



Camp & Retreat Center

A year round Camp & Retreat Center of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ

Lately I have been thinking a lot about the Micah 6:8 scripture.
“What does the LORD require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

It is these words that have been with me as we looked towards our summer programs at camp. Justice with safety for all wrapped in kindness and humbleness is the driving force that brings us to this place where we need to suspend our summer programs for 2020. Seeking safety for our campers, volunteers and staff must be at the forefront. Being unable to safely provide housing, meals and program for all calls us into this decision. With all of our partner groups canceling their events into October it pulls those major finances away as well. Leaving us without the means to hire our summer staff or provide for those ongoing maintenance needs. In this constantly changing and confusing time it seems counterproductive to take this action when we all need each other so much right now. Yet we all know that doing the right thing is rarely the easy thing.

So as of May 1st all summer program events have been suspended for 2020. This includes the Women’s retreat, youth and family camps as well as large church gatherings. All folks who have already registered for these events through UltraCamp will be invited to donate towards helping N-Sid-Sen manage through this time. They could also opt for a refund or rolling the fees forward to 2021.

It is important to note that N-Sid-Sen is not closing; rather we are suspending those events that we cannot safely provide. We will be offering “Families at Camp”. This will allow families currently residing in the same home an opportunity to rent a cabin for a vacation. Work camp will also be happening on a much smaller scale. More information will be coming soon.

Outdoor Ministries and many summer volunteers are working on ways to keep us all connected throughout this year. Not being together in the usual way will be hard, however we cannot prevent the spirit of who we are from keeping us in relationship. Camp changes lives, this we know, and this we hear a lot. Now is the time to step outside (safely) and show the world how and what camp means to us. Go swimming, sing around a campfire, try a new craft, dive deeper into scripture, challenge yourself in new ways. Take the camper you are at camp into the bigger world. The world needs the justice, kindness and humility we find at camp. Let’s be the carriers of this message until we can all come home to the lake.

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