

The FRIEDENSWORD

Camp Friedenswald

Volume 27, Issue 1: April 2019

Camp Friedenswald provides people of all ages the opportunity to grow in relationship with God, self, others and nature.

Letter from the Director

The spirit of Camp Friedenswald is carried collectively by those whose lives have been touched, and by those who desire to return to the place and relationships that have nurtured and shaped their lives. In return, they/we long to actively participate in the continual shaping of this sacred place.

I wrote the above words in a reflection on my first five years at Friedenswald (you can read the entire reflection on our blog at Friedenswald.org), and over the past few months, on numerous occasions, I've been reminded of its truth.

A volunteer calls, wondering if we could use help this summer for several weeks in the office – yes, we could! With late notice, we reach out for help in the kitchen – and volunteers respond with enthusiasm! A specific facilities need arises – and a frequent volunteer steps in to fix the dryer, another to build shelving, paint the bathroom, clean out cobwebs, and install a bench. And **each time a volunteer joins us, whether for a day or week, our Camp community expands and is enriched by their presence with us.** As you'll read in *By the numbers* (pages 6-7), over 828 days of volunteered time were given over the past year. Thank you to each person who gave their labor and love to Camp, enriching our community and programming. We could not do Camp without you; we would not be Camp without you!

A highlight of the past few months was High School Winter Camp where, in addition to a full camp of youth and sponsors, 20 young adult volunteers helped to keep things running smoothly. While genuinely helpful, the weekend spent volunteering also served as an important time of reconnecting with Camp Friedenswald and the relationships that have been formed here. As Kevin Leary reflects upon further (page 3), while Camp is for *campers*, it also leaves an imprint on the lives of those who return to serve. **It's through the lives of these young adults that the peaceful woods continues to be shaped and molded into the sacred place that it is today.**

In this issue of *The Friedensword*, we honor Camp's Builders (pages 4-5) from the past year, and celebrate all that we accomplished together. As Heather Reichenbach assumes leadership as the new Builders Chair (page 2), we look forward to seeing how the Builders will continue to provide essential support to Camp in the years to come – shaping and impacting Camp in positive ways. Enclosed you'll find a brochure that shares the story of the Builders Association and ways that these individuals contribute to Camp's mission. If you have any questions about getting involved as a Builder, I'd be happy to talk!

As the spring flowers emerge and the tree's buds blossom, we continue to prepare for a full season of programming ahead. This summer's program theme, *Making Peace*, will permeate our worship and play together. In this place whose name means *peaceful woods*, **we hope to foster a community of staff and campers who can engage the questions and the call to live as faithful followers of Jesus in this day and time.** We hope that you consider joining us in *Making Peace* this summer!

Jenna Liechty Martin, executive director

Left: Hepatica heralds spring on Turtle Hill.

Introducing the new Chair of the Builders Association

Heather (Bachman) Reichenbach has recently been appointed as the new Chair of the Builders Association. Heather's roots go deep at Camp Friedenswald. As a member of Eighth Street Menonite Church in Goshen, Indiana, she attended annual church retreats as a child; she experienced summer and winter camps as a camper, went on to serve on summer staff, and continues to attend camp each summer with her family at Family Camp. Heather resides in Warsaw, Indiana with Brian (who proposed marriage to Heather by the waters of Shavehead Lake), and their two teenage children, Jonah and Claire. She spends much of her time in volunteer capacities, and we are grateful that she's chosen to add Camp Friedenswald to the causes she's actively serving!

In reflecting on what Camp means to her family and why she is committed to being a Builder, Heather shared, "It is touching to recognize all the significant things that have happened - and will continue to happen at Camp. I am thankful for the vision, care

and commitment of individuals, families, and groups to nurture this space for our family, friends, and future generations. One of the ways we feel we help carry this vision forward is to be a core support (a Builder) to Friedenswald. Being a Builder creates purposeful connection for this support. **Through volunteering work, sharing resources, and giving financially; vital tasks and strategic stewardship can be accomplished."**

Thank you, Heather, for saying "yes" to serving Camp as Chair of the Builders!

Heather Reichenbach with her husband, Brian, and children Claire and Jonah.



Year-round Staff

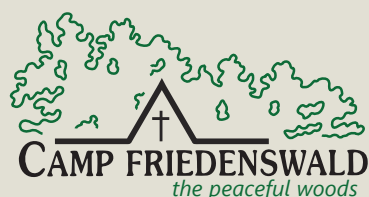
Vicki Archer, *dishwasher*
Jonathan Fridley, *facilities director*
Isaac Godshalk, *sustainability intern*
Andrea Golden, *bookkeeper*
Naomi Graber Leary, *program director*
Amy Huser, *sustainability & outdoor education director*
Kevin Leary, *program coordinator*
Jenna Liechty Martin, *executive director*
Phil Nyce, *facilities assistant*
Amber Parker, *housekeeper*
Anita & Paul Pawelski, *guest hosts*
Deb Sprunger Martens, *guest group coordinator*
Ellie Solano, *food service director*
Vicky Solano Hawkins, *food service/ housekeeper*

Board of Directors

Rick Buterbaugh - Chicago, IL
Phoebe Graber - Goshen, IN
Mary Habegger Fox - Berne, IN
Hal Hess - Cincinnati, OH
Todd Kirkton - Goshen, IN
Jerry Nussbaum - Galen, OH
Anita Rediger - Geneva, IN
Kent Stucky - Goshen, IN
Peter Suter - Bluffton, OH
Matt Troyer - Goshen, IN

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A Year on Turtle Hill By Susie Huser

18 months in the making, I'm excited to share that *A Year on Turtle Hill: A Natural History and Guidebook for Camp Friedenswald and Southwest Michigan* will soon be available in print. The culmination of my 2017-18 internship at Camp Friedenswald, this text was also my capstone project for an MS in Environmental Studies from Green Mountain College. The guidebook discusses six different major ecosystems found on Camp property, and includes nearly 100 hand-drawn, full color illustrations along with an appendix of photographs I took while at Camp illustrating species not discussed in the text. The following is an excerpt from the text's introduction:

"Field guides are a valuable resource for inspiring community or individual engagement with one's environment through providing readers with identification and naming tools. A bigger challenge than just acquiring language for discussion, however, is to achieve a personal, lasting connection between community members and their world such that they are mindful of the interdependent relationship, and change behaviors accordingly. [...]"

The ultimate, intended impact of this project is to increase environmental awareness, concern, and responsibility among readers. More specifically, I aim for this project to **awaken in readers wonder, respect, and curiosity regarding the ecosystems at CF** and in greater southwestern Michigan. I hope the project's audience will not just recognize but *experience* the fundamental interconnectedness that links all ecosystem components and ecosystems. I hope that such awareness and recognition will, in turn, inform the decisions and actions of readers on a daily and long-term basis."

The guidebook will be available for use by Camp guests and also available for purchase in the camp store. I hope you find it an inspiring and engaging celebration of Camp's extended (non-human) family!



A sneak peek of illustrations from the guidebook: deer mouse and common loon.

Connecting with Camp: Young adults return (and give back!)

By Kevin Leary, program coordinator



Close your eyes and answer the following question: “Who is camp for?” What kinds of people are camp programs directed towards and who are we reaching? If you are like many people, your first thought is probably children – camp is for kids! And it’s true. Since the beginning, a summer camp experience for youth has been an essential part of our ministry. Maybe you think of adults – with programs like Men and Boys Retreat, Women’s Retreat, and Craft Retreats, adults have great reasons to keep coming back to the peaceful woods.

The one age group you might not immediately think of is young adults. Known by various names, Millennials - twenty or thirty-somethings - are one of the largest age cohorts out there. Born anywhere between 1980 and 1996, some estimate that this generation makes up 40% of the current workforce. But do they have a place at camp?

The answer is a resounding Yes! One of our newest programs, Summer Camp for Grown-ups, gives former youth campers and newcomers alike the chance to relive some of the best parts of summer camp. This weekend-long camp has run the past two years, and has been an overwhelming success. As one camper put it, “This was a great way to reminisce about my old camp days, enjoy beautiful surroundings, and relax with good friends.”

The fun camp memories relived, peace of the woods, and fellowship shared, make Camp Friedenswald a home-away-from-home for all who come, regardless of age. The shape of that fun and fellowship changes over our lives, but the importance of a spiritual home amidst the community of God, other people, and nature alike is everlasting, as evidenced by the young adults who continue to connect with Camp into their adulthood.

Another way that young adults are involved at Camp is through volunteer opportunities. Over this past winter, we held three Winter Camps – High School, Junior High and Family Camp. These weekend retreats would not have been possible without the help of many college-age and post-college young adults. For some who have served on summer staff, it represents the chance to reconnect with high school and middle school campers from the summer. For others, the reward is in becoming a part of something greater than oneself. Although the predominant narrative about Millennials in the media has been about their (I should say “our” since I, myself, fall into this category) self-centered-ness, I have found that nothing could be further from the truth. Young adults are ready to share their gifts and experiences with the next generation.

To demonstrate, we had around 20 young adult volunteers at High School Winter Camp over the weekend of January 4-6. These terrific individuals helped with a variety of tasks, from leading worship, washing dishes, leading engaging activities, preparing food, and much more. One of my favorite things to watch as Program Coordinator is seeing young adults who were campers themselves a year ago take on leadership and responsibility as mentors and counselors.

All in all, I am proud to see young adults engaged with camp in a meaningful way. **It gives me hope that they will stay engaged and that our current youth and children will grow up with strong role models and friends.** Maybe the next time you think about camp, your first thought will be: What a great place for young adults to discover who they are and to experience God’s love!

Pictured top: Rosie Hamman & Paige Troyer; winter camp volunteers Luke Headings, David Nester, and Billy Theisen; Alison Martin, Jana Yoder and Emily Fox; Ashton Cluts; Bottom: Goshen College Parables; Reflection on the lawn at Grown-up Camp.



CAMP FRIEDENSWALD

The persons listed below contributed as Builders to Camp Friedenswald from 1950 to 1970. If your name is not listed or is listed incorrectly, please accept our apologies. Directors thank you for your generous support, which makes it possible for us to continue to provide a place for all children.

Jan Althaus
Pam Anglemeyer
Don Augspurger
J.O. & Elizabeth Augspurger
Rachel Augspurger
Wendell Badertscher & Esther Nafziger
Jim & Lois Bare
Richard & Marjorie Baum
Scott & Nancy Baum
Howard & Phyllis Baumgartner
Thomas & Jeannette Bechtel
Marie G Beechy
David & Karen Behrens
Ted & Gretta Beitler
Justin Berg
Dave & Evie Bertsche
Hilary Bertsche
John & Evelyn Bertsche
Gary & Marilyn Bishop
Don & Carolyn Blosser
Amy Blount
Marie & Allan Blunt
Emma Bontrager
Michael & Connie Brandt
Shelby Burge
Richard Buterbaugh
Terry & Bobbie Chappell
Lydia Chappell-Deckert
Arlene Christner
Jeff & Mariko Claassen
Virgil & Louise Claassen
Stanley & Joenita Clemens
Ashton Cluts
John Courtney
Bracton & Briana Eicher
Jim & Linda Eicher
Mary Eicher
Phil & Cindy Eicher
Kirk & Heather Eicher-Miller
Mia Engle
Melissa Florer-Bixler
Roger & Mary Flueckiger
Ben Fox
John Fox & Mary Habegger Fox
George & Barb Fridley
Jacob T. Friesen
Joelle Friesen
Jon & Janelle Friesen
Payton Gallery
Brian & Christine Gehman
John Gerber
Marlin Gerber
Cal Graber & Jean Mann Graber
Jonathan & Phoebe Graber
Julia Graber & Raphael LaFrance

Peter & Mary Graber
Erik Grayvold & Angela Moore
Abigail Greaser
John & Jan Gundy
Gary & Carla Habegger
Marge Habegger
Ronald & Ladonna Habegger
Julian Harnish
Shianne Harrison
Tom & Kathryn Harsha
Lydia Hartman-Keiser
Sarah Hartman-Keiser
Kelly Hartzler
Greg & Laura Hartzler
Matt & Jen Hartzler
Galen & Karen Hershberger
Stefan & Karen Hershberger
Hal Hess & Christine Schumacher
Steve & Vicky Hill
Rex & Angie Hochstedler
Mary Hofstetter
Mark & Beth Hooley
Chad & Michelle Horning
Jim & Sandi Hostetler
Hans & Linda Houshower
Amy Huser
Steve & Mary Beth Huser
Susie Huser
Loren & Rachel Johns
Barry & Janeen Bertsche Johnson
Steve & Jan Johnson
Terry & Lois Kaufmann-Hunsberger
Jacqueline Kelley-Cogdell
Titus King & Joy Kauffman King
Vernon & Shirley King
John Kirchhofer
Jim & Vicky Kirkton
Todd & Alison Kirkton
Gayle Gerber Koontz
Timothy & Sarah Koontz
Elsie Koop Liechty
Doug & Joy Landis
Kevin Leary & Naomi Graber Leary
Mary Grace Leatherman
George & Anita Lehman
Jim & Bertie Lehman
Scott & Greta Lehman
Mary Lehman Yoder
Zury Lemus
Edward & Mary Liechty
John & Joy Liechty
Nancy Liechty Loewen
Douglas & Mary Liechty-Caskey

Dorothy Loepp
Doug & Paula Luginbill
Arlene Mark
David Mark
Natalie Mark
Wesley Mark & Mary Harder
Deb Martens
Daryl & Karen Martin
Peter & Jenna Liechty Martin
John & Lucretia Wilson Mattson
Brent Miller & Megan Stauffer-Miller
Darren Miller
Darvin & Kathy Miller
Ethan Miller
Dr. Gene & JoAnn Miller
Imogene Miller
Thomas & Sonya Miller
Phil & Karen Miller Rush
David & Ingrid Friesen Moser
Jonatan Moser
Mary Anne Moser
Millard & Janean Moser
Lewis Naylor
Ruth Naylor
David Nester
Douglas Nester
Kevin & Kendra Nickel
Elizabeth Nisly
Daniel Nisly-Nagele
Andrew Nussbaum
Jerry & Virginia Nussbaum
Walt Paquin & Rhonda Winstead
Luke & Rachel Yoder Penner
John & Jo Ann Preheim
Scott & Judy Preheim
Peter & Jodi Quint
Martin & Anita Rediger
Brian & Heather Reichenbach
Douglas & Paulette Reichenbach
Eric & Jennifer Reichenbach
Lamar & Adele Reichert
John & Kay Reimer
Deanna Risser
Luke Rush
Sarah Rush
Terry & Beth Schey
Josh Schirch
Joel & Jenna Schmidt
Allison Schrag
Tim & JP Schumacher
Jane Sears
Susan & Ben Setiawan
Katie Shank
Alton M. & Elisabeth Shelly
Art & Lisa Shelly

Karl & Michelle Shelly
Philip & Anne Shenk
Jim & Kay Sommer
Josephine Sommer
Keith & Shirley Sommer
Bruce & Suzanne Stauffer
Amy Stauffer McNutt
Todd & Lisa Liechty-Steele
Jackson Steinmetz
Jane Steinmetz
Jill Steinmetz
Joel & Teri Steinmetz
James Stevenson
Cathy & Andre Stoner
Jacob & Becca Stucky
Kent & Linda Stucky
Dave & Marlene Suter
Pete & Kim Suter
Kyle & Monica Tarplee
Carolyn Tihen
Donald & Beth Troyer
Josh & Pagie Troyer
Matt & Lisa Troyer
Keith & Shannon Unzicker
Phonesawai Vorlasane
Barry & Marjorie Martin Weaver
Katherine Weaver
Martha West
Holly Wetzel
Aden Weybright
Clara Weybright
Bernie & Marie Wiebe
Brian & Brenda Wiebe
Isaac Wiebe Andreas
Dan & Kathleen Wilson
Penny Yarman
Daniel & Talashia Keim Yoder
Kent & Gaye Yoder
Matthew Yoder

2018 MEMORIAL GIFTS

Gladys Bertsche
John P. Eicher
Colleen Lehman
D. Paul Miller
Marilyn Yordy

2018 ESTATE GIFTS

Alvin & Ruth Ramseyer

WALD BUILDERS

from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. If you contributed during this time please contact the Camp Friedenswald office and notify Jenna Liechty Martin. Camp Friedenswald staff and Board of Directors thank you for your contribution. Camp Friedenswald is a place for people of all ages to grow in relationship with God, self, others and nature.

CHURCHES

Assembly Mennonite Church
Eighth Street Mennonite Church
Emmaus Road Mennonite Fellowship
Faith Mennonite Church
First Mennonite Church of Bluffton
First Mennonite Church of Sugarcreek
First Mennonite Church of Urbana-Champaign
Grace Mennonite Church
Hively Avenue Mennonite Church
Intergenerational Class, FMC Berne
Koinonia Class, FMC Berne
Maplewood Mennonite Church
Mennonite Church of Normal
North Danvers Mennonite Church
Oak Grove Mennonite Church
Salem Mennonite Church
Silverwood Mennonite Church
Sunnyside Mennonite Church



ORGANIZATIONS

Bethany Christian Schools
Corey Lake Orchard
Miller's Electric
Moser Motor Sales
Shavehead Lake Association

FOUNDATIONS & FUNDS

Alva J and Doris M Schlabach Endowment Fund
Maurice Stahly Family Endowment Fund
Steiner Family Charitable Fund
The Mennonite Foundation, Inc.
Vanguard Charitable



From top left: Mary Hofstetter helps prepare pizza; Salem Mennonite Church volunteers take down the steps leading to the tube run; First Mennonite Bluffton and Grace Mennonite (Pandora) volunteers; Greg & Ben Hartzler; Maplewood Mennonite Church volunteers; Penny Yarman assists Food Service Director Ellie Solano making cinnamon rolls.

Projects completed

- LED and motion sensors installed
- Amphitheater seating rebuilt
- New roof and updates to Fenwood house
- Fresh paint in restrooms of Girls/North Cabins
- New speedboat
- Natural sea wall at Main Beach
- New mattresses in Lakeview Lodge

Remembering Al & Ruth Ramseyer

Alvin & Ruth Ramseyer (formerly of Smithville, Ohio) were active in their home congregation of Oak Grove Mennonite Church and supportive of the ministries of the broader Central District Conference, including Camp Friedenswald. The Ramseyer family enjoyed many family gatherings at Camp Friedenswald over the years, and each of their children attended Friedenswald as campers. Their generosity at the end of their lives helped complete the renovations of Renew Friedenswald and will leave a lasting impact on Camp and campers for years to come.



BY THE NUMBERS:

At Camp Friedenswald we're motivated by our values of faith, peace, stewardship, and nature as we live into our Resilience & Sustainability Plan. Over the past year and a half, with the help of volunteers, staff have taken steps towards making Camp a more resilient and sustainable place, with the hope that our collective efforts will positively impact campers (and the earth) for years to come. Here's a glimpse into the work that's taken place in 2018, by the numbers.

33,962

Kilowatt hours

33,962 kWh saved. This is a 11.2% reduction compared to 2015, equal to Camp reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 25.3 metric tons of CO₂ or 2.7 homes total energy use for a year



750

Light bulbs

750 light bulbs were either removed or changed to LED

1

Charging station

One electric car charging station installed

101

Managed acres

45.5% of Camp's natural areas managed for invasive removal or ecological restoration

58%

Diversion rate

58% of Dining Hall waste recycled or composted (according to a three day sample period)

13

Compost cubes

13 4'x4' cubes of food waste composted

4,000

Pounds

4,000 pounds of single stream recyclables recycled, equal to removing 6.42 metric tons of CO₂, removing one passenger vehicle off the road, or conserving 722 gallons of gasoline



27 :: 4

27 additional recycling containers added around Camp. Four additional composting containers (one in each lodge)

50

Mattresses

50 mattresses recycled and turned into carpet padding and archery targets

2,020

Veggie meals

2,020 all-camp vegetarian meals served (1 person's meal = 1) – roughly doubled from previous years

14

Program elements

14 new programming elements focused on environmental sustainability

13

Learning opportunities

13 professional development opportunities taken by staff to learn about environmental sustainability

4

New partners

Four new partner organizations working on environmental sustainability (total = 12)

1,106

Pounds

1,106 pounds of local food purchased or donated to Camp (more than double from previous years)

30

Butterflies

30 federally endangered Mitchell's satyr butterfly counted in the prairie fen during an annual survey

1

Tech policy

One technology policy created to encourage people to unplug at Camp

70

Motion sensors

70 occupancy or motion sensors installed

8

Destination points

Eight destination points completed and installed across Camp's 6.75 miles of trail systems that invite hikers to pause and consider the world around and within

828

Volunteer days

Faithful volunteers keep Camp running! Without program, kitchen, administrative, and facility help, Camp staff would not be able to accomplish all that needs to happen throughout the year. Thank you, volunteers!

975

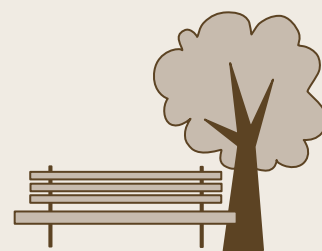
Campers

Attended 14 programmed camps throughout the year

252

Groups served

252 guest groups and over 9,000 people spent time in the peaceful woods in 2018

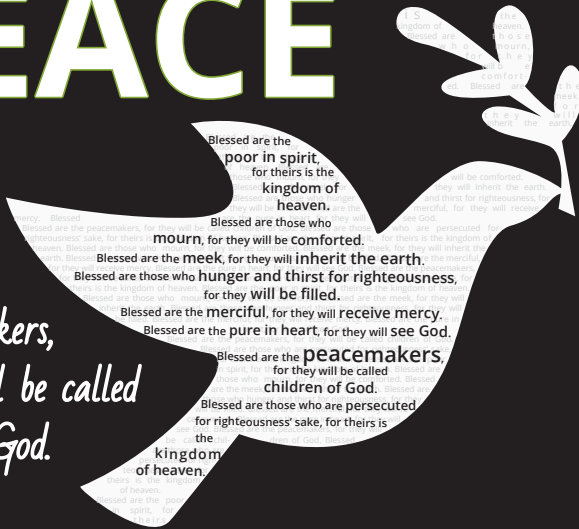


To learn more about our progress to date, read the 2018 report in its entirety at Friedenswald.org.

CAMP FRIEDENSWALD SUMMER 2019

MAKING PEACE

*Blessed are
the peacemakers,
for they will be called
children of God.*
Matthew 5:9



2019 SUMMER CAMP DATES

Please consider the grade completed in 2019

June 10-15:	High School Camp (grade 9-12)
June 17-22:	Junior High Camp (grade 7-8)
June 17-19:	Primary Camp (grade 1-2)
June 24-29:	Pre Junior Camp (grade 3-4)
July 1-6:	Junior Camp (grade 5-6)
July 8-12:	Family Camp I (Music)
July 13-14:	Builders Weekend Celebration
July 15-19:	Family Camp II

REGISTER TODAY! friedenswald.org/summer-camps

Read and Recycle



Return Service Requested

15406 Watercross Way
Cassopolis, MI 49031

