

PRE-CAMP EDITION
Midwest Unitarian Universalist Summer Assembly July 3 - 9, 2022

### Welcome to MUUSA!

I am so glad to be welcoming you back to inperson camp! The Muse is your source of daily information and events at MUUSA.

Your Planning Council has prepared this special "edition of The Muse to help you prepare for camp. Please read it carefully even if you have attended MUUSA before. Inside, you'll find information on:

- · What to bring
- Check-in
- Camp Covid Policy
- Getting settled into your lodgings
- Packing Suggestions
- Youth programming
- Activities and how to plan your day
- The Very Important Guide to Camp Lingo
- Calendars and Daily Schedules
- And more!

New this year - Daily Muse delivered digitally!

MUUSA is committed to practices that are in keeping with our UU values. To that end, we will no longer be printing the daily Muse at camp. Instead campers will go to muusa.org/muse at 5pm every day to access the news for the next day.

Are you someone who prefers to be more unplugged? We will have one-page black and white copies of the week's schedule available at registration. You can also print up the fullcolor calendar pages and schedule found at the end of this Muse and bring them to camp.

We are excited about this change and look forward to having MUUSA be a model for sustainable practices while onsite.

Also new this year - MUUSA Online Store

Everyone gets the shirt they want in the size that works for them Pre-order your MUUSA merchandise by **June 5** at our online store: https://www.bonfire.com/store/muusa/ and your items will be waiting for you at camp!



As we say at MUUSA, "See you next week!"

MUUSA PRESIĎENT



### 2022 THEME: "TO BREATHE ON PURPOSE"

This year, we welcome theme speaker Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, Director of Worship Arts Ministries at First Universalist of Minneapolis. Known for his deeply collaborative creation of worship services for congregations and national gatherings, Glen Thomas teaches worship design at Meadville Lombard Theological School and is the author of the curriculum, De-Centering Whiteness in Worship, with Julica Hermann de la Fuente and Rev. Erika Hewitt. Glen Thomas holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Conducting from the University of Michigan, and prior to the pandemic, traveled internationally to support the choir of his youth in its ensemble tours.

# MUUSA COVID SAFETY GUIDELINES

To be together for the week and traveling from across the country in these times requires a degree of trust and commitment to protecting each other so that MUUSA remains a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. We should recognize that while Missouri may have different requirements than our own states, in concert with our seven Principles we can hold ourselves to a higher standard of regard for each other's health.

#### **VACCINATION FOR COVID**

As stated in our Brochure, we expect all campers to be fully vaccinated to attend MUUSA, meaning having received any and all boosters for which you are eligible. At this time, other than children under five years of age, all campers should have received at least one dose of Johnson & Johnson, two doses of Pfizer or Moderna, and one booster when eligible. If you have not kept up to date with the vaccination schedule prior to camp due to legitimate medical reasons, we ask that you contact the OmsBuddy, Jesse Hardin, so we discuss if an attendance is appropriate at this time. We will ask campers for COVID vaccination documentation, and will provide an email address where you can submit your proof of vaccination prior to attending MUUSA.

### **COVID TESTING PRIOR TO MUUSA**

We recommend testing yourself and your attending family members by PCR or rapid tests prior to arrival at camp. Any positive individuals should self-isolate, ideally by not coming to camp. There are many resources to obtain rapid tests, including free tests delivered by USPS mail from https://www.covid.gov/tests (where you can now order a 3rd round delivered to your house), as well as reimbursements from insurance for tests, or local health clinics.

