

Annual Update

Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp & Retreat Center

2239 Camp Roosevelt Road Fort Valley VA 22652 | 540-449-0012



Our retreat groups take home many stories and “aha moments,” things they realize or experience while celebrating their faith, taking time to renew, and learning in God’s creation. This story comes from a campus ministry retreat with students from Virginia Tech and James Madison University.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD;
I SHALL NOT WANT. HE
MAKES ME LIE DOWN IN
GREEN PASTURES. HE LEADS
ME BESIDE STILL WATERS.
HE RESTORES MY SOUL.
-PSALM 23: 1-3

Like most weekend groups, everyone got to the Farmhouse on Friday evening to settle in, get to know one another and review the plan for the weekend. Saturday included community building and faith development, as well as a service project, property hike, and delicious homemade meals by Miss LeeAnn. As Saturday evening came, the group began to notice the beautiful, clear night and how bright the stars were shining. They scrambled to grab some extra sleeping bags and headed out to the lower field, embracing the opportunity to go stargazing despite the cold.

Stargazing* at Caroline Furnace is a favorite activity of many, especially for two former counselors who were at this retreat. The group paid little attention to the ground as they hurried out into the field and looked up to find the best spot. Full of excitement, they laid out their sleeping bags and settled in to experience the natural beauty of the universe. The clear, crisp, cool night provided an amazing view of constellations and nearby planets. After a few minutes, part of the group began to feel soggy and discovered they were laying in a rain soaked low area. They looked around, snuggled closer, then continued enjoying the peace of nature and the experience itself. Soon enough, everyone was ready to return to the warmth of the fireplace and took off across the field, laughing as their wet friends ran ahead in search of dry pajamas.

How do you restore your soul? Do you embrace the moments in time when you have the opportunity to lie down in green pastures or beside still waters? Whether studying and sharing the Word inside or adventuring outside to explore the wonders of God’s creation, we are always learning from our neighbors and our environment.

COME TO CAROLINE FURNACE: LET’S PLAN AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR GROUP!

**According to an area astronomy club, we are blessed with the darkest night sky within at least two hours of DC.*



CAMP & RETREAT HAPPENINGS

ARE YOU GETTING OUR BIWEEKLY EMAIL UPDATES? SIGN UP AT THE BOTTOM OF ANY PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE

POWER THE FUTURE: A VOLUNTEER & DONOR SUMMIT

Caroline Furnace is growing! Save the date, **November 1st and 2nd**! We have two big goals with this event: **to mobilize our volunteers** by identifying skill sets and interests and **to hear donor input** before developing our new strategic plan. What is working well? What changes would you like to see? What should we focus on? All are invited to participate. All ideas are encouraged.



QUIET DAYS

Let's take a second (2nd) for renewal.

We've set aside the 2nd of these months as Quiet Days:

April 2nd, May 2nd, October 2nd, December 2nd

Each day, 10am to 2pm will be dedicated to silence and to calming, quieting, centering reflection. You're invited to roam or sit - walk the trails, use the labyrinth, pause in St. John's Chapel, or rest by the lake. We'll start with orientation and meditation in the Upper Room, and conclude in the same way. Bring your own lunch or snacks. There is no cost to participate.

PRE - ADVENT RETREAT

Get a jump on your Advent planning!

All are invited for a time of discussion, preparation, and fellowship before the Advent season. Join us at Buttonwood Lodge, from August 19th to 21st (Monday to Wednesday) to take a look at the four Matthean gospel texts for the Sundays of Advent. Using Anna Carter Florence's method of Rehearsing Scripture, we'll delve into the story to find the script in scripture and emerge with fresh insight. Pastors and lay leaders are encouraged; all are welcome.

