

## STRONGHOLD CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER COMMITTEE

Presbytery Report: April 12, 2016

Committee Membership: TE Jeri Baker, RE Ted Finefield, RE John Gerlach (2016); TE Jim Friedmeyer, TE Judith Hardie, RE Julie Leber (2017); and TE Terry Mohaupt, TE Kathie Luke, and a RE vacancy (2018).

- I. Assist staff in policy development & implementation and budget development & review:
  - a. Operated a deficit budget in February, though mostly recovered in March. Rentals down in general, kitchen profits up.
  - b. Search Committee, now Transition Team, has found our new Executive Director (see attached announcement)!!
  
- II. Provide leadership in fund raising and fund development.
  - a. John Mecklenburg's Notes from the Castle continue to keep us informed of needs. He is currently striving to complete fundraising towards the new van so that we won't have to rent one for Stronghold Day Camps this summer. He is also continuing to develop funds for the Sears project and other major facility and grounds upgrades and repairs.
  - b. Chris Busker concentrated last quarter on increasing the Professional Development Team Building and Retreat use, the Outdoor Education sales (a Pavilion w/locked, enclosed room is being repurposed for this program), and Local Integration into the Byron and Oregon business organizations. A revamped website is coming soon!
  
- III. Be in partnership with staff in strategic planning and to act as a think tank with staff for the betterment of Stronghold ministry.
  - a. The Stories in the Castle (with local community readers) on the third Tuesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 pm is a fairly new and growing family-oriented event. Participation is at no cost, and we are reaching between 80 and 125 participants monthly!
  - b. We are planning to launch the call for quilts later this Spring for a 2017 Quilt Auction to benefit Stronghold, so please let your local quilters know to watch for more information.
  - c. AmeriCorps is onsite for a second year and is working both on AES environmental goals and on some of our facilities projects around the Castle and Barrick Lodge. Watch for word about a community workday or event that they will be organizing!!

***Be sure to stop by the Stronghold table for information on Retreats, Stronghold Day Camp at your church, and Summer Camp for families, grandparents/kids, and school age children (Registration Open Now).***

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Judith March Hardie  
Willow Creek Presbyterian Church of Argyle