



Summer Gathering 2025-26

29 December – 4 January

Six nights

at Chosen Valley Christian Camp,

53 Turner Rd.

Ararimu, Auckland.

Summer Gathering is our annual intergenerational experience of Quaker community.

This year, we in Northern Monthly Meeting are looking forward to welcoming you.

Our theme is **“Look for the wonder”**. We hope this will prompt sharing and strengthening as we each can find something different in this theme.

We are keeping costs as low as possible. Yearly Meeting will provide funds to cover the camp costs of those under 18 and offers to cover half the camp cost for those aged 18 to 25 who ask for this support on their enrolment forms. We recognise that, for some, enrolment and travel costs will be prohibitive.

There is a limited Yearly Meeting budget to help with this.

This year there is an opportunity on the enrolment form for a donation towards helping people attend and reduce Summer Gathering costs.

We are pleased to have the services of Tess & Grant Marryatt who have catered many Settlement weekends and the 2023 Summer Gathering.

In keeping with our goal of reducing our carbon footprint, catering is fully vegetarian. Therefore we ask that those needing to supplement their diets with meat take responsibility for its preparation. Refrigerator space will be made available and there are four barbecues and some cooking facilities in the Monavale Cottages.

Please take advantage of the early bird discount. This will help reduce the cost to you and help the organising committee. Everyone, including day visitors need enrol in advance.



ACCOMMODATION:

There are various accommodation options at Chosen Valley. Please consider what suits you best, and indicate this when you enrol – all options cost the same.

Dormitories: Five rooms in the downstairs of the main building - four rooms with 4 double bunk beds (capacity 8) plus one room with a capacity of 6. Showers and toilets are close by.

Cabins: Ten rooms in an air-conditioned block adjacent to the main building. Each with 4 double bunk beds (capacity 8 each) showers & toilets at a distance.

Huts: Five with 4 double bunk beds (capacity 8 each) showers & toilets at a distance.

Monavale Cottages: Four cottages, two of which are connected by a lounge room and covered deck. Each cottage has two rooms, a shower and two toilets (a capacity 7 per cottage). There are hot-plates and one oven, each cottage has a microwave and jug.

Camping without power: Some spaces for tents, showers & toilets at a distance.

Camping with power: Three spaces for camper vans, showers & toilets at a distance.

Generally we aim to NOT fill up rooms. Chosen Valley Christian Camp provides only mattresses. So plan to bring all your own bedding and towels. However, those staying in the Monavale Cottages can pay \$12 each for linen hire: pillow, duvet, sheets, towels, handtowels, bathmat. And we will be asking Auckland-area Friends if they can loan pillows. If you want to take advantage of this offer, you can indicate this on your enrolment form.

We cannot arrive on site before 5pm on 29th December, so please avoid selecting breakfast and lunch on that date. Similarly, do not select lunch, dinner or sleep on the 4th January as we will all have left by 2.30pm. at the latest.

We will endeavour to provide the accommodation option you request.

Costs:

Staying overnight: \$48/person/night

Day Visitors: \$20/person/day

Breakfast: \$10 each

Lunch: \$25 each

Dinner: \$25 each

Early Bird Discount (10% off): up to 15 October.

Deadline for enrolment (Full cost): 16 October up to 15 November.

Late enrolment (5% added): 16 November up to 15 December.

Those under 2 years: no charges (please still enrol)

Those 2-17 years: All camp charges plus meals are funded by Yearly Meeting.

Those 18-25 years: Can claim half funding support from Yearly Meeting.

Those over 25: see details above.

To enrol, use this link to complete the enrolment form: <https://forms.gle/iE12TUhZdkLNGKk38>

If you require additional financial support to attend, please indicate this on your enrolment form. It will help the organisers if you let us know *by 15 October*.

After submitting the online enrolment form you will be advised by email of the total fee and payment instructions. Please pay promptly to help the organisers.

For more information about the venue, visit: <https://chosenvalley.org>

Questions: to the Local Arrangements Committee: sglocalplanning@ym.quakers.nz

Health: As the risk of infection from Covid persists, we will be taking some precautions such as asking that everyone have a negative RAT result from a test taken on 29 December, prior to arrival. As always, please bring your own medications and other health-related equipment and supplies.

Activities on site include:

- Table tennis (bring your own or hire balls)
- Volleyball court (bring your own ball)
- Use of balls/cricket set, etc.
- Children's playground including flying foxes
- Inflatable "Bouncy pillow"
- Kayaks (10)
- Rafts (2)
- Water slide
- Archery
- Trolleys (carts that roll downhill)
- Rope maze
- Confidence Course
- Team trust course
- Balance Island
- High Zip Line

Hope to see you at Chosen Valley Summer Gathering!