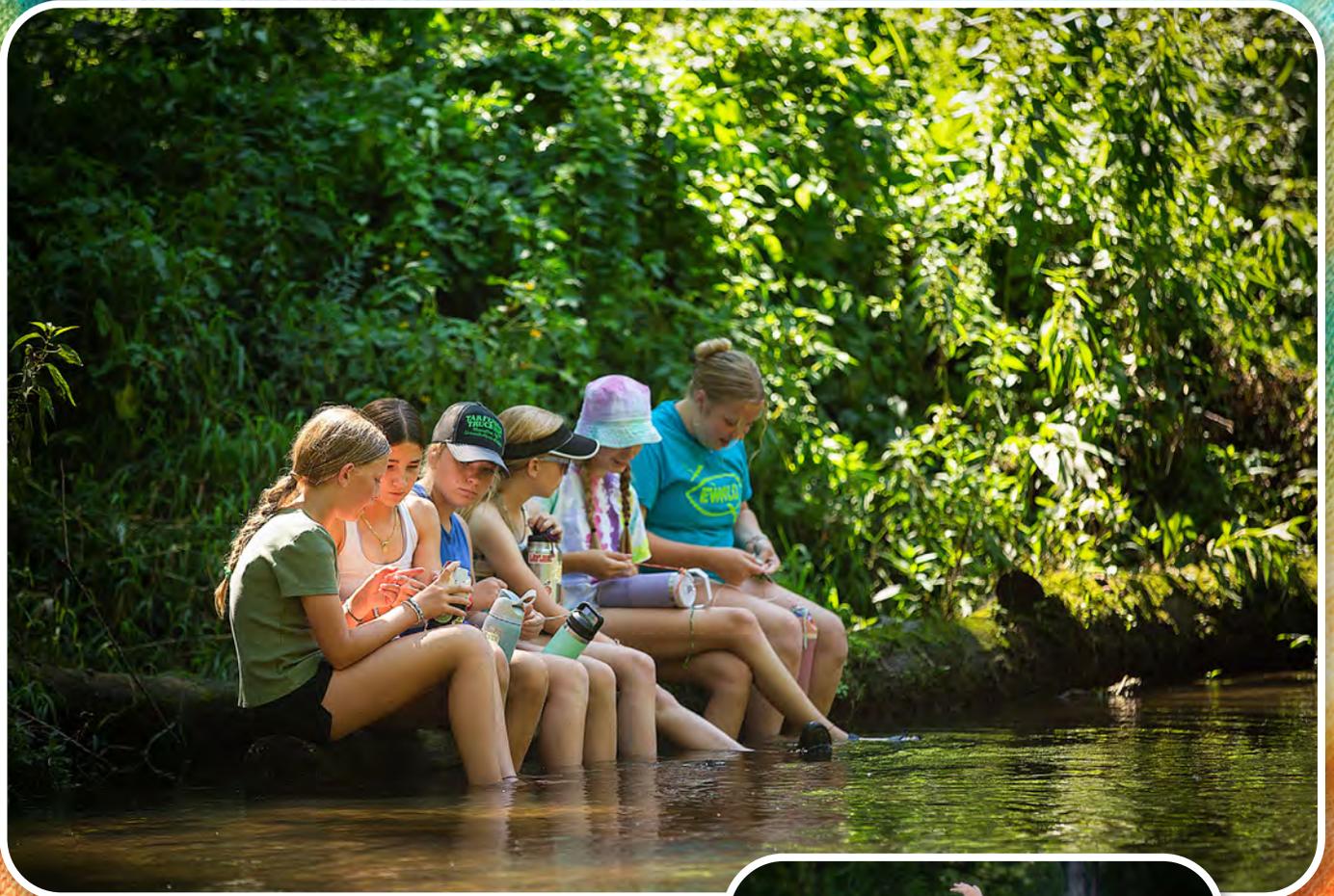


# 2025 Annual Report

**EWALU**   
Camp & Retreat Center

**ANNUAL MEETING**

1 p.m. March 21, 2026  
Ewalu Creation Center



 **GOD'S  
WORD  
COMES  
NEAR**

*The word of God is near to you —  
on your lips and in your heart.  
Romans 10:8*

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Ewalu Camp & Retreat Center  
*37776 Alpha Ave., Strawberry Point, IA 52076*

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# AGENDA FOR CAMP EWALU ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, March 21, 2026 @ 1:00 p.m.

Camp Ewalu, Creation Center Chapel

**Welcome & Opening** ..... Jason Martin-Hiner  
**Devotions** ..... Frank Johnson

## Approval of the Minutes from the 2025 Annual Meeting

**Ewalu Board President's Report** ..... Jason Martin-Hiner  
**Executive Director's Report** ..... Frank Johnson

## Committee Reports:

### Marketing/Development

### Program

### Property

### Board Development

### Endowment

### Finance

- Financial Report
- Board approved budget for Fiscal Year 2026

## Old Business:

- Capital Campaign

## New Business:

- Motion from the Board of Directors to make the following change to the Ewalu Bylaws, Section III, sub-section A, adding “**#3: The number of offices eligible for election shall be set by the nominating committee in accordance with the requirements of Article V of the Articles of Incorporation.**”
- Election of Board Members and Endowment Committee Members

## Announcements:

- Thank You
- Spring Volunteer Work Weekend (May 2)
- 65th Anniversary and Cedar Lodge Dedication (August 28-30)
- 39th Annual Quilt Auction (September 19)
- Wild Driftless Adventure Race, Elkader (October 3)

## Closing Prayer

## Adjournment

## **ABOUT THE MEETING**

Each member congregation (in the NE Iowa and SE Iowa Synods of the ELCA) may send two voting representatives to participate in the Ewalu Annual Meeting, which will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 21, 2026, at Ewalu's Creation Center, 37776 Alpha Ave., Strawberry Point, IA. Non-voting visitors also are welcome to attend the meeting.

