

FFWPU USA: National Ocean Challenge Program Welcomes New Wave of Fishers

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Photos courtesy of NOCP

The 2022 National Ocean Challenge Program ([NOCP](#)) is just two weeks away, and participants are gearing up for this once-in-a-lifetime immersion experience. From July 5 through 27, participants from across North America will learn invaluable life skills while boating on the ocean off Kodiak, Alaska.

"[The program] looks like an incredibly unique opportunity to grow my faith and challenge my limits," shared a recent college graduate and participant from Canada. "I also think that this is an amazing experience to gain more confidence in my own abilities and gain a better understanding of who I really want to become."

Participants, aged 17 and older, get to experience the ocean as a training ground, developing character and confidence through seamanship, experiencing the heart of stewardship, and cultivating greater faith through experiencing God's love through nature. Led by NOCP Directors Lucas and Tasnah Bercy, the program also has team leader and Captain-In-Training (CIT) roles available every year for qualified participants.

"NOCP seeks to continue Father and Mother Moon's tradition and legacy of growing the character and faith of young people through leadership training on the sea," the program's website details. "Through internal guidance and connecting to their words and experience, participants have the opportunity to walk in Father and Mother Moon's shoes and experience all the lessons that the ocean has to teach."

Lessons stem from a range of activities, including a morning service introducing each day's theme, full days out in nature and on the ocean learning the basics of boating and fishing, as well as how to jig and troll for Pacific salmon, halibut, rockfish, and ling cod. The challenges - along with the personal growth and rewards of participating in the program - are compelling for many young adults.

"I continued to build my life of faith by doing CARP, YAYAM, and being a part of my community's council," said a recent high school graduate from Arizona. "Now God is calling me to Alaska and I'm determined to respond ... It's an environment to discover more about myself, raise leadership skills, and invest in the future of my community."

Throughout the program, participants rotate using four boats, learning from the senior captains who spent many years on the ocean with True Parents. The captains often share stories and lessons, as well as fishing techniques and their unique styles. Evenings full of testimonies from local members, educational activities, and personal reflections enhance the overall experience, camaraderie, and spiritual nourishment of the group.

"This will be my first year attending NOCP," shared a young Unificationist from New Jersey. "My main reason for participating is to get back on a path toward my purpose and find God, myself, and my role again by challenging and surrounding myself with God's raw creation. I have been lacking in practicing my faith in the past years ... I want to take action for myself."

True Parents launched the first Ocean Challenge in Gloucester, Mass., in 1981 to foster faith by utilizing the vast ocean and fishing as a spiritual training ground. They later started "Ocean Challenge Alaska" in 1986, where more highlights of the program emerged over the years, including river fishing, team reflection, beach bonfires, a hatchery tour, Kodiak city tour, and a fishing tournament with prizes held at the end of the program.

"I really want to inherit and connect to True Fathers love for the ocean," shared a participant from California. "Whether that be through swabbing the deck, getting seasick, or maybe even catching a king salmon, I'm interested to see how I respond in this new environment. And I hope that I can humble myself and appreciate the power and beauty of the ocean through this experience."

NOCP participants become certified in CPR/First Aid and "About Boating Safely," offered by the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. All staff and participants will provide a negative Covid-19 test prior to traveling to Alaska.

You can learn more about the National Ocean Challenge Program and sponsor a participant [here](#)

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PROGRAM



HISTORY GET CONNECTED
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Kodiak Ocean Tribe

Empowering youth through



Stewardship

"The shortcut to protecting nature is to develop a heart that loves nature...To care for and love the environment is to love God." -SMM



Seamanship

"Once a person receives intense training to become a fisherman, he can go anywhere in the world and become a leader of people. Learning to be a fisherman is good leadership training." - SMM



Faith

"The ocean has been such a wonderful teacher for me in my life that I created the Ocean Challenge program to give young people the leadership training the ocean provides." -SMM

Our Mission

Kodiak Ocean Tribe seeks to empower future leaders to become true owners of God's Creation through

educational and experiential oceanic activities based on the teachings of Rev. and Mrs. Moon.

Our Programs



National Ocean Challenge Program July 2022

The Kodiak Ocean Tribe community is proud to host the annual National Ocean Challenge Program, an unforgettable 3-week summer experience for youth from around the world.

