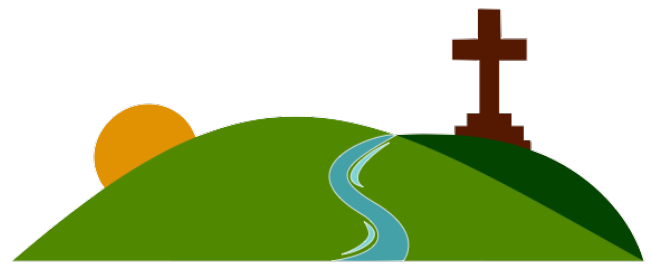


# Look at What YOU DID through

Sequanota Conference Center & Camp



# SEQUANOTA

SUMMER CAMP

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

CONFERENCE & RETREAT



## YOU Are Making a Difference

The 2023 camper survey results are in!  
Here is a snapshot of the survey responses and the impact of camp!

### Campers surveyed agreed:

- 95% felt they were included.
- 82% felt they grew in their faith in God.
- 98% had fun.
- 96% felt safe.
- 93% tried something new.
- 82% practiced their faith habits.
- 79% didn't give up when challenged.
- 97% had a great week.

### How has your time at camp changed you?

- "I grew in my faith and independence. I also made new friends."
- "I'm more confident and I can sing better."
- "I will challenge myself more."
- "I think it really opened my eyes to God more."
- "It made me feel empowered and to spend more time with God."
- "I'm not as shy."
- "I like nature more."



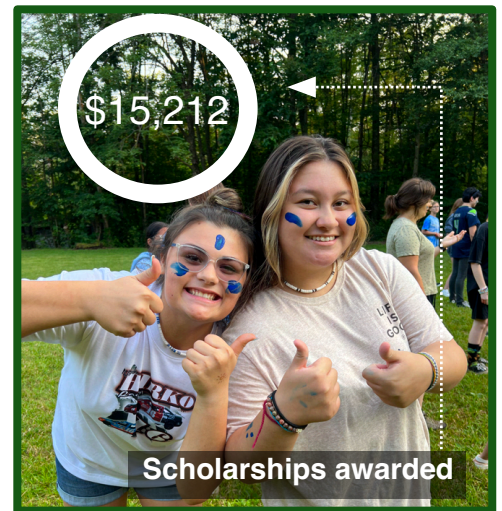
# YOU Are Making a Difference

Camp is an odd magic trick. When campers overcome a fear (climbing to heights) or solve a problem (resolving

a conflict with cabin-mates) or experience a triumph (learning to shoot a bow and arrow), they often think that they are doing so all on their own. No parents are there, so the triumph belongs to them. Here is the trick - while they think they are "all on their own," they are surrounded by caring cabin guides who form a supportive community that will spring to action if they truly struggle in a way that becomes destructive or damaging. Campers get the boost of confidence that comes from independent success without the risk of complete and unsupported independence.

<i>Campers</i>	2023	2022	2021	2019
On Site	341	341	301	308
Off site Day Camp	65	57	0	224
Hosted Youth Camps	327	298	133	238
Summer Totals	733	696	434	770

## How YOU DID IT





26

Young adult summer staff members hired



28

Worship services led by summer staff



16

Lifeguards trained

Sequanota hires a team of young adults to help accomplish the magic trick of camp. This team of staff create an invisible scaffolding, which provides care, support and guidance to campers. It is what makes the camp experience a unique and vital part of a child's development. Camp's staff aid campers in growing in confidence, independence and persistence. Thank you for your contributions that support a great staff!



Individuals volunteered

124

## How YOU DID IT

### Volunteer Hours

Summer Camp

2023

1216

Year Round

929

Valuation of volunteer hours

\$63,878





## Conference & Retreat



### 2023 Programmed Ministries

- New Year's Day Hike
- Snow Camp
- IGNITE Youth Retreat
- Sustain: Adult Retreat
- Belong: Young Adult Retreat
- Love Your Mother (Earth) Retreat
- Spring Work Day/Fall Trail Clean up
- 5 School Field Trips
- Well Festival
- Adult Day Study



### Conference & Retreat

### # of groups

Hosted Ministry 47

Program Ministry 14



Bridges restored during trail clean up weekend

## YOU Are Making a Difference Facility Improvements

Sequanota's facilities team, volunteers, and synod congregations (Grace, State College and St. David's, Davidsville) continue to make renovations to the campus. Bathroom upgrades have been central this year. We have remodeled

cabins 2 & 11, the staff cabin, and the old dining hall bathrooms to have individual stalls with locking doors for added privacy. Cabin floors and walls were painted. The craft cabin and cabin 1 were scraped and are ready for a new coat of paint. Twenty volunteers help to rejuvenate four trails and bridges on trail clean-up day in September. St. David's spent "God's work our hands" day clearing brush and trees, fall cleaning the Bowersox Retreat Center, and preparing a mailing. We couldn't do it without you!