NEW SUMMER CAMPS FOR 2019

Grades 4-6: History

Grades 7-9: Performing Arts

Grades 7-9, 9-12: Hammock Hangout,
Hike Paddle Climb, Bike Hike Zip

Grades 9-12: Archery Caving Fishing

All Ages:

Buddies In Christ Special Needs Camp
Family Camp Out-Trip: Shenandoah
Family Camp Full Week & Half Week

UPCOMING RETREATS AND EVENTS

- 4/2** Quiet Day
- 4/12-14** Spring Work Weekend
- 4/26-28** Board Gaming Retreat
- 5/2** Quiet Day
- 5/4** Spring Open House
- 6/16** First Day of Summer Camp!
- 8/19-21** Pre-Advent Retreat
- 9/13-15** Fall Work Weekend
- 10/2** Quiet Day
- 10/6** Fall Fest
- 11/1-2** Supporter Summit
- 12/2** Quiet Day
- 12/6-8** Wild Women: Wine & Craft
- 1/24-26** BeerReformation Retreat

LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT CAROLINEFURNACE.ORG

RECLAIMING HISTORY

We recognize that the rich history and former lives of this place come with a price of settlement, violence, slavery, and hardship. As a privately owned iron furnace in the 1800s, the original Caroline Furnace operated on slave labor. Prior to that, this fertile land was colonized by Europeans and taken from the Native Americans who called it home.



Rather than hiding or ignoring the past, let's explore and learn from it. We do this not to create division, but as a reminder that we all fall short of the glory of God. Santayana and Churchill claimed that history forgotten is history repeated; let's remember those who came before us and use their stories as a reminder to love one another as Jesus taught us.

Some passionate individuals have helped us uncover parts of our story. We are working to piece together the story more thoroughly so we can share it. Our hope is to reclaim a historic 19th century cemetery on property and verify the families and slaves who are buried here. As part of this project, we'll be working closely with our local Ruritan Club and other volunteers to create a memorial path that includes the cemetery.

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

As an organization promoting faith, education, and renewal in God's creation, we've been discerning how to make Caroline Furnace a more environmentally sustainable organization. It is our aim to continue seeking ways to better serve the Lord and our communities in ways that are feasible for our staff, meaningful to our retreat groups, and educational to our campers and students.

Some of our current practices include waste reduction, property and facility improvements, and "unlittering." Goals for growth in 2019 include further waste reduction through composting and limiting single use plastics, group recycling, and education in all of our facilities, more local sourcing of foods and camp store items, and improved energy efficiency. Our long range goals include incorporating pollinator gardens and foodscaping, as well as adding a large garden to the field by the Farmhouse.

Read our full Sustainability Plan and check back for updates on both initiatives



LEARN MORE AT CAROLINEFURNACE.ORG/TRANSFORMINGCOMMUNITY

2018 IN REVIEW



NET ASSETS: \$1,562,189

EXPENSES: \$385,086

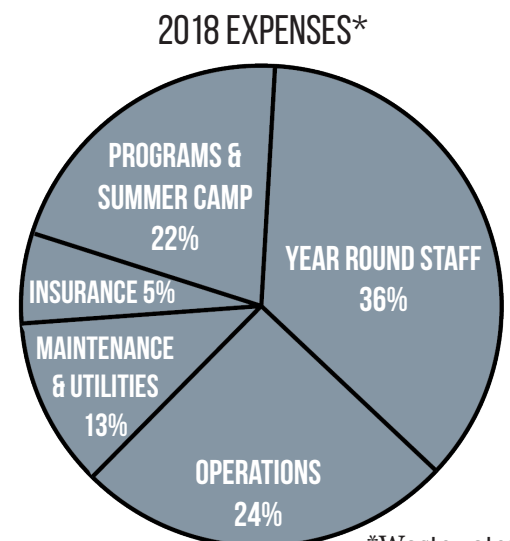
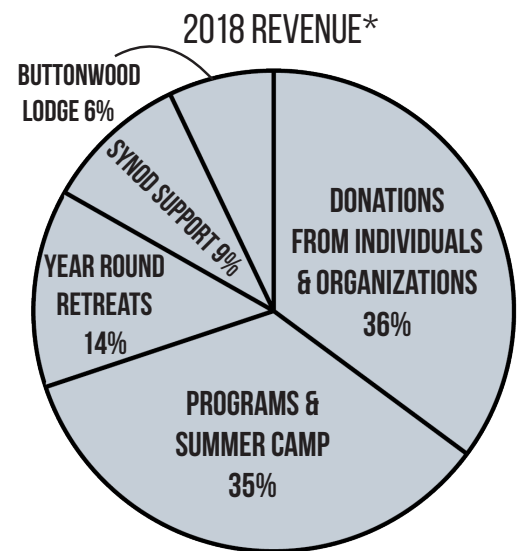
REVENUE: \$415,586

