

Camping and Youth Report

March 2025

Winter Retreat – Feb 28 – March 3, 2025

We had an amazing weekend in Bozeman with 11 leaders and 33 youth. Throughout the weekend we shared meals, played crazy games, skied/boarded Bridger Bowl, soaked in the White Sulphur Hot Springs, met in small groups, and learned about God's great love for us through the story of the Prodigal Son. It was a great weekend, and we can't wait for more to experience it next year!

Huge shout out to Dave Thompson & Gillian Cleary for serving as speakers!

Nancy Pehl and Sarah Tunall for planning the weekend!

Aaron Blakeslee for cooking up delicious food all weekend!

The AMAZING Youth Leaders who gave up their weekend to give Middle School & High School Youth this experience!

Westminster Spires 2025

We are excited for a summer at Westminster Spires and have some great things in the plans! With some shifting of staff, we are taking 2025 as a "reset" year & creatively approaching camp with some new ideas. These ideas are meant to create room for growth and engage people of all generations in the camping experience while discipling, building relationship, and exploring God's creation.

Schedule

May 30 – June 1 (Fri – Sun): Revamp the Camp

July 9-12 (Wed-Sat) - Staff Training

Led by George Goodrich & Sarah Tunall

July 13-18 (Sun-Fri) - Adventure Camp (7-10th)

This camp will provide discipleship & recreation opportunities for entering 7th to 10th graders. Campers will be in small groups based on grade for reflection and discipleship opportunities. Unique opportunities for campers at Adventure Camp may include:

- White water rafting, hike in the Bear Tooth Mountains, swimming in Red Lodge, campfires, camp games and more!
- Opportunities to grow and serve others

July 20-24 (Sun-Thurs) - Explorer Camp (3-6th)

This camp will provide discipleship & recreation opportunities for entering 3rd to 6th graders. Campers will be in small groups based on grade for reflection and discipleship opportunities. Unique opportunities for campers at Explorer Camp may include:

- Scavenger Hunt and swimming in Red Lodge, hikes and adventures near camp, campfires, camp games and more!
- Opportunities to grow and serve others

July 24-27 (Thurs-Sun) - Limitless Retreat (16 +)

This weekend retreat is a new concept as we look to provide opportunities for discipleship & recreation for students entering junior year in high school and older and adults seeking deeper relationships with others and Jesus. "Limitless"

will focus on intentional connection between young adults & adults, offering space for relationship to begin forming that hopefully will keep young adults connected to the church past graduation/after college.

“Limitless” will be centered around ACTIVE engagement in our bodies and our faith! The weekend will allow for option, many of which may include:

- White water rafting, full-day hike & optional overnight on trail, campfires and worship, camp crafts, games and delicious food

Staffing:

Counselors – 16 years & older (need commitment for full camp season, attend Limitless)

Leaders in Training – 13 years & older (attend Adventure, serve at Explorer)

Camp Director -- Sarah Tunall

Program Directors -- Nichole Bodalski & Hunter Skov

Camp Grandpa – George Goodrich

Camp Cook - Russ Klein

Staff needed: Nurse, Speakers (3), Wonderful Adults to love kids.

How Can We Help?

As we get further into the spring season, here’s how pastors, elders, and church members can help (& pray):

- Recruit and invite high school students, college age students and older to serve as counselors.
- Spread the word and share camp dates with your churches, youth groups, families, relatives, neighborhoods, towns and beyond and invite them to join us this summer.
- Join us for Revamp the Camp (May 31-June 1) to help us get camp ready for the summer season.
- Contribute towards our scholarship fund (offering for camp scholarships will take place this weekend)
- Provide rides for campers and to and from camp as needed.
- Consider volunteering for a week of camp yourself in a variety of roles
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts and lives of campers and families everywhere to help get as many students to camp as we possibly can.
- Pray that with Christ at work within us, that our God would do more than we could ask or imagine and that through camp all campers would come to a deeper love and knowledge of Jesus!

Registration will officially open online in mid-March and scholarships will be available.

To follow up on any or all of the above, please email Sarah Tunall at sarah.tunall@gmail.com.