



Four Months Away!

A Seabeck Newsletter

April 2025



July 27th to August 2nd, 2025



Can you feel it? Hood Canal's forest-meets-saltwater air... the flavor of salmon baked right on a beach...whoops and wails of masochists plunging into frigid waters at dawn...and yet somehow also prayer and community and profound personal growth AND a rubber chicken. The legendary word **Lagoondance** has surfaced once or twice. Yes, it will be here before you know it! Our 2025 **Seabeck Christian Family Retreat**.

Same time of year, slightly different name: we felt that the word "Camp" did not do justice to our facilities and comfort. A Retreat is more in line with great housing, wonderful food served to you (and cleaned up after you), beautiful, sacred grounds, and history (and deer*) everywhere you turn...starting a little more than 100 days from now!

* Please don't disturb any deer you encounter... especially in the Dining Hall, even if they're trying to nab the last of the blintzes at your table.

Read All About It:

Greetings from January

Activities Preview

People to Know

Registration

Spread the Word!

Snazzy Stuff to Wear

Contact Info



Greetings from 2025 Resource Leader January Jaxon

Beloved Seabeck family,

We're four months out from camp and I'm already counting down the days! (Let's be honest, though: we all know I start counting the day I leave.) Seabeck is always a beacon of peace, beauty, and friendship in my year, and this year that feels especially needed. I had no way of knowing what was coming our way when I pitched our leadership team on a presentation subtitled "Creativity as a spiritual practice in a world of accelerating change," but steeping in these ideas during a time of upheaval and unsettling world events has truly challenged me to practice what I preach as I prepare to

be your
Resource
Leader this
summer.



Humans are made in the image of a Creator God, and that means we're inherently creators. (Think you're not creative? How about those wild "what if" scenarios your anxiety invents? I bet those stories would rival some of the biggest Hollywood blockbusters. You're always creating something! It's only a question of what.) This July, we'll be exploring the stories of Eve and Mary through the lens of Maureen Murdock's *Heroine's Journey*. This fascinating mythological cycle shines intriguing light on what it looks like to use—and misuse—our creative natures. We'll look at creativity and the Bible, creativity and shame, creativity and change, creativity and the body, and learn practical ways to let go of lies like "I'm just not creative!" that keep us from stepping into our full creative power.

You want to leave the world better than you found it, but the scope of the world's problems feels so overwhelming you don't know where to start. Through Biblical stories, theological reflections, and fun hands-on activities, we'll look at how repentance—often misunderstood as a pile of rigid shame-inducing "shoulds"—is actually an invitation to relax into the liberating truth that God likes you. We'll reimagine repentance as a process of learning and discovery rather than self-rejection, and we'll learn how Christ invites us to reclaim our imaginations so that we can all participate in creating the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

I can't wait to see you.

Love,

—January



This Year's Activities and Daily Treats, Part I

In addition to the regular daily schedule, which we'll go over in next month's newsletter, our intrepid Activities Director **David McPete** has this to report:

Everybody's talking about it! **"The most exciting lineup of fun and games since last year's camp."** —*Field and Stream*. **"I have never been to a retreat filled with so much energy and machoism."** —Kim Kardashian. **"Lauren's Game of Games (and Drew Pruitt) frighten me."** —Pillsbury Doughboy.

The time is drawing nearer and nearer. As such, our activity schedule for Seabeck Christian Family Retreat is taking shape with some favorites and surprises. On Monday afternoon, it's the return of the **World Kickball Championship**, as the kids take on the adults. Pregame festivities, featuring introductions of teams and music to pump up the players and audience, are being added to the celebration of kicking the snot out of a ball.



Monday evening is **Karaoke Night** once again, and includes the **Ice Cream Social**. Rumor has it that next year's Super Bowl entertainment will be performing for us.

Tuesday brings us a couple of favorites: one ancient and one receiving an encore. The **Giant Slip 'n' Slide** (and Duck Race) will be slipperier than ever. La Roy will be greasing the slide with Crisco (with Conference Center manager Chuck Kraining's approval, of course). And back by popular demand: **Trivia Night**. Start boning up now on the most trivial trivia you can find. All we have been told is that the trivia is going to be tougher this summer. Here is a practice trivia question: ***What do an elephant and a strawberry have in common?*** (Answer in next month's newsletter.)

Wednesday through Friday bring us some ever-changing oldies and one big surprise event. For more about these programs, don't miss next month's Seabeck Christian Family Retreat newsletter.





