

Camp Metigoshe

Summer Staff Roles at a Glance 2017

Metigoshe Ministries is Adventure Anchored in Christ where people experience and celebrate the gifts of God in a life together.

Camp Counselor (30 positions)

A counselor serves by spending time with and caring for campers of all ages and abilities in various settings including on-site and at day camp (at various churches). Counselors spend time leading and participating in activities with campers such as worship, high ropes, camp-outs, SWAT (our Bible study), games, and more! This is an incredible experience which allows you to work closely with a large spectrum of campers! In addition to being a counselor, most staff will have the opportunity to serve for a week on support staff to gain a further understanding of camp.

Requirements: Must be at least 18 years old and one year out of high school. Physical stamina is required to work long hours in the outdoors and to be able to walk over all types of terrain. Must have a strong desire to work with energetic campers!

Day Camp Specialist (6 positions)

A day camp specialist serves as the lead counselor on a team of staff bringing Camp Metigoshe programming off-site to congregations across North Dakota. The specialists will be the liaison between the congregation and camp while out on a day camp. They will guide the day planning process each day with other staff members on day camp and ensure quality programming throughout. During the day they will help lead games, bible studies, and other activities right alongside other counseling staff. In weeks when they are not on day camp, they will serve on either support or counseling staff. A day camp specialist will go on the same number of day camps as a camp counselor.

Requirements: Prefer 1 year of camp experience. Physical stamina is required to work in both inside churches and outside. It is necessary to be able to walk over all types of terrain. Must have a strong desire to work with energetic campers!

Junior Counselor (5 positions)

A JC holds a role nearly identical to a camp counselor but are recent high school graduates. They will work primarily with younger programs and can expect to serve on day camps or on support staff for majority of the summer. When counseling older campers, they will be paired with another counselor.

Support Staff (up to 3 positions)

Support staff help in many important ways around camp. They may assist with program help, general maintenance, or in administrative functions. They work under the direction of the support staff coordinator and the program director.

Requirements: Ability to accept direction and follow through on tasks. Willingness to learn and ability to do physical labor in the outdoors.

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Programmatic Roles

Programmatic Staff: Leadership staff which works behind the scenes to help camp run efficiently. All programmatic members must have strong leadership and organizational skills. At least one year of counseling experience preferred. Ability to work in harmony with other staff members. At least 18 years old. Most roles will be combined with another programmatic role.

Arts and Crafts Director (1 position)

The arts and crafts coordinator manages the arts and crafts area at camp. This includes organizing and taking inventory of all supplies, ordering new supplies as needed, distributing supplies to campers, and cleaning up the arts and crafts area.

Requirements: This person should be experienced in creative arts and have the ability to teach skills and rules to campers. This person should be also able to manage their time and be able to follow all ACA and camp standards.

Adventure Trek Coordinator (1 Position)

The city trek coordinator helps to lead a group of Sr. High youth on a high adventure trip to the boundary waters. The coordinator for this trip will work with the program director to plan and communicate all trip details. They will help to coordinate service opportunities, fun outings, arrange places to eat, peg down daily agendas, and incorporate Camp Metigoshe programming throughout.

Requirements: A strong administrative skill set is necessary to make sure all logistical details are planned and communicated to congregations going on this trek. It is desired that this coordinator have at least two years of counseling experience or similar experiences and must be 21 years of age. You must be able to meet the physical demands of a multiple day canoe trip which includes several portages. Ability to lift 75 pounds. Ability to obtain bus license is preferred (camp will cover this expense).

Chaplain (2 positions)

The chaplain coordinates and plans all daily worships for youth and adults on site. The coordinate special worship services for campers and staff throughout the summer. They seek to facilitate spiritual growth in everyone!

Requirements: Strong understanding of ELCA theology and ability to articulate this theology in both large and small group settings. Mature understanding of others needs and ability to minister to those in need. Ability to facilitate the administrative functions surrounding worship such as creating PowerPoints. Seminarians preferred.

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Cook (2 Positions)

The cook serves by bringing delicious, hospitable, and well-balanced meals to campers and staff members all summer long. They create a menu that allows for delicious and health conscious meals to be served. During the week they are responsible for cooking these meals. They are also in charge of maintaining a clean and safe kitchen and dining facility that meets and exceeds all laws and ACA standards. The cook helps to train staff and volunteers on kitchen polices as well as teach campers on how they are able to assist in the kitchen. They may have other responsibilities given in camp programming as time allows.

