

Presbytery Report for Camping and Youth

November 2022

Leadership Updates

Our long time Camp Director Curt Kochner has announced that he'll be stepping down from this position after 12 years of faithful service. Curt has been instrumental in creating a strong foundation for our camping ministry for our Presbytery as a whole and we are forever grateful for his service and how he has helped campers of all ages grow in their love and knowledge of Jesus Christ. We wish Curt and his family all the best as they discern the next adventures that God has for them!

Camp Recap from Summer 2022

Due to severe flooding in the Beartooth Mountains, camp as we know it at Westminster Spires had to be canceled. However, we made a quick pivot and held a 4 day sprint summer camp experience at Hyalite Youth Camp outside of Bozeman. All ages (Elementary, Middle, and High School) were invited and in the end 40 students and 12 adult leaders participated. Our very own Debbie Funke, Kimmy Briggs, and Mary Grace Reynolds gave the talks and we stole George Goodrich away from his sabbatical as he led worship and provided pastoral leadership. God is good!

Camp Dates for 2023

Unfortunately, the bridge that provides access to camp sustained more damage than we initially thought. Because it is owned by the Forest Service, we must wait and adjust to their timeline. Therefore, we have secured an alternative site and made alternative plans just in case.

We have confirmed and secured **June 19-23 (Mon-Fri)** at Hyalite Youth Camp (where we were in 2022). This will again be an all ages camp (Elementary, Middle, High School) and we will go to great lengths to create age appropriate experiences for the various ages. In addition, we'll also offer an overnight backpacking trip **(June 23-24) (Fri-Sat)** for all high school students as a trip capstone of sorts.

How you can help:

- Invite students to consider camp in 2023
 - o In those conversations, remind students and parents of what makes our camp great: Beautiful location, lots of adventure and great experiences, very reasonable cost, and most importantly, an emphasis on relationships, community and encouraging students to grow in their love and knowledge of Christ.
 - o If students from your church went to camp last summer, have them help get the word out to your church and wider community by telling stories, showing pictures of their experience at camp

- If you haven't already, be sure to make the dates above available to your churches and families, as the new year is often when families begin planning their summer vacations and travels.
- Recommend Camp Counselors
 - If you know of college students or young adults who could serve as camp counselors, please pass their name and contact info along.
- Consider attending camp yourself sometime! It's a lot easier (and more authentic) to invite kids to camp if you or someone from your church has seen it for themselves.

Praises / Prayer Requests:

- Praise that God did far more than we asked or imagined at camp this past July
- Pray that the word gets out and that students join us this summer
- For rounding out our staff and counselor team

Also: Annual Ski Trip. We are looking at dates in January-February and considering having it hosted at FPC Billings, with skiing in Red Lodge.

Thanks all,

Daniel Triller
Pastor – FPC Dillon
Camping and Youth Moderator