This year we tried something new! A festival style weekend filled with learning opportunities sturctured to encourage conversations between sessions leaders and attendees. Both adults and kids enjoyed the weekend and we are excited to do it again in 2024! Join us June 20-23 for the Tend Festival at Sequanota!



Session choices



Baskets weaved

### Read what folks said about the Well Festival

"Kaila is a gifted teacher who uses her talents very effectively to share her faith. She is caring, dedicated, generous, patient, and fun. She clearly loves what she does. She went over and beyond her commitment to the camp to help everyone who wanted to create a basket achieved success. She also seemed to enjoy socializing with campers when she wasn't teaching. Her message at worship was a wonderful memorable way to share the Good News."

"The Well Festival was an incredible experience."

"Hiking barefoot was nothing I ever considered doing and I loved the experience."

"It made me physically feel good!"



Garden teas made by kids



Participants

## How YOU DID IT Kindle Monthly Giving Club



KINDLE Monthly Giving Club partners ignite our ministry to serve in new ways. When you give though monthly gifts, you provide regular and consistent income to help Sequanota kindle the faith of our campers and guests.



346 monthly gifts ranged from \$5 - \$250



Scan the QR code and become a Kindle Club member today!



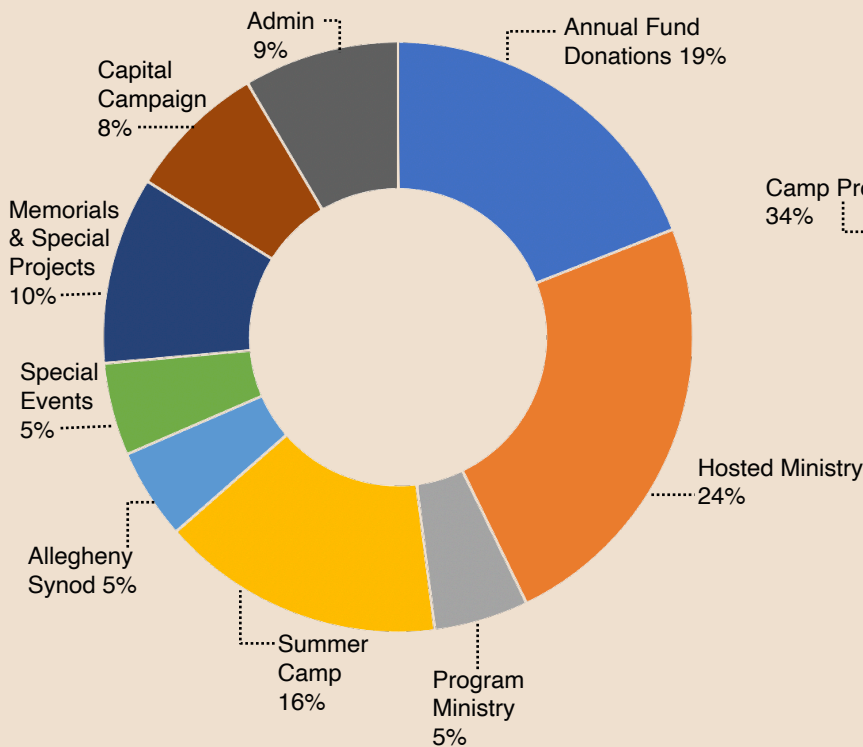
# How YOU DID IT

## Special Events

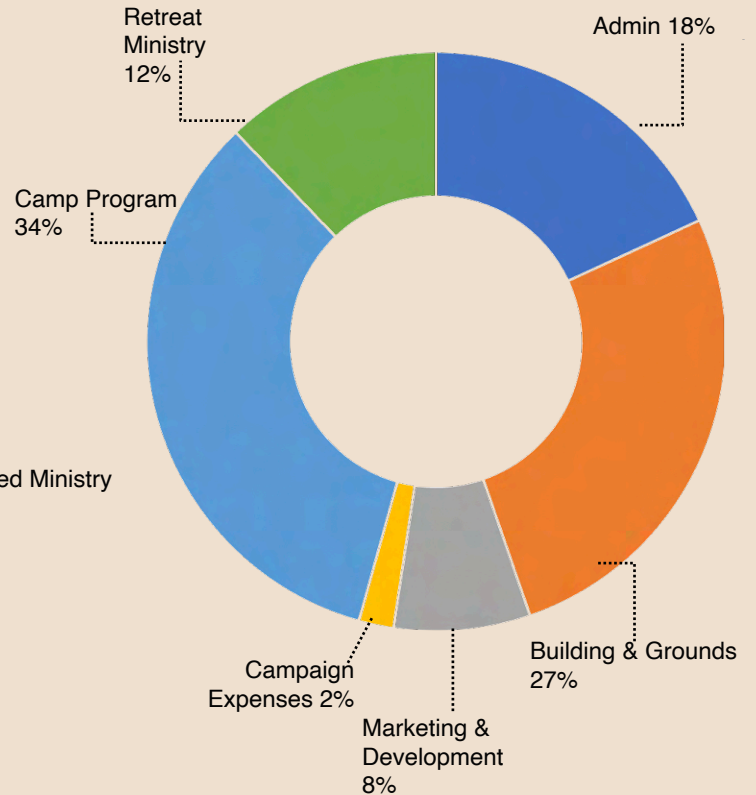
Special Events	Participants	\$ Raised
Happy Camper Fun Run	20	\$7,815
Spring Benefit Dinner	92	\$12,940
Mother's Day Buffet	302	\$4,974
Golf Benefit	40	\$3,644
Breakfast with Santa	156	\$923
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>\$30,296</b>



