



## Leader Information for May Youth Weekend at Lutherwood

We are excited to announce that thanks to the generosity of Lutherwood Camp & Retreat Center in Bellingham, May Youth Weekend 2026 will be possible!

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**Session Dates: May 23-25, 2026 (Saturday-Monday)**

**Theme:** Abundance For All

*I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. -John 10:10*

**Registration: \$150 per participant. Registration opens on Tuesday, March 3, 2025 at 9am.**

<https://forms.gle/QUFkioy2SJ6SEzPJ7>

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### Special Guests



**Pastor Halcyon** (she/her) has the honor of being the Pastor at Lord of Life in Renton WA. She received a BA in Education from Augustana University in Sioux Falls SD and a Master of Divinity from Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque IA. Halcyon served congregations in Montana and Iowa before arriving in the PNW. Along with congregational ministry Halcyon spent seven summers at Bible Camps working with youth and staff. She loves to be out hiking and backpacking rain or shine! She would love to hear your hiking stories and feel free to ask her about the time she ran into a bear!



**Bryan Odeen** (he/him) is the Pastor at St. Peder's Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, MN, as well as a songwriter and musician. Studying music therapy at Wartburg College (and practicing music therapy in a hospice setting), he learned the power of music to tell stories, connect people, and heal. His music is folksy and his lyrics try to put words to the experiences of the world around him. When he's not busy at St. Peder's or playing and writing on guitar, he likes running, reading, and spending time with his family. You can find his self-produced music on Bandcamp ([www.bandcamp.com/bryanodeen](http://www.bandcamp.com/bryanodeen)) or all streaming services.

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### **Leadership and Communication**

Coordinator: Nicole Meyer

You can contact Nicole at [holdenmyw17@gmail.com](mailto:holdenmyw17@gmail.com)

[Event Information Page](#)

[Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center](#)

Please 'like' our Facebook page for updates and communication.

## **Registration**

### **Who is Invited?**

This event is designed for **high school youth in grades 9-12**. (students entering 9th grade for the 26-27 school year - 2026 high school graduates are eligible). All registrations must be made with a congregational youth group.

**Adult chaperones may not bring their own children under the age designated for this event.**

### **Program Cost**

The cost is \$150 per person, which includes program, lodging and seven meals while at Lutherwood, and a May youth weekend t-shirt.

### **Registration Policies**

- 100% payment is due **by check** within 2 weeks of your registration to reserve your spots.
- There is no charge to change names on a registration before April 15th, 2026.
- Registration will close on April 15th, 2026.
- All participants age 18+ will need to complete a background check through their congregation.
- Group leaders are responsible for carrying completed registration forms with emergency information for each member of their group. Use the May Youth Weekend form or what your congregation requires.
- To request a refund, send a letter of explanation to the [holdenmyw17@gmail.com](mailto:holdenmyw17@gmail.com) before April 15, 2026.

**No refunds will be issued after this date.**

### **To Register**

1. The adult leader from each church group registers their group online at:

<https://forms.gle/SCGB4W6cyvCgn2Wa9>

Registration is open March 3, 2026 at 9am - April 15th at 5pm.

**You will be required to enter information for each student and adult who plan to attend including name/pronouns/birthdate/grade/t-shirt size/allergies**

2. E-mail a copy of your completed background check form for all participants age 18+ in your group to [holdenmyw17@gmail.com](mailto:holdenmyw17@gmail.com)
3. **Payment: You must pay-in-full with a check within 2 weeks to hold your spots. (no credit cards).**  
Make a check out to "Northwest Washington Synod" with "May Youth Weekend *Name of your congregation*" in the memo to:  
Northwest Washington Synod, 5519 Phinney Avenue N, Seattle, WA 98103

### **Medical Release and Covenant of Conduct Forms**

Be sure to list any special needs (physical, medical, dietary, etc.) in your online registration.

When you come to Lutherwood, you must bring any and all forms required by your church regarding health insurance, liability, permission, etc. The forms provided by May Youth Weekends qualify. You must also submit your background check form prior to the event via email. (This is a form stating that you have completed background checks for each adult in your party and release Lutherwood and May Youth Weekends of liability - you do not need to submit the results to MYW nor bring the results with you unless your church requires this).

The Covenant of Conduct forms the group's "contract" for the event. Please make sure your youth and accompanying adults understand the expectations required of them while participating.

## Getting Ready

**Housing:** Lutherwood has cabins with bunk beds that sleep about 20 people each. Bathrooms are located in a separate building nearby. Male and female participants will be in separate cabins. Adults will be housed in the cabins with youth and there will likely be more than one church group per cabin. PARTICIPANTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN LINENS INCLUDING BEDDING & TOWELS.

### **Check in Beginning at 11am on Saturday, May 23 with lunch at Noon**

Check in with Nicole and get your group's folder containing detailed schedules, your housing assignments, devotions and other materials for the weekend.

**What to Expect:** The event will include several large group gatherings with our special guest speaker and musician, small groups, evening sacred space, service projects, lots of fun free time opportunities (including swimming and boating!), and collaborative closing worship.

**Meals:** The camp will provide lunch and dinner on the day of arrival, three meals on the second day, and breakfast and lunch on the day of departure. Many special dietary needs can be accommodated. Please list them during registration.

## Packing List

### **What to Bring to Lutherwood**

Each **person** should bring:

**BEDDING: pillow, sleeping bag/blanket**

**TOWELS, for swimming and showering**

Warm clothes, including a warm jacket

Some lighter clothing in case it's warm and sunny

pajamas

Personal toiletries

Sunscreen

Swimsuit

Sturdy shoes

Flashlight/Headlamp

A reusable water bottle

\*100% cotton White clothing if you'd like to tie-dye

\*Items needed to participate in Open Mic

\*optional

Each **group** should bring:

Materials for your part of the closing worship service (*You will receive your worship assignment in early May*)

An offering for Sunday Worship to be given to Holden Village

### **What NOT to Bring**

Any electronics (including cell phones\*\*, tablets, video games, etc.) *\*\*cell phones may be used to take pictures, but we ask that they are otherwise kept out of sight and not used in public spaces.*

Items that require electricity (such as hairdryers, curling irons, etc.)

Items that produce fire or sparks (lighters, etc.)

Clothing with inappropriate slogans or themes