

# MEET YOUR GUIDES



## MEET NICK!

### *Favorite area to recreate in?*

Mt Baker Wilderness, North Cascades, Snoqualmie Area

### *What do you like most about extended trips?*

It takes a while for the body to settle and extended trips give people the opportunity to really be present in a way that is hard to achieve otherwise.

## MEET JOHN WAYNE!

John Wayne directs wilderness ministry at Bethany and has a background as a sea kayak and mountain guide in the coastal mountains of Canada through Beyond Malibu.

### *What's your favorite thing to do in the outdoors?*

Skiing! 100% skiing! Backcountry, side country, resort, whatever it is. I'm happiest on sticks in the snow!

### *What's your best backcountry tip?*

I know it's over the top but I always bring two mugs, one for coffee, one for food. It's worth the weight for me.

### *What's your favorite memory in the outdoors?*

My wife and I got married during Covid at Alpentel in the spring and skied down together in our wedding clothes. Best memory of MY LIFE.

### *Why do you take people outside?*

My hope is that everyone would engage in a regular rhythm of retreat in the outdoors. Jesus did it with His disciples and it worked out pretty well. Friends, people at Bethany, coworkers, family, I just want everyone to experience the pace, rhythm, and peace that is available in communing with Christ in the outdoors.





## MEET SARAH!

This is Sarah's second year guiding trekking trips and leading with BWM. If you get to know Sarah, you'll also get to know her dog, Tiv!

*What's your favorite spot to come back to?*

Anywhere near Mount Baker. Winter or summer!

*What's the best backcountry meal you've ever had?*

It's an odd one; pasta, melted Brie cheese, and tuna. Always tastes delicious after a long day hiking!

*How have you experienced Christ in creation?*

The outdoors is always where I've experienced God the deepest. Being able to walk through nature (or be still) is a type of meditation and form of praise for me. I'm constantly overwhelmed by God's peace and presence when outdoors.

*What's your hope for participants?*

That they can experience God's peace and power in the wild!



## MEET AUSTIN!

*What's your favorite outdoor activity?*

Splitboarding. Wilderness is an incredible thing. Winter wilderness, for me, is even more astounding. Exploring wilderness on snow by skiing uphill and riding back down whichever route you choose is one of the most powerful experiences I've ever had. It's the ultimate feeling of freedom.

*What's a special memory of time spent outside?*

My most special memory was snowboarding from the summit of Mt. Shuksan last winter with two of my close friends. I'll remember that for the rest of my life.

*What's one hope you have for participants on outdoor trips?*

I hope for participants to come to a deeper place in their spiritual lives by walking through the peaks and valleys, and finding God present at each step.



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## MEET MEG

*What's your favorite place to backpack?*

Anywhere in the North Cascades!

*What's your favorite trail snack?*

A summit twix is a necessity.

*What do you hope for participants to experience on a trip in the outdoors?*

I hope for participants to experience God's goodness to us through uninterrupted time with others and the sheer beauty of what He created for us to enjoy and explore.

## MEET ALY!

*What's your favorite backcountry meal?*

Probably curry or tacos!

*What do you enjoy about taking others outside?*

So much of our formation happens in community with others, and I think it's so fun to be able to do that in a vulnerable, creative, and evolving space like the outdoors. The wilderness has a lot to teach us!

*Why do you treasure time in the outdoors?*

It's an important reset for me mentally, spiritually and physically. Whether it's feeling my feet pound on the dirt trail in front of me or having the space to reflect on the season I currently find myself in...I feel like God extends an invitation to healing, transformation, and groundedness when I head into the outdoors.