[LEARN MORE!](#)



Family Ocean Camp August 2022

COMING SOON



Kodiak Pilgrimage August 2022

COMING SOON

Love Nature

"The shortcut to protecting nature is to develop a heart that loves nature... To care for and love the environment is to love God." - SMM

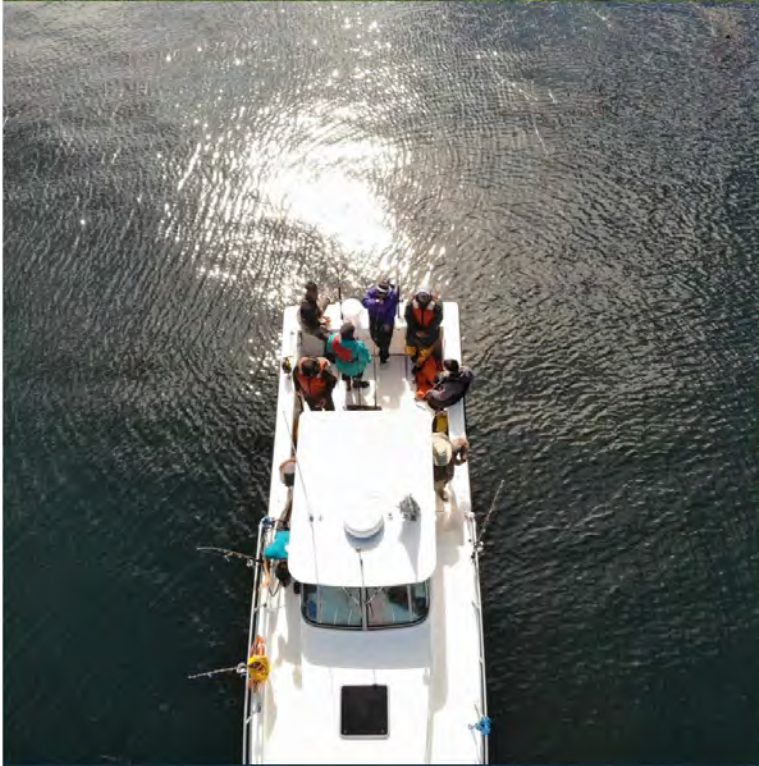
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Sponsor Page

Give the gift of an epic adventure
and sponsor a participant to come to NOCP this summer!

Profiles from participants seeking sponsorship are listed below!

...OR DONATE TO THE PROGRAM AS A WHOLE

Donations made directly to participants are not tax deductible. Donations to the program as a whole are tax deductible.

Our 2022 Participants



L. Paghubasan - Canada
Sponsor Goal: \$1000

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$120

Hey everyone! I'm a recent University Graduate with a degree in Human Kinetics. I want to attend NOCP this year because it looks like an incredibly unique opportunity to grow my faith and challenge my limits. I also think that this is an amazing experience to gain more confidence in my own abilities and gain a better understanding of who I really want to become. After NOCP I want to take what I learned and strive truly live for the sake of others and become the best possible version of myself. Thank you for your generosity!

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R. Fukuzaki - AZ
Sponsor Goal: \$2500

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$571

Upon graduating high school, my focus shifted to pursuing a higher education. I continued to build my life of faith by doing CARP, YAYAM, and being a part of the community's council. Now God is calling me to Alaska and I'm determined to respond. NOCP is an opportunity to further deepen my relationship with God, God's creation, and True Parents. It's an environment to discover more about myself, raise leadership skills, and invest in the future of my community. Thank you for your generosity and the opportunity to grow my faith.

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Y. Kitahara - NJ
Sponsor Goal: \$2000

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$0

This will be my first year attending NOCP. My main reason for participating is to get back on a path towards my purpose and find God, myself, and my role again by challenging and surrounding myself with God's raw creation. I have been lacking in practicing my faith in the past years and neglecting my role as a 2nd Generation BC. I want to take action for myself.

By sponsoring me, you will give me the opportunity to be able to reflect on myself and grow. I greatly appreciate any support to help me attain my goal.

Thank you!

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D. Wambali - AZ
Sponsor Goal: \$2500

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$521

My name is D. and I'm an 18 year old student from Arizona. This will be my first time on the water, and in Alaska. I'm coming to Ocean Challenge to strength my faith, and learn more about myself on a new frontier. By sponsoring me, you will empower me to continue my personal journey to grow my faith, and take ownership of myself, and community. Thank you for considering me, and your contribution!

