

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

THE LUTHERAN CAMPING CORPORATION OF CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA
KIRCHENWALD, NAWAKWA AND THE WITTEL FARM



LUTHERANCAMPING.ORG

"I pray that you and all of God's people will understand what is called wide or long or high or deep. I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is."
--Ephesians 3:18-19 (CEV)

2022 SUMMER BIBLE STUDY
& WORSHIP THEME

Boundless: God Beyond Measure

I pray that you and all of God’s people will understand what is called wide or long or high or deep. I want you to know all about Christ’s love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is.

--Ephesians 3:18-19 (CEV)



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The Church, in a place and time apart...
Where God’s presence is experienced,
Faith is renewed, Christ’s love is felt,
and the Church is strengthened
for the service and proclamation of the Gospel!



INTRODUCTION

For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and give his life as a ransom for many. -Mark 10:45

The outdoor ministries at Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm provide the congregations of the Lower Susquehanna Synod – ELCA and the Penn Central Conference – UCC and their members truly unique ministry opportunities in wonderful natural settings for sharing faith and learning what it means to be the Church. The camps and farm serve and extend congregational ministry.

We need special places like Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and Wittel Farm. Places where we can practice faith in the context of intentional Christian community. Jesus in the ultimate example of the servant leader, and all who come to our ministry sites have the opportunity to learn and practice sharing God’s love with one another and our neighbors. We need times apart from the hustle and hassles of daily life to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ clearly proclaimed in new, creative, exciting ways. Outdoor ministries provide opportunities to share with others the challenges of living our Christian faith in daily life.

As you read through this report, remember your own summer camp and retreat experiences. Remember those who mentored your faith at church camp or on church retreats. Give thanks for the inspiration and renewal you experienced in God’s wonderful creation.

Also please notice the impact that you and many others have had on our ministry. We are grateful to all those who help strengthen and advance this ministry – those who volunteer in various capacities, provide financial gifts, send children to camp or attend themselves, participate in retreats, or influence our ministry in other ways. You are all truly a blessing

Thank you for your support!

Michael Youse
Executive Director

KIRCHENWALD



Every year, when I put this report together, I include a paragraph with our summer statistics like, “We had 349 youth and adult campers enjoy a week at Kirchenwald in 2022. In addition to that, 46 confirmation campers received instruction and built community with their peers, pastors, and other church leaders. Camp LionHeart once again celebrated a week with 33 campers and whole host of medical staff and other volunteers. And, of course, all of this was only possible because of the dedicated staff (32 people) and volunteers (38) who work to bring the ministry experiences to life at camp.”

Some things are easily quantifiable - the number of feet in a yard (3), the moons of Mars (2), how many campers attended Kirchenwald in 2022 (see above). Some things are quantifiable, but significantly harder to count - grains of sand on Earth (estimated 7.5 sextillion). And for some things, we make up a system of measurement - what is the happiest country (according to the national happiness scale, Finland).

But at Kirchenwald last summer, we explored something that no scale can fully capture - God. Our theme, “Boundless, God Beyond Measure”, revealed the infinite nature of God. God’s goodness, love, welcoming, forgiveness, and generosity cannot be contained and know no limits. As a community of faith, we strive to live in a way that reflects and is an extension of God’s wonderfulness. Camp gives us a safe space to practice living in that way. We are reminded at the end of the week that God is not confined to any one place, either. While church and camp are places dedicated to nurturing our faith, God is just as present at our homes, in our schools, at our places of work, and in every corner of our lives. As such, we are to live joyfully and faithfully as disciples at all times, proclaiming the good news and showing love to one another throughout our lives.

Despite my efforts, there’s no way this report can fully capture the appreciation I have for all the people who make Kirchenwald the important place that it is. My gratitude is beyond measure.

Zachary Weiss
Associate Executive Director
Kirchenwald Director



KIRCHENWALD 2022 SUMMER STAFF

Emma Best	Owen Horvath
Abigail Brubaker	Andrew Kendall
Luke Brumm	Benjamin Kendall
Marissa Brumm	Tayler Leonard
Shaun Brumm	Nathan Lindsey
Forrest Dohner	Nina Lose
Logan Dohner	Hallie McCoy
Beth Fogleman	Emmanuel Mchomvu
Miriam Gregova	Rachel Merrill
Henry Hammer	Ava Morgan
Lucy Hammer	Natalie Mull

Richard Myers
 Madeline Peln
 Isaac Stapler
 Zachary Stapler
 Kathryn Szymanski
 Sara Weiss
 Zachary Weiss
 Jonathan Youse
 William Youse
 Winifred Youse