## Total Revenue - \$658,700



## Total Expenses - \$635,487



### Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	363,456
Pledges & Receivables		4,680
Other assets		17,111
Property and equipment, net		895,399
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,280,646</b>

### Liabilities

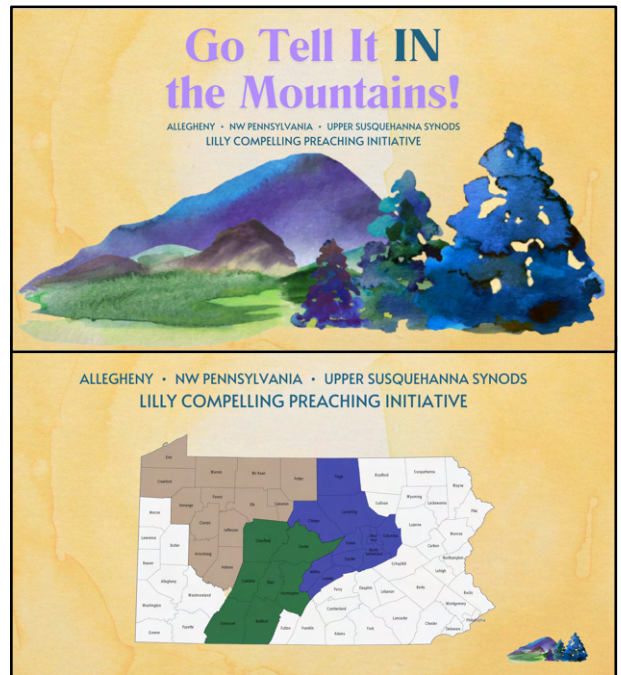
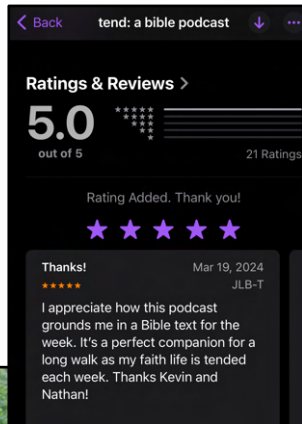
Notes payable	\$	230,820
Deferred revenue		5,816
Other Liabilities		25,813
Equity		1,018,197
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,280,646</b>

Note: The 2023 audited financials will be available after September 2024.



# Partners with SEQUANOTA

During the spring of 2023, Pastor Nathan convened a group to write a grant from the Lilly Foundation. The grant was fully funded at \$1.25 million dollars and will support preaching resources to be developed and used throughout our region. Contact the Allegheny Synod to see how your congregation can be involved!



Pastor Nathan and Pastor Kevin Shock recorded 54 episodes of "tend, a bible podcast." There were 3,122 downloads and 21 5-star reviews! Episodes average 45 minutes and focus on a scripture passage from the weekly lectionary. You can find it on Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

The Sequanota team worked with colleagues from the Allegheny Synod to create both a devotional resource and a weekend event for synod youth in December.

## Thrivent Choice Dollar Donations for 2023 = \$8,514

Allen and Carol Chrise  
Ann Brooks  
Anna Weaver  
Anne & Ronald Barnes  
Ben and Marie Waltermire  
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Ed and Sue Vorhauer  
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David and Karen Truesdale  
Bill and Paula Nihoff  
Roxann and Lewis Berkey  
Gregory and Susan Ferro  
Nancy Shingledecker  
Jean Vonada  
Mark Swank