This place continues to shape the faith and personal growth of so many people of all ages through retreat groups, youth groups, outdoor education, volunteer work crews, summer campers, and staff. This year, we fully lived the ELCA theme of *This Changes Everything*:

- Tom Powell was installed as Executive Director on January 31 and officially began on February 1, 2018.
- We welcomed Lee Ann as our Food Service Director, Ron as a new Maintenance employee, and LuAnn as our Bookkeeper.
- As the year ended, we celebrated the retirement of our long-time Office Manager, Dolly Woodward.
- Rev. Heidi David-Young began work in December as the Director of Resource & Program Development.
- Board members Mark Hartman and Robin Prinz were recognized for their six years of service in helping lead this organization.
- We welcomed new Board members Amy Chelgreen and Tori Smith.

Overall, operations and daily activities are moving at a surprisingly busy pace and have improved with the year ending on positive trends in all areas of ***faith, education, and renewal***. 2018 was a year of growth in many areas - summer campers, Caroline Furnace retreats, rental groups, and volunteer engagement. This growth resulted in significant property improvements, critical infrastructure repairs, a number of new program offerings, and sustained high quality hospitality for all of our guests.

This was a second consecutive financially stable year, with controlled expenses and sustained income growth. The greatest increases are in overall giving, rental income, and the Virginia Synod pledged subsidy. Expenses are down in maintenance, utilities, and office and summer program operations, which helped balance out our growth in year round staff. The value of targeted donations and volunteer labor hours designated for improvements cannot be overstated and are a key factor in our current stability.



*Wastewater Treatment Plant not included

FIND OUR WISH LIST & DONATE ONLINE AT CAROLINEFURNACE.ORG/DONATE

THANK YOU!

BUT WHO AM I, AND WHO ARE MY PEOPLE, THAT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE AS GENEROUSLY AS THIS? EVERYTHING COMES FROM YOU AND WE HAVE GIVEN YOU ONLY WHAT COMES FROM YOUR HAND.

- 1 CHRONICLES 29:14

Did you know?

- **1 in 3 Summer Campers** receive financial assistance from their church or our scholarship program?
- Most individual contributions are **between \$25 and \$250**.
- We receive donations from just **10% of the 300+ ELCA congregations** in our three supporting Synods.
- You can set up **weekly, monthly or quarterly giving** online through Vanco (see web address below).
- We can refer you to a trusted financial consultant who can help you set up **Legacy Giving** through your will, trust, retirement account, insurance, property, and more.

Churches and Organizations

Virginia Synod ELCA
Metro DC Synod ELCA
West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod ELCA
Luray Caverns
In Memory of George Hartman
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Springfield
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Vienna
St. Michael Lutheran Church, Virginia Beach
Bethel Lutheran Church, Winchester
Lutheran Cooperative Ministries, Roanoke
Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church, Richmond
King of Kings Lutheran Church, Fairfax
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg
St. Matthews Lutheran Church, Woodbridge
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Roanoke
Christ Lutheran Church, Fredericksburg
Lutheran Family Services of Virginia
Gifts of Hope, Metro DC Synod
Faith Lutheran Church, Suffolk
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Newport News
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Basye
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Richmond
The Bible Study, Mount Solon
St. John's Lutheran Church, Martinsburg WV
Resurrection Lutheran Church, Arlington
St. Mary's Lutheran Church, Timberville
St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Culpeper
Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, Burke
Emanuel Lutheran Church, Woodstock
Trinity Women of ELCA, Pulaski

Gold Level (\$5,000+)

