



Office of Young Adult Activities

Report to the 2011 Diocesan Assembly

Year at a Glance

In the past year, the Office of Young Adult Activities (OYAA) accomplished a great deal of work. While we continued to host the annual Winter Teen Retreat program and manage the Teen Camp program of St. Tikhon's Summer Camp, we also adopted leadership of the camp in its entirety in December 2010. This new endeavor led to months of planning and preparing for the 2011 season, which was held in July and sponsored by the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania for the first time in its 40-year history.

Marketing

Parish Visitations

In the past year, we visited the following parishes to speak with youth and young adults about the importance of attending Diocesan youth events:

Sunday, December 12, 2010: St. Herman of Alaska, Gradyville

Sunday, December 19, 2010: Holy Apostles Mission, Mechanicsburg

Sunday, October 16, 2011: Holy Trinity, Pottstown

Any parish that would like for us to visit with their youth should please contact us at 610-554-1079 or info@ocayouth.org.

OYAA Online

Our website, www.ocayouth.org, continues to feature information about upcoming youth activities. The site averages about 78 visits per month. (Please see the graph on the last page of this report for more detailed information about our Facebook statistics from the past year.) We plan to redesign and update the site in 2012.

We currently have 83 fans of the 'Office of Young Adult Activities - OCA Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania' page. We are up 25 members from this time last year. The Facebook page has been a great way to keep our teens and parents informed about upcoming events.

Winter Retreat

The annual Winter Teen Retreat was held at the Fatima Renewal Center in Dalton, PA, the

weekend of February 4-6, 2011. The theme was ‘Angels and Demons: Sinfulness vs. Godliness’, and our speaker was Fr. John Onofrey. Fr. Timothy Hojnicky was also present as chaplain. His grace, Bishop Tikhon, was present for a workshop with the students on the afternoon of Saturday, February 5. Saturday evening Vespers was celebrated by Bishop Tikhon, and Sunday morning Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Fr. Hojnicky.

Attendance

There were 43 attendees this year, including 37 students (ages 12-17) and six adult chaperones.

- There were 15 more student attendees in 2011 than there were in 2010.
- Of the 37 students in attendance, 24 had previously attended a Retreat or the Teen Camp program, six were completely new to the program without having experienced a parish visitation, and nine attended as the direct result of a parish visitation.
- Of the 37 students who attended, 21 were from the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania, 14 were from the Diocese of New York and New Jersey, one was from the Diocese of the Midwest, and one was from the Patriarchal cathedral in New York City.

St. Tikhon’s Summer Camp 2011

The 2011 St. Tikhon’s Summer Camp season was held over the week of July 3-9. The camp program, now sponsored by the Diocese, experienced many changes this year, including the appointment of the OYAA officers as its new directors, as well as the appointment of Fr. Hojnicky as the new chaplain.

Attendance

106 campers joined us from throughout the country, 46 of them being from the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania. Our campers had the opportunity to work with many talented individuals from within the Diocese, including iconographer Susan Shiposki (St. John the Baptist Church, Nanticoke). Our wonderful kitchen staff continued to be led by Fr. John Onofrey and Subdeacon Gregory Hubiak (St. Herman of Alaska, Gradyville). All of our campers had the opportunity to take a tour of the Metropolitan Theodosius Museum with Fr. John Perich.

- Over half (55%) of our 2010 graduating teen campers returned as counselors.
- 70% of our total campers had previously attended St. Tikhon’s Summer Camp.
- 2011 is the seventh consecutive year the Teen Camp program filled to 100% capacity.

Youth Program

The camp theme for our younger campers (ages 7-13) was ‘Water, Wheat, Wine and Oil’, and the children learned how these elements are used and represented in the Orthodox Church. Our youth education program is under the direction of Anna Marie Black (Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Pottstown, Pa), a seasoned veteran of St. Tikhon’s Summer Camp.

Teen Camp Program

Of the 106 total campers, 37 teens (ages 14-17) participated in the Teen Camp program. Fifteen of them were from the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania. The 2011 season of the Teen Camp was blessed to have five speakers from within the Diocese present workshops on the ‘Feast Days of Christ’: Bishop Tikhon, Fr. Michael Demko, Fr. Timothy Hojnicky, Fr. John Perich, and Fr. James Weremedic.

Summer Camp Website, Blog & Facebook Marketing

The new camp website, www.sttikhonscamp.org, went live in December 2010 and features information about the camp’s history, leadership, and registration information as well as FAQ sections for parents and campers and a blog that is updated regularly during the camp season. The camp website enjoys an average of about 155 visits per month.

Saint Tikhon’s Summer Camp’s Facebook page was established in December 2010 and is currently ‘liked’ by 117 people, including campers, counselors, parents, and former campers. Like the OYAA Facebook page, the camp page is a great way to share important information with our constituency. (Please see the graph on the last page of this report for more detailed information about our Facebook statistics from the past year.)

2012 Event Dates

Winter Retreat: Feb. 3-5, 2012 at Fatima Renewal Center, Dalton, PA

Summer Camp: July 1-7, 2012 at St. Tikhon’s Seminary, South Canaan, PA

Many Thanks

This year has been very busy, but with your prayers, we are strong in our mission to support the Diocese with regular youth events. We are seeing 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.

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

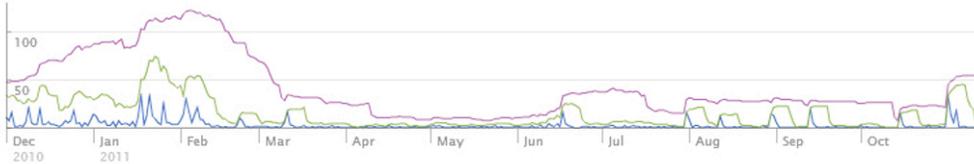
OYAA/OCAYouth.com - 2011 Facebook Statistics

Users

New Likes **27** ↓ 60%
 Lifetime Likes **84**

Active Users

Daily Active Users Weekly Active Users Monthly Active Users

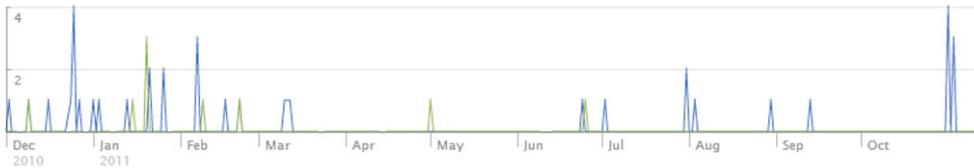


Interactions

Post Views **9,441** ↑ 1,217%
 Post Feedback **47** ↓ 29%

Page Content Feedback

Likes Comments



Saint Tikhon's Summer Camp - 2011 Facebook Statistics

Users

New Likes **91**
 Lifetime Likes **117**

Active Users

Daily Active Users Weekly Active Users Monthly Active Users



Interactions

Post Views **15,117**
 Post Feedback **200**

Page Content Feedback

Likes Comments

