconnect whether that is “outside/masked/distanced” or closer for small groups and those who are fully vaccinated. **Read more to learn how you can be involved “April” or “to open” Templed Hills Camp and Conference Center.**

Site Reservations: Now is the time to make reservations for your group to come to Templed Hills for later this year or next year! Did you miss close connections this past year? Templed Hills is a special place set apart from our daily realities that allows you to connect with Christ and each other. Until we reach vaccination herd immunity, we have plenty of outdoor space as well as room for groups to gather with separate rooms for each family. You may already have groups of adults you know who are fully vaccinated or will be soon. Start planning now. How about a retreat for an Adult Sunday School Class, a men’s or women’s group, or a family group?

On-line reservation is now open! Just click [here](#). You will choose “Day Use, Meals, or Overnight”, then choose the number of days, and then choose the date you are looking for to see what is available. For example, you are interested in planning a women’s retreat in August. Choose “overnight” for the category, choose 2 nights (Friday and Saturday night), and then click on the calendar until you get to August, choose the day you want to come out and then you will get a list of facilities available. Just click “reserve” on the building you want, and it will go into your cart. Just click check out and answer the questions. If you are reserving the space for a group that is part of one of our Congregations that make up the Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ (over 300 congregations in Ky, OH, or WV), then you get a discounted rate. Be sure to choose the first price group.

Did you know that Templed Hills is available for non-church groups too? Are you involved with a community group like Kiwanis, a business group, a youth group like a 4-H club or Girl/Boy Scout troop, or looking for a place to hold a family reunion? Consider Templed Hills. Use the same link and directions to book your event, choosing the 2nd “other groups” price group.



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Spring cleaning and repairs at Templed Hills:

Are you spring cleaning at your home? Your “second home” Templed Hills, has lots of projects that need done as well. We have a variety of projects available, from simple tasks such as cleaning, gardening, or moving sticks/wood, to projects that take more skills like basic “home” repair or even some that will use your carpentry skills. Join us on April 10th or May 8th to join or lead an existing group or gather a group of people you’d like to work with and or choose another date that works for your group and let me know. We’ll talk to you ahead of time to pair you with the right project. Click [here](#) to register or contact Jill Frey, Executive Director of Outdoor Ministries, at jill@heartlanducc.org or 740-901-0734 to lead a project on a different day.

Summer Camp Registration:

After more than a year of isolation and disrupted social schedules, what our kids need most is time and a safe space to gather and re-connect! Summer camp has always been a great place for everyone to connect on a deeper level with each other and with Christ under the supervision of caring and loving adults. This year we need this more than ever. We know that Covid-19 is still among us and we are taking lots of precautions for all events happening on site and also offering family events, as well as virtual events to meet your family’s needs. For on-site events we are asking participants to monitor their health and avoid risky exposures two weeks prior to camp, pass a screening upon arrival, wear masks consistently, and participate at camp in the same small group of 10 or less for their activities, including eating and sleeping.

Join us for

Youth camps:

- Choir Camp June 13-19 for ages 7-18 who love to sing!
- Sports Camp June 20-26 for ages 7-18 who love to be active!
 - This session will be a Hybrid – half a week on site and half week virtually. A great option for new campers who want to try it this year!
- Music, Mime, Arts, Dance, and Drama (MMADD) Camp for ages 7-18 who love the Arts!
- Faith Adventures, for 9–11-year-old who want to “try it all” at camp!

Family camps:

- Grands and Family: June 16-19 and July 5-8
- Parker Ridge Self Contained Family camping Weekends May, and August – October
- DIY (Do it yourself) Days in May – a great way for your family to come out and enjoy the day – great for new or returning families. Bring a sack lunch and join us.

Adult Women! Join us for



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- Hanging with the Spirit July 15-18 for Canoeing or hiking!

Click [here](#) for the reservations calendar. To register, find the date of the event you are interested in and click. Please note parents must register their own children for resident camp, we have a new registration system so usernames and passwords from last year won't work, you must complete the registration in one sitting so please have all of your medical and emergency contact information available before you start.

Questions? Come to our zoom family information session on April 17th. Please register through the [calendar](#). Or contact Jill Frey, Executive Director of Outdoor Ministries, at jill@heartlanducc.org or 740-901-0734.

Summer Camp Staff Needed!

We are still looking for paid staff for the entire camp season and also volunteer staff for one week at a time.

Paid staff needs include Cook, Health Supervisor, Program Specialist, Lifeguard and general help. Contact Jill Frey, Executive Director of Outdoor Ministries, at jill@heartlanducc.org or 740-901-0734 for a job description and application today.

All of our camp sessions are also in need of volunteer counselors. Can you spare a week to help a small group of children have a great time connecting with each other and Christ? We can't do it without you. Training and support are provided! Register today online by choosing the sessions marked "volunteer".