



Williamsburg

CHRISTIAN RETREAT CENTER

2022 Annual Report

Our Mission:

To provide a place
for the
Holy Spirit
to work
in the lives of
kids and adults
through
camping and retreats

Board of Directors 2022

Joe Calkins
Lynn Keffer
Tim Mills
Krista Powell
Larry McLaughlin
Charlie Brenneman
Jim Thornton
Ray Nice
John Bowman
Jeri Field
Glenn Adams
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Abundantly More than We Could Ask or Imagine

Reflecting back on 2022, it was a year of waiting and a year of watching God provide. As the COVID iceberg started to thaw, and the whole world seemed to be “short –staffed”, we were waiting and watching and praying. Here are some highlights:

Lifeguards – when the country was facing a national lifeguard shortage, God gave us extras! They even helped out in housekeeping.

Barbara Wardach – God provided a wonderful, new Hospitality Coordinator to work in reservations and supervise our faithful housekeepers.

Summer Staff – God provided an excellent group of young people to shepherd our campers.

Beth Daniels – God brought us an amazing CPA with a heart for ministry.

Debt Reduction – God provided the funds to pay off \$275,000 of debt.

Guest Group surge – Our bookings for the fall were off the charts – weekend, and mid-week. Praise God!

Rich Martin – after a year without a Maintenance Director, God brought us “A godly guy who knows his stuff.”

Ginger McMeniman – God provided a fantastic new Program Director with great skills and experience.

Josh Brown – God provided Josh Brown with an amazing wife, and he is now our new Guest Services Director.

The Gift of Focus – Our giving partners surpassed our \$50,000 year-end goal by \$18,000 for a total year-end amount of \$63,000. Praise God!

Employee Retention Credit – God provided additional government funding to help us finish the year even stronger financially.



Edward Norris and Daniel Geesaman

There’s not enough room in the Annual Report to tell about all the amazing staff and volunteers that helped us get through COVID. I’m so blessed to be a part of this group that goes the extra mile to serve our guests and campers by providing a place for the Holy Spirit to work.

God has indeed provided “...exceeding and abundantly above all we could ask or imagine.” (Philippians 3:20). Join us in praising God, “from whom all blessings flow.”

The Goal of Kaleidoscope Camp:

Kaleidoscope Camp provides a Christian camping experience that invites campers into a relationship with Jesus Christ by sharing the Gospel, teaching Biblical truths, and encouraging campers to share Jesus' love in their communities.

PRAISE GOD!
Twelve campers
gave their hearts
to the Lord at Camp
in 2022.

2022 Year-round Staff

- Bob Briscoe
- Josh Brown
- Megan Brown
- Lisa Buel
- Abby Harcum
- Maggie McCain
- Lorraine Mooney
- Patricia Moore
- Sheri Morris
- Alex Pappas
- Kai Schwegal
- Emma Sprung
- Chase Walls
- Erin Locklin
- Barbara Wardach
- Megan Briscoe
- Karen Tutone
- Mia Tutone
- Michelle Geesaman
- Rich Carter

Growing Through the Trials

Over the past 3 years, WCRC has certainly faced its share of hard decisions and trying circumstances. At each of the crossroads, we spent time in prayer, we sought wise counsel, and we made the best decisions we could.

Summer Camp 2020: As we experienced the shutdowns of virtually everything in the spring of 2020, many camps announced that they would not provide summer camp. We decided to wait. Finally, in May, the Virginia Department of Health said they would allow day camps only. So, instead of 6 weeks of mostly overnight camps, we provided 4 sessions of day camp. Though our enrollment was about half of a normal summer, those who came were over-joyed at being able to actually get out and run and play. We had zero cases of COVID.



Registration: COVID-Style

Summer Camp 2021: After doing temperature checks and wearing masks and delivering boxed lunches to the campers in 2020, we were ready again to do whatever we could to make camp happen. When we got approval from the Health Department, we shifted to overnight cohort camp. Campers stayed in their cabin groups and did not interact in larger groups for worship, activities or dining. We held worship outdoors in Edgewood Pavilion, and we ate in a wooded area near the dining room where we carved out areas for picnic tables and named it, "The Grove." Again, we had no COVID cases among staff or campers.



