The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa & the Wittel Farm

Fall 2026
Newsletter

Camping!

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Shared Faith, Shared Future Campaign

Together, we can achieve our $250,000 goal and ensure that our beloved outdoor ministry enters God's preferred future on a stronger foundation, blessing and changing lives for years to come.

The ministry of the Lutheran Camping Corporation provides a place apart in God's creation where people of all ages experience God's unconditional love and grace, build lasting relationships, reconnect with family and friends, and grow in faith through Christian community. In these places apart, a child may pray aloud for the first time, a teenager may discover the courage to lead, a family may find rest and renewal after a difficult season, or an adult may reconnect with faith and recognize a new calling.

Recognizing the vital importance of this ministry, the LCC Board of Directors authorized the Shared Faith/Shared Future Campaign this past spring, with a goal of $250,000. The campaign is designed to strengthen and sustain the outdoor ministry we share. Funds raised will help address emergency property and equipment repairs needed now and before the 2027 camping season, support leadership transition expenses as we enter a time of new beginnings, and restore financial stability by reducing deficits incurred in recent years.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

From Interim Executive Director, Richard "Dick" Peterson, CCD

Dear Camp Friends, it was just yesterday that I arrived with the January snow and cold weather of PA to begin my interim time with the Lutheran Camping Corporation (LCC). My time will conclude on October 16. I have a great appreciation for your deep love for Kirchewald, Nawakwa, and Wittel Farm. Volunteers and staff worked hard this year to deliver an outstanding summer program on the theme drawn from Colossians 3:12: *As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, humility, meekness, and patience. Wear Love!* The stewardship over our sites for today and tomorrow is a big job. Here as well, we are blessed with a dedicated staff and many volunteers throughout the year to meet the property needs.

Another important task for my time here was to support the Board of Directors in their nationwide search for a new permanent Executive Director. The members of the Board invested countless hours in a very detailed process to discover the right person for the future of LCC. We look forward to each of you meeting Rev. Bill Worley, who has just started in this important role.

I love camp! I first went to Camp Augusta in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin in the early 1960's. When my journey here is over, I will have worked with nine Lutheran camps spread over six synods, in addition to a long tenure with Kiwanis International organizing leadership development camps for high school students all over the world.

Thank you for your support and your love for Camp!
Richard "Dick" Peterson, LCC
LCC Interim Executive Director

From Executive Director, Rev. Bill Worley

"AS GOD'S CHOSEN ONES, HOLY AND BELOVED, CLOTHE YOURSELVES WITH COMPASSION, HUMILITY, MEEKNESS, AND PATIENCE."

Colossians 3:12

Dear Friends, I am thrilled to be here! From my first days, I have been struck by the people who make LCC what it is: a ministry that creates places where people can grow in faith, build community, and encounter God. I have experienced this in the warmth and welcome offered by Dick and the staff, board members, pastors, volunteers, donors, and friends who care deeply about this ministry. We face significant challenges —declining camperships, financial pressures and the ongoing work of caring for our properties — but within these challenges are opportunities to ask important questions and imagine new possibilities. I believe deeply in the power of Christian camping to give people a place to belong, encounter God, and discover something new about themselves. We will build on the past and present strengths of our three sites and find new ways to grow, connect with, and serve our communities, trusting that "God is making all things new." I am grateful to be here, excited about what lies ahead, and eager to discover with you what God has in store for the faith and future we share.

With prayers for God's continued blessings,
Rev. Bill Worley
LCC Executive Director

Give Camp. Grow Faith.

Most of us can remember a place where something important or even life-changing happened: a place where we felt genuinely welcomed, made a friend, asked a big question, or discovered something about God and ourselves. For many people, that place was camp.

The Adams County Giving Spree on November 5 gives us an opportunity to help make those experiences possible for another generation. On November 5, visit the Adams County Giving Spree, find Camp Nawakwa, and make a gift—then invite one other person who cares about camp to do the same. You can also join me at the Giving Spree at the Wyndham Gettysburg from 3–7 p.m. Your gift can support Nawakwa's needs today or help build our future.

If camp has ever made a difference in your life or in the life of someone you love, this is a simple way to help that story continue. By giving a little, you can change a lot. And keep the camp fires burning.

Bill Worley

Giving Spree

November 5, 2026

ACCFGivingSpree.org

Adams County Community Foundation

The Adams County Giving Spree — November 5

Donate to the Giving Spree

Party with a Purpose & Quilt Auction

Thank you to everyone who supported **Party With a Purpose**. Together, you helped raise $16, 137.50 for Kirchenwald. Your generosity makes a lasting difference!

Quilt & Craft Auction

Join us on Sunday, November 1st at Nawakwa to celebrate handmade artistry while supporting LCC's Endowment Fund, which helps sustain meaningful camping experiences for generations to come. There will be a silent auction that will start at 2:00 p.m. with a live quilt auction starting at 3:00pm. *There will be no online auction this year*, but photos of auction items will be shared on LCC's website and social media in the weeks leading up to the event. Dinner is provided after the auction!
We encourage RSVP's in order to set-up bidder numbers and to make and accurate count for dinner!

DONATIONS

Have an item to donate? Donations must arrive at Nawakwa by October 18, 2026, unless arrangements have been made in advance. Pickup may be available for donated items. You can find a donation form on our website under the Quilt Auction tab!

