

Camping and Youth Report
March 2018

Winter Retreat

The Winter Ski Retreat held on February 23-25. Many thanks to Pastor David Thompson and the folks at Billings First for their work in planning and hosting this event!

Westminster Spires 2018

Registration: Brochures and Registration Forms for the 2018 camp season are available and have been sent to previous campers and the youth leaders at churches in the Presbytery. Please contact Curt Kochner if you would like more copies to distribute to youth in your congregation.

Scholarships: We have received a number of donations for the Presbytery Camp Scholarship Fund so funds are available to assist churches in helping youth cover their camp fees. If you have youth this wish to come to camp, we will find a way to make this happen.

Staff: A number of staff will be returning to provide leadership for camp this year. George Goodrich will lead Staff Training, Elementary and Junior High Camps and Katie Emery and Will Johnson will lead Senior High Camp. Cynthia Kessler will return to lead the crafts program; Bill Scott will return to provide excellent food; Curt Kochner will take care of registration and logistics and we expect a number of counselors to return to work directly with campers and to lead small groups. Four Whitworth Fellows will be in the Presbytery for the summer and some of them will take part in the camp program.

Facilities: The multi-year project to replace the shingles on all the roofs has been completed, and several of the buildings were painted as a part of the St. Andrew Highland Holy Days last fall. Revamp the Camp will take place on the weekend of June 1-3. Thanks to the leadership of Sandy Welch and Jim Tarr and all the volunteers that have worked so hard to keep the camp facilities and grounds looking good and preparing the camp for the summer season.

Schedule:

June 1-3-	Revamp the Camp
July 1-5-	Padon Family Reunion
July 5-7-	Staff Training
July 8-12-	Elementary Camp
July 15-20-	Junior High Camp
July 22-27-	Senior High Camp
Sept. 7-9-	Highland Holy Days

History: "About 1934 or 1935, Camp Miles (later Camp Spires), on the Cooke City highway about ten miles above Red Lodge, had its beginnings in Yellowstone Presbytery. This was made possible by funds contributed for a conference ground by Elder George M. Miles' widow in Miles City." From *Presbyterianism in Montana: Its First Hundred Years*

We are so very grateful for:

- Volunteers that have maintained the camp facilities and grounds through the years
- Volunteers that have organized the outdoor ministry in this beautiful place
- Churches for their support through prayers
- Churches for their support of scholarships to help youth attend camp
- Pastors for their support in leading the camp program, teaching and faith development of youth
- Lay leaders for their commitment in supporting youth during their formative years in their home churches and at camp
- Yellowstone Presbytery for the many prayers, leadership and financial support for this ministry for the past 80 years

God has touched the lives of many youth and youth leaders in profound ways through this ministry at Westminster Spires.