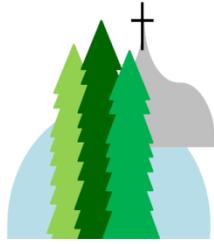


Saint Andrew's Camp



1280 State Route 49
Cleveland, New York 13042
(315) 675-9771

www.saintandrewscamp.org
<http://saintandrewscamp.wordpress.com>

Orthodox Charitable Educational Foundation (OCEF)
A ministry resource of the OCA Diocese of New York and New Jersey
Providing a pan-Orthodox sleep-away camp program for over 60 years

November 2019

In 2019 St. Andrew's Camp provided their 62nd year of Orthodox Christian camping program. Matushka Tamara Cowan provided the leadership as Camp Director and was able to maintain an impressive, diverse activities program settled onto a meaningful liturgical and Christian learning experience assisted by diocesan and other interested clergy and volunteers. This included a core of young college students who remained the entire summer as well teachers and other talented youth workers who came in for one to two weeks. A total of 89 camper weeks enjoyed this program which, in addition to daily Matins and Vespers and weekly Liturgies and religious education sessions, included art- Pysanky, sculpture, painting, drawing and nature crafts, music- balalaika, ukulele, guitar, vocal and percussion experiences, dancing, horseback riding, swimming and kayaking, sports and field trips to nature preserves, zoos, art museums, water parks and science museums. During our Teen week we add a service project to the experience. In addition to completing an enhancement of the camp itself, this year Teens continued the tradition of serving at a community kitchen in Syracuse.

Our full liturgical life and the daily Christian life classes, together with the fellowship that includes sharing life experiences and building up each other and forgiving each other, are the important reasons the camp exists. The nurturing of the young- and older- Christian soul and mind is sorely needed in our diverse culture with the stresses and temptations of modern life. Most importantly our Archbishop Michael is present- really present- each week for the weekday Liturgy, for questions and answer sessions and to smile upon the horseback riding, the kayaking, the campfire singing and s'more making that he is part of each week. We are grateful to Fr. Jason Vansuch, Fr. David Cowan, Fr. Joel Bradey, Fr. John Malcom, Fr. Matthew Markewich, Fr. Martin Kraus and Fr. Terry Baz for their presence and contributions to our program. It is this Orthodox Christian focus that this NY/NJ Diocesan Camp provides. Quoting our director- "If we don't step in and provide for the shaping of young minds, modern culture will do it for us." We look forward to more pastors encouraging an Orthodox camping experience for their youth.

The camp is funded by the tuition and most importantly the donations of those who support this mission. Every year we need these contributions- both in the form of volunteer workers and monetary gifts to continue this mission. Our full tuition only covers half of the actual expense per camper for the program and seventy five percent of our campers receive some kind of scholarship. We are particularly grateful to parishes that provide scholarships themselves for their campers, those parishes that donate even if they

"With us everything should be secondary compared to our concern with children, and their upbringing in the instruction and teaching of the Lord." - St. John Chrysostom

have no campers at camp and to those parishes that do both! 70% of our campers are from this diocese, but another 17% are from other OCA diocese and 13% from ROCOR and other jurisdictions.

Additionally this year we are raising funds for a new kitchen and dining hall/multipurpose room. Our older building has suffered much weather/climate damage and cannot sustain continued use. The new building will have heat and air conditioning that will provide us with a sister facility to the main dorm that both can be used year round. Kitchen volunteers will appreciate the less stifling kitchen conditions and campers will have an area to enjoy activities when our temperatures and humidity are withering them. We are happy to report we are almost halfway in raised funds toward our goal with hopes to have this building ready for the 2020 season.

We ask the continued prayers and support for this important ministry of the Diocese. A meeting open to all for 2020 planning is to be held in Wayne NJ on Saturday November 23 at 12:00 Anyone interested in volunteering or making a commitment to supporting the Camp is encouraged to attend.

The camp facilities are available during April-June and again mid August thru December for retreats, meetings, family reunions, small gatherings and other activities. Please visit our web site www.standrewscamp.org or call 315 675-9771 for more information.

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