

# The Merom Spirit

Advent/Christmas 2013 Merom Conference Center PO Box 127 Merom IN 47861 www.Merom.org  
 Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the United Church of Christ  
 GPS address: 8555 Phillip, Merom IN 47861 800-313-4511

## 2014 Summer Schedule

June 9-13	Merom Day Camp
June 16-21	Faith Journeys
June 22-25	Grades 3, 4, 5
June 25-29	Backstage Pass
June 29-July 5	Creative Spirit
July 6-12	Tri-Level
July 13-19	All Ages
July 23-26	Just You and Me, Kid
Sep 16-20	Seniors Unlimited

**Merom Day Camp** is for our local families. Children are encouraged to come up for games, crafts and swimming.

**All Ages** provides family groups including children in elementary, junior high and senior high. Some activities are split into age-groups.

**Backstage Pass** is the group that creates the stage design for the Creative Spirit play.

**Creative Spirit** is the camp that puts on a musical at the end of their week.

**Faith Journeys** and **Tri Level** provide family groups by age. Some activities include all age groups.

**Grades 3, 4, 5** is a partial week camp for children ready for some independence.

**Just You and Me, Kid** is a partial week camp for children and adults.

**Seniors Unlimited** is for adults to share in Bible study, fellowship and projects. Campers are usually 30 and older.

Wishing you happy memories of your time at Merom.



2013 summer and year-round staff at the end of summer camp  
 Front row: Amber, Tiera, Susie, Joel Back row: Harley, Bonnie, Ashley, Shyanne, Linda



Susie Larson  
 Director, Merom

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Growing up, my traditions were different than my friends. Most of my friends had extended family nearby. My extended family was in Arizona, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

Christmas Eve was always Swedish potato sausage, beets, boiled potatoes, Swedish bread, and green beans. We went to Christmas Eve service in our Christmas best. When we returned home, we had dessert – tapioca and Christmas cookies. Once we were settled for the night, my dad read Luke's account of the Christmas story. (Luke 2:1-20)

All births are exciting. They remind us of God's promise, hope, and unconditional love. I am reminded in Luke's story that the shepherds and the angels took time to celebrate Jesus' birth. They stopped their routines and took time to greet the babe. In this advent and Christmas season, I give thanks for all of you that stopped your routines to be involved at Merom, prayed for Merom's ministry and donated to our support.

Our Conference is blessed with Merom as a legacy of faith-building, exploration, education and fellowship. May your friendships bring you joy and your experiences bring you peace.

Our families' traditions, our thankfulness of things throughout the year and friendships – new and old – are held dearly. Merry Christmas and have a very happy new year.

## Confirmation Retreats January 17-19, February 14-16, 2014

We still have room for Confirmation groups during both weekends. These weekends provide some UCC history, time to meet other confirmation classes and an opportunity to work together. Time is also given for home churches, fun and fellowship.

## The Merom Christmas song (to the tune of The 12 days of Christmas)

On the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas our campers gave to Merom

- 12 months of praying
- 11 work-er weekends
- 10 trees they planted
- 9 Merom staff members
- 8 cabins with new doors
- 7 weeks of summer
- 6 new washers and dryers
- 5 cabin sponsors
- 4 family reunions
- 3 thousand people
- 2 stairwells painted
- And,
- 1 electric golf cart

## Current Fund Raisers Coins for Camp

Collect coins in any kind of container and bring your loose change to camp.

## Goodsearch

A penny per search will be donated to Merom!  
 Website: <http://www.goodsearch.com/>  
 Charity selection: Merom Conference Center

## Gordon Food Service

In-store purchases identified as "Merom's Fun Funds" are noted and Merom receives quarterly checks.

Website: <http://www.gfs.com/funfunds/home.page>  
 OrgNumber: 241829  
 Stores are located primarily in the Midwest

## Rada Cutlery

Check out the website for kitchen utensils and food!  
 Order on-line

Website: [www.helpourfundraiser.com](http://www.helpourfundraiser.com)  
 Internet Number: 503646  
 Password all lowercase: merom