Looking to RSVP, donate, or have questions? Give us a call at 717-677-8211, email us at lcc@lutherancamping.org, or visit the website at lutherancamping.org/upcoming-events/quilt-auction/.

KIRCHENWALD

Accreditation by the American Camp Association is a badge that we proudly display at Kirchenwald. It's a sign that we operate with safety, integrity, and the best interest of our camp family at heart. Maintaining accreditation requires annual reviews and documentation. But every five years, it also includes a site visit. 2026 was a site visit year for Kirchenwald. While the visit went well and we expect to officially receive our certificate with a perfect score in the next month, one of the highlights of the day came during our lunch together. The team of three visitors were treated to a cookout in Village 2. As the fire was being built and beans were cooking on the Coleman stove, the counselor gathered the campers and the ACA visitors to play a game until things were ready. The game was introduced as a competitive memory/rhythm game with silly motions and sound effects. It didn't take long, however, until the chaos morphed into something cooperative, with every player joyfully shouting out the next motion in the pattern for anyone who forgot. Amidst the laughter, one of the ACA visitors commented that this game was a beautiful representation of other things he had seen at Kirchenwald that day. Play, with competitive energy, but a collaborative and community-minded spirit. At Kirchenwald, we work to build a culture where everyone is supported, encouraged, and loved. That effort was recognized in just a few hours by our ACA visitors this summer and we hope to share it with all of you and with generations of future campers, as well. Thank you for your commitment to camp and keep an eye out for our official accreditation annoucement!

ZACH WEISS

Wittel Farm

This summer has brought a lot of growth here at the Wittel Farm! We've grown tremendously in our relationships throughout the county. So far this year, we have harvested over 9,000 lbs. of produce, with the help of over 440 volunteers, and we're still going. This summer we've been able to provide produce to several food banks across the county and partner with Rolling Roots Mobile Market to bring fresh local produce to food deserts in our community. We also partnered with Lancaster Farmland Trust to run three educational programs for kids on the farm. This summer also included growth in our capacity as a farm. We brought in an exciting new addition - a flock of chickens! These chickens will begin producing eggs in the next few weeks, and will allow us to provide eggs, a valuable source of protein, to the charitable food system. Lastly, we were able to add two new staff members to our team. Angie Martin is our new Assistant Director for Educational Outreach. She brings years of experience in agricultural education and community engagement. Lauren Casale is our new Volunteer Coordinator and Communications Manager. She brings lots of experience in social media and digital communications. We're excited about the new growth next year will bring!

REV. DR. MATTHEW LENAHAN

Nawakwa – Cabin Renovation

Because of this work, campers and counselors will enjoy safer, more welcoming cabins and refreshed outdoor spaces. Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waynesboro and St. John's in Abbottstown began this cabin renovation project in Summer 2025. Cabins 13 and 15 were completed for Summer 2026, and this summer they returned to renovate cabin 8 and help with mulching and upgrading the fairy garden. We are deeply grateful to the volunteers and congregations who gave their time and donations, and to contractor Eric Valentine for helping make this lasting investment possible.

Shared Faith, Shared Future Campaign

The campaign entered its public phase at our recent donor dinner. Letters, brochures, and electronic communications have also been shared with LCC constituents and congregations. We are grateful that, as of the beginning of October, we have received more than $140,000 in gifts and pledges!

We invite everyone in the LCC community to make a personally meaningful and generous gift to this effort. We ask that gifts to Shared Faith, Shared Future be over and above what you would typically give to our camping ministry and, if possible, be made by the end of 2026. Gifts may be made through the LCC website by selecting the Shared Faith, Shared Future option or by sending a check to the LCC office with "Shared Faith/Shared Future" noted on the memo line.

The campaign's name expresses both who we are and what we believe. Our faith is shared—passed on to us by others and strengthened through camping and ecological experiences at Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and Wittel Farm. Our future is shared as well. What comes next for this ministry depends not on one person or one gift, but on a community willing to invest together in the people, places, and programs that make these transformative experiences possible.

Together, we can achieve our $250,000 goal and ensure that our beloved outdoor ministry enters God's preferred future on a stronger foundation, blessing and changing lives for years to come.

Give to Shared Faith, Shared Future Campaign Today

For more information, please contact the LCC office or any member of the campaign leadership team: Karen Daubert, Rt. Bp. Jim Dunlop, Pr. Glenn Ludwig, Pr. Anne Confer-Martens, Kate Martin, Pr. Alex Martini, Steve Rose, Matt and Stacy Schroeder, or me, Pr. Kevin Shively, the campaign chair, at revkev84@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events at LCC

Sun. Oct. 18	Fall Foliage at Nawakwa
Sun. Oct. 25	Fall Foliage at Kirchenwald
Sun. Oct. 25	Autumn Dinner Church at Wittel Farm
Sun. Nov. 01	Quilt Auction
Tues. Nov. 03	Tuesday Work Day at Nawakwa
Fri. Nov. 13 - 15	Women's Craft Retreat

Extra GIVE!
Nov. 20, 2026

Follow ExtraGIVE!

Donate to the Giving Spree

Giving Spree
November 5, 2026
ACCFGivingSpree.org
Adams County Community Foundation

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU AT CAMP!