Stay up-to-date with the latest CDC guidelines: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/whats-new-all.html

#### **SYMPTOMS**

Please do not come to camp if you have symptoms for which you do not have a non-COVID diagnosis including:

Fever or chills ~ Cough ~ Fatigue ~ Headache ~ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing ~ Muscle or body aches ~ New loss of taste or smell ~ Sore throat ~ Congestion or runny nose ~ Nausea or vomiting ~ Diarrhea

#### MASKING BY CAMPERS

We recommend that everyone at MUUSA use masks where situationally appropriate. Barrier masks remain an effective tool to reduce the transmission of the virus that causes COVID. We recommend masking indoors in the presence of others that are not immediate family. Masks, properly covering nose and mouth, will be required for Morning Celebration. Gaiters or bandanas are not acceptable, therefore consider an N95, KN95, or KF94 mask for the week to protect yourself and others. Masks are not necessary outdoors, but it's still a good practice to wear them when social distancing is not possible or in close proximity with others (e.g., Contra dancing). The Childrens' programs will use masks where appropriate for their activities.

### **COVID POSITIVE AT MUUSA**

If campers develop symptoms, or are determined by health officials to have contracted COVID while at camp, we reserve the right to request that you isolate while positive. Subject to space availability, we will try to provide isolation and quarantine quarters for those that can't immediately return home.

### **COVID POSITIVE PRIOR TO MUUSA**

If you test positive in the days leading up to MUUSA, we ask that you stay away from camp until at least five days have passed (starting the day after your positive test or the start of symptoms, whichever is earlier) and your symptoms are resolving. A negative rapid test is

# FIRST THINGS FIRST...

### PACKING LIST FOR ADULTS & TEENS

For youth - pillow, sleeping bag or twin sheets

Casual clothing (shorts, tops, underthings)

Long pants for hikes, or chilly evenings

A device for accessing daily E- MUSE

Art, craft supplies for leisure

Musical instruments/music

Note pad/journal/pens

Rain jacket or umbrella

Reusable water bottle Bug repellent

Reusable coffee mug Sunscreen

Sturdy walking shoes Sunglasses

Beach shoes Toiletries

Beach towel Vax Card

Swim suit Flashlight



The perfect water bottle for camp can be found at our online store: https://www.bonfire.com/store/muusa/

Order by June 5!

### **PACKING LIST FOR CHILDREN**

Sturdy walking/closed-toe shoes Shorts, tops, underthings Long pants for horseback riding Swim suit

For 10+ year olds:

 Clothes that can get very dirty and tightly-fitting shoes for the Mud Cave

Each day, children should bring a tote or backpack with everything labeled:

- · Beach shoes
- Rain jacket
- Swim suit
- Reusable water bottle
- Beach towel
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Bug repellent

For those in the Nursery:

- Extra diapers and set of clothing
- Bottles of milk or formula, if needed

### WHAT IS PROVIDED?

Rooms are supplied with bed linens, bath towels, blankets, soap. Please bring your own toiletries.

Food in the Dining Hall is plentiful but feel free to bring snacks and beverages for evening gatherings and Coffeehouse. Bring a travel mug to carry coffee out of the Dining Hall.

Please note that alcohol is only permitted in designated areas and private patios/cabins; no alcohol at all is allowed in the Camp Lakewood side of the property.

Some games are available on the 3rd Floor of Trout Lodge. MUUSA also supplies board games and puzzles.

Danette Jeffries, our Logistics Coordinator, is the Trout Lodge liaison. Please contact her at <a href="mailto:logistics@muusa.org">logistics@muusa.org</a> if you have special needs.

# ...AND NEXT THINGS NEXT



### HOW TO START YOUR MUUSA JOURNEY

- Pack the car, realize you packed way too much, unpack and remove 50% of your clothing; repack the car.
- Check directions on www.muusa.org or on the last page of this newsletter; your GPS may steer you wrong.
- Non-driving passenger— take picture of St. Louis Arch though window.
- Stop at Dicky Bub in Potosi for the stuff you realized you forgot to pack.
- Stop at Walmart for stuff that Dicky Bub doesn't sell.

### WHAT IF MY ROOM ISN'T READY?

Please be patient. Enjoy the beach, visit the Arts & Crafts center, play mini-golf, start a conversation with other campers.

Take your child for a swim test.

(They are offered at the beachfront every hour on the hour.) Look forward to dinner which starts at 5:15pm.



