



Office of Young Adult Activities

Report to the 2018 Diocesan Assembly

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

2017 Winter Teen Retreat

The annual Winter Teen Retreat was held at Spruce Lake Retreat Center in Canadensis, PA, the weekend of February 10-12, 2017. There were 28 attendees at the 2016 event, including 23 students and 5 adult chaperones.

Our keynote speaker was Fr. Stephen Vernak (Christ the Saviour, Harrisburg, PA). We were also joined by Fr. Daniel Resselar (Christ the Saviour, Harrisburg, PA) for a special afternoon session on Saturday.

The 2018 Retreat will be held again at Spruce Lake Retreat Center the weekend of February 9-11.

St. Tikhon's Summer Camp

The 2017 season of St. Tikhon's Summer Camp was held from July 2-8. A total of 113 campers ages 7-17 came from across the country (and various jurisdictions) to participate in the program. One camper even joined us all the way from Paris, France! Our hard-working staff of 56 adult volunteers helped make the event a success once again.

- Our theme for the week was **Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos! Mary, Full of Grace**. Our youth education program remains under the direction of Anna Marie Black (Holy Trinity, Pottstown, PA).
- Rev. Timothy Hojnicky was present as the Youth Chaplain for the week. His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon also visited with the campers this year.
- In addition to field games, boating, swimming, and arts & crafts, campers also had the opportunity to participate in iconography classes (Susan Shiposki; Holy Cross, Williamsport, PA) and ethnic dancing classes (Emilia Resanovic; Serbian Orthodox Monastery Marcha, Richfield, OH).
- Forty-two of the 113 campers participated in the Teen Camp program led annually by John D. Bohush IV (St. Elia, Akron, OH).

The 2018 session will take place July 1-7. Registration for campers and counselors will begin in late January at www.sttikhonscamp.org.

A Special Request: Please Encourage Attendance

We would like to ask all clergy members to make a special effort to increase awareness of our events in your parishes. We have noticed a decline in the attendance of children from our own diocese, while we are having an influx of participation from other areas including NY/NJ, Western PA/Ohio, and even West Virginia. Our department maintains a steady advertising campaign for our events, including direct mail and social media ads. Every parish receives the postcard announcements that we send for each event. It's up to individuals within each parish to help get the word out and drum up excitement for attending these crucial events. Thank you for helping us by encouraging attendance!