A ballot to elect new board members and endowment committee members will be shared during the meeting, and online at <https://Ewalu.org/Annual-Meeting-2026/> before the meeting. Should it be necessary to have a virtual/Zoom meeting this year (due to weather, etc.), we will notify churches and attendees via email, our social media, and on the website above. Instructions for how to participate will be included, should the need arise. For now, we are planning an in-person meeting only.

## **PDF AVAILABLE ONLINE**

This year, we are mailing one paper copy of the Ewalu Annual Report to each member church in order to use less paper and to reduce costs. A printable PDF of this 2025 Annual Report is available at <https://Ewalu.org/Annual-Meeting-2026/> that anyone may access on a computer or mobile device. If you would like another paper copy mailed to you, please contact [office@ewalu.org](mailto:office@ewalu.org) or call 563-933-4700. We will have additional paper copies of the Annual Report available at the Annual Meeting on March 21 at camp.

## **YOUR MEETING NOTES:**

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-26

(listed alphabetically)

NAME	CONGREGATION	ELECTED	TERM	EXPIRES
<b>Michael Babcock</b> New Hampton	<i>Trinity Lutheran, New Hampton</i>	2025	1	2028
<b>Elle Blobaum^</b> Waverly	<i>St. Paul's Lutheran, Waverly</i>	Appt. 2019	2+	2026
<b>Aaron Cannon</b> Cedar Rapids	<i>Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Marion</i>	Appt. 2020	1+	2026
<b>Mark Davidson^</b> Onalaska, WI	<i>First Lutheran, Onalaska, WI</i>	Appt. 2020	2+	2027
<b>Paul Empie</b> Denver	<i>St. Peter Lutheran, Denver</i>	2025	1	2028
<b>Jeff Harper</b> Coralville	<i>Zion Lutheran, Iowa City</i>	2025	1	2028
<b>Pr. Gary Hatcher</b> Garnavillo	<i>First Evang. Lutheran, Garnavillo</i>	2025	1	2028
<b>Amanda (Ace) Hoefs</b> Spring Grove, MN	<i>Decorah Lutheran, Decorah</i>	Appt. 2022	1+	2027
<b>Pr. Tyler Hoey</b> Garnavillo	<i>St. Peter Lutheran, Garnavillo</i>	2024	1	2027
<b>Marissa Kolander</b> Cedar Rapids ( <i>Vice President</i> )	<i>Gloria Dei Lutheran, Iowa City</i>	2024	1	2027
<b>Jason Martin-Hiner</b> Decorah ( <i>President</i> )	<i>Good Shepherd Lutheran, Decorah</i>	2022	2	2028
<b>Maggie Monson</b> Cedar Falls		2022	2	2028
<b>Jan Rosauer</b> Cedar Rapids ( <i>Secretary</i> )	<i>Gloria Dei Lutheran, Cedar Rapids</i>	2024	1	2027
<b>Pr. Corey Smith</b> Cedar Falls	<i>Redeemer Lutheran, Waverly</i>	2023	1	2026
<b>Abbie Thompson,</b> Strawberry Point ( <i>Treasurer</i> )	<i>Emanuel Lutheran, Strawberry Point</i>	Appt. 2020	1+	2026
<b>Mark Vaughan</b> Waverly	<i>Redeemer Lutheran, Waverly</i>	2024	1	2027
<b>Tim Wuest</b> Cedar Rapids	<i>St. Mark's Lutheran, Marion</i>	Appt. 2022	1+	2026

+ Completing a vacant term or completed a vacant term prior to first elected term  
^ Serving as Campaign Co-Chair for "Cedar at 60" capital campaign

# 2025-26 CAMP STAFF

<b>Frank Johnson</b>	<i>Executive Director</i>	<b>Keith Heinze</b>	<i>Bookkeeper</i>
<b>Diane Parker</b>	<i>Receptionist &amp; Registrar</i>	<b>Ally Landt</b>	<i>Housekeeping Director</i>
<b>Paul Frantsen</b>	<i>Property Manager</i>	<b>Jen Fuller</b>	<i>Housekeeping/Food Service Assistant</i>
<b>Mark Klingner</b>	<i>Property Assistant</i>	<b>Lexie Popham</b>	<i>Housekeeping Assistant</i>
<b>Nathan Ottesen</b>	<i>Property Assistant</i>	<b>Maury Landt</b>	<i>Outdoor Education &amp; Food Service Director</i>
<b>Emily Tull</b>	<i>Program Director</i>	<b>Vickie Moyle</b>	<i>Food service assistant</i>
<b>Steph Boeding</b>	<i>Marketing &amp; Communications Director</i>	<b>Val Timmerman</b>	<i>Food service assistant</i>
<b>Heather Swartz</b>	<i>True North Director (served as Program Intern in fall 2025)</i>	<b>Kathy Pickart</b>	<i>Food service assistant</i>
		<b>Kayla Ramsey</b>	<i>Food service assistant</i>

## Mission Statement

Ewalu serves all people as a place to connect the Word of God with the world of God.

