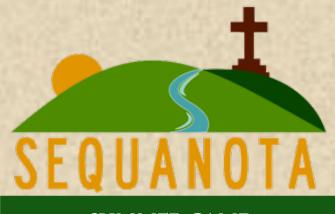
2024 Annual Report

Look at What YOU DID through

Sequanota Conference Center & Camp



SUMMER CAMP

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

CONFERENCE & RETREAT





YOU Are Making a Difference

You develop character strengths in Sequanota campers. You support summer staff positions, facility improvements, and programming supplies, which teach these valuable lessons. The experience of camp that you underwrite builds character with the focus of the Christian command to love one another. The character strengths of curiosity, empathy, confidence, and teamwork are woven into the summer community. The 2024 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.
- 88% felt they grew in their faith in God.
- 94% had fun.
- 92% felt safe.
- 81% tried something new.
- 82% practiced their faith habits.
- 84% didn't give up when challenged.
- 93% had a great week.

Summer Camp

YOU Are Making a Difference in our young people

You are teaching kids a strong sense of self, while also expanding their understanding that the real world is bigger than their wants and needs. You guide them to practice Christ's command to love your neighbor. And you do this in a tech-free environment where campers practice face-to-face conversations and play. Thank you for teaching the next generations the character strengths that have made humankind so strong.

| Campers | 2024 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
|--------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Sequanota Campers | 336 | 406 | 398 | 301 |
| Hosted Youth Camps | 390 | 327 | 298 | 133 |
| Summer Totals | 726 | 733 | 696 | 434 |











Pastors & "everyday Christian" leaders served for a week.





Congregations supported 71 kids to come to camp with direct financial assistance totaling \$19,845.

Leadership Development



Worship services led by summer staff

YOU Are Making a Difference Developing Leaders



You have created a holy space where new leaders practice empathy, responsibility, inclusion and relationship building. Christ came to live among us. Jesus illustrated the example and importance of leadership in the midst of community. There is something really valuable about practicing life together. You nurture current and future leaders in the lessons of servant leadership. Our society needs more leaders, who will care about their neighbor more than their own wants and desires.



Conference & Retreat

Miles paddled on the Adirondack Canoe Trip



<u>Program Ministries</u>

New Year's Day Hike 2 IGNITE Youth Retreats Sustain: Adult Retreat Online Lenten Study Belong: Young Adult Retreat Love Your Mother (Earth) Retreat Spring Work Day/Fall Trail Clean up Tend Festival Adirondack Canoe Trip 4 Environmental Ed Field Trips







YOU Are Making a Difference Hosted Ministries

Sustain Retrea

You practice radical hospitality. Your contributions energize the staff and property improvements that await guests as they drive through the big green gate. Guests seek a warm welcome, in a safe place where they can rest,

renew and recreate (or re-create). You make Sequanota a clean, well-maintained facility that is surrounded by God's beautiful creation. It nurtures a connection with the holy. This experience is bolstered through the servant leadership of the Sequanota staff, who take Christ's command to love one another. Your radical hospitality makes it possible for guests to focus on their connections to Christ, creation, and community. Experiences like this strengthen them to live more fully as God's people in the world.

YOU Are Making a Difference Providing Opportunities

You are providing new ways to connect with God. You are developing new faith formation resources and programs. **Opportunities for Christians to** engage: scripture in podcasts, practicing living our faith with online Lenten studies and weekend retreats, and camper/ parent resources to guide them as they seek new ways to connect to God and each other are all part of the programmed ministries of Sequanota. You are reaching beyond camp's borders to provide new ministry options. New partnerships with the Allegheny Synod's "Go Tell It IN the Mountains" grant will provide even more new opportunities to proclaim the gospel.



How do we live with resilience and hope in an era of instability? We strive to live authentically as God's people. The Tend Festival is designed to be a place where God's people gather, engage in conversation, recreate, rest & renew, and worship. This long weekend has been curated to nurture your heart and spirit in these anxious times. What could be better for your soul than some time away with other Christians in an intentional community?





"I love to be creative and enjoy learning new crafts to do, especially when combined with nature."

Examining flying creatures in the night





For more information and to register, visit our website: <u>www.sequanota.com/tendfest</u>

Our lives are busy. Our culture feels like it is in chaos. Our hearts and spirits need some care. This year's festival has formed a holy space for us.

You create what you need for you this weekend. We have asked speakers and leaders to present on a variety of topics, including music, self-care, spiritual practices, the natural world, and art. You decide what is right for you. The Tend Festival has been curated to help you tend and nurture your spirit for life as God's disciples.





