

2024 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

Jenn Mast
Greg Mills
Larry McLaughlin
Charlie Brenneman
Jim Thornton
Ray Nice
John Bowman

Glenn Adams

Jeri Field

Valerie Wermuth

Marcia Robertson

Rich Beckler

Contact Us!

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COME GROW WITH US!

Growth can take many forms. I remember having our kids stand with their backs to the pantry doorway where we would make a mark and write the date to capture their height. Growth is sometimes hard to see in the short term, but after a few years, we definitely see a difference. Here at WCRC, growth can take many shapes. Sometimes we see growth, sometimes we don't.

Looking back at 2024 and ahead at 2025, WCRC is moving into a more visible growth phase. Two items show our pathway: 1) The WCRC Strategic Plan, and 2) The WCRC Case Document. One is a tool that the board of directors uses to discern God's direction as we grow. The other is how we communicate that direction to folks who want to be a part of what God is doing here.



Case Document

Here are some highlights from the Strategic Plan:

As our board mapped out the priorities for the coming years, these categories emerged:

- Enhance the Guest Experience how can we give our guests a better experience?
- Increase Capacity what can we do to welcome more quests?
- Expand the Ministry what new programs can we deploy to accomplish our mission?
- Enhance Sustainability what can we do to ensure that WCRC's mission endures?

Additional categories, and some specific answers to these questions can be found in the Strategic Plan on our website.

Here are some highlights from the Case Document:

Our Case Document shows some specific ways to be a part of this growth process. Here are some ways you can partner with us:

- Give monthly to support our camp staff or for camper scholarships.
- Participate in the Golf Classic or WCRC Banquet.
- Give to our endowment fund to support WCRC's future.
- Give to a capital improvement project to keep our facilities up to date.
- Volunteer your time and talent at WCRC.

As we explore these opportunities under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are trusting God to show us what steps to take and when. It's going to be awesome to watch the story unfold.

I hope you'll join us on the journey. Come, grow with us!

Bob Briscoe Executive Director



Strategic Plan

PS. I'd be happy to share these items with you personally. Email bob@wcrc.info

The Goal of Camp:

Summer Camp at WCRC 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.

2024 Year-round Staff

Bob Briscoe Lucas Briscoe Josh Brown Megan Brown Rich Carter **Beth Daniels** Michele Geesaman Abby Harcum Caleb Harcum Seth Harcum Anne Locklin Erin Locklin Maggie McCain Ginger McMeniman **Lorraine Mooney** Patricia Moore Sheri Morris Hannah Myers **Alex Pappas** Anna Pappas Kai Schwegal **Emma Sprung Chase Walls** Barbara Wardach Ashleigh Wyatt Seth Zeller **Treasure Butler David Deas** Kaliyah Mahaley

PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHT — WCRC's MLT Program

The MLT Program at WCRC is very special. Originally begun by former Program Director Jenn Mast, MLT stands for **M**inistry **L**eadership **T**raining. It's a two-week program where "Miltons" spend the first week in classroom sessions about leadership, and they spend the second week experiencing hands on practice in leading.

Participants get to lead cabin devotions, activities, and events. The capstone is a camp-wide activity led entirely by the "Miltons".

Many MLT's later become camp counselors, but the training is valuable for any ministry leadership opportunity.

The 2024 MLT program was extra-special for two reasons: First, **Josh and Megan Brown** were selected to lead the program. With a combined 15 years of experience leading in camp and ministry settings, Josh and Megan

brought the content to a whole new level. Second, the students were "next level". The cohort included Aztlan Franco and Michael Ruiz Herrera from Lynside Mennonite, and longtime campers Aliza Pettus, Ingrid Foose, and Elizabeth and Rebekah Sutton.

With next-level campers getting trained in a next level program, the future staff of Summer Camp is looking up. **Great job Megan and Josh!**





Megan, Josh, and MLT's

MAINTENANCE HIGHLIGHT

Sometimes a staff member's title doesn't really capture what they do. This is particularly true when it comes to our Maintenance Director, **Rich Carter**. "Maintenance" gives the impression that one is "maintaining"; and, while Rich does a lot of maintaining, what he does best is lots of enhancing and improving.

In 2024 Holly Cottage received a makeover in the upstairs meeting room with new flooring, a new paint scheme, and some new furniture. Our food service staff enjoyed a remodel of the kitchen that included new lighting, fresh paint, and the removal of a wall that opened up the prep area to make working there much easier.

The pool house received some fresh paint and a reconfigured entry gate, and the bath house got some much needed paint as well.