### 2:00 - 5:00pm in Trout Lodge, Mallard Rooms 1 - 3

Please arrive between 2:00pm and 4:30pm so that you can complete check-in before 5:00pm. If you arrive early, we ask that you wait to unload your belongings until you have confirmed that your room is available. Cabins are not likely to be available before 3:30pm.

### When you arrive...

- Park in the upper lot across from Trout Lodge upon arrival. Volunteers will direct you to check-in.
- Head to Mallard Rooms 1-3 (two flights down from Trout Lodge Lobby).
- Check in, get your name badge & MUUSA merchandise, pay any outstanding balances (personal check preferred), and get your camper bracelet.
- Check children in at Children's (Cratty) table.
- Teens check in at Junior High Table (Meyer) or at Senior High School Table (Burt).
- Review your workshop sign-ups.
- Decorate your name badge.

#### If you are in Trout Lodge...

- When your room is ready, retrieve your car and park in front of lodge while unloading.
- After unloading, park back in upper lot.

### If you are staying in a Cabin...

You may drive to your cabin, unload, and then park near your cabin.

### If you have teens in the Jr/Sr High programs...

Drive over to their lodgings to drop off their belongings after checking in. Remember, parents/sponsors are responsible for their teens until after Opening Celebration.

#### Note for Late Arrivals...

Regular check-in will be open from 2:00-5:00pm. Between 5:00-7:00pm, check-in will still be open but no program representatives will be available. If you arrive after 7:00pm, check in with Adrienne Prairie Cruise at the Welcome Party beginning at 8:45pm.



### CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

### **Children's Program Parent/Sponsor Meeting**Sunday from 6:00pm-6:30pm in the Pavilion

Our MUUSA staff teams up with the YMCA to facilitate team-building, games, arts and crafts, religious education, and outdoor activities including swimming, hiking, archery, boating, and more. School-age children are divided into groups based on their ages: 6 and 7-year-olds, 8 and 9-year olds, and kids aged 10+. Activities for each group are age-appropriate and are in accordance with the YMCA age restrictions for individual activities.

Questions? Email Tabitha Rasmussen, at theviolinmommy@aol.com

### JR. HIGH PROGRAM

### **Junior High Parent/Sponsor Meeting** Sunday from 6:35pm-7:05pm in the Pavilion

It's like virtual camp, but real! In the Junior High Program or "Meyer." junior highers live together in a cabin with their hardworking counselors who create a safe place for sharing, learning their own boundaries, and building a fantastic community. All Meyer activities are designed to support emotional and spiritual growth, and empower junior high youth.

Questions? Contact Ben Krueger (benjkrueger@gmail.com) and Trevor Smith (trevorsmith7224@gmail.com).

## SR. HIGH PROGRAM

### **Senior High Parent/Sponsor Meeting** Sunday from 7:10pm-7:40pm in the Pavilion

In our Sr. High program, which we call "Burt," we create a community where we love and support everyone no matter what, where we become courageous and responsible, discover ourselves, make life-long friends, and have a ton of fun. Programming for "Burtoids" will include workshops, worship, music sharing, games, talent shows, and other yearly traditions.

Has your family gotten an email from the Burt coordinators about plans for this year? If not, please contact Abe Marsh at abemarsh@gmail.com.

# YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM

Welcome! There are a number of special meetings and gathering times for young adults.

- YA Welcome (Sunday 9:30pm-10:30pm) at the Teepee. This is your time to meet other YAs
- YA "Proch" Party, Tuesday 4:00pm-5:00pm, on the Deck.
- YA Elections, Thursday 5:30pm-7:30pm (Meeting Room TBD currently)
- YAs attend workshops, events, and excursions of your choice.
- The common room in Lakewood Cabin #16 (where several YAs will lodge), is the "unofficial" hangout of young adults.

### IS MUUSA "GREEN"?

Yes! Here are some of the steps we are taking:

- We have made a commitment a paper-free camp. The Daily Muse and other handouts will be available at TBA link.
- Campers should bring reusable water bottles and coffee mugs.
- Recycling bins are provided for cans and plastic bottles but glass must taken home with you.
- Take only what you can eat at meal time in order to avoid food waste.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE TENT THIS YEAR?