## Vision Statement

We envision a spiritual and physical sanctuary where people of all ages are welcome to flourish in God's Word together. It is our desire that those who engage with the Ewalu community are enriched and equipped to grow as Disciples of Christ, called to serve all of God's creation.

## Statement of Core Values

Camp Ewalu, as an organization of people as well as a special place, called by God for this ministry, professes these values:

### **Faith Based:**

In all its activities, Camp Ewalu follows a Christian-based mission, centered on the Word of God, for all who come to this place.

### **Community Building:**

As a place to gather, Camp Ewalu provides a Christian-based environment in which to encourage relationship with God and with each other in community for all who come to this place.

### **Hospitality and Inclusivity:**

In seeking to follow Jesus' great commandments, Camp Ewalu strives to welcome all who come to this place, inviting

relationship and caring for each other as God first loved us.

### **Grace:**

Just as we find grace when we seek God, Camp Ewalu extends that same kindness, mercy, and blessing to all who come to this place.

### **Stewardship:**

As part of God's creation, Camp Ewalu promotes care of the environment, the earth and the people in it, nurturing life in this place and all who come to it.

### **Leadership Development:**

In aspiring to follow Jesus' great commission, Camp Ewalu commits to developing and encouraging leadership in all who come to this place to take the Gospel message to their homes and the world.

# Last year's Ewalu Annual Meeting Minutes

Meeting held in Creation Center Chapel, March 25, 2025

**Welcome & Call to order** - by Board President Jason Martin-Hiner at 1 p.m. Jason requested three tellers for the vote today. Tyler Hoey, Marissa Kolander and Aaron Cannon are the volunteers.

Jason requested approval of the displayed agenda. From the printed agenda, there is a change regarding the board numbers. Lana Ott motioned, Sandy Hyman seconded. Motion carried.

**Devotions** – Frank Johnson. When in doubt, just love your campers! What does that mean? Frank shared a message from Wendell Berry.

Approval of the minutes from the 2024-25 Annual Meeting – Motion to approve as printed by Lana Ott, seconded by Kevin Clefisch. Motion carried.

**Board President Report** – Board President Jason Martin-Hiner. Keith Johnson joined the board for visioning work at the November retreat. Themes included growing and adapting while staying sacred to the mission through the support of the congregation, full time staff, and summer staff.

**Executive Director's Report** – Frank Johnson. Frank presented 2024 highlights including strong summer camp connections with Camp St. George via the Greek Orthodox church and Hope Camp through Faith Temple Baptist Church in Waterloo. Hope Camp served 40 campers with one or both parents incarcerated. Summer staff fulfilled their duties well. From a facilities standpoint, the solar array construction was completed and is now providing electricity to Hickory and Cedar Lodges. The "Cedar at 60" campaign hit \$2 million right before the end of the year. Year-round rentals continue to grow. A new program intern position was added and filled by Rosemary Godwin. This position will continue next year. The Quilt Auction had record proceeds to support all Ewalu programs. New events included Winter Family Fun Day, Autumn Odyssey Retreat and the second Grotto Gallop Trail Run. Challenges included a 10% decline in camper numbers partly due to the ELCA Youth Gathering. Also noted a lower level of returning campers than expected and the loss of the Waterloo school group for environmental education due to cost of busses. The financials were stretched this year with the geothermal breakdown in Barred Owl and the ongoing Cedar campaign.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Marketing /Development** – Steph Boeding – Highlights include Great Give Day in May, raising funds for the True North high school youth program. This day includes those not reached through normal channels as well as traditional donors. Increased communication with parents and campers, including email and YouTube messages before, during and after camp. The Quilt Auction was a record-breaking year for funds. This takes year-round work and many volunteer hours. Thanks to many folks for continued dedication to the online and live auctions as well as various other volunteer opportunities through the year at camp.
- **Program** – Frank highlighted Emily's report from the printed material. Four international staff joined the summer staff. This year there will be five international staff. Day camps will continue and ropes days and environmental learning continues to prosper at camp.
- **Property** – Paul Frantsen – Thankful for new geothermal system in Barred Owl. Summer cabin rebuilds continue. The solar array and the farm both now include apple trees. Farmhouse bathroom was renovated to increase heating efficiency. Thank you to all the volunteers for Work Days, mowing or any time available. Spring Work Day is May 3 with lots of projects.
- **Board Development** – Jason Martin-Hiner – The board has revisited purpose and structure, started with a retreat with Keith Johnson in November. Examples include shift from committees to teams to better support staff goals and responsibilities. The size of the board was discussed and an Articles of Incorporation proposed change. The budget is the responsibility of the board and as such was approved in January and report to the constituency at the annual meeting.
- **Endowment** – Frank reported the endowment funds are held by several different sources. These include the Life Fund, Ewalu Fund thru the Dubuque Community Foundation and the Lybbert Fund to support kids from Waterloo to attend camp, including Hope Camp. Continued long-term investment supports camp facilities, property and debt reduction. Environmental programming and new opportunities and missions are supported by endowment funds. Keith Larson mentioned gifts for specific purposes are more challenging than general support to the camp.
- **Finance** – Nathan Zietlow – It has been another good year at camp with over \$2.1 million in revenue received with a little less than half of that for the capital campaign. It is truly a blessing to have support like this for camp.

