



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

In 2016, we commenced the *Campaign to Renew* Friedenswald, with the goal of funding six new cabins, renovations to the Guest House and Chapel, among other improvements to the Dining Hall and waterfront. By the end of the year, over \$1.8 million had been given or pledged, and the renovations were well underway. It was a year to renew not only aging facilities, but also one's commitment to the ministry of Camp Friedenswald, which has been central to the life of Central District Conference since its very beginning. It was the vision and dedication of conference pastors and leadership that helped to shape Camp Friedenswald into the place that it is today.

The following highlights provide a glimpse into the past year and illustrate the on-going partnership between Camp Friedenswald, Central District Conference, and its congregations.

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- In January, **Winter Retreats** brought together Junior and Senior High youth and sponsors for weekends of worship, play and fellowship. Over 200 people attended representing ten CDC congregations.
- **Summer 2016** brought nearly 500 youth and family campers to the peaceful woods to *retreat, renew* and *reconnect*, and to explore the theme "Who is Wise?" based on 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. Summer counselors and volunteers represented eight CDC congregations, and nearly **200 CDC campers (youth and adults) attended a summer program.**
- Throughout the summer we drew upon the rich resources from within CDC for **Summer Camp pastors** including: Anita Rediger, Emmaus Road Mennonite Church; Eric Martin, Silverwood Mennonite Church; David Moser, Southside Fellowship; Renee Kanagy, Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship; and Joel Miller, Columbus Mennonite Church.
- **Women's Retreat** brought over 70 women together in September from across the conference. The weekend was based on the theme "Gather Round the Table: Nourishing Body and Soul" and was planned by women from across Ohio, including Grace Mennonite Church, FMC Bluffton, Columbus Mennonite Church, and Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship.
- Hospitality was extended to four CDC congregations for their **annual church retreat** including Assembly Mennonite Church, Hively Avenue Mennonite Church, Mennonite Church of Normal, and Silverwood Mennonite Church. Throughout 2016, families and friends from across CDC gathered at Camp Friedenswald for weekend gatherings and reunions.
- Camp Friedenswald welcomed the **CDC Leadership Council** for its spring and fall meetings.
- The following CDC congregations contributed financially giving \$500 or more in 2016: Assembly Mennonite Church, Eighth Street Mennonite Church, Emmaus Road Mennonite Church, Evanston Mennonite Church, FMC Bluffton, FMC Sugarcreek, FMC Urbana-Champaign, Grace Mennonite Church, Hively Avenue Mennonite Church, Oak Grove Mennonite Church, Mennonite Church of Normal, North Danvers Mennonite Church, and Silverwood Mennonite Church. **Thank you!**