Each day in the tent will provide the opportunity for campers of all ages to create and collaborate.

- Each day campers can add to the day's weaving project. Drop by the tent, drop out of the heat and activities, and drop into the flow of weaving.
- Practice construction and compassion by building a birdhouse.
- Explore science and art with pendulum painting. Come decorate a rock that will be "released" somewhere in camp. You may see it again or you may find another camper's creation.
- Look forward to other opportunities for creative exploration and community creation.

### **MONEY MATTERS**

All costs of the week are covered by your camp fee. Some campers bring cash or checks for things like purchasing items at Sunnen Square (a MUUSA-made fair), the Craft Center, the Country Store, for bidding at the Burt Pie Toss and for gratuities for the Trout Lodge staff at the end of the week.

Still have an outstanding balance on your MUUSA registration? Please consider pre-paying by sending payment by June 15th or paying online with PayPal by midnight on Sunday, June 25th. Mail payment to MUUSA, Inc., 1371 Amesbury Dr, Cincinnati, OH 45231

### HOW CAN I GET AROUND AT CAMP?

We encourage campers not to drive on campus during the week. Trout Lodge will provide a 15-passenger van for trips between the Lodge, Hillcrest, and the Chapel in the morning, midday, and evening. To get a ride, go to the front door of Trout ten minutes before sessions begin.

### **HUNGRY?**

Breakfast: 7:15am - 9:30am Lunch: 11:15am - 1:30pm Dinner: 5:15pm - 7:30pm

- Enter the dining hall through the door near the Lodge front desk. Sit anywhere you like.
- Sit with people you don't know: make a new friend!
- There is a separate children's buffet although children are welcome to take food from the main buffet.
- There are choices for omnivores, vegetarians, and vegans at every meal.
- Need help balancing kids andtrays? Ask a staffer or MUUSA camper for help.
- Weather permitting, take your lunch out to the Deck (Be sure to bring your dishes back in!)

### DO YOU HAVE MUSINGS?

During camp, we will be taking submissions for the daily MUSE. Just email photos and news by 3pm every day to Julie Enersen at <a href="mailto:apcchair@muusa.org">apcchair@muusa.org</a>.



### **Unofficial Very Important Camp Lingo Guide**

It's been a few years...you may want to refresh your memory about all things MUUSA.

**APC**: The Adult Programming Committee of the Planning Council; organizes all adult activities and workshops; members get a lot of steps every day; rumored to have superpowers.

Arts & Crafts Center: Trout Lodge drop-in center full of fun crafts (nominal fee) like tie-dye, beading, ceramic painting, model building, jewelry-making, and more. It's air-conditioned, quiet, and a great way to reconnect with a child after workshops and the children's program. Also fun for adult friends to sit, create, and chat.

**Burt**: The name of the High School Youth Group—a name honored since MUUSA's roots at Lake Geneva Summer Assembly; also Burtoid: a member of Burt, who will be happy, but sleep-deprived and may or may not acknowledge a parent or sit with you at mealtimes.

**Burt Pie Toss**: A Burt fundraiser in which people, usually parents and siblings, pay to squish a "pie" (typically whipped cream) into the face of the Burtoid. Held on Friday.

**Chapel**: A chapel down the road. Workshops and Meyer and Burt dances take place here.

**Choir aka Awesome Choir**: A Workshop and the choir for the week; sings for Morning Celebration; led by the Awesome Pam Blevins-Hinkle, accompanied by the Awesome Bonnie Ettinger.

**Club MUUSA**, Nighttime DJ and Dancing—a name honoring MUUSA's roots at Lake Geneva Summer Assembly; takes place Monday, Tuesday, and Friday in the Pavilion from 9- 11pm.

