

# Living Water Ministries

## 2023 Annual Report to Synod Assembly

“Restoring Community” was our theme in 2022, and community was indeed restored as we returned to programs after two years of cancellation due to COVID-19. Through the generosity of donors, careful financial management, and visionary board leadership, Living Water Ministries was able to provide summer programs as a gift freely given to all participants in 2022. Every camper that attended in 2022 did so at no cost to them! It was a powerful summer as campers, summer staff, and adult leaders once again returned to the shores of Stony Lake to experience the love of Christ alongside one another through song, prayer, meals, play, and laughter.

We also celebrated the completion of construction for our new duplex cabin known as “Red Pine.” Total construction costs were approximately \$500,000.00 and this project was completed without incurring any debt. This new facility addition is the first phase of a long-term facility rehabilitation plan for Stony Lake that aims to bring the camp’s facilities into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Red Pine is equipped with 24 bunk-style beds, in-cabin bathrooms and showers, a great room, a residential kitchen, electric baseboard heat, and wi-fi. Stony Lake has long been a place where people learn to see Christ at work in and through others, and in and through themselves. Our facility renewal plan invests in the continued work of making Christ known to all those who attend our programs, and to the world.

As we look forward, we are excited for the work God is doing through Living Water Ministries emphasizing access to our programs. While offering camp at no cost was a phenomenal way to return from two years of cancellation, it is not a financially sustainable model. That being said, we have launched a new pricing structure for 2023 that allows families to choose, at their discretion, between full price, half price, or no price. This new “Welcome to All” pricing structure leans into our organization’s core values while providing a powerful tool for outreach. We invite congregations to use this new pricing structure to connect with families and the communities in which they serve by inviting students to come to camp in 2023 at whatever price they choose. There should never be financial barriers to experiencing the love and new life we find in Jesus Christ, and now there doesn’t have to be.

Our theme for 2023 is “Restoring Joy,” and we have experienced a surplus of joy at Living Water Ministries through the generosity of our donors. Since 2016, the number of donors support God’s work at Living Water Ministries has grown over 1000%! Through the generosity we have, and continue to receive, we’ve been able to navigate the challenges of a pandemic, increase accessibility to our programs, and begin rehabilitation of our facilities. The gratitude we feel for the incomparable and remarkable support we’ve received is immense! Thank you!

