



Just Five Weeks to Go!

A Seabeck Newsletter

June 2025



July 27th to August 2nd, 2025



It's not time to start packing yet—we'll cover that in the next issues—but we wanted to let you know about more of what's been readied for gathering with your Seabeck family this summer. There's a great week in store, both in terms of activities and Resource Leader January Jaxon's program but also in what's possible.... Use this update to anticipate new opportunities as much as to plan for daily schedules.

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Hello from the Deans Duo

Your codeans for this year's retreat are longtime Seabeckers **Mollie Hoare** and **Adrian Hoare**. Deans coordinate staffing and are there for you to turn to with any concerns.

Hi, I'm Adrian. I was born and raised in Mount Vernon, Washington, and I've been lucky enough to have been going to Seabeck my whole life! Every year, I've always looked forward to that one week of relaxation and comfortable lodging on Hood Canal—as well as being able to reflect, learn, and grow with the message each year's speaker brings.

Seeing old friends (and meeting new ones!) is one of the main reasons I attend each year. Many of my close friends are part of the late-night young adult group that meets up to play games and discuss various topics. This past year, the young adults and myself felt like we needed a reunion to catch up, so in January we rented a house for the weekend in Union, Washington. We played board games, cooked together, and went to the waterfront. It was like no time had passed, and I was just happy to spend that extra time with them.

We hope that this year our Young Adult group grows and that Seabeck is as enjoyable for everybody as it is for me. Can't wait to see you all!

Mollie here! I have the privilege of being your other dean for Seabeck Christian Retreat. I am so excited to be serving with my son Adrian as dean. This is a wonderful week to spend as individuals or families just to relax and reconnect without all of the worldly distractions. I am so excited to hear what January has to share with us and explore new ways of worship and spiritual development.

I have been coming to this retreat for over 30 years and there is nothing quite like it. I am excited for summer 2025!



Housing Still Available...Barely

If you haven't registered to come to next month's annual retreat, or if you know of someone who's still considering joining us, there's still a little bit of room—but not much! We currently have 133 reservations; that's 98 adults, 7 youth, 22 children, and 3 infants, as well as 3 adults attending for just part of the week.

Seabeckers will be attending from throughout the Pacific Northwest and even Arizona! This is a gathering of old friends, new friends...even some old friends who used to be new friends and vice versa...where you can make connections and bonds of extended family in all these places and beyond, some enduring for life. Bring friends to share it all!

Get the Registration Form PDF at seabeckchristianfamilycamp.com.





This Year's Activities and Daily Treats, Part II

Following up on the April newsletter, Activities Director **David McPete** has the rest of the story for you about what's already lined up for the week.

FORTY YEARS! That's right! FOR-TY YEARS!

Do you know that the championship of chicken football, **Super Fowl**, has been running longer than the Academy Awards or Major League Baseball (but not as long as *The Simpsons*)? Falsehoods aside, *Wednesday afternoon's* Big Game promises more excitement than a Kardashian pillow fight. This year's game welcomes a new addition—"welcome," that is, except by two certain players. Don't miss the unveiling of a new twist to America's game.

Wednesday evening brings us two favorites: **Teddy Treats** and **Lauren's Game of Games**. The children begin by collecting goodies from a variety of giving hosts. We follow that up with the greatest game show since Giggle Fest. Join **Lauren, Itch**, and our special guest **Drew Pruitt** who will be participating in *some type of food challenge*.

Thursday afternoon, we give a standing ovation to those that have retired. Introducing **The Curmudgeons**—a party filled with memory games, bucket lists, and dreams into the future. After dinner, the **Teddy Bear Parade** marches down to the last campfire of the week. Finally, our **Seabeck Auction** brings a touch of class to our week *Thursday evening*. You won't want to be late and miss the entertainment for the event. Rumor has it there are a bunch of dancing legs in the area, moving at the speed of light.

Friday is our day to enjoy Seabeck in your own way. The scrumptious and delish **Salmon Bake** tops off our beach party, followed by **Communion** and our all-age **Dance**.

Five weeks and counting.... See you soon!



The Typical Seabeck Day

7:00am Polar Bearing in Lagoon
 7:45am Morning Watch
 8:15am Breakfast
 9:00am Children's Program and Worship
 9:30am Resource Message
 10:30am Small Groups / Adults Crafts
 11:30 Free time /Pick up children from groups
 Noon Lunch at the Inn Dining Room

1:00–2:00pm Quiet Time
 2:00–5:30pm Free time (Volleyball, Swimming, Boating...)
 3:30–5:20pm Afternoon Activity
 5:30pm Dinner at the Inn Dining Room
 6:45pm Campfire
 7:15pm Free time
 8:15pm Evening Activity
 10:00–11:15pm Youth Groups
 11:30pm Curfew for Youth



Mid or Senior High? You're Welcome Either Way!