**Coffeehouse**: Camper performers of all ages sing, act, read, and entertain. Give it a try!

**Contra, aka Contra Dance**: A workshop in the morning, and also an Intergenerational Dance Party on Wednesday night for the whole camp; also Techno-Contra, in which lights are used for fancy effects.

**Country Store**: Trout Lodge store where you can sign up for fee-based Trout Lodge activities and buy delicious ice cream cones. They may sell other things too but we only remember the ice cream. Youth are often spotted at the tables on its patio...eating ice cream.

**Deck**: Lakeside large deck overlooking the lake. If we bus our dishes promptly, a place we will be allowed to eat lunch.

**Dicky Bub**: Potosi hardware and sundries store. We love Dicky Bub. Good for forgotten soccer balls, chairs, flashlights, sunglasses, flip flops.

**Finding Tiny Treasures**: Mysterious campers hide tiny giraffes, flamingos, tigers, and other tiny treasures around camp. If you find one, consider yourself an excellent sleuth.

**Funyak, at the Beachfront:** Like a kayak but made of plastic and fun for all ages; wear a swim suit—you will get soaked, which is wonderful if it is a hot summer.

**Geneva Square:** Early evening fun at The Pavilion for all ages; includes bubbles, face painting, balloon animals, and more!

**Hillcrest**: The building past the beachfront and up the hill; this is where Morning Celebrations, and some Intergenera-

tional Events, Vespers, and Workshops happen. The MUUSA Annual meeting is held there on Thursday.

**Hush Puppies**: A delicacy that only happens once a week; the best balls of fried cornbread in the country.

**Inner Tube**: Big inflatable yellow tubes to sit and float in.

**Knitters**: People who knit—everywhere—at Morning Celebration, in workshops, on the patio overlooking the lake, on the deck, on the grass. We welcome knitters and yarn of all worsted weight varieties, color, and content.

Lake, aka Sunnen Lake: A place for swimming, sitting, sleeping, sliding down the water slide, swinging on the tire swing, playing inside Zorb balls, taking out a sailboat, canoe, funyak, paddleboat, or inner tube; also —central camp landmark, sandy beach for playing, and community sunshine fun. Beachfront is open from 9am-8pm daily, weather permitting.

**Lobby**: The fourth floor of Trout Lodge. The entrance from the roadside is the fourth floor; the entrance from the lakeside is the first floor. It's confusing, but it will make sense by Wednesday. Houses the front desk, a nice fireplace to sit near (no, there won't be a fire lit), and the entrance to the Dining Hall.

**Mallard**: Aka the Mallards, Mallard 1, 2, 3, 4; location of Check-in on Sunday, Workshops, Sunnen Square; on the 2nd floor of the Lodge.

Meyer: The name for the Junior High School group—name honored since MUUSA's roots at Lake Geneva Summer Assembly; also, Meyerite—a teen affiliated with Meyer. See "Burt" above for typical behavior.

**Meyer Cornstarch**: This is a Friday afternoon mystery that campers must experience for themselves...if it happens. The availability of cornstarch varies from year to year.

**Morning Celebration**: Every morning sermons by our theme speaker, story for all ages, Awesome Choir, fellowship, singing and spontaneous whoops and dancing. Takes place in Hillcrest.

**MUSE**: Daily newsletter that is your source for everything happening every day. Find it online here (LINK NEEDED) at 5pm each evening. Sumbit info to apcchair@muusa.org by 3pm each day.



# LIKE A MUUSAN Unofficial Very Important Camp Lingo Guide

**MUUSA Toes:** Some campers like to arrive at camp after group pedicures; typically each toe is painted a different color. See photos posted on Facebook the day before camp!

**Napping Workshop aka Napshop**: Spontaneous, self-led, and highly recommended. Multiple locations including Trout Lodge sofas, beach chairs, cabins, and lodge rooms.

**Omsbuddy**: Nickname for Ombudsman, a position of the Planning Council who makes sure camp rules are respected; mediates if needed; all around sensible person.

**Paddleboat**: Foot-powered boat for two—at the Lake.

**Patio**: Outside of Meeting Room 5 with cover—enjoy rocking chairs, ping pong table, the Knitters, musicians, kids; a nice shady spot with a great view of the lake.