Meet Some of the Crew

You'll be hearing from several of these people in these newsletters in the buildup to Seabeck 2025:

Adrian Hoare—Codean / Young Adults
Brittany Peterson—Registrar
Chuck Kraining—Conference Center Manager
David McPete—Activities
Deirdre Swarts—Mama Polar Bear

Janette Murry—Crafts (Adult)
January Jaxon—Resource Leader
La Roy King—Mid-High
Missy Peterson—Swag Shop
Mollie Hoare—Codean

We're still hoping to recruit some of you for the Communion Coordinator, Age-Level Coordinator, Infants & Toddlers Teachers, Pre-K Teachers, and Golf-Cart Drivers.

Interested? Please contact Mollie Hoare at mollie.hoare@yahoo.com!



Are You Registered Yet?

Registrar **Brittany Peterson** gives us the current numbers:

For available housing this year, we have **Pines, Spruce, Inn, Inn Annex, Reeser, Firs, Madrona, Tamarack**, and now **Hemlock**. We were given Hemlock after expressing concern about the raised costs and needing additional lower-level housing.

Currently, of the registered full-time Seabeckers, there are 65 adults, 7 youth, 15 children, and 3 infants. We have a lot of people who came last year that are not registered yet.

Please get your registration form in soon so we can plan housing. A copy of the **Registration Form PDF** is attached to this emailed newsletter, but people can also find our registration form on our website or by emailing me. You can scan and email me the registration form or send it via mail to Brittany Peterson, 3001 140th PI SE, Mill Creek WA 98012-5006.

And don't forget to send in your deposit to secure your registration!





Spread the Word and Grow the Camp!

David McPete has some great tips for recruiting new campers (as well as bringing back former ones):

Do you know of anyone that you feel with benefit greatly from such an awesome, restorative, and diversely active retreat? Someone who needs a break from everyday worries. Someone who loves to sing and laugh and soak in God's incredible majesty of nature. Whether a family of six, or a single senior citizen or young adult, our retreat holds something special for those you feel will enjoy our retreat family. Here are some ideas for recruiting friends to join us:

- **Host a table at your church** featuring our brochures, registration forms, pictures, this newsletter, and more.
- **Host a gathering at your home** featuring the same material as above. Invite **nearby Seabeckers** to join you.
- Remember that we have **scholarships available to help**, especially for new attendees.
- Refer your friend to our **Promotions Team** (Jessi Ford at mrsfordii2016@gmail.com) or our Registrar (Brittany Peterson at brthomas317@gmail.com) and let them do the rest.

IMPORTANT: With our Retreat only four months away, the sooner you ask a friend to join us, the better chance you have that they will respond positively.

Remember that our week is unique in many ways. We welcome people from all walks in life, regardless of sexual identity, ethnicity, or religious (or nonreligious) belief. Overall, we are more moderate to liberal in our theology. In other words, we may not be everybody's cup of tea.

Contact us if you have any questions or friends/family members that wish to join our Retreat family.

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*And what easier way to get people interested in the Seabeck Retreat experience than to sport your snappy Seabeck **T-shirt**, carry your stylin' Seabeck **tote bag**, and sip coffee from your chic Seabeck **mug**?*



That's right: we have **Seabeck swag** available!

Visit our site <https://seabeck-christian-family-camp.myspreadshop.com> and customize an order to feature one of our three logo designs on a variety of available items—T-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, aprons, tote bags, and more—available in a variety of colors and sizes. New logos, including **Seabeck Christian Family Retreat** and a new **Chicken Football** logo, will be coming soon!



Support the camp AND show your Seabeck pride! Our camp makes a small profit on every sale. And watch our **website** and **Facebook page** for a 20%-off sale!

SEABECK TRIVIA

What Seabeck building has a “body” buried underneath it?

(The answer will be in next month's newsletter)

One Last Thought

Seabeck is a place and time of congregation—an experience you want to share with old and new friends...a coming together that is more than a church. It is support, contemplation, a greater family...and true communion.

Come be a part of it this year, and be a part of what makes it all that!
And bring some new friends and family along to keep it growing and giving to all.

Seabeck Christian Family Retreat

www.seabeckchristianfamilycamp.com
seabeckchristianfamilycamp@gmail.com

2024–25 Seabeck Council Officers:

President: **Victory Walker**
Secretary: **Karen Ford**

Vice President: **Jessi McPete Ford**
Registrar: **Brittany Peterson**

Treasurer: **Janette Murry**
Emeritus: **Wes Pruitt**

The Seabeck Christian Family Retreat is an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization registered under the name **Seabeck Christian Family Camp**.



Photography: Cambrae Chipman, Kris Thomas