KIRCHENWALD SUMMER USE

Summer Campers	305
Family/Adult Campers	38
Confirmation Campers	46
Diacanos Campers	15
Other Summer Use	83
Non Summer Use:	565

DISTRIBUTION OF KIRCHENWALD CONTRIBUTIONS

Unrestricted:	\$12,605.25
Restricted:	\$15,597.99
Campership:	\$0.00

TOTAL KIRCHENWALD CONTRIBUTIONS: \$28,203.24



NAWAKWA



Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations... I will be with you always... - Matthew 28:19-20

I'm no longer surprised when during the course of a conversation with someone I've just met I learn that they know Nawakwa and fondly recall their camp memories. Of course it happens often when I visit churches, but it's happened on air planes, on ski lifts, or when meeting friends of friends. I enjoy hearing their stories about how their lives were shaped by their time at Nawakwa. Their stories range from how cold the pool was, to making gimp lanyards, to singing silly songs, to stream hikes, or to discerning a call to ministry during worship at Fischer Chapel.

At Nawakwa, children, youth, and even adults are able to try new things, experience Christian Community, and grow in faith. We expect them to return to their families having learned a new skill, singing a new song, and more eager to participate in their congregation. How does that happen? A closer look at Nawakwa in operation reveals that it is more than funny songs, boisterous games, and ridiculous skits. Nawakwa experiences are life changing because of the welcoming community of people from diverse backgrounds, meaningful worship, prayer, Bible study through reading, conversation, and play, eating wholesome meals together, sharing stories; and time spent in God's creation. That sounds a lot like the methods Jesus employed.

When I met Abby through a mutual friend, it took all of 10 minutes to learn that Nawakwa was our common connection. She was quick to share joyful stories from her time at Nawakwa and emphatically said that her camp experiences helped shape her faith and make her the person she is today.

Thank you to all who so generously further the ministry at Nawakwa.

Michael Youse
Executive Director



NAWAKWA 2022 SUMMER STAFF

Paul Askey	Sydney Frigm
Kristopher Baptiste	Caleb Hoffman
Filip Berky	Maya Hoover
Emma Berra	Katherine Hutton
Starr Black	Caroline Keefer
Catherine Campbell	Emma Kerr
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Daniel Clark	Kayelyn Koenig
John Dolly	Malaina Kowalczyk
Brady Domingos	Jakub Oslik
Jacob Fleury	Eve Ridenhour

Leo Scolforo
 Simona Secanska
 Keith Shively
 Mindy Shively
 Emily Smith
 Petra Sochorova
 Kasper Sorensen
 Zachary Tipton
 Jenna Wilder
 Sabrina Wilder

NAWAKWA USE

Summer Campers	386
Family/Elder Campers	85
Confirmation Campers	192
Other Summer Use:	96
Non Summer Use:	2493

DISTRIBUTION OF NAWAKWA CONTRIBUTIONS

Unrestricted:	\$139,335.84
Restricted:	\$11,050.00
Campship:	\$385.00
Land - Seeding the Future:	\$24,685.65

TOTAL NAWAKWA CONTRIBUTIONS: \$174,456.49



THE WITTEL FARM



Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." - John 21:17

As early as Deuteronomy, God describes His Word as food for his people who live by more than bread, but by every Word that comes from Him. Jesus reinforces this when he tells Peter to "feed my sheep." Jesus is telling Peter and the disciples to spread Christ's love and continue the work that Jesus embraced throughout his life. Jesus instructs Peter, the disciples, and us to care for the spiritual and physical needs of the neighbor. Such is the ministry at Wittel Farm.

Many of those who visit the farm experience the quite peacefulness of the house, fields, or forests which allows them to unplug from the fast pace of daily life and listen for God's voice. Many others join us at the farm to practice discipleship through the Growing Project, which in 2022 produced and shared over 15,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious vegetables to help alleviate food insecurity with our neighbors across Lancaster County. Still others came to the farm and learned about stewardship of God's creation as they experienced and learned about how we use sustainable growing practices to prepare the soil, tend the crops, and harvest the abundant vegetables we share.

We are blessed to have the Wittel Farm, where God's children of all ages enjoy and share God's love and presence. Thank God for the Wittel Farm, the ministry happening there, and for all those who make it possible.