Highlighted items from the printed reporting include: giving was up over 18%, camp revenue down and retreat income increasing. Staff sharing for executive director time to the capital campaign was also explained. The

Adventure Race will be tracked with a new line item since it is new this year, with a \$15,000 profit anticipated.

Expense discussions included the following: credit card fees can be avoided if paid with check or debit cards, especially for large payments and donations. Maury Landt did a great job working with local food banks and other resources to lower food costs by almost \$6,000 this past year. Unfortunately, this will not be realized this year due to USDA Iowa Food hub program cuts. The solar array is providing energy savings. Frank Johnson researched and located a new insurance provider to reduce that costing instead for a major proposed increase with the previous provider. The staff received Christmas bonuses and is shown in the Employee Relations Expense line item. Thanks to the year-round staff for their dedication. An expected \$50,000 tax credit for the solar array will be coming later in 2025 and will be placed in the capital campaign. The Net Operating Revenue (without depreciation) budgeted for 2025 is a negative \$3,750. The amendment approved by the board earlier today to replace the loss of the USDA program will raise that deficit to \$9,750.

A final payment of the Employer Retention Tax credit Ewalu is owed is still coming. Frank verified with tax agency that we are "in the queue." Once that is received, the amount is anticipated to be \$50K+ with interest based on our estimates and how other payments have been processed. This is close to canceling out our line of credit with the bank, which sits at \$79K .

We have great things to celebrate with the Capital Campaign coming up next in Unfinished Business as well as keeping our operating budget in decent shape while the capital campaign was going on, but we have to be mindful of a potentially challenging year ahead due to the economic uncertainty with talks of recession and stock market drops and how that will affect the families that send campers to Ewalu. This uncertainty makes it challenging for families to commit to summer camp, which is one possibility for lower numbers to start the year. Prayers and thoughtful contributions during the year will go a long way to a successful year at camp.

Thank you to Frank and our bookkeeper Keith Heinze for staying on top of the financial picture each month.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Capital Campaign – \$2.07 M today, will continue to accept donations. Mark Davidson and Harry and Elle Blobaum were presented handmade clocks for their hard work and dedication. The Cedar clocks were made by Paul Frantsen with wood from camp.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Amendment to Motion for Board Numbers – A motion from the Board of Directors for the following change to the Ewalu Articles of Incorporation, Article V, 2nd paragraph: Strike "18" and replace with "a minimum of 13." The new sentence would read: **A Board consisting of a minimum of 13 and a maximum of 18 members shall be elected for three-year terms.** Discussion was entertained. Richard Tiegs gave history on where the original number of 18 was established. Keith Larson commented the appreciation for the flexibility in numbers on the board. Vote by hand provided 33 yes votes, no nays. The by-laws will be amended.
- **Election of Board Members:** The slate of members on the distributed paper ballots include: Paul Empie and Jeff Harper, first term; Jason Martin-Hiner and Maggie Monson, second term.
- **Election of Endowment Committee Members** – Jim Meehan is on the paper ballot for election to the Endowment Committee.
- Paper ballots were distributed for vote. Kathy Babcock mentioned Michael Babcock of New Hampton is interested in serving on the board. The votes were tallied and 34 ballots were cast. Board members as printed on the ballot were approved with 34 votes each. Michael Babcock received 13 votes and Gary Hatcher received 3 votes as write-ins. The write-in candidates who receive a majority of votes cast are duly elected and eligible to serve on the Board of Directors, due to the absence of specific prohibitions within the bylaws of our Association, and under the guidelines of the Revised Iowa Nonprofit Corporation Act. It has been externally verified that blank votes do not count toward calculations of majority for any particular office. Therefore, each candidate was elected with 100% of the votes cast for the position they were running for.
- Jim Meehan received 32 votes and is elected to serve on the Endowment Committee.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Frank thanked retiring board members who have served for six years: Nathan Zietlow, Shawn Livingston, Paul Rasmussen and Lisa Kammerer.
- Spring Volunteer Work Weekend (May 3)
- Summer Camp Open House (May 10)
- 38th Annual Quilt Auction (Sept 20)

**Closing Prayer:** Frank Johnson

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

*Minutes by Jan Rosauer, secretary pro-tem*

# Executive Director's Report

Ewalu has had an incredible year on a number of fronts. We have seen an increase in camper numbers, an increase in giving, an increase in camper scholarships, and—conversely—an increase in costs both for the Cedar Lodge renovation project and for the costs of running camp.

Highlights of 2025 included **“100 free weeks of camp”**—an offer that came through an estate gift in April. These 100 free camperships were given away in four days! This represented the single largest campaign to make camp affordable in Ewalu's history. We also instituted tiered pricing, which allowed parents to self-select their capacity to pay for their child to go to camp. In all, 75% of Ewalu campers have some form of campership or reduced pricing aid. Nevertheless, our summer program revenue was up, as parents continue to stand up and choose to pay what they are able so that Ewalu can continue to thrive.

That aforementioned estate gift will come to Ewalu in disbursements in perpetuity, thus allowing us to greatly subsidize the lowest tier of summer camp pricing every year. In 2026, campers can attend a full week of camp for \$240 at Tier 3 (just \$200 with the Early Bird discount) without asking for a dime from the Campership Fund. The Campership Fund will continue to offer aid above and beyond this, even as those funds subsidize the overall cost of camp. At Ewalu, we feel strongly that no child should ever be turned away for reasons of cost.



