

Faith UMC SUMMER CAMP FAITH STORY

During summer vacation, how many times do your kids utter the words “I’m bored!” Probably a decent amount. Well, what if I told you there was a place you could send your kids for 3-5 days during the summer where they could ride horses, go canoeing, and roast marshmallows over a fire? A place where your daughter could design her own clothing line or rock climb. A place where your son could build his very own shelter to sleep in or put on a musical. Camp Wanake, Asbury, and Aldersgate can be the getaway your child craves and your reprieve from the “I’m bored”s for a week.

Church Camp is one of my fondest summertime memories. It gave me the ability to meet new friends, get away from mom and dad for a week, and pick up skills and experiences I could never receive anywhere else. Something that is special about Church Camp is that they have tailored individual programs to fit everyone’s idea of a good camp experience. For example, if your kid is interested in the outdoors, they could enroll in the ultimate adventure camp. If your kid is interested in swimming, pool pizzaz may be the camp for them. If the outdoors isn’t really their thing, there is even a video games camp offered. The possibilities are really endless and if you have any inkling in going to camp, I highly suggest picking up a brochure after the service.

Not only do camps vary in their agenda but they also vary in their length. There are weeklong camps and three day long camps. So if you or your kid is hesitant about a week long camp there are shorter options. However, I will warn you, in second grade my parents sent me to a shorter camp and when I got in the car at the end of the week, I was upset that they didn’t sign me up for a week long session. I had so much fun that I wanted to stay longer!

While the camps may vary in length or interest type, a capstone of every option is the Church aspect of Church Camp. In a world where we are constantly surrounded by technology, it is nice to get away and to experience God through nature. Camp is one of the pivotal points in my relationship with Christ. I always felt refreshed in my faith when I get home from camp because the vespers services, bible studies, and fun Christian songs were so energizing. The camp counselors are passionate about God and sharing God’s love with others. I can remember my admiration for the Christian love the counselors showed not just in the services but throughout the entire week as well.

One barrier that stops many kids from going to camp is the cost, especially for families with multiple children. However, church camp is an important part of growing up and in creating a sense of independence. It is a huge mechanism for discovering God’s purpose for your life. Faith United Methodist Church believes so much in the power of church camp that we have multiple scholarships available to help aid with the costs. Do not let financial difficulties hold you back from a life changing experience! Pick up a scholarship application today! Also, if anyone feels called to support our scholarship fund and the children of our church, please contact Kathy Schmucker or Kathy Myers. The deadline for early registration and scholarships is April 30th. See Kathy Schmucker or Kathy Myers for more information.

Now that you know what the best summer activity is, what are you waiting for? Pick up a camp brochure and start planning your summer adventures after the service.

Written by Angela Myers



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