Michael Youse
Executive Director



THE WITTEL FARM 2022 SUMMER STAFF

Matthew Lenahan, The Wittel Farm Growing Project Director

Cora Heilman

Jonah Lenahan

THE WITTEL FARM USE

Non Summer Use:

46

DISTRIBUTION OF THE WITTEL FARM CONTRIBUTIONS

Unrestricted: \$850.00

The Wittel Farm Growing Project \$20,411.58

TOTAL WITTEL FARM CONTRIBUTIONS: \$21,261.58

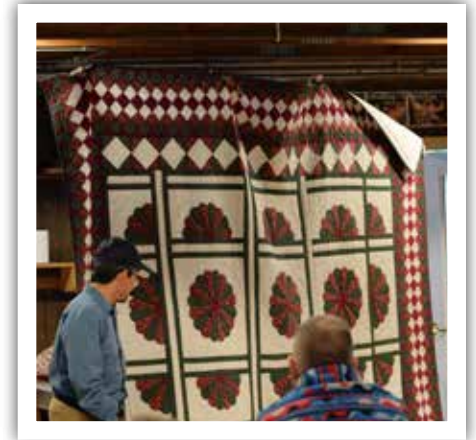


DEVELOPMENT

Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown. -Luke 8:8

I don't have a green thumb, and I'm not an avid gardener, but one of my favorite Bible passages is the parable of the sower. I appreciate the imagery of how a small seed, planted in good soil, yields unexpected abundance. Ministry at Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm is like that. We plant the seeds of faith for our campers. We nurture them in caring Christian communities. We tend and care for them with thoughtful ministry activities and through the attention of attentive faith mentors. The abundant faith that results among our campers is so much greater than that small initial seed.

The generosity of all who give their time, talent, and treasure fits with this imagery too. Every gift given in support of our joyful ministry is a blessing that helps us strengthen our campers' faith. That generosity helps yield a crop a hundred more times than what was sown. These wonderful ministry results couldn't happen without the generous support of scores of congregations and thousands of generous and talented individuals. In 2022:



- 71 congregations and 654 individuals made monetary contributions in support of LCC ministries.
- 41 individuals and 22 churches donated quilts or craft items to make the Quilt and Craft auction a success, raising \$13,707.32.
- Lower Susquehanna Synod provided \$66,500 in financial support.
- Volunteers gave time, energy, and expertise in various capacities, including as camp nurses, musicians, chaplains, kitchen helpers, vegetable growers, and maintenance workers.
- Thanks to Thrivent, a generous ministry partner, 74 Thrivent members directed \$8,504 to LCC through Thrivent Choice. Other Thrivent members created Action Teams with supporting projects benefitting the ministry.
- \$17,716.59 in Campership donations helped children attend camp who would be unable to attend this joyful and faith-building ministry due to financial hardship.
- Generous financial support helped keep facilities attractive, safe, and user-friendly, and enabled significant ministry site improvements.
- The Wittel Farm Growing Project was awarded an ELCA World Hunger Big Dream Grant of \$99,700 to seed the construction of a meeting pavilion which will greatly enhance ministry at the farm.

You will find lists of the financial contributions designated for various parts of this ministry on the following pages of this report.

The gifts of time, talent, and treasure help produce a vibrant, engaging, enthusiastic, energetic outdoor ministry. Those who spend time at Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm return to their families, churches, and communities sewing God's love wherever they go. Thank God for this extravagance and for those who so generously support this work.

Michael Youse
Executive Director

2022 FINANCIAL STATISTICS

This summary has been audited, and is a reflection of the financial status of the Lutheran Camping Corporation as of December 31, 2022. A complete 2022 financial audit is available upon request.

ASSETS:

Current Assests:

Checking / Savings	\$1,644,129.24
Other	\$418,890.72
Fixed Assets	\$3,138,896.47

Total Assets \$5,201,916.43

LIABILITY & EQUITY:

Current Liabilities	\$236.32
Long Term Liabilities	\$27,576.45
Equity	\$5,174,103.66

Total Liabilities & Equity \$5,201,916.43

INCOME:

Camper Fees	\$329,072.38
Contributions.	\$1,238,105.68
Program & Rentals.	\$326,234.33
Timbering	\$20,692.20
Other	\$(51,358.49)

Total Income \$1,862,746.10

EXPENSES:

Insurance.	\$66,341.17
Maintenance	\$241,752.50
Payroll	\$517,110.17
EE Benefits.	\$110,443.39
Professional Fees	\$16,974.70
Program	\$186,475.13
Resource and Development	\$26,928.90
Utilities.	\$94,640.37
Interest	\$2,902.21
Real Estate Tax, Misc	\$3,181.05

Total Expense \$1,266,749.59

Net Income \$595,996.51

CONTRIBUTIONS

These donors made contributions of record between January 1 and December 31, 2022. Contributions included all Annual Fund, Campership Fund, Endowment Fund, Imagine Campaign, Seeding the Future Campaign, special and matching gifts, and those contributions made at the golf tournament and/or quilt auction for which goods and services may have been rendered.

** denotes new donor in 2022*

^ denotes increase in giving from last year of contribution.

