**Senior Survival 2019-20**

What do a week in the woods, cooking over campfires, sleeping in makeshift shelters, bathing in cold streams, and enduring below-freezing nights all have in common? They are all part of the most powerful experience of the senior year here at UCA.

Senior Survival is a spiritually power-packed time of connecting with God and with each other that sets the tone for the entire year. As students leave behind all those things that bombard our senses each day and spend a few days in the quiet of nature, they experience God in such a new and meaningful way. Senior Survival is the highlight of the year for students, counselors, and instructors.

Our highly trained and committed team of teachers imparts knowledge and skills in spiritual survival, camping and survival skills, wild edibles, and initiative problem-solving games that demonstrate unity in the body of Christ.

In case you are wondering about safety, we have put together quite a comprehensive list of forbidden activities, which we will go over in detail with the seniors before leaving UCA and upon our arrival at the Senior Survival site. Even with this precaution, we ask the students to check with one of the Senior Survival team staff members before doing *anything* that seems questionable.

We schedule Senior Survival early in the year so the class is able to bond before the year is too far along. This year’s Senior Survival takes place *September 8-13, 2019,* and will require the seniors to have a few extra things. Please see the back of this letter for the list of what to bring to Senior Survival.

Please pray for the staff here at UCA and those of us specifically involved in Senior Survival that as we plan for next year, God’s Spirit will fill us, lead us, and accomplish His purposes for the Class of 2020.

If you have any further questions regarding Senior Survival, please e-mail [jesse.melendy@ucaa.org](mailto:jesse.melendy@ucaa.org). May God bless you and your family during your senior year at UCA!

In His Service,

Senior Survival Team

Upper Columbia Academy

## What to Bring to Senior Survival

Sleeping bag (a warm one – a 0-degree bag is best)

Pillow

Pad or air mattress (essential – the earth sucks your warmth without it!)

Jeans (at least two or 3 pairs)

Underwear for 6 days

Socks (at least 4 regular pair, and 2 WARM pair)

Shoes (two pairs helpful)

Shirts (at least four) (one long-sleeve for trust-fall catching)

Jacket (should be warm and waterproof)

Towel

Soap (please!)

Toothbrush/Toothpaste

Comb or brush

Bible

Knife, fork, and spoon

Mess kit or plate, cup, and bowl

Pocket knife

Flashlight

Ski hat (something warm for your head since 2/3 of body heat is lost through head when sleeping)

Rain gear (poncho)

Sunscreen (optional but recommended for lighter-skinned students)

Sunglasses (optional)

Insect repellent (optional)

Swimsuit

Pencils (two)

Water bottle or CamelBak

Positive attitude and spirit of adventure