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**YOUTH MINISTRY**  
**Sonia Donnelly, Director**

This year Presbytery Point Camp had a 12-year high of 94 campers - and 11 of them were ours! That included 3 elementary students, 5 high schoolers and 3 students in CIT/staff positions. They all had an amazing time, had wonderful counselors and spiritual leaders, grew closer to each other and to God, and are looking forward to Camp next year! Thank you to all who contributed in some way through prayer, purchasing eggs or syrup, or through donations. We raised \$450 through syrup and egg sales and still have syrup available for purchase. Presbytery Point fall clean-up is September 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to join us on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup>, please let me know. We are hoping to fill a car (or two!) and spend a day helping prep for closing the Camp.

*Lifest* was another amazing highlight in July. We had a group of 18 head to sunny Oshkosh to enjoy a beautiful day of Christian music and speakers, great company, food trucks and bounce houses. 10 out of 18 in our group were picked up from Camp that morning so headed into the day exhausted - but after a nap, snacks and some Camp songs on the bus ride, they were ready to go! The weather was beautiful, the artists kind and generous in signing autographs and having conversations with the kids, and everyone had a fantastic day. Needless to say, the ride home was quiet as everyone slept - and were so thankful for such a comfortable bus ride! The auction that is held at Fall Fest raises most of the money for the bus, and our Seroogy candy bar fundraiser helped us to raise the additional funds that were needed. Next year we have a hefty goal of \$2,500 to raise to cover the bus costs and tickets for students in need; stay tuned for the date for Fall Fest where you can bake or buy a treat to help!

In preparation for back-to-school, we will have a blessing of the backpacks on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. All kids are welcome to bring in their backpacks or lunchboxes to be blessed during worship.

**YOUNG DISCIPLES WEDNESDAY PROGRAM BEGINS SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>**

Wednesday youth programs begin on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Fireside Room. All youth are welcome to join but must be registered. We also need some extra volunteers on Wednesdays to help with the snack, to lead or help with music or a small group, or to be a substitute as needed. Contact me at 309-258-7342 for more information. Every year more families join our Wednesday programs. We want to continue to accommodate them while not overwhelming our current volunteers. So please consider volunteering to help us!