FRIENDS OF THE LUTHERAN CAMPING CORPORATION GIVING SOCIETY

The "Friends of the Lutheran Camping Corporation (LCC)" is a society of individuals, families, businesses and organizations who underwrite the continuation of the Christ-centered programs of the LCC. These donors, who are truly the friends of all of our campers, contribute \$250 or more annually. They want to ensure that these campers will have the uplifting experience of being in a community where God's presence is acknowledged and Christ's love is felt.

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(\$5,000 or more)

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Paula Rineer
Charles Roberts
Christopher Rodkey
Samantha Romanias
Heidi Sanders
Jennifer Scheivert
Joseph Scheivert
George Schneider
Harper Sellers
Rose Shepley
Kevin Shively
Ben Siebert
Laura Silver

Colleen Sites
Thomas Sites
John Smaligo
Mary Smaligo
Ciara Sobers
Debra Sowers
Allison Stapler
Patricia Stedman-Laporte
Clydene Strauss
Phyllis Switaj
Kyle Symonds
Carter Tatara
Cornelia Taylor
Sarah Thompson
Kristin Vought
Deborah Wehr
Hanna Beth Weiss
Janis Wiest Taylor
Bennett Williams
Gary Williams
Julie Williams
Sandra Wimberley
Trianna Winters
Edward Yewdall
Jonathan Yoder

2022 MINISTRY LEADERS

As members of Lutheran congregations throughout the Lower Susquehanna Synod, pastors and lay-persons have given of their time, talents, and treasures to help direct and support the camps through their involvement on the Board and/or Committees. We give thanks to all who have made the Lutheran Camping Corporation a part of their purpose through service this way.

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mr. Daryl Ackerman

Trinity Lutheran, Camp Hill

Mrs. Rachel Berkebile

St. John Lutheran, Abbottstown

Rev. Nora Foust

Christ United Church of Christ, Elizabethtown

Rev. Stephen Herr

Christ Lutheran, Gettysburg

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Lyle Hosler, President

Drahomir Oslik, Vice-President

Cornelia Taylor, Secretary

Daryl Ackerman, Treasurer

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Daryl Ackerman

Ronald Anstine

Meredith Askey

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Robert Walton

2022 ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Michael Youse, Executive Director

Zachary Weiss, Associate Executive Director /
Kirchenwald Camp Director

Mindy Shively, Nawakwa Camp Director

Marilyn Dolly, Office Manager

Thomas Reddinger, Marketing & IT Coordinator

2022 YEAR-ROUND STAFF

Kathleen Kerr

Ronald Kerr

Jacqueline Jenkins

Richard Myers, Jr.

Veronica Schreiber

Conrad Youse

Winnie Youse

DIRECTORY

The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm

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717-677-7597 (fax)
LutheranCamping.org

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Paul Askey, Nawakwa Site Manager
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Pastor Matt Lenahan, Wittel Farm Growing Project Director
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Thomas Reddinger, Marketing & IT Coordinator / Registrar
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For directional use only:

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Nawakwa	1033 Nawakwa Road, Biglerville, PA 17307	717-677-8211
The Wittel Farm	1753 Mill Road, Elizabethtown, PA 17022	717-367-2001

*If your name is missing or incorrectly displayed in this publication, please contact the Camping Office.
For information regarding reservations, please speak with the Office Manager at 717-677-8211.*

2023 UPCOMING EVENTS

Events schedule as of printing. Please check out website (lutherancamping.org) and social media pages for up-to-date event information.

JUNE

- 18 Summer Camp begins at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
- 25 Dinner Church at The Wittel Farm

JULY

- 9-15 Elder Camp at Nawakwa
- 9-15 Kids at Heart Camp at Kirchenwald
- 16-22 Family Camp I at Nawakwa
- 30 Dinner Church at The Wittel Farm

AUGUST

- 6-12 Family Camp-K-tion (Family Camp) at Kirchenwald
- 6-12 Family Camp II at Nawakwa
- 27 Dinner Church at The Wittel Farm

SEPTEMBER

- 24 Campfire Night at The Wittel Farm
- 30 Party with a Purpose at Kirchenwald

OCTOBER

- 1 Capture the Flag Spectacular at Kirchenwald
- 3-5 Adult Study Retreat at Nawakwa
- 22 Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
- 29 Campfire Night at The Wittel Farm

NOVEMBER

- 5 Annual Quilt Auction at Nawakwa
- 10-12 Women's Craft Retreat at Nawakwa

DECEMBER

- 9 Advent Day Apart at The Wittel Farm
- 17 Advent / Christmas Night in the Barn at The Wittel Farm

JANUARY 2024

- 5-7 Winter Youth Retreat at Kirchenwald

To register or for more information: LutheranCamping.org or 717-677-8211