**Pavilion**: The covered, open-aired building up the hill opposite the Beachfront; the Welcome Party, dances, Workshops, Geneva Square, and some Children's program events happen here, as do the Sunday Parent Meetings and daily pick up and drop off for the Children's program. Sometimes, there is drumming.

**PC: Planning Council**—Made up of the APC, plus the Omsbuddy, Treasurer, Registrar, Secretary, Children's Program, Burt, and Meyer leaders; also rumored to have superpowers. Please thank them for all they do, and feel free to ask them any questions you wish.

Pie: At every lunch and dinner. Really. It's awesome. You'll hear a lot about pie.

**Plastic cups**: Used to be offered at water drops. Because they create a lot of trash, we will not offer plastic cups and will count on campers to bring water bottles.

**Pontoon Boat**: Take a guided lake tour on the very peaceful pontoon boat. Also offered, Ice Cream Float and Pirate Pontoon.

**Proch**: A long time ago, a hard-working newsletter editor spelled "porch" wrong. Proch is a reference to that microblunder and refers to a Porch Party and/or a gathering of MUUSAns. Example: "Come to our Proch."

Raunch Night: At Thursday night Coffeehouse. Adults only.

"See you next week": MUUSAns don't say "goodbye" at the end of a wonderful week—we say "See you next week." We say it all year long. Again and again. Hilarity ensues when camp really is only one week away.

**St. Vincent's Café:** The 2nd floor lounge area of the Trout Lodge, named for a beloved former camper, has games and puzzles set out all week for your use. After 9:00 pm game time moves to Meeting Room 6 for adult games like Wizard and Poker.

**Sunnen Lake:** The Lake has a name and you can kayak on it. Just stop at the Boathouse and the friendly Trout staff members will get you all set up.

Sunnen Square: New in 2022! A MUUSAN-made art and craft fair. Open in Mallard 3 during lunch and dinner.

**Teepee**: Location is uphill from the entrance of Trout Lodge, roadside. Look up! You'll see it. It is shaped like a teepee, but is a fully functional building with air-conditioning. Some workshops take place here.

**The Lodge, aka Sunnen Center**: The building where lodgings, the Dining Hall, and meeting rooms reside. (Trout Lodge YMCA is the name of the entire property.)

**The Tent**: The Tent will be in a new location this year near the lake. Sit and relax, chat, meet up with old friends, do collaborative art, make a birdhouse. See Tent activities on page 4.

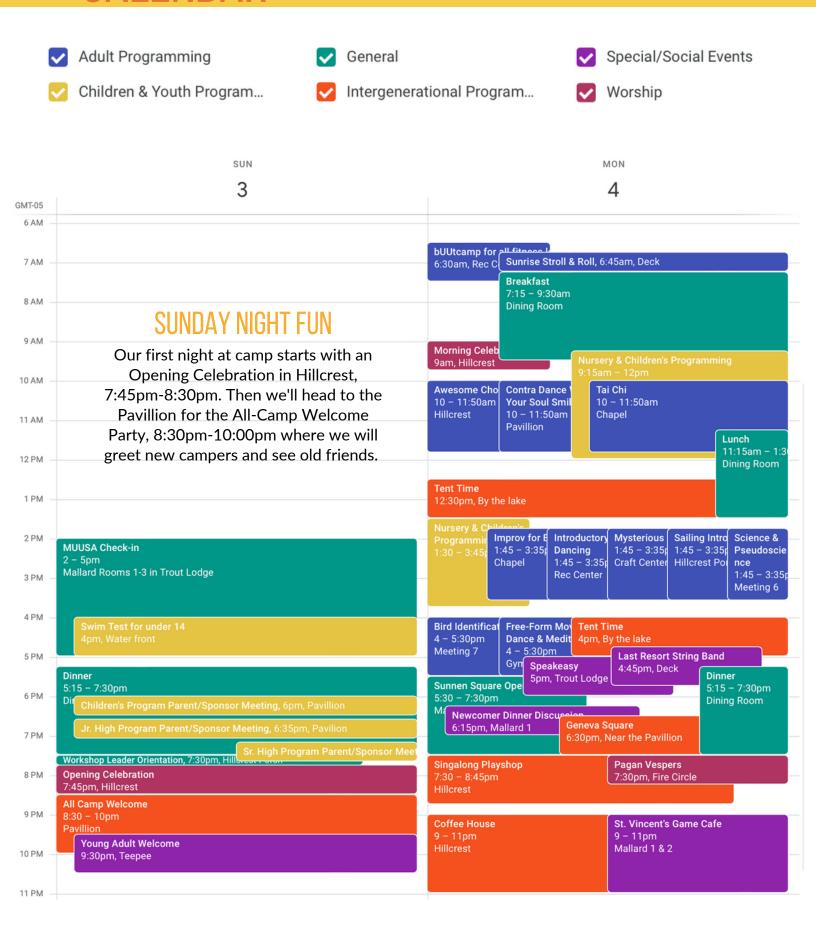
**Ultimate**: Like soccer but with a disc. Every night—all ages.

