

STRONGHOLD CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER COMMITTEE
Presbytery Report - September 11, 2018

The Stronghold Committee and our Separation Task Force continue their work toward making the full separation of the Presbytery of Blackhawk and Stronghold Center a reality. To this end, the Task Force continues to work with our attorney on developing the by-laws and other necessary documents. The Council's proposed budget for 2019 includes the continued step-down of Presbytery support for currently shared expenses while maintaining mission support for the ongoing ministry of Stronghold.

We have completed another successful summer of camping activities. Almost 800 campers were served through residential camps, traveling day camp and Camp Chicago. As usual, our camp staff represented a variety of countries from around the globe.

Improvements continue camp wide. Recent activity has included much needed renovation to the main camp road, painting and window work at Carriage House, a water filling station by Faith Pavilion, tree removal and general landscaping, refurbishing of five bathrooms, three roofs repaired, three new doors, electricity to Arts & Crafts, a new waterline to Family Camp, phase II of the pollination garden, new porch swing circle, reconstructed Blue Rock bridge and curtains in the Great Hall. If you haven't been to Stronghold recently, stop by and see what we've been up to. Danny or any of the staff will be more than happy to show you around.

As always, there is a great deal going on at Stronghold. November 9-11 will be a mid-high Youth Assembly. Stop by the Stronghold table or check out strongholdcenter.org for more information about this and other Stronghold events.

And don't forget the Olde English Faire October 6 - 7. We are in need of volunteers for this event. If you would like to help, please contact Loreen at the Presbytery office. And then publicize this event - tell your friends and bring a group to enjoy the Faire.

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