Zip Line: COVID-Style

Summer Camp 2022: This past summer as COVID was beginning to pass into the rear-view mirror, we were *almost* back to normal. Dining and meeting returned to indoor settings and cabins were allowed to interact in large groups. With the reduced restrictions, we did have a few cases and one staff outbreak near the end of the summer that caused us to close one camp session a day early and cancel Family Camp. One highlight: we surpassed our pre-COVID enrollment and had over 300 campers.



Archery: Benjamin-style

The feedback from campers and parents has been very positive. We developed a really good working relationship with the Virginia Department of Health. Most importantly, we were able to carry out our mission. Campers responded to the gospel in faith and were encouraged to grow in their relationship with Jesus. Again, praise God for seeing us through these trials!

New Year, New Staff

Back in 2020, as COVID began to turn everything upside-down, we had four staffers who were scheduled to retire: June Lantz, Larry McLaughlin, Ken Horst and Milton Janzen. Saying goodbye was hard, but the timing was really beneficial to our financial situation. Being lean helped us to survive the decreased income during the pandemic.

Now, entering 2023, our situation is very different. We once again have all four directors in place!

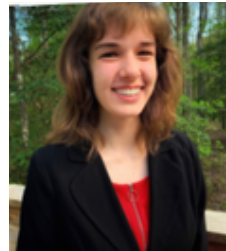
Guest Services Director: Josh Brown

In his new role, Josh oversees reservations, housekeeping, and food service. Coordinating these three areas allows him to oversee the entire guest group experience. Having worked as Program Director for seven years, Josh is very familiar with our ministry, but he's super-motivated to learn the details of each area to see what can be improved. He is an excellent communicator and leader, with a huge heart for camp and retreat ministry. Finally, Josh has recently been elected as President of the Board of the Mennonite Camping Association. Go Josh!



Program Director: Ginger McMeniman

Formerly Ginger South, Ginger McMeniman has been with WCRC for five years serving as Support Staff and Support Staff Coordinator for Summer Camp. She also served in the non-summer months as Activity Staff and Administrative Assistant. Ginger is a graduate of Regent University with a degree in Organizational Leadership. We are eager to see her apply her gifts and experience in this new role.



Maintenance Director: Rich Martin

Rich Martin is originally from Maine and is now a resident of Gloucester, Virginia. He has extensive experience in landscape maintenance and all aspects of home remodeling. Rich is a ministry leader in his church and he's excited to see God use his skills at WCRC.



Executive Director: Bob Briscoe

My role has 4 major categories: Staff leadership, board coordination, donor development, and marketing. After wearing lots of hats and being spread quite thin, I'm really looking forward to focusing on **my job!** I'm most excited to see how God will lead in the area of donor development in the coming year.

I'm super-excited to see what God will do in and through this new team that He has brought together.



Coming Soon!

Spring Quilting Retreat

March 8-12

Celebrate Camp

March 16

Summer Camp

June 25—August 3

Family Camp

August 6-9

Golf Classic Fundraiser

September 22

Family Harvest Fest

October 22

Fall Quilting Retreat

November 8-12

Christmas Around the Campfire

December 10

Winter Youth Retreat

January 2-4, 2024

Where is God Leading Us?

Often folks ask us what's in store for the future at WCRC. We often give bits and pieces and vague ideas. Well, we are changing our tune on that conversation. These days you'll more likely hear us saying phrases like these:

- We are working hard to update our facility master plan so God can move us forward.
- When God provides the funding, we'll build a new dining facility.
- When we have more meeting and dining space, God will change even more lives!
- Another cabin village will allow us to see even more summer campers come to know Jesus.
- An additional campground loop will allow space for more families to enjoy God's creation.
- A multi-purpose building will allow us space for indoor recreation and large group gatherings.
- An additional Holly Cottage will mean fewer retreat groups will be turned away.

This year, we will convene a Master Plan Review committee to make sure we are following God's lead as we seek to see Him use this ministry to transform even more lives. I hope you'll be joining us for the journey!



Contact Us!

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Note: the map above is subject to change as we continue to seek God's leading.