# Founders' Fires Giving Tiers

2023 gifts to the Annual Fund, Benefits, memorials, and scholarship funds

+ Denotes Kindle Club Members

## Founders:

\$1000+

Benscreek Lutheran, Hollsopple  
Christ Lutheran, Claysburg  
Grace Lutheran, Stoystown  
Simpson Temple United Parish  
St. John's Lutheran, Salisbury  
St. Luke's Lutheran, Rockwood  
St. Matthew, Martinsburg  
St. Paul's Lutheran, Johnstown  
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Zion Lutheran, Johnstown  
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Susan Sedory  
Marvin and Jeanie Shaffer  
Eva Strang  
Robert Thomas  
Barbara Wachter  
The Law Office of Megan E. Will  
Joy Zimmerman

## Luther League:

\$500 - \$999

St. Johns Lutheran, Millheim  
Moxham Lutheran, Johnstown  
Mt. Calvary Lutheran, Somerset  
Pine Hall Lutheran, State College  
Grace Lutheran, State College  
Grace Lutheran, Johnstown  
M.J. Miller Family Agricultural Heritage Fund  
Allegheny Synodical Womens Organization  
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Stacy and Paul Wheeler  
Richard and Rebecca Whipkey  
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## Council Fire:

\$250 - \$499

Faith United Lutheran, Houtzdale  
Christ Lutheran, Buffalo Mills  
Laurel Trinity Lutheran,  
Jennerstown  
Zion Hoffman Lutheran, Acosta  
St. John Lutheran, Centre Hall  
St. John Lutheran, Williamsburg  
North Star Youth Outreach  
Zellem Masonry Construction  
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Ed and Sue Vorhauer  
Dr. Florence Warfel  
Gary and Amy Weimer  
Hanna Weimer +  
Claire and Stephen Zufall





**Nature Lodge:**  
**\$175 - \$249**

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Mt. Zion Lutheran, Glasgow  
Faith Lutheran, Somerset  
First Lutheran Altoona  
First Lutheran, Johnstown  
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Nancy and John Webb  
Daniel Weimer +  
Greg and Amy Will  
Hattie Williams  
Raymond and Nancy Wojnarowski

**Outpost:**  
**\$100 - \$174**

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Beer, Ream & Co  
Olanta Lutheran Church  
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Violet and Edward Zorn

### 2023 gifts in memory of

Jack Timm

Leverne Sedory

Linda McElroy Thomas

Ed Harshberger

Charlie Lady

T. Zoe Smith

Merle Mishler





## Faith-informed Learning & Community

*June 20-23, 2024*

We are excited to invite you to Sequanota's Tend Festival, an event that celebrates creation, wellness, social justice, and community. This unique festival offers a range of activities and events that promote physical, mental, and spiritual well-being, as well as an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Sequanota.

The Tend Festival will take place on June 20-23 at Sequanota, and we would love to have you join us. We strive to live authentically as God's people. Over the generations, people have found that it is easier to live and strive when we do it together. This is what the Tend Festival is all about - living, learning, and loving together.

A key component of the event is to simply provide open space for participants to engage one another. The idea is for spiritual explorers to gather to find community and support as we engage in a wide range of conversations.

The festival is designed to offer different learning experiences to provide opportunities for conversation. Maybe the conversation is new to you, or maybe you are a seasoned veteran on a topic, but this weekend is curated to provide the space to discuss and explore together.

For more information and to register, visit our website: [www.sequanota.com/tendfest](http://www.sequanota.com/tendfest)

## Sample Learning Areas

### Environment

- Naturalist hike & technology
- Feeding ourselves and our neighbors
- Hunting and ethics
- Climate change and faith

### Economics, Justice & Advocacy

- Gender & Inclusion
- Recovery Advocacy

### Food & Health

- Mental Health
- Kids and Gardens

### Practical Theology

- Welcome in the congregation
- Finding your way in faith as a young adult
- Social media and evangelism
- Faith & Politics

### Devotional/Spiritual Life

- Yoga
- Walking a Prayer Labyrinth
- Meditative Prayer

### Arts & Media

- Cross making
- Painting and crafts

### Music

- Faith and sound workshop
- Hymn sing along
- Exploring the new All Creation Sings hymn book
- Live music

### Open Space

This is a designated area that will always be open to continue a conversation. Participants can share a topic they would like to talk about or continue a topic from earlier in the event. The space is designed to make an open space for continued conversation.



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 Lutheran Conference Center & Camp  
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 Phone: (814) 629-6627  
 email: [contact@sequanota.com](mailto:contact@sequanota.com)

*Thank YOU!*      *Thank YOU!*      *Thank YOU!*

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

~ 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3



Looking forward in 2024

- May 12      Mother's Day Banquet
- June - Aug      SUMMER CAMP
- June 20-23      TEND FESTIVAL
- Aug 19      Golf Benefit
- Aug 21-28      Adirondack Canoe Trip
- Sept 14      Trail Clean Up Weekend
- Sept 28-29      IGNITE/PLUNGE - Retreat
- Oct 10      Adult Day Bible Study
- Dec 7      Breakfast with Santa