David & Pamela Appler
Lewin & Norma Armentrout
William & Chris Crouch
John & Elena Handley
Allen & Heather Lutz
Thomas & Lee Ann Powell
Steven & Karen Van Stee
Craig Zackmann

Silver Level (\$1,000+)

Richard & Virginia Berry
Deborah Bowers
Gerald & Sandra Cobb
Terri Cobb
Kate & Jonathan Costa
Miriam David
Todd & Kelly Domaleski
Joyce & Charles Forbes
David Hendrix
Erik & Kathy Jones
George Kegley
Timothy Lutz
Cary & Jeanne Mangus
David & Kathy Natysin
Fred Orrik
Robin & Thomas Prinz
Sherry & Barry Ritenour
Martin & Josephine Shorter

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THANK YOU!

Bronze Level (\$250+)

David & Jelise Ballon
Jill Bernstein
Elise Bowman
Gretchen Caldwell
Janet Celly
Judi Hangen Cooper
Matt & Angie Covington
William & Patricia Franz
Kathleen Getaz
Dale & Tracy Harter
Jeffery & Marcia Ihnen
James Jarell
Joyce Kipps

Julie Kroll
Greg & Paula Lambert
Stephen & Cindy Martin
Elizabeth Meyer
Thomas & Diane Milburn
Shannon Miskowski
Daniel & Stacy Moll
Adolph Moller
David Nestleroth
Michael Noll
George Orr
Jane Overstreet
Evelyn Poland

Sally Powell
Barry & Ann Proctor
Mark & Nancy Reed
Derrick Russell
Allison Ryals & Ray Long
Nancy Simon
Wayne & Vikki Shelor
Charles & Judith Skarie
Donald & Kay Slade
Cetan Tameris
Richard Westin
Heidi David & Dave Young

Green Level (up to \$250)

Richard & Gwendolyn Abruzere
Neil Alexander
Dennis & Mary Allen
Donna & C.K. Ambrose
Charles & Naoko Aschmann
Ludwig Benner
Stephen & Kathryn Bohannon
Joy & Paul Booth
Justin & Megan Booth
Kenton Bosserman
Donald & Nancy Boyer
Marvin & Peggy Buterbaugh
Meagan & Christopher Butkus
William & Sara Butler
William Carbaugh
Cecelia McGurk
Shaun & Amy Chelgreen
Amy Mersereau & David Cooper
Matthew Cox
Richard & Corinna Crofford
Mary Day
Dave Delaney
Brian Dierlam
Sarah & Eric Dogan
Arlene Domaleski
Molly & Kevin Donnelly
Charles Douglass
Keith & Nancy Egloff
Evelyn Fedako
John Feldman
Matt Foreman
James & Val Freund
Glenn Gardner
Joan Golden

Alicia Goodrow
Shannon & Shane Gray
Janey Gurtner
Gloria Haher
Fred & Sara Hagemeister
Donald & Joyce Hamrick
George Handley
John & Kristine Hartlaub
Cecil Heishman
Daniel & Sarah Hess
Melanie Heuer
David & Linda Hewitt
Alyssa Hill & Brian Hill
Spencer Hodges
Lohre Holter
Lynn & Todd Holtzman
Irving & Frances Hottle
James & Benita Houff
Charles & Judith Hughes
Cheryl Istvan
Robert & Natalie Jacobson
Bryan & Amy Jaster
Edwin & Paula Jaster
Jim & Holly Jewell
Jane Johnston
Fred Kallmeyer
Elizabeth Kaylor
Pat & Dee Keister
Edward & Paula Kern
Sue Kline
Mark & Karla Kokkonen
Jim & Tammie Kroll
Dale Lambert
Charlotte LaRoy