Finally, along with new roofs on Magnolia Center and Oakwood Lodge, the Magnolia Dining Room – a project begun in 2024 and underway currently -- includes a new paint scheme, updated light fixtures, new blinds, and some new rectangular tables.



Rich Carter Welding the Pool Gate

We really enjoy hearing our guests and campers and staff express appreciation for the improvements. **Thank you, Rich Carter!**

GUEST SERVICES: Emma Sprung — Our New Housekeeping Manager!

Each year we like to highlight a staff member who has come to our attention for great work. Last year we highlighted Seth Zeller's ability to work across the disciplines from Lifeguard, to Housekeeper, Reservations Assistant, and Activity Guide. This year our focus is on **Emma Sprung**. Though not as diverse in capabilities as Seth, Emma's strengths lie in leadership. Specifically servant leadership.

Emma has been working at WCRC since June of 2021 and she has worked in both Food-service and Housekeeping. More than anything, Emma is a hard, hard worker. She loves to work. She's the one who says things like, "Since we finished early, let's go ahead and clean behind the stove." She has the ability to see how things *could* be when a little

more effort is applied. Her cheerful "can-do" attitude is a joy to watch and when the cake pan accidentally ends up – icing side down – on the floor, Emma's the one who says, "Well, I guess we're having ice cream for dessert!"

Away from WCRC, Emma volunteers in the children's ministry at LifePointe Christian Church, and she's also one of the leaders of In His Steps Dance Ministry. We are blessed to have Emma serving at WCRC. In 2025 Emma will become our Housekeeping Manager.

Thank you Emma Sprung!



Emma Sprung

ACTIVITIES HIGHLIGHT

People often ask what we do in the "off-season" here. The truth is, we really don't have an "off season." Winter months are a bit slower, but we host retreats year-round. Even our Program Director, **Ginger McMeniman** -- whose central focus is to run Summer Camp -- stays very busy year-round with Guided Activities for our retreat groups. Our menu of Guided Activities includes: Zip Line, Tree Climb, High Ropes, Leap of Faith, Super Swing, Team Building Games, Hayrides, Canoeing, Archery, and Popcorn Bonfires.

In 2024, we saw an amazing 80% increase in our Guided Activity income. Our retreat groups have begun to discover that our Guided Activities can really enhance their experience here. We like to see this because getting our guests out into God's creation is one of our core values. The combination of God's Creation, God's Word, and God's people is very powerful!

Finally, employing our summer camp staff to help lead activities gives us an opportunity to keep the discipleship door open as we continue to encourage them in their faith. **Great job Ginger!**



Amelia Lavy and a Happy "Zip Liner"



Board President Jim Thornton

Save the Dates!

Celebrate Camp March 22

Spring Quilting Retreat March 5-9

Summer Camp June 22—July 31

> Family Camp August 3-6

Family Harvest Fest October 19

Golf Classic Fundraiser
October 24

NEW! WCRC Banquet
November 2

Fall Quilting Retreat November 5-9

Christmas Around the Campfire December 7

Winter Camp

Dates To Be Determined

PRAISE GOD!

10 campers
gave their hearts
to the Lord at Camp
in 2024.
23 campers re-committed
their lives to Christ.

Reintroducing the WCRC Banquet!

For many years, the WCRC Banquet was a significant fundraising event. The COVID pandemic put a big damper on banquets in 2020 and the years after, but we are happy to announce **the WCRC Banquet is back**. We'll be holding it on **November 2nd at the Williamsburg Community Center** near Colonial Williamsburg. We are looking forward to reintroducing this event in a fresh, new way. Be on the lookout for more information as we prepare a truly unique and special event for our donors and friends. Meanwhile take a look at some photos from one of the best banquets ever, back in 2017.



Milton Janzen



Andrew Harcum



Shawn and Alicia Manning, Caroline and Solomon Gibson



Tide Spring



Greg Mills, Josh Brown



Michael Shenk, Bob Briscoe, Lavonne Lehman

Strategic Plan Adopted

After a year-long season of strategic planning, the WCRC Board approved a new strategic plan. The plan has within it a process for evaluating projects by looking at how they line up with our **purpose** —mission, vision and values — our current **programs**, **property**, **personnel**, and our current financial picture (**piggy bank**). (See the diagram at right.) The main categories of growth are listed below. Each year the board will choose which projects to pursue. With this framework in place, we have a great way to move forward as God directs our path.

- 1. Increase capacity
- 2. Enhance the guest experience
- 3. Expand our ministry
- 4. Enhance sustainability
- 5. Improve staff care and productivity
- 6. Employ effective facility stewardship

