

Giving Kids Across Canada the Camp Experience



All across Canada, United Church Camps run programs that connect visitors of all ages to the natural world that God has made for us. If you've ever been to camp, then you'll know just how impactful they can be:

children learn to be self-sufficient, to be self-assured and confident in their abilities. We learn new skills, explore Mother Nature, and – most importantly – have fun while doing it!

Mission and Service is proud to be a supporter and partner of United Church Camps across our country. This year, Mission and Service has already granted more than \$230,000 to 15 different United Church Camps.

In doing so, Mission and Service is ensuring that our camps have the resources they need to offer spots to children who wouldn't be able to otherwise afford to go to camp. Mission and Service grants helped camps make important upgrades and repairs to their facilities and grounds, and bring in new and transformational programming that provides campers with unique insights and perspectives.

Increasingly, United Church Camps have become places of welcoming and belonging. Queer youth – who can be (wrongfully and harmfully) told that the Bible preaches against their existence – are discovering that United Church Camps are places where they can go to reaffirm their faith and be reassured that God loves them, just the way they are.

In Small-town New Brunswick, the Church is the Centre of Community

In Chipman, New Brunswick – along the Salmon River, in a town where the sawmill runs steady and neighbours greet each other by name – community isn't an idea. It's a way of life. For over 126 years, Chipman United Church has been woven into that life. Not on the edges of town, but at its heart.

They'll tell you they're small. Mostly seniors with a handful of youth – four who now help lead worship. A small but excellent choir. Nothing flashy.



Each month, about sixty meals are prepared and delivered through the LIFT program – feeding children, seniors and others in need in the community. The church hall opens to community groups and sports programs. Hot chocolate is poured at the Christmas parade. Members serve across town – in service clubs, outreach programs, wherever there's a need. Showing up isn't an event here, it's a habit.

A few years ago, when some members could no longer get to church, the congregation decided to bring church to them. They hoped maybe twenty people would watch online. Instead, thousands tuned in.