Requirements: Ability to document food records and ensure all health code and ACA standards are met and exceeded. Capability to cook multiple meals a day for up to 250 people. Desire to keep a clean and professional kitchen which produces camp cuisine.

Day Camp Coordinator (1 positions)

The day camp coordinator serves our off-site day camp program by helping with the behind the scenes logistics. They will help prepare for each day camp location by preparing needed materials and calling congregations to communicate any needs or logistics. When needed, they will serve as a point person for congregations to contact and help support counselors serving at day camps. Additionally, this person will assist in training staff on day camp policies and procedures. This position will work directly with the Outreach Director.

Requirements: Aptitude to train other staff members to day camp policies and procedures. Strong individual initiative and administrative skill set. Ability to pay close attention to detail and have great follow-through.

Health Shack Coordinator (1 position)

The health shack coordinator serves by helping with the distribution of camper medications, maintaining a clean health shack, keeping accurate health logs, and assisting campers and staff members with their medical needs. This staff member helps to ensure that the activities of Camp Metigoshe are safe for all participants.

Requirements: The health shack coordinator must be a compassionate person who is organized and detailed oriented. This position also requires the person to be first aid certified (class available during training) and must be 21 years of age. Ability to think rationally in stressful situations.

Media Coordinator (1 Position)

The media coordinator oversees all media production in regards to summer programming including photography, videography, social media, and weekly slideshow creation. They will ensure that a plethora of quality pictures and videos are taken each week that can be used for marketing purposes year round. They will also create a short video for each program at camp.

Requirements: Skilled in photography and videography. Ability to create quality slideshows that are given to all campers.

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Program Coordinator (up to 8 positions)

Program coordinators help to organize and implement the day-to-day activities of camp and assist counselors to perform their duties. As a coordinator, you will create daily schedules, do the behind the scenes setup work, and assist other staff members with their roles. Being a program coordinator can mean working with as few as one or as many as 25 counselors depending on the week and program. Program coordinators often co-coordinate with another staff member to provide support, guidance, and encouragement to the summer staff. Programs include working with youth in grades 2-12, Voyageurs (adults with physical and intellectual disabilities), Ojibwa Campers (youth from the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation), and intergenerational programming for both families and grandparents.

Requirements: Strong administrative skill set and passion for strong programming. Ability to mentor peers and establish a harmonious community striving to serve the needs of all campers. Preferred to have 2 years of outdoor ministry experience. Willingness to ensure all ACA standards are followed.

Site Director (1 position)

The site director ensures the proper care, maintenance, and development of all sites, facilities, and equipment of Camp Metigoshe. They will work side by side with site and support staff to maintain a safe and tidy site. The site director will work hand in hand with all of the year-round staff members to make sure all camp and ACA standards are met and exceeded.

Requirements: The site director must be a mature, capable, self-starter who is skilled in maintenance and construction. 21 years of age with maintenance experience is preferred. Ability to do hard physical labor in outdoor conditions. The site director should also be skilled in delegation of tasks.

Site Staff (up to 3 positions)

Site staff work together to maintain a safe and aesthetically pleasing camp facility. Duties may include mowing, cleaning, small building projects, general repairs around the camp facility, and other duties as assigned by directors.

Requirements: Ability to accept direction and follow through on tasks. Self-motivated and eager to learn. Ability to do hard physical labor in outdoor conditions.

Summer Adventure Course Coordinator (1 position)

The summer high ropes coordinator is the primary facilitator for all camper groups. They will coordinate with program coordinators to schedule climbing times for campers as well as choosing appropriate elements for each age group (a curriculum guide is provided). This person will need to set up and take down for each climb, find additional facilitators when needed, and make sure each camper has signed consent. For the low ropes (adventure course), this person will train counseling staff, assess their skills, and perform safety checks on all low elements. They will seek advice from the High Ropes Manager.

Requirements: Must hold a current high ropes facilitator certification from Beyond Ropes. Understand and implement all high ropes policies and procedures. Strong ability for time-management while holding a friendly/hospitable demeanor. Ability to communicate and coordinate well with others.

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Summer Program Director (1 position)

The summer program director supervises and implements programs which facilitate efficient operation through implementation of the philosophy and policies of Camp Metigoshe and the ELCA in accordance with the ACA. They serve as the lead programmatic staff member and are a liaison between the summer ministry team and the year-round staff. This position will have a heavy emphasis placed on ensuring all staff needs are met and help to sustain harmony amongst staff members. In collaboration with program coordinators and the program director, they will evaluate programming during the summer and suggest improvements. They will assist the program director and program coordinators in leading daily meetings. They will also help to welcome all guests to camp with gracious hospitality.