Kyle & Beth Lawrence
Marta LeFleur
Scott & Amy Lyon
William & Claire Mahoney
James & Linda Mauney
John & Lisa McCallister
Robert & Cindy McClintock
LaVerne McDonald
Walter McKee
Carolyn McKiernan
Lorraine Middleton
Roger & Linda Milburn
Edmund & Lorna Miller
Thomas Montgomery
David & Melissa Morgan
Sounthone & Wendy Mynoymany
Richard Niedermayer
Kenn & Dee Nilsen
Frederick Oelrich
Keith O'Rourke
Brian Paeth & Michele Converse
Gayle Parsons
Frank Plauger
Sarah Plumb
Megan & John Pomfret
John & Bonnie Priebe
Earl Racer
Gail Richardson
Staci & Srijak Rijal
Betty Rocken
Alan & Alfreda Rulis
Kelly & Erik Rummel
Hope Runion
Jane & Corey Runnels

Kenneth Ryals
V.M. Saavedra
Rebecca Sager
James & Brenda Scheel
Craig & Maureen Schilpp
Lorenz Schoff
Thomas & Beverly Schulz
Jean Scroggins
Edward & Emily Seal
Katherine Seburnia
J.M. & Diane Shearer
Lisa Sikora
Oma Gail Simmons
Leonard & Joyce Skoglund
Karl & Barbara Smith
Mark & Courtney Sommer
Ronald & Karin Spear
Charles Stock
Kristine & Keith Stone
John Storey
Michael Stumpf
Kathleen & David Teale
Beth Treon & David Oakes
Virginia Trygstad
Wendy Van Fossen
Kristen Van Stee
Sharon Vines
Brian Wall
Cyndy & Dan Walsh
Leslie & Jacob Weber
Amy & Jason Whiteman
Nanci Wilfong
James Wilson
Ronald Zabel

DONATE ONLINE AT CAROLINEFURNACE.ORG/DONATE

THANK YOU!

With your help, we were able to make a number of facility, property and resource improvements in 2018. These projects add value to the experience of every guest, camper, volunteer, and staff. Thank you!

FARMHOUSE & MARSTON

Farmhouse: renovations to downstairs bedroom and hallway
Marston: addition of two doors to east side, new electrical wiring, drywalling of middle wall, painting of exterior, improved drainage



\$4,470



\$6,000

TRAILS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COURSE



\$350



\$3,600

BRUSH CLEARING



\$5,760

LAKEFRONT

Boat dock removal, redesign and replacement
Relocation of composting toilet, installation of solar panel
Cleared new area for lake shed, reconstruction of lake shed, design/construction of interior storage, new electrical wiring



\$5,900



\$9,000

CABINS & MOYER LODGE

Moyer Lodge: kitchen updates, replacement of song cards
Cabins: replacement of Cabin 4 roof, addition of traction strips to ramps



\$2,064



\$4,800

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT



\$64,370

KITCHEN & PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

Includes Summer Camp, Work Weekends, Open House events, outdoor education, marketing, large rental groups



\$19,620

Total: \$129,569
239 volunteers, 3,492 hours



= value of Resources & Materials



= value of Volunteer Labor (averaged at \$15/hr)

An extra special thank you to our donors for the wastewater treatment plant project:

Targeted fundraising for renovations to our wastewater treatment plant went incredibly well and we exceeded our initial goal of the project estimate. This was a very important infrastructure update and was critical in continuing usage of the Cabin Village and Sukkah Village. We were blessed with 21 individuals and 11 congregations who responded to our special request, providing donations ranging from \$100 to \$15,000 dedicated to this project, which **totaled \$64,370.**

Our **regular operational giving** continues to reveal slow, steady growth. In addition to the gifts for the wastewater treatment plant renovation, we received donations from 120 individuals and 50 organizations. 25% of our current donors have pledged to give on a weekly, monthly, or quarterly basis, which provides additional consistency and confidence in our growth. **Operational giving for 2018 totaled \$104,152.**

In-kind donations this year included a solar panel at the lake, outdoor equipment, tools, craft supplies, cleaning and paper products, postage for quarterly mailers, two large dry erase boards, digital cameras, new bedding for the Farmhouse, new cabinets and appliances for the residence kitchen, and new flooring for the apartment. The **total estimated value is \$10,200.**

Our mission is to provide unforgettable experiences in faith, education, and renewal in God's creation for all God's people.

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