Outside of the summer camp season, Ewalu continues to host varied and increasingly unique events. Our annual Quilt Auction included both in-person and virtual bidding opportunities. The 2025 event topped \$60,000 in gross proceeds! We are so grateful to everyone who makes quilts, bids on quilts, and makes this such an amazing fundraiser and community event.

Our new **Wild Driftless Adventure Race** had its inaugural event on October 4, bringing 186 participants and over 40 volunteers to Ewalu, Backbone State Park, and the surrounding area for a 9-hour bike, trek, and paddle team event. 97% of participants were new to Ewalu! In December 2025, the Wild Driftless was awarded a Travel Iowa Marketing Grant for the year ahead to grow the race, which will be taking place on October 3, 2026, in Elkader. This is a huge success for us as we look to deepen our partnerships locally and regionally, while adding a new fundraising event to the yearly calendar.

One of the biggest Ewalu news stories of the year concerned the **Cedar Lodge renovation**, which was scheduled to begin in August 2025. Unfortunately, costs had grown significantly and Ewalu faced a shortfall of up to \$1.4 million on the project in spite of raising a camp-record \$2.1 million for the Cedar at 60 Campaign. Thanks to the strong work of Ewalu's Board of Directors and the faithfulness of the constituency, not only was the go-ahead given, but the fundraising began in earnest in September for the “Close the Gap” phase of the Cedar campaign. By the end of the year, over \$600,000 was raised! But the most exciting bit of news is that construction is well underway and scheduled for completion in May 2026 ahead of the summer camp season. We cannot wait to show off the new Cedar Lodge for summer camp and at **our 65th anniversary celebration on August 28-30, 2026.**

The last news is perhaps the best news of all. For two years, Ewalu has been working on redeveloping high school programming with an eye toward leadership development, community-mindedness, and building resilience in young people. In 2026, we will launch **True North**—a high school leadership camp and single-day event. Ewalu is excited to receive significant support for the True North program from the American Camp Association in the form of the Character at Camp implementation grant. This two-year, \$172,000 grant will allow Ewalu to employ Heather Swartz as a full-time True North Director. Heather was previously Ewalu's Program Intern.

True North is a major step forward for Ewalu in our commitment to develop young leaders for the church and the world. It is designed to become a cornerstone for the ministry of Ewalu in the years ahead. So many great things—we cannot wait to have you out at camp in 2026!

**Frank Johnson**, Executive Director

# Property Report

It was another wonderful year at Ewalu, thanks to campers, counselors, staff, board members, and volunteers... all who have been such blessings to this special place in God's kingdom.

## Highlights from 2025

- As the work progresses on Cedar Lodge, we have salvaged many useful parts of the building, including a lot of lumber and brown metal roof panels. Plans are to construct a new outdoor shelter at the family campground this year with some of the materials.
- We have cut down a section of weedy pines east of Central Plains. We hope to burn the area this fall, which will double the size of the prairie in that location.
- About 75 people came in the fall to clean out Cedar Lodge before construction began. Many volunteers came at other times to work in the garden, split wood, mow grass, and enjoy the Ewalu community. Call the office if you'd like to help anytime.
- Thrivent Action Team grants were used for many projects this year, including a gaga ball pit, fence repair, a new ropes course element, fruit trees, a load of sand at the volleyball court, and loads of woodchips. Thrivent grants are always welcome! Please call camp to arrange one. Details at [www.ewalu.org/Thrivent](http://www.ewalu.org/Thrivent)
- Two pear trees and two cherry trees were added to the apple orchard last spring, so we now have a growing fruit orchard at camp.
- Nathan Ottesen (summer counselor) has been helping with vehicle and miscellaneous repairs. Heather Swartz has helped with many projects around camp. Thank you!



## Volunteer Work Days

- We had 40 people here on May 3, 2025, to help prepare Ewalu for the summer camping season. We added "Dale's Crossing" to the low ropes course, built in honor of Dale Gohl. A second gaga ball pit was constructed across the river in the southern villages clearing.
- In the fall, Pastor Tyler Hoey brought his youth from St. Peter Lutheran Church, Garnavillo, who helped other volunteers with various projects. About 35 kids from the Dirty Feet Retreat spread limestone chips at the new Three Crosses fire ring. Thank you!

## Spring Volunteer Work Day: May 2, 2026

- Please save the date and come help in the spring. A variety of projects will be available with jobs for all ages and abilities. Please call Ewalu to RSVP at 563-933-4700 or email [office@ewalu.org](mailto:office@ewalu.org).

Thank you for your support of the ministry of Camp Ewalu.

**Paul Frantsen**, Property Manager

# CAMP EWALU HIGHLIGHTS & STATISTICS FOR 2025

## Summer Camp Staff

- 42 Program Staff (start of summer)
- 8 Session 1 — LTs
- 6 Session 2 — LTs

## 8 Weeks of Summer Camp

- 855 Campers
- 715 Youth Program Participants
- 100 Family Camp Participants
- 40 Grandparent Camp Participants

## Day Camp Program

- 17 Churches
- 374 Participants (502 planned)



## Campership Support Given

The full cost of providing a week of onsite camp at Ewalu was about \$800 per child in 2025, but thanks to the support of our donors we were able to offer a Tier 2 price of \$525 and Tier 3 price of \$425 for a week of camp. In addition, we gave \$19,046 of additional camperships to families of 66 campers in greater need. An estate gift allowed us to give away **"100 Free Weeks of Camp"** for 2025; in 2026 and beyond, that endowment will bring Tier 3 prices down to make camp even more affordable. *Ewalu has never turned a child away from camp because of financial need. Thank you, donors, for your gifts to uphold that commitment!* In 2025 we received donations totalling \$37,195 specifically for our Campership Fund from our Spring Appeal.

