



# Teen Activities Committee Report

Annual Diocesan Assembly

December 4-5, 2009

---

In the past year, the Teen Activities Committee maintained a rotating schedule of annual events for our diocesan teens between 14 and 17 years of age:

## **Annual Winter Retreat February 6-8, 2009**

26 teens and 5 counselors participated in the 2009 Winter Retreat, held at the Pocono Plateau Retreat Center in Cresco, PA. Our theme was “Exploring the Bible”, and a series of workshops based especially on the parables was led by Fr. Michael Dahulich. Our group enjoyed free time for socialization, a winter hike through the forest, and took advantage of the retreat center’s game room. We celebrated Vespers on Saturday evening and the Divine Liturgy on Sunday morning.

- 70% of the Retreaters who participated in the 2008 Retreat returned in 2009.
- 100% of the Retreaters had participated in past Winter Retreats or previously attended Summer Camp
- 2009 was the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year requiring a Wait List. (Our total capacity at Pocono Plateau is 32.)

## **St. Tikhon’s Summer Camp: Teen Camp Program July 5-11, 2009**

In July, 43 teens gathered together at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Teen Camp program of St. Tikhon’s Summer Camp. This year our theme was “Love Thy Neighbor”. With the help of His Grace, Bishop Tikhon, Fr. Sergius (Bowyer), Fr. Michael Demko, Fr. Timothy Hojnicky, and Fr. John Bohush, we held daily workshops to discuss the many different ways our teens, as Orthodox Christians, can fulfill this commandment everyday. In addition to these spiritual lessons, our teens engaged in sports and recreation, cultural activities, and a Prosphora-making class, all while socializing with other Orthodox teens. The week culminated with Vespers and Confession on Friday night and Divine Liturgy with His Grace, Bishop Tikhon, on Saturday morning.

- 76% of the Teens who participated in the 2008 Teen Camp returned in 2009.
- 35% of the total campers at St. Tikhon’s Summer Camp are in the Teen Camp.
- 81% of the 2009 Teens had participated in St. Tikhon’s Summer Camp in the past.
- 2009 was the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year the Teen Camp required a Wait List, and the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that the Teen Camp reached 100% capacity.

## **Upcoming Event Dates:**

### **Winter Teen Retreat**

February 12, 13, 14,  
2010

*New location: Fatima  
Renewal Center in  
Dalton, PA*

### **Spring Retreat for the Philadelphia Deanery**

April 2010 (Date To Be  
Announced)

### **Saint Tikhon’s Summer Camp**

July 4-10, 2010

Respectfully Submitted By:  
Kimberly Metz, Nicholas Macura, and Tatiana Bohush