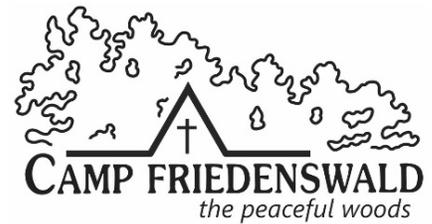


# CDC Annual Report



The past year brought a return to more “normal” operations at Camp Friedenswald after a year that held cancellations and closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While we continued to experience the impact of the pandemic throughout the year, we creatively adapted our programs in order to welcome people of all ages back to the peaceful woods of Camp Friedenswald. It was especially meaningful to gather for Camp’s 70<sup>th</sup> summer of camp after a year without.

Amid the continued uncertainty and challenges in providing camp and retreat experiences to guests and campers, the support and care provided by congregations and their members helped to sustain and encourage our efforts. The following highlights provide a glimpse into the year and illustrate the interactions between Camp Friedenswald, Central District Conference, and its congregations.

- **Over 2,400 hours of volunteer time and skill were given by 50 individuals of CDC congregations!** From the kitchen to maintenance tasks, to housekeeping and office work, people across the conference truly helped to carry out the mission of Camp throughout the year! Camp Friedenswald could not operate without the faithful support of these people.
- **Half of the 2021 summer staff came from CDC congregations** and brought their stories of how Camp and their churches have shaped their lives. Eleven of the summer staff came from six congregations including Assembly, Eighth Street, Hively Avenue, FMC Bluffton, Milwaukee, and Silverwood.
- After a summer without youth and family programs, we were excited to **welcome 400 campers (youth and family) to our 2021 program!** The summer theme focused on sharing our deepest longings with God through prayer. **Camp pastors from CDC congregations** helped to shape our times of worship. Pastors included David Moser (Southside Fellowship), Lora Nafziger (Assembly), Anna Yoder Schlabach (Assembly), Jane Roeschley (retired, Mennonite Church of Normal), Janeen Bertsche Johnson (8<sup>th</sup> Street Mennonite/AMBS) and Sibonokuhle Ncube (8<sup>th</sup> Street Mennonite/AMBS).
- **Hospitality was extended to seven CDC congregations** for a day or weekend of retreat. For many, after a year of meeting virtually, the retreat provided a refreshing and much needed time for reconnecting with one another. Congregations who gathered at Camp in 2021 included: Assembly, Emmaus Road, Faith, Hively Avenue, Keller Park, Silverwood, and Southside Fellowship.
- **Women’s Retreat**, an annual retreat hosted at Camp and planned by women across CDC, brought together 46 women from across the conference and beyond. The speaker was Sibonokuhle Ncube (8<sup>th</sup> Street Mennonite/AMBS) and focused on the theme of Hope for Healing; Hope for the Earth.
- **Camp provided hospitality to the CDC “Pastor+1 Retreat”** in the fall for CDC pastors and a spouse or friend.
- Over \$44,000 of **financial support** was given from congregations towards Camp’s programs. Thank you for continuing to partner with Camp in our shared ministry and for giving generously!

Submitted by Jenna Liechty Martin, executive director