



St. Andrew's Camp continues to offer youth camping programs and provide facilities for retreats, gatherings and events. Our mission is to bring people- young and old, closer to Christ through prayer and a full liturgical life, through fellowship and education and through their encounter with a simple natural and peaceful environment.

All the summer camp program planning and recruiting that had been accomplished until March was set aside. So we "sat back" and waited for the NY State Board of Health to make a decision, attended weekly Orthodox Camp Directors' Zoom Planning Meetings, and made a myriad of other plans, so many that were dropped because of the cost of putting Covid protocols in place.

A plan finally came to the surface: Virtual Camp! We designed a format and ran with it... but it was becoming apparent, that by late July families and children would be 'Zoomed Out', having had so much intense virtual interaction for 5 months, and internet instability was becoming a real concern. Virtual Camp was out. Back to the drawing board...and with still no decision from the State, we took a risk and went back to what we knew, but reformatted it into Family Camp-- a way to stay within State Covid Guidelines, and have a smaller group that could social distance in our facilities. We designed a plan and ran with it...only to have the State, in late June, go against the American Camp Association recommendations and ban all Overnight Camp Programs. So we reformatted again, renamed it Family Retreat, and ran with it... We applied for a permit to run a Lodging/Restaurant/Waterfront which allowed us to run a retreat with families as retreaters, and abiding by social distancing, sanitizing protocols and designated/separated areas for each family.

A Covid protocol plan was created for each building, as well as the sports field, the waterfront, and plans for outdoor dining, outdoor services, and outdoor classes so that we could lessen out time in masks, but with a plan B for all these activities should we need to be indoors due to heavy rain or unhealthful hot weather. A campus sanitizing schedule, new kitchen sanitizing protocol, and other duties were created to be executed by counselors now called staff.

Some highlights...

The Welcome Luau—an incredible meal and children Hawaiian dancing

Families be able to participate in the services and readings together. Fr. Jason Vansuch had made folders with each service ahead of time, so that they could bring their own booklets to church for each service.

Archbishop Michael's outside sermon on the Feast of the Transfiguration, leading the Orthodox Family Jeopardy Game, and his Q&A Session with in-person and online children (by Zoom).

Many wonderful moments of families kayaking together.

Our closing campfires with smores and wonderful music filled fellowship.

Ending the retreat with the Akathist: "Glory to God for All Things!" as if it had been written specifically for us in the beautiful St. Andrew's camp setting.

This was a huge success and provided us with a template for similar future offerings in the future. Five parishes participated in the Family Week. Clergy participants included Fr. David Cowan, Fr. Jason Vansuch, Fr. Matthew Markewich, and Fr. John Malcom. Matushka Tamara Cowan planned and organized an excellent daily schedule of liturgical services, activities- horse stable visits, kayaking, swimming, and educational offerings, (a outline of our schedule is attached.)

Volunteers and staff included Matthew Just, Julia and Nathan Speen, Kristina Anastiadis, Stefan Johansen, Kaedon Campbell, Steven Roberts, Stefan Johanssen, Andrew Temple, and Matushka Jeanne Zablotsky We were of course blessed and grateful for Archbishop Michael's presence and continued support of the youth programs. His belief in the youth of the diocese and their continued nurturing in the Faith remains a beacon for the Board and Staff. Through the support of Board members and additional donors the cost of the Family program was kept at a very reasonable rate and we were able to cover all expenses including the additional sanitizing and regulatory supplies required.

We continue to raise funds for the new, much needed Dining Hall kitchen and multipurpose facility. Not only will this better serve our summer youth programs but it will expand our ability to offer a multipurpose facility year round for the Diocese and rentals. With donations and pledges we are about half way to our goal of \$300,000. During the pandemic the economic slowdown was reflected, as in all parishes, in a slowdown of donations, but we believe this will soon pick up to allow us to build the facility very soon!!

We welcome interested staff for our summer programs to apply for these positions early by writing to the camp or emailing their interest to saintandrewscamp@aol.com. Further information can be seen on our web page - www.standrewscamp.org or calling 315 675-9771. Volunteers are needed year round for painting, grounds work, light carpentry, cleaning and other maintenance and support. Cooks, kitchen volunteers and counselors and special event leaders are needed during the summer. Applications can be requested by phone or email or downloaded from our web page We welcome suggestions for programs, retreats and other offerings thru email or phone calls and also encourage anyone interested in joining the leadership teams to let us know so that they can be included in our biannual open meetings (this year virtually October 16 and next year in March 202) Our thanks to the many parishes that have raised funds for our new building, who have sent campers as well as volunteers to the camp and to the many supporters who allow this ministry to flourish.

Monday 8/3		Tuesday 8/4	Wednesday 8/5	Thursday 8/6	Friday 8/7
	7:00am	Coffee at the Lake	Coffee at the Lake	-----	Coffee at the Lake
		Temp Checks	Temp Checks	Temp Checks	Temp Checks
8:30 Matins	8:30	Matins	Matins	8am Liturgy w/Abp. Michael	8:30 Akathist Glory to God for All Things!
Lite Breakfast	9:00	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	(Live Streamed)	BREAKFAST
Odds & Ends	10:00	Stables/Kayaking/Games	Stables/Kayaking/Games	BREAKFAST	Survey
Set up Luau	11:00	Stables/Kayaking/Games	Stables/Kayaking/Games	Stables/Kayaking/Games	Cabin Clean up
Lite Lunch	12:00	Kids Religious Ed w/ Fr. Jason	Kids Religious Ed w/ Fr. Jason	Stables/Kayaking/Games	Check Out Departure (bag lunch)
Rest	1:00	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	
Greet Families	2:00	Art/Crafts/Rec. Room	Arts/Crafts/Rec. Room	Arts/Crafts/Rec. Room	
3:30 Check-in SNACK 4-5 Swimming	3:30	Swimming SNACK	Swimming SNACK	Swimming SNACK	
5:45 Moleiben	5:00	Daily Vespers	Great Vespers	Daily Vespers	
6:30 Luau DINNER Orientation	6:00	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	
7:30 Luau Games Camp Fire	7:00	Parents Talk w/Fr John Parker Kids-Line Dances w/ Kristina	Family Jeopardy Game w/ Abp. Michael	Parents-Free time 7:30pm Zoom Kids Social	
8:30 Evening Prayers Fr. Jason/Chapel	8:00	Kids Camp Fire-w/ Kristina SNACK	Parent Q & A w/ Abp. Michael Game/Movie for Kids/ SNACK	Zoom Event Q & A w/ Abp. Michael Camp Fire w/ Fr. David SNACK	
9:30 Kids Bedtime	9:30	Kids Bedtime	Kids Bedtime	Kids Bedtime	
STAFF MEETING		STAFF MEETING	STAFF MEETING	STAFF MEETING	