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



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



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



| Special Events | Participants | \$ Raised |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Happy Camper Fun Run | 38 | \$6,140 |
| Spring Benefit Dinner | 105 | \$10,407 |
| Golf Benefit | 46 | \$5,001 |
| Fall Giving Day | 66 | \$8,477 |
| Community Meals | 423 | \$6,137 |
| TOTAL | 610 | \$36,162 |





Leave a Legacy Gift & Make an impact

Consider adding Sequanota to your will. Sequanota has been blessed to be the beneficiary of many estate plans. These gifts always seem to come when we are searching for ways to make a project happen. Plan ahead, put together your financial plans and help Sequanota continue to make an impact for future generations. Contact Pastor Nathan for information.

Two congregations in the Laurel Highlands Conference made the difficult decision to close in 2023 -2024. Both **Grace Lutheran Church in Stoystown** and **St. Luke Lutheran Church in Rockwood** made significant gifts to enhance the ministry of Sequanota. Thank you to congregations for trusting Sequanota to continue your mission and providing a space for all people to connect to Christ, creation and community.





YOU Are Making a Difference

Facility Improvements

You did a BIG thing here! For the first time in over fifty years we surpassed our goal and completed the capital campaign! In 2014, Framing Faith for the Future Capital Campaign

was launched. At the end of 2024, we celebrated the completion of the building projects AND the complete payment of all loans associated with the projects. You completed this HUGE plan. More celebration about this success will be coming this summer. Thank you for building up Sequanota so that it can continue the mission "to love one another" and make an impact in the lives of guests and campers across the generations. Here are a few highlights of projects completed.

Swimming Pool

New filter system & main valve; New pool deck; New sewer & water lines; Moved elecrical panel; Cut down trees

Bowersox Enrichment Center

New walkway & flower bed landscaping; New bedroom & common room furniture; Paint common areas, all bedrooms & all bathrooms; New flooring throughout; New hot water heaters, washing machine & dryer, 3-door fridge, & ice machine; 15 queen sized beds

Dining Hall

Interior paint; New fridge & freezer; New convection ovens; New ice machine; New dishwasher

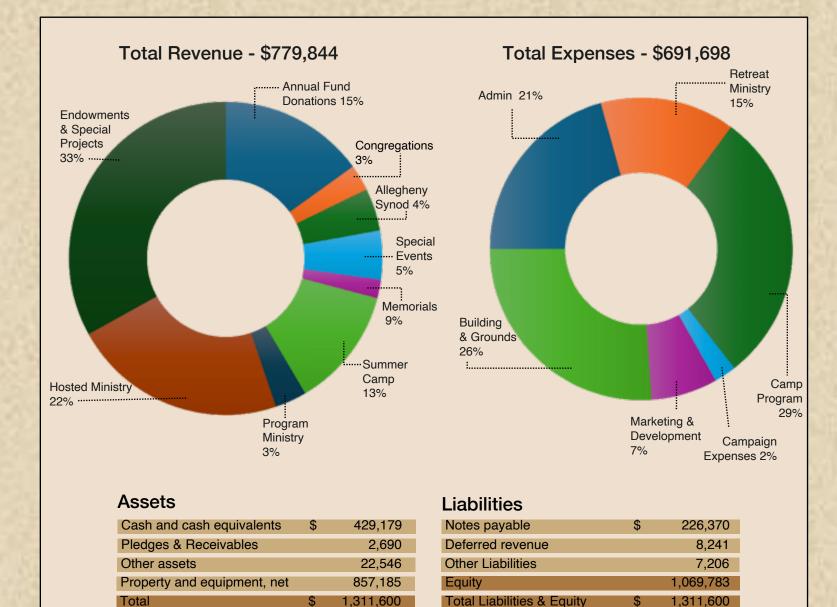
Main Camp

Waste water plant: New chlorine system, Repair bell syphon, New sand on filter; New Garden; Director's house garage; 10 new cabin roofs, New heaters in stone cabins; Renovated Director's Cabin & Hillside A, B, & C.

Road projects & Exterior LED Lighting

Bowersox Center circle repaved; Main entrance paving & drainage; Pickings Run bridge replaced; New LED lights in stone cabins, wood cabins, & Bowersox parking lot





Note: The 2024 audited financials will be available after September 2025.

Thrivent Choice Dollar Donations for 2024 = \$7,214

Jean Ayers James & Christine Baird Pamela Baker Anne & Ronald Barnes Bill Berkey Rev. David Bowman Allen Boyer Susan Brandau Ann Brooks Elda Burket Dennis Calhoun Ruth Chellman Allen and Carol Chrise Samuel and Fern Clapper Jane and James Davis George Detwiler Donald Eppley