**Vespers**: A spiritual end to the day, after dinner, led by campers.

YAs, YYAs: Young Adults (21-35), and Young, Young Adults (18-20).

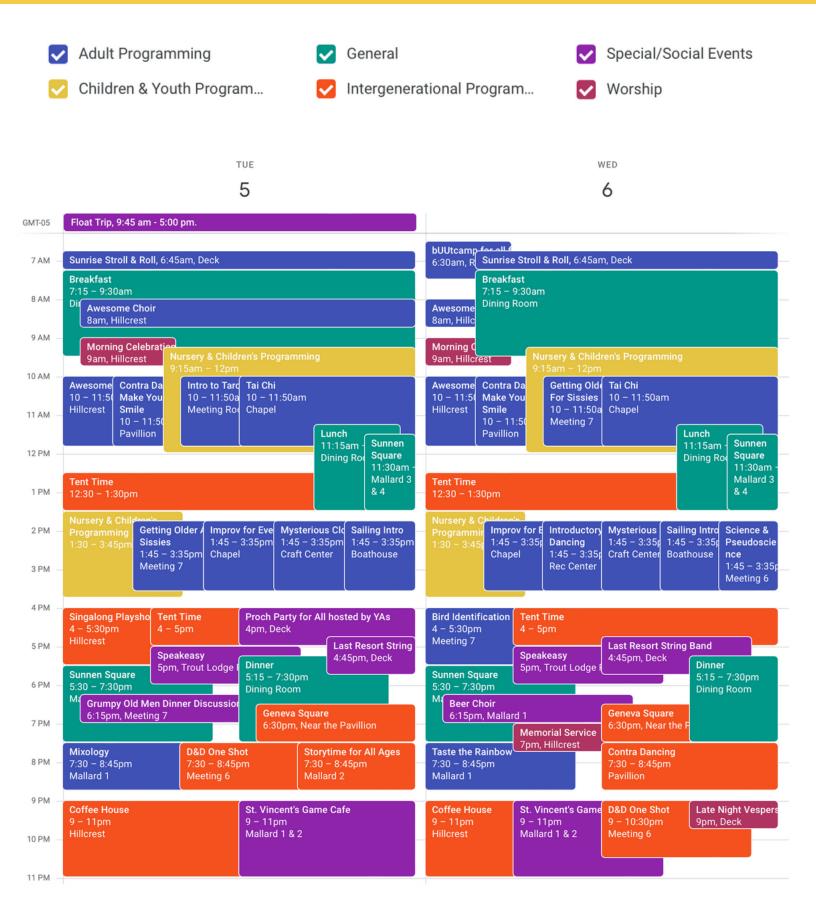
# CALENDAR

### Full MUUSA Schedule, click <u>HERE</u> Brochure with Activity Descriptions, click <u>HERE</u>



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