

STRONGHOLD CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER COMMITTEE
Presbytery Report: November 8, 2016

At the June 2016 Presbytery meeting a motion was approved *to explore populating a Stronghold Board of Directors, creating bylaws and any necessary charter documents, and progressing through the process of becoming a 501(c)3 or a 501(c)3 and LLC organization, reporting back to the presbytery assembly for necessary approvals.* The task force assigned to this continues their work. We are working on a covenant that will spell out what the relationship between Blackhawk Presbytery and Stronghold will be going forward. The covenant deals with the relationship between the two entities and the duties and responsibilities of each. The separation process will be guided by the covenant. We hope to bring this document to the June Presbytery for discussion. We will continue to keep the Presbytery apprised of our progress and necessary actions.

Active, Green & Growing, A Transitional Path into the Future by Dr. Danny Pierce, Stronghold Executive Director was presented at the Presbytery at the November 2016 meeting. This document the decreasing financial dependency on Blackhawk Presbytery as well as presenting plans as we move into the future. We are pleased that financial indicators are that income is up and expenses are down. Early registrations for summer camp are up and are about twice what they were this time last year.

Plans continue for hosting a WWII Battle Reenactment May 20-21. In addition to the battle reenactment there will be historical displays, period food and a USO show. For more information, contact Stronghold or see someone in the Stronghold booth at the meeting today.

The Stronghold kitchen is under new management. We have contracted with CORD, a professional kitchen management service that works with camp and conference centers. CORD officially began their work April 1. We wish to thank Dar Kenney for her many years of service managing the kitchen.

We also want to thank Richard Simpson who has resigned from his position as Director of Youth Ministry and Church Outreach. Richard has for many years been in charge of the very successful Traveling Day Camp program. We wish to reassure you that this program will continue this year and thank Richard for his hard work in coordinating that program and so much more. We wish both Dar and Richard well in their future endeavors.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Kathleen S. Luke
Pastor, United Presbyterian Church, Freeport
moderator, Stronghold Camp and Retreat Center Committee