

## **Helpful Suggestions to Get You Started**

Celebrate Faith Formation through Outdoor Ministries in March and April! Recruit a planning team to brainstorm a list of creative possibilities for Your Camp Sunday. Then turn them loose to implement the best ideas.

Personally invite young people and their parents to participate in the summer camp program at N-Sid-Sen. When pastors and key lay leaders speak, people listen. Your passion for church camp can be infectious.

**Sharing personal testimonies**, special camp stories, games and songs are especially effective. Involve experienced campers, volunteers and your staff in the Children's Message or a special Sunday School event.

Focus on the goals and values of Christian camping during worship on Sunday. Music, responsive readings and sermons can all be effective tools for this.

**Encourage grandparents** to send their grandchildren to camp.

**Invite a guest from N-Sid-Sen** to join you for worship and Sunday School. They can share a sermon, extended mission moment, PowerPoint and camp activities.

**Post the enclosed camp schedule** and flyers throughout your church. (PDF versions are available to download at www.n-sid-sen.org.)

**Community Outreach:** Consider how your congregation might partner with N-Sid-Sen to send children from families in your community with lower incomes to camp. Special funds are available to assist.

## Plan something special for Coffee Hour.

Try s'mores or "ants on a log" instead of cookies. Set up a BBQ pit and roast hot dogs, burgers or marshmallows. Have N-Sid-Sen alumni available to answer questions.

**Use N-Sid-Sen bulletin inserts** – sample included. Just print, cut and insert. (PDF versions are available on our website.)

On one or two Sundays, promote a special offering to provide financial assistance for your church's youth to attend camp. Insert offering envelopes in your Sunday bulletins and create a special category in your online giving profile.

Host a **Chili and S-mores Cook-off** and use the funds raised to help send kids to camp.

Ask the Sunday School or mid-week program to **make a special camp banner**. Hang it in the Sanctuary or Fellowship Hall from March - July.



N-Sid-Sen is a camp and retreat center of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ.