

2025: Highlights of our work and life in the peaceful woods

Alongside serving over 8,000 people throughout the year, we took steps toward living into our pillars of place, formation, justice and resilience. Highlights of our work together are described below and serve as an encouragement to keep taking things one step at a time. You can view the full report on our website, along with our updated 2026-28 strategic plan.

Pillar 1: PLACE

- 580+ hours committed to land stewardship
- Opened an apiary and began beekeeping
- Over 28,600 meals were served in the dining hall, with local produce from Corey Lake Orchard served in the summer
- Camp Staff toured the Dowagiac River restoration site, led by Pokagon Band Kowabdanawa odë ké director, Jennifer Kanine
- Honored and celebrated Camp's 75th anniversary



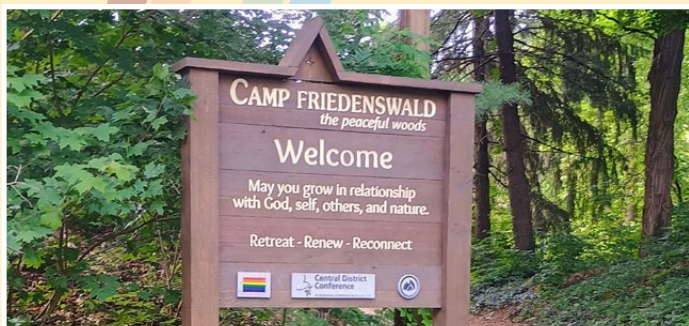
Pillar 2: FORMATION

- A record-setting 729 campers attended a summer program focused on *The Wisdom of Trees: Instructions for Living* (pictured below)
- Held six retreats throughout the year from Winter Camps to Restoration Retreat, including a new "Sacred Connections" knitting retreat in spring 2025
- Hosted 24 church gatherings throughout the year (19 of them Mennonite churches)
- 2,100+ students and chaperones were served through Camp's outdoor education program



Pillar 3: JUSTICE

- Trail marker placed on Main Trail, acknowledging it was once part of an extensive network of Indigenous trails
- Over \$20,000 provided in program scholarships
- Five groups joined the "Zero Waste Club" as part of our food waste awareness challenge
- 46 solar panels installed at Lakeview Lodge
- Installed six new electric vehicle charging stations across Camp
- Salvaged wood from renovation projects for other projects (i.e., compost cubes!)



Pillar 4: RESILIENCE

- 818 days of service given by volunteers: Thank you!
- Completed construction of a new "green" staff duplex (Fenwood) and renovations to Sycamore Lodge
- Over \$2.7 million pledged or given toward the Campaign to Sustain Friedenswald
- Annual giving by churches and individuals provided essential support in running programs throughout the year
- Welcomed 31 summer staff to our team to carry out the summer program

