

September 12, 2016

To The New Hampshire Conference United Church of Christ & Horton Center Campers & Volunteers,

As another wonderful summer at Horton Center on Pine Mountain and in the life of Outdoor Ministries draws to a slower pace, I write to share news. After much prayer and discernment, it is with a heavy heart and joy for the future, I am resigning as Director of Outdoor Ministries of the New Hampshire Conference, UCC, effective November 30, 2016.

My dear spouse Andrew has accepted a position as a pediatric pharmacist at the Children's Hospital of Colorado, in Denver, Colorado. I will be searching for a new call in the Rocky Mountain Conference of the UCC, or in a way that only God knows.

I will bring the 2016 season to a close and alongside the Outdoor Mission Group, begin to prepare the 2017 season. My last day in the office will be sometime close to November 18, 2016. I will work hard to ensure a smooth transition to whomever God may be calling next to this wonderful, hard work of Outdoor Ministries in the New Hampshire Conference.

Horton Center has come a long way since my first summer as then Associate Director, five years ago in 2012. We have strengthened connections with the local churches, increased camper and volunteer involvement, worked hard to achieve the accreditation of the American Camp Association, and helped many understand the vitality of Outdoor Ministries. We have broadened the understanding of Outdoor Ministries in New Hampshire to also include Maine, Vermont, and Massachusetts, collaborating in new and exciting ways. In all of this, we have provided a safe space for all of God's children to be themselves, to connect with Creation and the Creator, and have grounded the new program in faith formation. We have much to celebrate and give thanks to God for!

While Horton Center still needs an incredible amount of attention, care, and resources, I leave in full confidence of the work I've accomplished with the help of many. It is because of the help of many that I leave with hope for the future of Outdoor Ministries in the New Hampshire Conference. The base of volunteers, campers, and supporters involved in this life changing ministry is strong and will become stronger. Regardless of who has been at the helm, or who will be called to lead next, Horton Center has always been and needs to continue to be a ministry of and for the NHCUCC. Now is the time for even more involvement from our local churches, volunteers, and community members.

Above all, I am thankful that I was called to serve in the New Hampshire Conference, UCC for this time, with so many wonderful people. For every camper, volunteer counselor or Dean, summer staff, and volunteer, I am thankful. I care deeply for Horton Center and those involved in Outdoor Ministries and beyond. As I seek to listen to where God may be calling me next, I reflect often on how serving God at Horton Center has shaped me as minister. I am so grateful to have served alongside you! I will keep Horton Center and the NHCUCC in my prayers, and I trust you will pray for me and my family as we make this transition.

In the end, we know the Good News remains: God goes with us, whether we are on the mountain, along the lakeshore, in the valley, gathered, or scattered. In Christ, we are one body, united, no matter where our journeys lead us. Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love!

Shalom my friends, shalom, shalom, till we meet again, shalom,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Mollie Landers Hatt". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and personal.

Rev. Mollie Landers Hatt