

Star Gathering 1 Family Conference on Star Island

First Congregational Church of Brimfield Retreat

July 29-July 31 or August 3

An inspirational experience of family, living UCC values, and Star Island magic.

A TYPICAL DAY ON STAR ISLAND

A visit to Star Island has something for everyone, family time, time to be alone, time to build your artistic skills, and time to reflect and recharge. Most of all, it is a chance to be a part of an extraordinary, warm and nurturing community.

Your morning begins with the smell of fresh sea air and the sound of the gulls. If you're a swimmer, you might join the Polar Bears for a morning dip. Coffee is served on the porch at the Oceanic Hotel long before breakfast. The rocking chairs are an early beckon to quietly watch the day begin. A walk around the island might be your preference, or yoga — whatever feels right.

You might attend the first day's workshop, delving into today's important issues, as programming for children and youth gets underway. The big bell on Oceanic's porch rings at 12:30 bringing everyone to the dining room. The mid-day meal is a chance to re-connect with family and friends. Afternoon activities include workshops and activities like softball games, tennis, art, swimming, island wandering, porch chats, or a good long nap.

Social time is held outside so you can watch the sun on its summer stretch across the ocean. Look west to the mainland, or east to the horizon — it's all stunning in its simplicity and charm. Dinner is followed by activities like singing and bonfire, and Talent Show. Maybe, though, you're just as happy with a lime-rickey or ice cream cone from the snack bar and a rocker on the porch.

The day comes to a close with evening chapel service. Walking in silence up the path carrying your lantern is one of the most special, spiritual moments on Star. There are late-night social gatherings for grown-ups and raucous games for the young at heart.

PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

There is programming for children in the mornings, facilitated by trained educators and youth ministers. The organized, morning program aligns with the conference theme and also features traditional activities such as a row to neighboring Smuttynose Island and arts and crafts. Organized afternoon activities are also planned with many opportunities for inter-generational experiences.



Special room and board rates discounted 30% for members of FCC Brimfield for 2 nights (7/29-7/31):

PER-PERSON RATES INCLUDE LODGING, ALL MEALS, AND FERRY TRANSPORTATION

Adults (18+): shared room \$257 | single room \$340 | room with half bath \$314

Youth: Under 6 Free! | 6-11 years \$120 | 12-17 years \$174

We will be sharing the island and activities with the wonderful families and individuals from the UCC “Star Gathering I” family retreat. You are invited to remain on the island as a part of the group for the rest of the week (departing Saturday) for 50% off the normal rates.

Discounted rate for the full 5 nights (7/29-8/3):

Adults (18+): shared room \$370 | single room \$498 | room with half bath \$454

Youth: Under 6 Free! | 6-11 years \$173 | 12-17 years \$248



REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 1: WWW.STARISLAND.THANKYOU4CARING.ORG
See Pastor Dawn to begin the registration process.