## Events and Retreats in 2025

Retreats at Ewalu's Main Site	46 Events	948 Participants
Retreats at Stone Center Site	39 Events	1,051 Participants
Enrichment Events	3 Events	96 Participants
Volunteer Events ( <i>Work Days, Holy Folders, etc.</i> )	19 Events	280 Participants
<b>Ewalu-Sponsored Events (<i>Board meetings, Donor Dinner, Annual Meeting, Dirty Feet Retreat, etc.</i>)</b>	19 Events	<b>699 Participants</b>
School/College Groups at Main Site	18 Events	868 Participants
Reflection Cabin Use	12 Times	15 Participants
Campground Use ( <i>23 electrical, 21 tent</i> )	44 Groups	214 Participants
Quilt Auction	1 Event	239 Served on site
Wild Driftless Adventure Race (new!)	1 Event	186 Participants 40 Volunteers 61 Lodging

# Program Report

Participation at camp has stayed pretty steady in most areas. During our summer programming, we saw a small increase in camper registrations, coming in at 855 for 2025 vs. the 793 we saw in 2024. Part of this increase was due to the 100 free camperships to first-time campers that we were able to offer.

Our staff numbers were about the same this summer compared to last summer with 42 summer staff members and 14 LT participants. We welcomed 5 international staff members again this summer! They came to us from Mexico, Colombia, Hungary, and Namibia, and we loved getting to know them and doing ministry alongside them! They brought new and fun perspectives to our community, and we thank God for the opportunity we had to grow in community with them!

We had 16 churches participate in Day Camp in 2025. We received very positive feedback from the day camp sites this year and we are excited to continue to partner with many of them again this coming year!

For the summer curriculum, we used the theme and Bible studies provided by LOM. The theme was "God's Word Comes Near." This curriculum explored the ways that God's word is near to us in our everyday lives. We dove deep into daily themes that highlighted how God's word is near to us in trusting, blessing, listening, serving, and following.

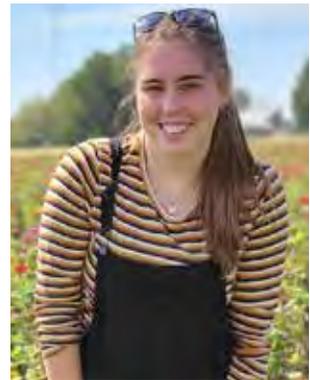
As with most summers, there were a few challenges, but God provided in every challenge we faced and we are so grateful for the ways He worked through and amongst us this year.

One of the biggest challenges this year was the almost constant rain, but our staff found creative ways to make even the rainiest day into an adventure. As always, we are so grateful for the community of Ewalu staff, families, campers, alumni and supporters who prayed for us and supported us throughout the summer.

The fall was full of ropes days, environmental education, events and rental groups. We also welcomed around 35 summer staff and graduating LTs back to site for our annual Winter Reunion. Many of them interviewed during the reunion to return as staff for summer 2026, and we anticipate a high rate of returning staff next summer!

Having now completed my third summer of ministry in this capacity at Ewalu, I continue to be amazed at the powerful community that surrounds this place. We have some big things coming in 2026 and God has continued to bless this place beyond measure! Thank you for your support of Ewalu and the ministry that happens here! We couldn't do it without you!

**Emily Tull**, Program Director



# Environmental Education Report

Last year we saw a steady continuation of our outdoor education program here at Ewalu. Spring and fall saw 957 people come across 18 days during this time. This is fairly similar to last year's total of 941 kids and adults. Most of this I attribute to the strong connections that our camp has with schools that have been coming here for years and, in some cases, decades. Interestingly, we are seeing the second straight year of less activity in the fall and more groups coming in the spring. 2025 saw more groups and kids in the spring (489) than in the fall (468), something that hasn't happened before but is a welcome balance to what usually is a full fall.

Last year we installed Dale's Crossing, our newest low ropes element, in honor of Dale Gohl who was the environmental education director during my time as counselor here. The element was well received from summer staff and school groups alike.

I would like to thank our 2025 fall intern (now our True North Director) Heather Swartz, who has been most excited to be with us on the course. I would also like to thank: Nathen Ottesen, Will Reisner, Pastor Kate Johnson, and Brylee Rupp.

We are always looking for help with groups that are here for the outdoor adventure course. If you feel like you would be able to help, feel free to reach out to the office and we can give you more information.

**Maury Landt**, Environmental Education Director & Food Service Director



## HELP NEEDED in spring and fall

Want to help out when groups come to use the ropes course? You get to enjoy the outdoors, and you get paid! Call the Ewalu office at 563-933-4700 or email [outdoor.ed@ewalu.org](mailto:outdoor.ed@ewalu.org) for more information.

