



God's Awesome People (GAP)
Middle School Conference
Gilmont Camp & Conference Center
Gilmer, TX
April 17-19, 2026

For questions after you review this registration packet, contact Jen Bluestein at jen@gracepresbytery.org or 214-393-5616.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

[Register Here](#)

Registration Deadline – April 1

WHEN AND WHERE IS GAP?

April 17-19, 2026 at [Gilmont Camp & Conference Center](#), 6075 State Highway 155 N, Gilmer, TX 75644. Check-in for this event begins at 8 pm on Friday, April 17. Conference events start at 9:30 pm on Friday, April 17, and end at 12 pm on Sunday, April 19.

WHAT IS GAP?

God's Awesome People (GAP) is a weekend conference hosted at Gilmont Camp & Conference Center in Gilmer, TX, for youth in 6th to 8th grade. Youth will participate in Bible study, small-group reflection, and camp activities, including canoeing, archery, and crate stacking. Everyone will have a chance to see old friends and meet new ones from across the presbytery! Weather permitting, there will be smores!

WHAT DOES GAP COST?

\$170 for each youth and adult sponsor. Registration includes cabin lodging and all meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. Transportation and meals during travel are the responsibility of the youth or the church.

WHERE WILL WE STAY? WHAT WILL WE EAT? WHAT ABOUT DIETARY RESTRICTIONS?

Groups will be housed in cabins at Gilmont. Youth from more than one church may share a cabin space. Adult sponsors will stay in the same cabins as the youth. Gilmont's kitchen staff will prepare all meals with dietary needs in mind. Please make sure to indicate any restrictions, including allergies and special diets, on the registration form. Those with dietary needs should tell the kitchen staff their name when they go through the line to receive their prepared meal.

ARE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE?

Yes! Youth may apply for a scholarship funded by the Prairie Valley Legacy Fund (PVLf). This scholarship typically covers up to 50% of the registration cost. [Online scholarship application](#)

Please note: **Our scholarship application process requires a church leader to endorse the online application. Parents must include a church leader's email on the online application.**

After the application is completed, you will receive an email to endorse or reject the application on behalf of your church. Endorsing the application confirms to the scholarship team that the family is affiliated with a PCUSA church. **The scholarship team will not process your application until we receive your response.**

DO WE NEED ADULT SPONSORS?

Yes! Each church is asked to send 1 sponsor for each 10 youth attending. If your church is sending both female and male youth, please send at least 1 male and 1 female sponsor, even if you are bringing fewer than 10 youth.

I AM HAVING A HARD TIME FINDING SPONSORS. CAN OUR YOUTH STILL ATTEND?

We want all youth to participate! We prefer that youth attend with adults from their home church to foster relationships that will endure beyond the retreat, but this is not always possible. If your church cannot send the requested sponsors, please contact Jen Bluestein (jen@gracepresbytery.org) to discuss partnering with another church to sponsor your youth.

WHO IS LEADING GAP 2026?

Our keynote speaker for GAP 2026 is Miriam Ross. This summer, Miriam will finish her M.Div. and MACE degrees at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte, NC. She is a candidate for ordination by Grace Presbytery and is currently serving as a pediatric chaplain intern at Children's Hospital in Plano. Miriam previously served as the youth director at Melissa United Methodist and Trinity Presbyterian Church in McKinney. She loves coffee, Disney, and Montreat!



WHAT ABOUT PULSE YOUTH LEADERS?

GAP is designed and led by high school students who serve on the presbytery's PULSE youth leadership team. Since August 2025, these 19 youth from seven churches throughout our presbytery have been working with guidance from a small group of adult volunteers to determine the GAP theme, select and practice music and energizers, and design small-group activities. At GAP, the PULSE youth will lead the middle schoolers in singing, energizers, and small groups!

You are encouraged to talk with your eighth graders about joining PULSE next year! The application for PULSE 2026-2027 will open at GAP.



REGISTRATION – FOLLOW THESE STEPS – DEADLINE APRIL 1!

1. Collect registration information (name, grade, t-shirt size, special needs, and dietary restrictions) and payments from youth and adult sponsors.
2. Register your youth and adult sponsors at this registration link **by April 1!**
<https://gracepresbytery.regfox.com/gap-2026>
3. Pay fees with a credit card at registration. Or if paying by check, please indicate on the check that the payment is for GAP and mail a check for the amount due to:

Grace Presbytery
Attn: Kat Studley
6100 Colwell Blvd., Suite 100
Irving, TX 75039

4. Email parents and adult sponsors these links to fill out Grace Presbytery forms. This form is required for all participants. If a youth has attended a previous Grace Presbytery event and completed this form, they are not required to complete it again.

Grace Presbytery Children and Youth Participant Emergency and Release Form
<https://form.jotform.com/252737066670159>

Grace Presbytery will receive electronic copies of the completed forms. **Ask parents to add your email as the church leader so you receive an email copy of the Consent and Emergency Form for your records.**

5. If you have not submitted a copy of your church's Approved Adult List this year or you are adding a newly background-checked adult sponsor, please submit the Approved Adult List form at the end of this document to Kat Studley (kat@gracepresbytery.org) by April 1.

The registration deadline is April 1. Suggested practice: Set your registration deadline for parents several days earlier to allow time to follow up with those who have not yet completed the sign-up process. No refunds will be issued after April 1, but you may substitute participants up to the event date.

GAP Weekend Schedule

(subject to change)

Friday:

8:00 – 9:30 pm	Registration, Moving into Cabins (Crain Center)
9:30 – 10:00 pm	Mixer and Games (Crain)
9:30 – 9:45 pm	Adult Meeting (Fireplace in Crain)
10:00 – 10:45 pm	Small Group
10:45 – 11:00 pm	Vespers (Crain)
11:00 pm	Return to Cabins
11:30 pm	Lights out

Saturday:

8:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast
8:45 – 9:45 am	Keynote #1 (Crain)
9:45 – 11:45 am	Small Group & Mission Project
12:00– 12:45 pm	Lunch
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Small Group

2:00 – 5:45 pm

Recreation

Hiking, mini golf, disc golf, games and crafts at the pavilion

Plus options below:

2:00 – 4:00 pm	Crate Stacking
3:00 – 5:00 pm	Axe Throwing
4:00 – 5:45pm	Canoeing

6:00 – 6:45 pm	Dinner
7:00 – 8:00 pm	Keynote #2 (Crain)
8:00 – 9:30 pm	Small Group
9:30-10:15 pm	Vespers (Fire pit)
10:15 pm	Return to Cabins
10:45 pm	Lights Out

Sunday:

8:00 – 8:30 am	Breakfast
8:45 – 9:45 am	Small Group
10:00 – 11:15 am	Worship
11:30 am	Photos, Clean Up, Load Up & Depart

GRACE PRESBYTERY

Acknowledgment of Child Abuse Prevention and Leadership Screening Program 2026

CHURCH: _____

CITY: _____

The undersigned representatives of the above-named church hereby acknowledge that this church maintains its own written child protection policy.

All individuals listed on this form are currently members of this congregation and have been screened, including a security background check conducted in accordance with church and/or presbytery guidelines. These individuals have been authorized to work with the children and youth of this church.

Date _____

Signature _____ Signature _____

Printed Name _____ Printed Name _____

Capacity with Church _____ Capacity with Church _____

Background Checks have been conducted through (Name of Organization):

1. _____ 3. _____

2. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____

7. _____ 8. _____