



Welcome to June 24!

This past Sunday (Father's Day) was a beautiful evening! We decided to make a bonfire and get out the guitars. Of course, all the s'mores fixings as well. We had such a good time revisiting songs from Jeremy's (our son) camp days and ours as well. Tim and I had a few fun stories to share that were new to Jeremy (20). You know how that goes--some stories you wait to share until the kids are a little older. These were some of those. 😊 Between the stories, chocolate, and songs, I was filled with the delight of both days gone by and the present moment. A realization that while sharing old memories we were creating important new ones!

We sang songs like, *Michael Row the Boat Ashore*, *You are my Sunshine*, *Kumbaya*, *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*, *Edelweiss*, *She'll be Coming Round the Mountain*, *Down by the Bay*, *My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean*, *I Met a Bear*, *The Meatball Song*, *Amazing Grace*, *Ring of Fire* (some Johnny Cash was thrown in the mix as well), etc. See Links below for campfire songs and music. I hope you can/are enjoying campfires and music with friends and family this summer! It makes great memories!

FACT: According to the American Camp Association, African-American spirituals hold a special place in the history of campfire songs. Their influence in the beginning of camp singing and their continued popularity is without equal. They are melodious, easy to sing, and their simple tunes combine with compelling rhythms to exactly suit the mood and needs of a group singing around a campfire.

45 Best Campfire Songs:

<https://coolofthewild.com/campfire-songs/>

Pete Seeger singing Kumbaya (video):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xVktlb-oB9k>

8 Campfire Songs your Kids will Love (video):

<https://www.todaysparent.com/family/activities/campfire-songs-your-kids-will-love/>

Until Tomorrow,

Mary Sue Reutebuch, Director of Christian Formation: Family and Youth Programs

mreutebuch@scsjcluster.org