Even though Mid High Youth leaders **Evelyn Jackson** and **La Roy King** let those from last year know, this is just a reminder. Those of you who are going into 9th grade next year have the choice of coming to the Mid High group for one more year at Seabeck '25 or going into the Senior High group.

We would love to have you with us again, but we also support your decision to move on if you wish. New experiences are always good. Whatever you decide to do, we will see you at Seabeck! Take care until we do.

The Mid High group mainly meet upstairs in the Meeting House... although we are all over campus, depending on the activity, at any given time of day or night.



April's Trivia Answer #1

**What do an elephant and a strawberry have in common?
They're both red, except the elephant.**



The Cemetery Got a Facelift!



Intrepid Seabeckers who've ventured up the hiking trails southwest of the campus and reached the old Seabeck Cemetery will be delighted to know that a crew from the **Daughters of the American Revolution** have done splendid work there.

You can now see all four of its fences. The DAR's crew have been leveling tombstones and restoring markers. They found the quarry that originally supplied the stones for the cemetery and somehow talked them into reopening to produce a few blocks to use to remake markers. Then they found a stone carver to make them. The first base has been installed, and it matches the pictures from the past located in the Inn. **Amazing!**



As for the hand-carved cedar grave markers that used to stand over some plots, most of them are now preserved in the University of Washington's historical archives.



Resource Leader January Jaxon's Prep Tips

Hi, Seabeck friends! We're another month closer to our beloved retreat, and I'm hard at work putting the finishing touches on some fun activities for our time together. Our gathering this summer invites you to rewild your relationship with God, with your body, and with the creative power that's been inside you all along. We'll unpack how shame fractures us and how the love of Christ calls us back into communion—not just with God, but with ourselves and each other.

If you're the kind of person who likes to do a little prereading, here are some of the books that have informed my work along the way:

- **Andrea Scher's *Wonder Seeker***—short on time? These bite-sized reflections and playful prompts help you fall back in love with aliveness.
- **Elizabeth Gilbert's *Big Magic***—a grounded, generous take on creative courage that dismantles perfectionism and invites joy.
- **Martha Beck's *Beyond Anxiety***—turns out the opposite of anxiety isn't calm, it's creativity. If you could use some help breaking free from the overthinking trap, this is a great resource.
- **Betty Edwards' *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain***—not just for artists! This book is chock full of mind-blowing exercises that help you see (and live) in a different way.
- **James Alison's *Raising Abel***—a stunning reflection from an openly gay Catholic priest on how a resurrection imagination helps reframe our understanding of God, salvation, and what it means to grow up into the image of Christ.
- **Suzanne Ross's *The Wicked Truth***—I know we have a ton of musical theater fans at Seabeck, so if you love the show *Wicked*, check out Ross's wonderfully accessible explanation of René Girard's mimetic theory using the lens of Elphaba's story.



You don't need to be "creative" to come (and I promise not to make you do any drawing.) You just need to be curious about what might be possible if shame and blame quit running the show and you learned to see life as *possibilities* rather than *problems*.

Don't forget to register if you haven't already—I need to know how many craft supplies to stock up on!

April's Trivia Answer #2
Which Seabeck building has a "body" buried underneath it?
The new Pines (someone's ashes).

We're still looking for Infant/Toddler/Pre-K Teachers and a Babysitting Coordinator.
If you're available, please contact Mollie Hoare at mollie.hoare@yahoo.com!



You Can Help Make It Great

Have you ever thought about who might be a good **resource leader** at Seabeck? Maybe a pastor in your church, a speaker you heard somewhere, or the like? This is your chance to help out, because the Seabeck Council wants to hear your suggestions!

We are always looking for people to be our resource leaders in future years. Usually it is a pastor or someone with a strong religious bent whose message is one that will help strengthen our spiritual journey. If you know someone you think would be good, please send a message to me at **tjepwalk@gmail.com** with the following information:

1. The person's/persons' name(s) and contact information
2. Why you think they would be a good resource leader for Seabeck
3. Whether you have spoken with them about Seabeck and potentially speaking to us and, if so, if they were interested in doing so.



We're looking forward to hearing all your great ideas!

—Victory Walker, Seabeck Council President

*Whether you're coming for activity or rest, community or solitude, worship or contemplation, Seabeck is welcoming you with loving, open arms, ready to receive your embrace too and what **you** uniquely bring.*

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**.