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S. Scharf - CA
Sponsor Goal: \$1000

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$21

Hey everyone! My name is S., I'm 22 years young, from Sacramento CA. I really want to inherit and connect to True Fathers love for the ocean. Whether that be through swabbing the deck, getting seasick, or maybe even catching a king salmon. I'm interested to see how I respond in this new environment. And I hope that I can humble myself and appreciate the power and beauty of the ocean through this experience. and continue to work on myself and share this with everyone I meet and that I can support others like me in the future. Thx.

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. Clarke - NY
Sponsor Goal: \$1800

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$40

Last year (2020-2021) I found my faith while attending GPA. As I finish up my degree in architecture and design, I am also trying to pioneer a CARP on my campus in Long Island. True Father said that "-without an interest in the ocean you will never be a leader", and "Ocean Church and CARP are a testing ground" for future leaders. Understanding this, I am determined to invest into CARP and Ocean Providence through my participation in NOCP, as well as invest in all the brothers and sisters on the program! Thank you for your generosity and support!

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R. Yonetani - MA
Sponsor Goal: \$2500

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$0

I am participating in this years NOCP because I was seeking a place of reflection and healing so rather than being holed up at home, I felt that I needed to sign up for this. Also the thought of being out on the boat and fishing for 3 weeks excites me and there's so much to be offered. Along with the excitement there are some part of me feels that God is calling me there to learn True Father's spirit of preparing, waiting and praying before any crucial event or choice. So for this packaged experience, Please support me! Anything helps, Thank you.

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A. Maruyama - NJ
Sponsor Goal: \$500

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$21

Hi my name is A., I'm currently a college student that is seeking for adventure and a deeper understanding of God through the ocean. I've been trying to understand the importance of ocean providence, and I'm hoping that this workshop can shed some light on this topic. Any help to achieve this hope is greatly appreciated!

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L. Regidor - NV
Sponsor Goal: \$1000

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$0

My name is L. Regidor, I am excited to go to NOCP to experience God's creation in Alaska, experience fishing and being on the ocean and connect with God in a different environment.

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David Lee - MD
Sponsor Goal: \$1000

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$0

Hello! My name is David, and I am currently planning to study environmental engineering in Maryland. The



Desiree Contreras - VA
Sponsor Goal: \$1000

Amount raised as of 6/7: \$0

Hello! My name is Desiree Contreras, and I joined the Unification Church about a year ago. I never thought I'd

reason why I am going to NOCP is because I want to take time to reflect about what I want to pursue in my future. In addition to that, I want to be able to deepen my relationship with God and True Parents through the ocean. Ultimately, I desire to be a leader who can contribute to society leaving a legacy of love.

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do Ocean Challenge so soon, but I really want to understand True Father's heart and grow my relationship with him before starting GPA this fall. I've read his autobiography but I really want to do things he loved doing to deepen my respect and love for him. I would really love to do this for him.

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Our 2022 Team Leaders



H. Olgado

Sponsor Goal: \$600

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$0

If I never attended NOCP 2019 for my first time. I don't think I would have built such a love and passion with fishing and being out on the ocean. This workshop was a completely 180 challenge of getting out my comfort zone that showed me so much of the beauty and wonders the ocean provide that I was able to understand a bit of True Parents heart and passion for the ocean and Alaska. I think this workshop is so unique in location and its environment I felt so much spiritual energy fill me more than when I went to Cheongpyeong.

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Our 2022 Captains-in-Training



J. Olson - TX

Sponsor Goal \$2000

Amount raised as of 6/3: \$40

My name is J. from Dallas Texas. I am attending NOCP to find my place in Ocean Providence and I can't wait to express the importance and my love for OP



S. Hasebe - NC

Sponsor Goal \$1100

Amount raised as of 6/3 - \$120

I wanted join NOCP to inherit True Father's spirit and vision for Ocean Providence. I also decided to join so I could learn the lifestyle of Kodiak, just experience the beauty of a

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new environment. Hopefully, I can take back valuable knowledge about fishing, boating, and the ocean and apply it back to my family and community living near the coast of NC.

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