# Marketing Director's Report

There is always something happening at Ewalu, and there is never a dull moment when it comes to promoting events and sharing news! Here are some highlights from the year:

**Great Give Day**, an online day of giving, has become an important and fun fundraising tool for camp. In May 2025, a total of \$33,712 was raised in 24 hours to help launch the new True North program for high school students. That included over \$18,000 from 89 donors, and \$15,500 in challenges from board members and friends of Ewalu. We ended the big day ranked in the Top 4 for the number of unique donors and in dollars raised among all 220 nonprofits participating in a seven-county area. Because of outstanding donor support during Power Hours, we also earned just over \$1,800 for our endowment fund from the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque. *Great Give Day in 2026 will be May 20.*



We continue to build up our **parent communication for summer camp** participants. This year, we added a mid-week email to help parents know what their campers were doing during the week, and also had several "severe weather" communications with parents to give them peace of mind. Survey feedback shows that parents and guardians really appreciate the extra communication.

The 2025 **Quilt Auction** was another wonderful fundraising event this year, with just under \$50,000 in net proceeds! We were expecting rain and tried a different setup under the big tent to get as many folks covered as possible, but God kept us dry all day! Thank you to the MANY volunteers and board members who helped us all summer to log, fold and photograph each item, and to those who helped out on the big day in September. It is a lot of work spanning many months! (*See more information about Quilt Auction results on Page 21.*) We plan to host a 2026 **Quilters Luncheon** in the fall (we need the space in the renovated Cedar Lodge) to thank our quilters and donors for their generous gifts!

We've been promoting the new **True North high school program** and have developed a new brochure and other items for youth directors and youth. Our messaging about tiered pricing for summer camp and **making camp more affordable** for families has been going well. We also created a new Google form for families to request Campership Fund aid, making that process more accessible.

Special thanks to Josh Kreis-Voigt of Cedar Falls, who has helped us with filming and video production, and to Sarah and Devin Grainger of Cresco, who took wonderful photos during 3 weeks this summer. Their amazing talents help us show the wonderful things that happen at camp.

It felt like a huge setback to find out last August that our success in raising \$2 million for the **Cedar Lodge renovation project** was no longer enough to cover the increasing costs of construction. Many, many thanks to YOU, our loyal and generous supporters, for continuing to give to this important project. And many thanks to Mark Davidson and Elle and Harry Blobaum for continuing to be the "engine" of this campaign long after they thought their work would be done. What incredible folks to work with! We'll be promoting the renewed building for rentals, and developing a **Wedding Policy** for the enlarged space.

The fall season was extra busy in 2025 with our new event, the **Wild Driftless Adventure Race**. There was a lot to learn, but our wonderful team of 40 volunteers pulled off an incredible first-time event under Frank Johnson's leadership. We were awarded a Travel Iowa marketing grant worth over \$11,000, which will help us promote the event October 3, 2026, in Elkader. Many participants are eager to come back!

Email and social media are the main tools for sharing what's happening at Ewalu. Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and check out the growing library of videos posted on our YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/@EwaluBibleCamp](http://www.youtube.com/@EwaluBibleCamp).

**Steph Boeding**, Marketing & Communications Director

# EWALU FINANCIALS

## Income Statement & Budget

Ordinary Revenue/Expense	Jan - Dec 2025	Jan - Dec 2024 (PY)	YTD Variance	2025 Budget	2026 Budget
<b>Revenue</b>					
301 Congregations	\$60,833.66	\$64,704.86	\$(3,871.20)	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00
302 Organizations	\$7,767.63	\$6,874.80	\$892.83	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
303 Designated Gifts	\$611,657.60	\$967,959.70	\$(356,302.10)	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
304 Individuals - Undesignated	\$125,703.92	\$134,696.04	\$(8,992.12)	\$135,000.00	\$130,000.00
305 Camperships	\$50,188.74	\$16,153.01	\$34,035.73	\$32,000.00	\$35,000.00
306 Estate Gifts		\$100,000.00	\$(100,000.00)		
307 Thrivent Funding - Choice & Gifts	\$17,243.00	\$23,009.02	\$(5,766.02)	\$16,000.00	\$17,000.00
308 Special Income (ACA Grant)					\$85,618.00
309 Gifts in Kind		\$250.00	\$(250.00)	\$500.00	\$500.00
311 Matching Gifts-Other	\$2,000.00	\$5,100.00	\$(3,100.00)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
313 Endowments Disbursements	\$177,493.33	\$127,308.76	\$50,184.57	\$130,000.00	\$144,000.00
<b>Total Support Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,052,887.88</b>	<b>\$1,446,056.19</b>	<b>\$(393,168.31)</b>	<b>\$424,500.00</b>	<b>\$523,118.00</b>
314 Business Rebates	\$228.90	\$299.73	\$(70.83)	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
320 Youth Programming	\$3,140.00		\$3,140.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00
321 Youth Summer	\$265,374.75	\$254,193.33	\$11,181.42	\$280,000.00	\$275,000.00
322 Campground Fee	\$3,337.00	\$3,219.00	\$118.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,500.00
323 Day Camp	\$28,606.21	\$21,040.00	\$7,566.21	\$23,000.00	\$28,000.00
324 Retreat - Ewalu	\$92,688.50	\$80,081.50	\$12,607.00	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00
325 Retreat - Stone Center	\$74,688.50	\$75,045.80	\$(357.30)	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
326 Food Sales - Ewalu	\$7,821.16	\$20,481.50	\$(12,660.34)	\$20,000.00	\$15,000.00
327 Adult Programming	\$28,915.00	\$24,343.50	\$4,571.50	\$24,000.00	\$35,000.00
328 Food Sales - Stone Center	\$4,612.00	\$12,677.45	\$(8,065.45)	\$15,000.00	\$10,000.00
330 Environmental Education	\$2,759.00	\$2,052.50	\$706.50	\$2,000.00	\$2,750.00
331 Canteen	\$20,908.93	\$20,133.43	\$775.50	\$23,000.00	\$22,000.00
332 Staff Sharing Income				\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
336 Gas & Elec. Patronage Dividend	\$1,270.70	\$1,192.52	\$78.18	\$1,000.00	\$200.00
337 High-Low Ropes/Equip Rental	\$15,683.00	\$17,075.00	\$(1,392.00)	\$18,000.00	\$14,000.00
338 Land Rental/CRP Payment	\$17,827.00	\$19,228.38	\$(1,401.38)	\$19,000.00	\$19,000.00
339 Miscellaneous	\$4,312.00	\$383.12	\$3,928.88	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
342 Interest	\$72,510.67	\$13,992.39	\$58,518.28	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
343 Quilt Revenue	\$58,491.07	\$64,246.74	\$(5,755.67)	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
345 Quilt Auction Country Store	\$1,973.25	\$2,130.75	\$(157.50)	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
348 Adventure Race Revenue	\$21,545.96		\$21,545.96	\$15,000.00	\$37,500.00
350 Logging Proceeds		\$36,150.00	\$(36,150.00)		
<b>Total Earned Revenue</b>	<b>\$726,693.60</b>	<b>\$667,966.64</b>	<b>\$58,726.96</b>	<b>\$699,000.00</b>	<b>\$717,450.00</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,779,581.48</b>	<b>\$2,114,022.83</b>	<b>-\$334,441.35</b>	<b>\$1,123,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,240,568.00</b>

