

Summer Finale 2026
Sept. 11-13 for overnight camping
and/or
Sept. 12, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. day-only option
Camp Bishopswood, Hope, ME



This is an annual celebration offered by the Episcopal Diocese of Maine and is a fantastically fun way to be blessed by Camp Bishopswood and its beauty, to meet Episcopalians from around the diocese, and to be with God in an intergenerational community. We hope this Frequently Asked Questions Guide will help you learn more about Summer Finale, and we hope to see you there!

Who: All are welcome... we really mean it! Although Camp Bishopswood serves our youth during its regular season, Summer Finale is a time when *everyone* joins the fun! That means

households or individuals, that means friends and family, and that means YOU, whoever you are!

What: Summer Finale is a three-day event that welcomes people to come stay in camper cabins at Camp Bishopswood and to play (a lot!) in our beautiful Maine woods. Meals are offered in the dining hall on a set schedule, and there are several outdoor activities and prayer opportunities offered throughout the weekend. It's a relaxed setting where folks can choose what, and how much, they'd like to join.

Want to skip the overnight? No problem! Join us on Saturday, Sept. 12 for a day program (see below for full schedule), including lunch on us!

When: This is an annual gathering. This year, check in begins at 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 11 and participants will pack up following breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 13 (to depart by noon).

The day-only option begins at 10 a.m. on Sept. 12, ends at 4 p.m., and includes lunch.

Where: Our very own, totally beloved, Camp Bishopswood! The camp is located on Lake Megunticook in the town of Hope, about five miles from Camden.

Why: Relationships, rest and play matter to communities of faith! We are so blessed to have Camp Bishopswood as a place of play, relaxation, and growth in our diocese. Camp and diocesan staff work together each year to ensure we can all build an intergenerational community that is larger than our home parishes.

How: Households/Individuals [REGISTER USING THIS LINK](#), and select how many days you'll stay, how many meals you'll eat, and what type of accommodation you'd like. Then you arrive in September and relax with us! If you need any help getting started with the planning process, please be in touch with the Rev. Emily Keniston, director of Faith Formation at ekeniston@episcopalmaine.org.

Summer Finale 2025 Plan

Friday

(Retreats for Earth Keepers and the Lay Preaching Cohort begin at 10 a.m., each following their own schedule)

5:00 p.m. Check in (rolling check ins are available- email Emily)

5:55 Gather in song at porch steps for dinner

6:00 Dinner

7:30 Compline at the waterfront campfire

8:00 Campfire at waterfront

10:00 All camp quiet

Saturday

(Italics indicate one-day program)

7:30 a.m. Morning prayer at Chapel Rocks

7:55 Gather in song for breakfast on the porch steps

8:00 Breakfast

10:00 Welcome message for day program at waterfront campfire, optional pop-up workshops will be announced, all invited to participate in welcoming a larger circle!

12:20 Gather in song for lunch

12:30 p.m. Lunch

3:00 Eucharist hosted by our Earth Keepers at campfire

3:30 Popsicles at the bell tower

4:00 Day program concludes

5:20 Gather in song for dinner

5:30 Dinner

7:30 Compline prayer at Chapel Rocks

8:00 (ish) Campfire

10:00 All camp quiet

Sunday

7:30 a.m. Morning prayer at Chapel Rocks

7:55 Gather in song for breakfast

8:00 Breakfast

12:00 Check out with cleaned-out cabins

A few of the activities on offer for us during Summer Finale (but none of which are required):

Swimming*

Canoeing*

Paddle boarding*

Kayaking*

Fishing**

Crafts in the Art Barn

Walking on the trails, or using the obstacle course

Theater in the Great Hall

Board games (bring your own or use those provided)

And many more ideas!

*Please note there will not be a lifeguard on duty so a parent/guardian must be with children using the waterfront at all times. Boats and life jackets provided.

**Fishing away from swimmers (or by boat) only; bring your own equipment. Please be aware that everyone over 18 needs a fishing license, per Maine law.



How to calculate your cost

Meal breakdown:

\$11.25/breakfast

\$22.50/dinner

Ages 5 and under are 50%

(lunch on Saturday is covered by the diocese for everyone)

Lodging breakdown:

\$15/pp per night in a cabin with shared bathhouse and sleeping area (with a family cap of \$50 max, per night)

\$25/pp per night in a cabin with bathroom and enclosed sleeping area, max 4 people per cabin

\$10/pp tent camping - you bring your tent and can use the bathhouse and bathrooms

When registering, you'll make the appropriate selections and can pay online or send a check.



What to bring to Summer Finale- Day option

Sweatshirt or jacket, hat and sunscreen, bug spray, sunglasses, raincoat in case weather changes quickly

Board games or craft items (to share, if you like!)

Swimsuits and swim towels, possibly goggles or other swim floaties or bubbles, if needed

Fishing equipment, if desired

Board games or crafts to share, if desired

What to bring to Summer Finale - Weekend option

Everything on the Day Option list, plus:

Clothing: Shorts, shirts, long pants, underwear, pajamas (& bathrobe), warm sweater/sweatshirt, windbreaker/jacket, raincoat/poncho, shoes

Toiletries and personal care items

Flashlight or headlamp

Other Necessities: Towels and wash cloth (for showering), sleeping bag, or blanket(s) and sheets (twin-bed size), pillow and pillowcase

We can't wait to see you at Summer Finale this year!