

Dear UU Elementary Family Winter Campers,

1/13/23

Camp de Benneville Pines has experienced so many challenges this winter season. Senior High winter camp suffered a flu outbreak which affected campers, counseling staff and site staff. We ended camp early due to illness and the fact that all of us were worn out trying to fill all the holes left by sick staff members.

Our site staff continue to struggle with staff members who are out long term with various health issues/injuries.

Due to a culmination of factors, Janet James, Executive Director, and Marianne Swift-Gifford, Camping Ministries Director, have made the difficult decision to cancel our traditional President's weekend camp.

We know this is terribly disappointing news, but we wanted to give you plenty of notice so you can make other holiday weekend plans.

Canceling camp for any reason is always so heartbreaking for us, as that is why we are here--we love youth and family camp experiences! We hope you know how hard we tried to make it work, but without a healthy site staff to shovel snow, clean cabins, and cook food for us, it becomes challenging to offer a safe camp environment.

The Camping Ministries team is turning its sights to planning a fantastic summer camping program. We hope you save the week of June 30th to July 6th for a fantastical UU Elementary Camp. And the week of July 21st to 27th for the fun of summer UU Family Camp!

Should you need to process this disappointing news or should you have any questions, please email Camping Ministries Director, Marianne at cm@uucamp.org. Your camper fees will be 100% refunded back to your credit card. We will still need volunteers when we do this camp in 2025; please contact the Deans or Marianne if you think you would be willing to do that.

Thank you for your continued support for our beloved camp!

Your Camp Team,

Janet James (Executive Director), Marianne Swift-Gifford (Camping Ministries Director), Jessica Fairchild (Registrar), Shannon (ctstechs.shannon@gmail.com) and Bill Stoker (ctstechs.bill@gmail.com) (UU EFWC Deans)