



# Top 10 Things

Churches Need to Know about Summer Camp 2023

## N-Sid-Sen, Your Camp & Retreat Center

### 1 Why Church Camp?

Because church camp is joyful fun! It is a sacred place. It is intensely relational and positive role models abound! Camp is different from Vacation Bible School and Sunday School. Campers and leaders live, work, play and worship together from early morning until late into the evening. They grow together through shared experiences and form an intentional community. They hear our faith stories in new places and new ways, and find opportunities to share their own. **Check out the online summer camp brochure at [www.n-sid-sen.org](http://www.n-sid-sen.org).**

### 2 Summer Curriculum

**FruitFULL Faith...  
Living a Spirit Filled Life**

Have you ever seen God at work and wondered why the moment was so clear? Have you wondered what you could do to connect with those moments and feelings? Paul's letter to the Church in Galatia will come alive as we explore the fruit of the Spirit. Seeing this fruit all around assures us we have encountered God. These same fruit flow freely from us when we walk in the Spirit.

Scripture is honest about how complicated life can be. The fruit of the Spirit show us we are on the right track as we observe, receive, and embody these virtues.



### 3 Celebrate Camp this Spring in Your Church!

You are invited to lift up our shared ministry this spring. Select a Sunday for your **Camp Sunday** and have fun! The summer camp schedule, creative ideas for promotion and additional resources are available on our website. Check [Odds & Ends/Information for Churches](#).

### 4 Family Share & Church Share

Summer camp at N-Sid-Sen is an important piece of year-round faith formation for many PNCUCC churches. To encourage and support their church families, many congregations pay a portion of the camp fee. We refer to this as the "church share".

To make bookkeeping and end-of-summer billing less complicated, we encourage churches to **determine a set amount of support per camper** versus a percentage of the fee. For example: \$250 for full-week campers and \$125 for part-week campers. In this way, church support remains constant, no matter which discounts or tier rate a family may select.

**Save time!** Pay for all your church's campers with one check. We'll bill your church toward the end of the summer camp season. *This later payment does not affect the Early Bird discount for campers because families register and pay the initial deposit upfront.*

### 5 Online Registration

Families register and make payments online at [www.n-sid-sen.org](http://www.n-sid-sen.org). The [Register](#) link is easy to find at the top of the home page. Payment of the non-refundable deposit is required at the time of registration.

## 6 Camps Fees: Gratitude, Direct Cost & Subsidized Rate Tiers

We are passionate about the power of church camp and committed to keeping camp accessible to everyone who seeks a church camp experience. We recognize that families are differently gifted and have different financial constraints. We seek to balance the cost of providing a quality camping experience with options for families to pay at the level that fits their budget. To do this N-Sid-Sen has a voluntary three-tier fee program.

Each family chooses the rate that is most suitable for their circumstances, and the choice is kept confidential.

**All N-Sid-Sen campers receive the same experience, no matter which rate is selected.**

### Gratitude Tier

This higher tier more closely reflects the true costs of providing our camp experience, including facility maintenance, equipment repair and replacement, program development, and insurance. It addresses increasing costs for food, fuel and staff. Even if you cannot afford to choose the Gratitude Rate in any given year, we hope seeing this higher tier helps to increase awareness of the actual cost of the camp experience – costs we must seek to make up throughout the year.

### Direct Cost Tier

This tier reflects a payment that covers the direct costs of a week of camp for a camper: programming, food, and summer staff.

### Subsidized Tier

This tier covers a portion of the direct costs, but not all of them.

Fees paid by adult guests throughout the year and generous donations from local churches, groups and individuals who value the impact of our summer camps, make up the difference between the true cost of the summer camp experience and the fees paid under the Direct Cost and Subsidized Tiers.



**N-Sid-Sen is a ministry of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ.**

## 7 Early Bird Discounts & More!

### The Early Bird Deadline is April 15!

Register and pay the non-refundable deposit by April 15 to save \$25 on part-week camps and \$50 on full-weeks camps.

### Bring A Friend Discount - NEW

Help us spread the word! Youth campers can bring a friend new to N-Sid-Sen and save! The friend saves too! Learn more in our camp brochure in the [Ways to Save](#) section!

## 8 Financial Assistance

Don't let finances prevent the children in your congregation from attending camp! Many churches pay a portion of the camp fee. In addition, some are able to provide additional assistance. N-Sid-Sen also has a scholarship fund to help. Contact our office for details.

## 9 Volunteer & Employment Opportunities

There are lots of ways to serve and make a difference at N-Sid-Sen. For details, check out our website or contact the N-Sid-Sen office.

**ADULT VOLUNTEERS:** Cabin Leaders, Session Directors, Nurses and Resource People are the heart of our summer camp programs. Minimum commitment is 4-7 days depending on the position and the session.

**SUMMER STAFF** are the backbone of our program. Theirs is truly a Summer of Service. They clean, tote, haul, clear and so much more. Their efforts in the kitchen, cabins and shower house, at the lake and throughout the grounds provide support for our summer camps and our partner groups events. These paid positions run from mid-June through August.

### PLEASE HELP SPREAD the WORD!

Have some possible candidates in mind? Send us an email or use the form available on our website.

## 10 Action Work Weekends May 11-14 and June 15-18

Stretch your muscles and get a little dirty! Come for the full weekend or just a day or two. Learn more at [www.n-sid-sen.org](http://www.n-sid-sen.org).