



Office of Young Adult Activities

Report to the 2014 Diocesan Assembly

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

In the past year, the Office of Young Adult Activities (OYAA) continued to host the annual Winter Teen Retreat program. We also enjoyed our third year as the directors of St. Tikhon's Summer Camp.

We continue to see the fruits of our labor in a growing network of young adults who want to remain members of the church even after they have gone away to college and outgrown our events – proof that these programs are working. Many thanks to the faithful of our Diocese for their continued support and prayers.

EVENTS

Winter Teen Retreat 2013

The annual Winter Teen Retreat was held at the Fatima Renewal Center in Dalton, PA, the weekend of February 6-8, 2013. The theme was *'The Adventures of the Twelve Apostles'*, and our speaker was Fr. Stephen Vernak. Fr. Timothy Hojnicky was also present as chaplain. His Grace, Bishop Mark was present for a workshop with the students on the afternoon of Saturday, February 7. Saturday evening Vespers and Sunday morning Divine Liturgy were celebrated by Fr. Hojnicky.

- There were 49 attendees this year, including 41 students (ages 12-17) and eight adult chaperones/clergy members.
- Of the 41 students in attendance, 16 were completely new to the program.

St. Tikhon's Summer Camp 2013

The 2013 season of St. Tikhon's Summer Camp was held from July 7-13. A total of 120 campers ages 7-17 came to St. Tikhon's from across the country and jurisdictions. Our theme for the week was *"To Gather Together,"* where the campers learned about the structure of the Church from the parish level to the Orthodox community around the world. Our youth education program is under the direction of Anna Marie Black (Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Pottstown, Pa). All campers and teens also had the opportunity to participate in iconography classes (Susan Shiposky;

Holy Cross, Williamsport, PA) and ethnic dancing classes (Emilia Resanovic; Serbian Orthodox Monastery Marcha, Richfield, OH).

Teen Program

Of the 120 total campers, 37 participated in the camp Teen Program, led by John D. Bohush IV (St. Elia the Prophet, Akron, OH). Rev. Timothy Hojnicky (Holy Apostles, Mechanicsburg, PA) presented the workshops for the teens and Bishop Michael (Diocese of NY/NJ) visited with the teens and conducted a question and answer session.

We continue to work toward bettering our camp program every year and we continue to ask for the prayers and support of the diocese. It is our goal to make St. Tikhon's Summer Camp a place for young Orthodox Christians to learn about their faith and build lifelong friendships.

2014 Event Dates

Winter Retreat: Feb. 7-9, 2014 at Fatima Renewal Center, Dalton, PA

Summer Camp: July 6-12, 2014 at St. Tikhon's Seminary, South Canaan, PA

DIOCESAN PARTICIPATION

As always, the support and prayers of the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania are vital to the continued success of the St. Tikhon's camp program. Additionally, we are always available for parish visitations. Please contact us at info@ocayouth.org or 570-493-0108 for more information.

Respectfully Submitted by Tatiana Bohush, Nicholas Macura, and Kimberly Metz