"For the Lord is good; God’s steadfast love endures forever, and God’s faithfulness to all generations."

Psalm 100:5
Now, more than ever, accessible and adequate facilities have an impact on who can experience camp and how we can serve them.

Today, Cedar Lodge, the beloved icon at the center of Ewalu, struggles to provide the hospitable welcome we want to share.

- People living with disabilities have to go to the Creation Center in order to find an accessible restroom.
- Stricter health codes and the increasing dietary requirements of Ewalu’s guests tax the old kitchen equipment. Dining space can be confining and difficult to navigate with large groups.
- Conference and retreat leaders now require internet access and other technologies for programs.
- The damp, musty conditions of the lower level must be addressed for the health and well-being of the summer staff and all who use this space.

“Over the years, Cedar Lodge has provided a welcome space for all kinds of camp activities, but the well-used building is in dire need of an upgrade. After spending many an hour repairing the decades-old plumbing, heating, lighting, insulation, kitchen appliances, and exterior effects, the plans to renovate it are very exciting. The time has come to give this gem of Ewalu a facelift and bring it into the 21st century."

Paul Frantsen, Property Director
Regeneration for Every Generation

After 60 years of service, Cedar Lodge needs some loving care so that it will continue to serve the people of eastern Iowa for generations to come. The Generation to Generation campaign will provide necessary improvements to Cedar Lodge and ensure that every guest, camper, and staff member feels welcome and cared for.

With Your Help
Cedar Lodge will be redesigned and updated to provide:

Greater hospitality
- ADA-accessible restrooms on the main floor
- Additional space for camp gatherings and worship
- Air conditioning for the hottest muggy Iowa days
- Technology upgrades for retreats and conferences

More efficient food service and dining experience
- Remodeling and expanding the kitchen for higher food production capacity and to better serve guests with food restrictions and allergies
- Enhancing food preparation capabilities for the Outpost, off-site and decentralized programming.
- Redesigning the dining hall layout to streamline serving and seat more people comfortably

Enhanced living conditions for summer staff
- A new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system designed to address the longtime moisture issues in the lower level
- Remodeled restrooms on the lower level and new shower areas
- A remodeled break room for summer staff to rest and rejuvenate during personal time

Improved environmental stewardship
- Increased energy efficiency and reduced costs for appliances and HVAC system
- New solar energy collectors to power the building (and potentially sell energy back to the electric company or share it with other nearby camp buildings)

“I am most excited for the expansion of the kitchen and pantry areas. It will allow us a chance to add to our current food capabilities at Ewalu. We need to update old appliances, streamline our layout and make storage more efficient to best serve our guests.”

Maury Landt, Food Service Director
Generation to Generation

From 1961, when those first faithful people had an inspired vision for a Bible camp in eastern Iowa, to today, when a first-time camper arrives for camp, God has been and continues to be active at Ewalu. As God’s children of all ages share the Spirit of faith and fellowship in Christ with each other, Ewalu will be a place for all generations to come together to connect the Word of God with the world of God.

Jesus tells us, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21).

Your financial gift for the renewal of Cedar Lodge and your prayers for Ewalu’s ministry and the Generation to Generation campaign places your heart within the Ewalu community wherever you are.

Moving Forward Faithfully

Ewalu’s Board of Directors has approved a campaign goal of $2 million to make these necessary changes to Cedar Lodge:

- ADA-Accessible Bathrooms Upstairs
- Remodeled Basement Bathrooms
- Air Conditioning and New HVAC
- Technology Upgrades
- Covered Main Entrance
- Increased Storage
- Expanded and Updated Kitchen
- Redesigned Dining Hall
- Remodeled Break Room
- Solar Energy Collectors
- New Laundry Facilities
- Modular Room Dividers

Thanks to you, our faithful and generous stewards, Ewalu has recently retired all of its long-term debt! With this firm financial footing, all board members have pledged already to the campaign and together have met 10% of the goal. Before we break ground, however, the Board has resolved to meet the following benchmarks:

- 90% of the $2 million campaign goal in commitments
- 75% of the $2 million campaign goal in funds received in-hand

The improvements to Cedar Lodge will promote Ewalu’s sustainability. The benchmarks will help to ensure its financial stability.

With construction costs increasing due to both supply-chain issues and general inflation trends, the total cost of this project is in flux. If necessary, it will be designed in two phases. We seek your support to allow us to proceed promptly.

"What an amazing time for Ewalu! These much-needed updates to Cedar Lodge will help us live more fully into our mission to connect the Word of God with the world of God. Come, be involved in what God is doing next at Ewalu!"

Pastor Frank Johnson, Executive Director

"Cedar Lodge is the hub of basecamp, especially during the summer! It is well known for being the place for 3 meals a day but it also serves as the place where worship, musicals, all-camp activities, rainy day games, meetings and so much more happens. Staff work hard to constantly put up and take down or reconfigure the tables and chairs to meet the needs of the programming and ministry that happen upstairs in Cedar Lodge."

Kelley Foehrkolb,
Former Board Chair and Summer Program Director

For more information about the campaign, contact campaign@ewalu.org