



CAMP RISING SUN MISSION AND MINISTRY - WISCONSIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Afi Dobbins-Mays, Director of Rising Sun Camp
Solomon Community Temple United Methodist Church
3295 N. Martin Luther King Dr. Milwaukee, WI 53212
Cell: (937) 219-6091

Dear Friends and Supporters of Rising Sun Camp,

Now in our 5th year, Camp Rising Sun has become a powerful youth camping experience that supports the outreach mission ministry of the Wisconsin Conference United Methodist Church. Our camp provides spiritual and emotional support to children and families who have been affected by the impact of stigma and loss related to one or more parents being incarcerated. It is important to show these youth and their families that they are not forgotten.

Campers between the ages of 10 to 14 and counselors from age 16-25 experience a week of worship, community building, creative expression and recreation with a focus on building leadership skills. Many youth have never had an opportunity to build self-worth, confidence and faith through camping. At Camp Rising Sun campers and counselors canoe, swim, fish, practice archery, and learn the spiritual gifts that come with building relationships with nature and friends. They also experience traditional camp fire circles and drumming, biking and night hikes. Critically this experience provides an opportunity for youth and young adults to build a stronger understanding of the Christian faith in an atmosphere of exploring and sharing their gifts of poetry, song, dance, theater, instrumental music and caring!

Rising Sun Camp has proven to be a great value not only to the children, who have reported having transformational experiences, but also to their families who have expressed to us how their children coming to camp has positively affected their attitudes and behavior. Over fifty percent of the campers return and attend Rising Sun. We have a talented team of leaders who have consistently worked to provide a quality experience; including a resident therapist who is licensed, and a resident Educator, a certified yoga instructor and many volunteers from the communities in which our children and their families live. We use professional staff to help us provide safe spaces for campers to share their common experience with stigma, while and to find pathways to resilience. Each year, we continue to see the depth of need for families who have an incarcerated family member.

The portion of the cost of camp each year for the youth and their families is only \$5.00. However the actual cost of this entire experience for the campers is \$350.00. We are implementing a new "Support – A – Camper" campaign, that allows church congregations, individuals, and other organizations the opportunity to sponsor campers for their special week at camp.

If you, the members of your congregation, or organizations in your community would like to sponsor a camper, you will receive a certificate of participation as a collaborating member of the Camp and an informational video on each year's program to you thanking you for your support and telling you how your gift made a difference.

Please join your spirit with this effort Contribute to this positive, life changing, experience by calling me with questions at the phone number on this letterhead or by simply sending your support to Camp Rising Sun using the form below and thanks for your consideration in helping us with this worthy outreach ministry.

Sincerely and in Shared Mission with you,

Reverend Afi-Dobbins Mays,

Director of Rising Sun Camp



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Consider how you might help and pledge your gift in one of the following ways donating:

Name of Organization/Individual _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone Information (Mobile) _____ (Land) _____

Fax _____ Email _____

One full week of camp - 350.00 _____

One half week of camp - 125.00 _____

One quarter week of camp - 63.00 _____

Other amount - _____

We appreciate your heart for this mission and any gift that you give towards it.

Please make your checks payable to
Wisconsin Conference UMC and mail
them to:

Heidi Careaga Christ UMC, 112 Hall St., Watertown, WI 53094
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