Requirements: Relates well to peers and understands the programming of Camp Metigoshe. Must be at least 21 years of age with at least 2 years of experience at an outdoor ministry site (preferably Camp Metigoshe) with at least one year on programmatic staff. Ability to think rationally in stressful situations.

Support Staff Director (1 position)

The support staff director helps to coordinate, explain, and facilitate all work projects. They will work with programmatic staff members and year round staff members to create a list of work needed to be done and assign staff members to those projects.

Requirements: The support staff director should be a strong motivator with a cheerful attitude. Ability to see tasks needing to be completed, establish priorities, and delegate tasks.

Trading Post Director (1 position)

The trading post director serves by organizing the trading post (camp store), keeping an up to date inventory, and ordering supplies as needed. They will work directly with the financial secretary to manage money and inventory. They also help to orientate staff to how to serve in the trading post.

Requirements: The trading post director should be organized and detail oriented. They must be able to accurately keep inventory and a balanced till. Preferred to have marketing abilities.

Waterfront Director (1 position)

The waterfront director serves as the head lifeguard and manages the beach area. They provide leadership, supervision, and maintenance to ensure a safe waterfront area. This person will help to lifeguard during most waterfront activities and will orient all campers and visitors to waterfront policies pertaining to them and will train all staff and lifeguards to waterfront policies and procedures.

Requirements: The director must be certified in CPR/First Aid as well as a certified lifeguard for the duration of the summer camp season. The waterfront director must be knowledgeable in emergency procedures, camp policies, and ACA standards. This person must be 21 years of age and have previous experience as a lifeguard.

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Here is what a few staff from previous summers have said about Camp Metigoshe:

“Camp is a place where you can be yourself. There is no judgement from others and they accept you and love you just as you are.”

“At Camp Metigoshe, I experienced Adventure Anchored in Christ from sun up to sun down. Whenever we are walking to our activities, you can see God alive in nature, flourishing. When the campers leave camp, they know that they are a loved child of God.”

“You not only learn many skills such as adaptability and patience you also become part a family that have so many adventures together.”

“The community that you find at Camp Metigoshe is not something that only lasts for the week or for the summer. It follows you and I think it’s a real blessing to know that, wherever you are, there are people who love and care for you and who are keeping you in their prayers.”

“Camp is a constant reminder for me not to take life too seriously and to find time to play in Jesus’ name. I also find myself spiritually growing each year through camp’s theme and Bible study times.”

“It’s not a summer Job, it’s a summer experience.”

“If you are a college student who is looking to apply to a program (med school, PT, OT, etc), there is nothing better than camp experience. Where else do you get dropped in the middle of a situation that requires all the skills that camp counseling does? Leadership, high energy and enthusiasm, interpersonal skills, and direction of a bunch of people that probably won’t listen to you the first time you tell them something. There is a massive amount of problem solving, quick decision making, public speaking, among other things that if you don’t know when you first step foot in the lodge [a main building at camp], you will know them by the time you leave. Put that together with the fact that the people you meet will most likely be as close as family for many, many years to come-what’s not to love!! To this day, if I can find a camp counselor to hire...that’s as good as gold!”

“Camp Metigoshe has a certain atmosphere where kids and adult alike grow closer together than they can anywhere else! The foundation of Christ paves the way for life-lasting friendships. Camp provides an accepting environment for all people. You can play games, make friends, and just have fun while growing in faith with your peers. A week (or summer) at Camp Metigoshe is never a regret!”

“The community that forms through experiences at Camp Metigoshe is absolutely incredible. Whether it is your first time or your tenth summer, there is truly a place for you at Camp Metigoshe. People you have never seen before will be some of your best friends by the end.”

“My faith was not strong when I came to work at camp, but after having Voyageurs and being surrounded by amazing co-workers, it grew tremendously! I’m thankful for being a part of this camp, it’s truly a blessing.”

“Camp is not only a place where campers are spiritually fed, but where the staff is also fed. I have found such a close, loving, and supportive group of friends that have become like family to me because of camp. This place has become a home away from home to me. I love that this is a safe space for campers and staff to feel God’s love and grace no matter what they are going through and that they know that they are beloved children of God.”

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