

Camp & Retreat Ministries

The Camp & Retreat Ministries Committee exists to support the five camp & retreat centers in the Upper New York Conference of The United Methodist Church.

During this past year, we have worked on moving all five camps forward in our mission to make disciple of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Our five diverse settings provide a safe sanctuary for people of all ages to engage and grow in their relationship with Jesus and to develop and improve their leadership skills.

We have actively supported each site in becoming more self-sustaining by developing foundations to focus on each camp and retreat site. Each of our camps has received their 501(c)(3) tax exempt status and the individual Foundations are working towards financial sustainability.

Much of our time has been spent in 2024 -2025 on the needs of Casowasco Camp & Retreat Center. Casowasco has suffered from devastating flooding and years of deferred maintenance. In 2024, Casowasco went "On the Road" to provide ministry through some of our other sites as we discern a way forward for future ministry.

Currently, Casowasco is in a season of Sabbath rest while we work to discern our next faithful step in vital mission and ministry for Jesus Christ.

Please continue to pray for all of our sites as we carry the legacy forward into this new day.

In the coming months we will endeavor to find a way forward in the ministry at Casowasco. We will ask the question, "What does God want for this beautiful corner of Creation?" and "How can we help?"

We will study and work to make the Foundations for each of our sites function at a higher level and bring each site to vital sustainability for future mission and ministry.

We will work to provide our Camp & Retreat Ministry staff – seasonal and year-round staff – all that they need to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We will prayerfully steward these "thin spaces in the Spirit of God" that have been entrusted to us in this season.

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