

Camping and Retreat Board Report March 2024

The year has gotten off to a great start. January 12 and 13 was the Adult/Child Winter Blast Weekend. We had 14 in attendance. It went really well. The next weekend was the Youth Winter Blast. 22 youth attended with 6 counselors. Things didn't go as planned, but it went well regardless. Everyone seemed to have a great time.

Feb 8, 9, and 10 was the Quilting and Crafting Day Retreat. Over the 3 days there were 19 in attendance, 12 on Thursday, 18 on Friday, and 15 on Saturday. Everyone had fun working on their own projects, helping each other, and fellowshiping. I led a lectio divina each day using the daily scriptures from the summer curriculum. I had really good feedback from everyone and am expecting more people to come to the Sewing and Crafting day camp in June and possibly a few more to Quilt Camp in August.

We have been working on a mission statement for Camp Sugarwood. With it we will be developing a logo. Currently our draft mission statement is: Camp Sugarwood provides a safe place for all, enlivened by God's creation, rooted in Christ's love, growing in community and branching out in faith. I have reached out to a long time friend who has connections to develop a camp logo. The purpose of developing a mission statement and logo is to help guide our planning and to let others know who we are.

Camp Ambassadors meeting was February 18. We had fewer in attendance than we would like. We will be giving some thought to how to restructure the Camp Ambassador program. Following the meeting, the CRM committee decided that we would reach out to all the churches not in attendance to let them know that the camp info packets would be arriving in the mail. Just a note that not all of the contact info for the churches listed on the website is correct or usable, some churches don't have an answering machine.

Coming up in March there will be a District Game Day, March 16 from 10am-5pm at West Charleston CoB. Everyone can bring games they wish to play and come and go as the please. On April 13 there will be a Mini Women's Retreat from 8:30-12. Kathy Reynolds, Pam Jones, Emma Batdorf, and I will be providing leadership for this retreat. It is to be held at Salem CoB.

Registration is open for all summer camps. Online registration for quilt camp is available, all other registrations must be mailed in. There is an early bird discount for the junior and senior Creative Arts Camps if registrations are in by April 15.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as the Director of Camping and Retreat Ministries. I am having so much fun following God through this ministry and can't wait to see where God leads us this year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carrie Drees