

Camping and Youth Report
Yellowstone Presbytery
November 2019

Westminster Spires Camp Season

We had a wonderful camp season at Westminster Spires! Campers joined us from Anaconda, Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Dillon, Hysham, Manhattan, Terry, Lynnwood, Washington and Alexandria, Virginia. Elementary camp included eight campers; Junior High welcomed sixteen campers and Senior High had fourteen campers.

Staffing and Volunteers:

Curt Kochner	Camp Registrar and Logistics
George Goodrich	Staff Training- Elementary and Junior High Camp Leader
Daniel Triller	Senior High Camp Leader
Kara Todd	Program Director
Nichole Ferestad	Crafts
Stephanie Brewster	Counselor and First Aid (Stephanie is a Nursing student at Montana Tech)
Brooke Moen	Counselor and First Aid (Brooke is a Nursing student at Montana Tech)
Kristin Kochner	Counselor (Billings)
Megan Dupuis	Counselor (Divide)
Scott Sherman	Counselor (Butte)
Eli Todd	Counselor in Training (Alexandria, Virginia)
Samantha Welk	Counselor in Training (Billings)
Jean-Paul Guion	Counselor (Whitworth Fellow from Seattle)
Jim Tarr	Volunteer Cook and Bongos
Sandy Welch	Volunteer Cook
Anna Roberts	Volunteer Cook
Becky Kochner	Volunteer Cook
Bill Scott	Volunteer Cook

Other guests that joined us or visited included Callie and Noah Triller, Sam and Annelise Todd, and former camp counselors Jon Dupuis, Hunter Skov and Heather O'Brien.

A highlight of Senior High Camp was a visit from Bill and Belinda Scott and their granddaughters Mara and Reagan. They prepared a dinner meal and visited with campers and staff they have come to know over the past decade. Bill served as camp cook for the past ten years but was unable to be with us this summer as he is undergoing treatment for esophageal cancer. Our prayers continue for Bill and his family!

Many thanks to the folks that joined us as volunteer cooks to provide meals. Sandy Welch served as chef for Sunday night dinner and Monday breakfast each week of camp. Jim Tarr helped cover meals for Staff Training. Becky Kochner and Anna Roberts prepared meals and snacks for Junior and Senior High Camp.

Thanks also to Billings First Presbyterian Church for the use of their two vans for camp. The use of the vans provides the opportunity for campers to visit the Beartooth Pass, travel to trail heads for hikes, visit Red Lodge for recreation and mission projects and ride to the Stillwater River for a raft trip. The use of the vans is a huge help to the camp budget.

Scholarships: Churches in the Presbytery provided \$1,945 in scholarships to help young people attend camp. Thanks to the offering collected at the Presbytery meeting and additional gifts toward the scholarship fund, \$2,720 in scholarships were provided by Yellowstone Presbytery for campers.

Facilities

Revamp the Camp focused on cleaning and preparation of the buildings and grounds for the season. Roger Giese from Laurel brought his paint spray equipment to camp and sprayed the boy's cabin. The exterior of all the cabins have been painted within the past few years. Several more trees have been taken down due to the Ips Beetle infestation. Additional electrical fixtures were installed in the Cook's cabin and the Booth cabin.

Several projects on our wish list are upgrading the water lines into the kitchen and the bath house sinks and showers, installing windows in the Paterson cabin and making new curtains for all the cabins.

Camp Guests 2019

June 16-22	Bridger Ski Foundation	Ski Groups
June 16-30	AdvantEdge Ski Group	Ski Group from Maine
July 1-5	Family Reunion	
July 6	Wedding	
July 10-Aug. 2	Camp Season	
August 30	Wedding	
Sept. 6-8	Close Camp for the Season	

The ski groups will return next summer to rent the camp for most of the month of June. We will open camp with Revamp the Camp on the weekend of June 5-7.

Devamp the Camp

St. Andrew did not hold Highland Holy Days this year. The weekend usually set aside for this event was used to close the camp for the season. Thanks to Sandy Welch, Jim Tarr, Patti Johnson, Shirley Dore, Ketih Hansen, Bill Stewart and Curt Kochner for getting the facilities and grounds ready for winter.

Summer 2020 Camp Season

July 8-11	Staff Training
July 12-16	Elementary Camp
July 19-24	Junior High Camp
July 26-31	Senior High Camp

Winter Youth Retreat

Dates and location for the Winter Youth Retreat have not been set.