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Founders' Fires Giving Club

2024 gifts to the Annual Fund, Benefitts, memorials, and scholarship funds

+ Denotes Kindle Club Members

Founders: <u>\$1000+</u>

Allegheny Synod Pamela Baker + Kirby & Susan Barclay + Susan Baughman Rev. Vicki Beilfuss **Benscreek Lutheran Church** Kevin & Melody Berg + Sally Blue Elda Burket **Dennis Calhoun** Bill & Linda Campbell Samuel & Fern Clapper **Bishop Barbara Collins** Faith United, Houtzdale Friedens Lutheran Church Paul Gable & Sons Electric, Inc. Sandra Hall Rev. Edward Harshbarger **Elizabeth Horner** Charlie & Gail Korns + Kathy Landis David & Cindy Liska + Bill & Holly Marriott Martell Sales & Service, Inc **Dennis & Elaine Merringer Rick & Diane Miller** + Tom & Jill Mitchell **David Myers** Rev. Jane & Mark Nicholson Rev. John & Gail Palko Von & Marsha Parkins Andrea Paul Rev. Gregory & Barb Pile + Rev. Nathan & Angie Pile Michael & Marcia Satryan Susan Sedory Marvin & Jeanie Shaffer + Lisa Bahr & Rev. Kevin Shock St. David's Lutheran Church Stoystown Tank and Steel Co. **Eva Strang Robert Thomas Trinity Lutheran Church Barbara Wachter** + Dana & Dennis Weimer The Law Office of Megan E. Will **Cindy Winger** Joy Zimmerman Zion Lutheran, Johnstown

Luther League: <u>\$500 ~ \$999</u>

+ Revs. Eleanor & Bob Abarno Dan & Sharon Berkebile + Roxann & Lewis Berkey Boy Scout Troop 2114 Jane & Jim Fagans Jon & Marsha Flower + Debra Garland Michael & Staci Gaunt Tom & Kathryn Goetz Vicki Sue Golemboski Grace Lutheran, Johnstown Grace Lutheran, State College Todd & Joni Hammaker Hooversville Trinity Foundation Horace & Connie Hubbard Donald F. Koontz Laurel Trinity Lutheran Church Rev. Paula Lebo **Bonnie Leibfreid** Luthersburg Lutheran Parish M.J. Miller Family

Agricultural Heritage Fund + Revs. George & Ardelle Mason John & Pam Maurer **1st Summit Bank** Stan & Deb McQuaide Rev. Carl and Nancy Miller **Troy Miller** Jeff Nider Pine Hall Lutheran Church Amy Polakoski Lou Ann Reckner **Elaine Smith** St. Johns Lutheran, Millheim St. Paul's, Mundys Corner **Caryl Swanson** Ronald & Lois Tessari **Doris E Thomas** Stacy & Paul Wheeler

Council Fire: \$250 - \$499

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Nature Lodge: <u>\$175 - \$249</u>

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Outpost: <u>\$100 ~ \$174</u>

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Poem by: William Arthur Dunkerley

"Kneel always when you light a fire, Kneel reverently and thankful be for Gods unfailing charity ... "

Contributions up to \$99

Rev. Jono& Bekah Adams **Ernie Altimore Charles Amershek Byron Ansell** Anne & Ronald Barnes Jan & Jeff Bassette Doug & Kathleen Bell Karen & Tim Berkebile Boozer Water Transport, LLC Linda Bowman **Barry Boyer Gwen Boyer Bev & Don Brocious** John & Marianne Brock **Dorothy & Robert Bromley** Eric Brubaker Barry & Carla Brumbaugh Trevor Buckham John Carl Chris & Jennifer Carr Logan Carroll **Christ Casebeer Lutheran** Anita & John Chuha John Conklin & Maria Esposito Pamela & Floyd Croyle **Deborah Cuppett Kayla Crist** Paul & Martha Dix John & Elizabeth Dugan Sandy & John Ebersole Lynette Ely David & Michele Finney Ken & Nancy Fogleman **Carole A Frantz David & Dorene Friedline** Ann Furlong Philip Gacka & Natalie Gacka **Richard & Suzette Gardenhour** Michelle & Tyler Graham **Barbara Gulick** Brian & Sherry Lynn Harshberger **Carole & Charles Heilig** Mary Beth & Jim Held Sis Henry William & Shirley Hindman William Hite Ed & Lynn Horning Jack & Kay Howsare **Eileen Ihrig** Larry & Catherine Irvin tyna Kaltenbaugh **Ethel Mae Karfelt** Harold M Kaseler Nathan & Pamela Kelley

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2024 gifts given in memory of

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Return Service Requested



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 2025

| May 11 | Mother's Day Banquet |
|------------|-------------------------|
| June - Aug | SUMMER CAMP |
| June 19-22 | TEND FESTIVAL |
| Aug 18 | Golf Benefit |
| Aug 20-27 | Adirondack Canoe Trip |
| Sept 13 | Trail Clean Up Weekend |
| Sept 27-28 | IGNITE/PLUNGE - Retreat |
| Oct 10 | Giving Day |
| Dec 6 | Breakfast with Santa |
| | |