

Northern Plains Presbytery Meeting

Oct. 10th, 2026

1. **Summer Celebrations: Positive momentum continues!**

- a. The total number of campers is up about 40% since 2021:)
- b. Adventure Campers (middle school campers) were at an all-time high (of 93)!
- c. Met goal of increasing First Timers and Grands & Family Camp from last year!
- d. 30% of campers were new!
- e. Two weeks of new Mission Camp
 - i. Supported local Heartwood Presbyterian Homes and three additional local organizations through Candace Adam's Compassionate Way,
 - ii. Packed 188 Church World Service/Presbyterian Disaster Assistance kits (144 hygiene kits, 20 period packs, and 24 kids kits)

2. **Fan the FLAME Updates**

- a. The Summer Challenge & Lake Association Initiative have concluded; we are so thankful for the inspiration of some significant gifts and the generosity of so many donors!
 - i. \$100,000 Summer Challenge: 34 donors totalling *almost \$90,000!* So, in total, this effort raised **almost \$190,000!**
 - ii. Clearwater Lake Homeowners Initiative: 28 donors have donated **over \$160,000 so far!**
- b. With these amounts, **we have officially surpassed the \$1 million mark!!!** How exciting!
- c. Thank you so much for your inspirational and generous giving to this project!! Your \$100,000 gift one year ago truly **led the way** for this building to become a reality!
- d. If your church wants to donate, talk to Bob Boyar, Maggie Sambo, or me:)

3. **The year's Fall Programs**

- a. **Couple's Retreat** - was excellent!
- b. **Men's Retreat** - happening now:
 - i. Led by Pastors Scott Thompson & Hans Anderson along with comedian Bill Chadwick and photography expert Jim Prall

4. **Coming Up this Winter**

- a. **Snow Camp**: Jan. 8-10
- b. **Winter Chrysalis** Women's Retreat: Feb. 18-21

5. **And this Spring**

- a. **Seeds of Service**
- b. **Ministry Leadership Retreat**: April 18-21 (rescheduled!)
 - i. Jerad Morey from Minnesota Council of Churches will be leading Respectful Conversations AND Forest Therapy
 - ii. Carol Meier - leading worship
 - iii. Joy Hensel - providing clergy mental health expertise and practices
- c. **Big Birding Day**