# EWALU FINANCIALS

## Income Statement & Budget (continued)

	Jan - Dec 2025	Jan - Dec 2024 (PY)	YTD Variance	2025 Budget	2026 Budget
<b>Expenditures</b>					
411 Administrative - Salaries	\$195,626.48	\$187,548.88	\$8,077.60	\$192,000.00	\$197,000.00
412 Summer Staff	\$151,562.63	\$125,147.29	\$26,415.34	\$140,000.00	\$152,000.00
413 Program Staff	\$81,214.73	\$72,822.88	\$8,391.85	\$74,000.00	\$103,000.00
416 Maintenance Staff	\$63,323.95	\$58,908.73	\$4,415.22	\$60,000.00	\$65,000.00
417 Food Service Staff	\$30,512.21	\$34,105.71	\$(3,593.50)	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
418 Housekeeping Staff	\$37,623.43	\$35,294.08	\$2,329.35	\$36,500.00	\$38,000.00
<b>Total Salary Expense</b>	<b>\$559,863.43</b>	<b>\$513,827.57</b>	<b>\$46,035.86</b>	<b>\$537,500.00</b>	<b>\$590,000.00</b>
421 Medical/Dental/Life	\$74,495.52	\$71,215.66	\$3,279.86	\$73,000.00	\$85,000.00
422 Pension - Ewalu Pd (209 - emp)	\$28,820.04	\$27,486.69	\$1,333.35	\$30,000.00	\$35,000.00
431 Payroll Tax Exp.	\$39,578.85	\$37,133.08	\$2,445.77	\$38,500.00	\$43,000.00
433 Workers Comp		\$10,452.50	\$(10,452.50)	\$17,000.00	\$11,000.00
434 Educational Ben.				\$500.00	\$500.00
<b>Total Benefits Expense</b>	<b>\$142,894.41</b>	<b>\$146,287.93</b>	<b>\$(3,393.52)</b>	<b>\$159,000.00</b>	<b>\$174,500.00</b>
444 Contract Service - Ewalu	\$4,713.10	\$2,808.43	\$1,904.67	\$3,000.00	\$4,000.00
446 Leadership Training	\$1,417.50	\$1,300.00	\$117.50	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
447 Program Contracts	\$17,335.47	\$24,369.03	\$(7,033.56)	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
448 Adult Trip Expenses	\$1,036.36	\$1,292.01	\$(255.65)		\$1,000.00
450 Credit Card Service	\$7,657.99	\$8,610.06	\$(952.07)	\$9,000.00	\$8,500.00
<b>Total Contract Services</b>	<b>\$32,160.42</b>	<b>\$38,379.53</b>	<b>\$(6,219.11)</b>	<b>\$32,500.00</b>	<b>\$34,500.00</b>
451 Office Expense/Supplies	\$1,154.77	\$3,255.98	\$(2,101.21)	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
452 Maintenance Supplies	\$2,347.37	\$1,708.47	\$638.90	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
453 Health Supplies	\$1,004.80	\$1,039.44	\$(34.64)	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00
454 Pool Supplies	\$6,366.17	\$8,066.51	\$(1,700.34)	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
455 Food Supplies Ewalu	\$880.54	\$58,570.86	\$(57,690.32)	\$63,000.00	\$80,000.00
455-1 Food Supplies - Ewalu Summer	\$55,126.89	\$24.13	\$55,102.76		
455-2 Food Supplies - Ewalu Non-Summer	\$25,051.59	\$30.14	\$25,021.45		
456 Food Supplies Stone	\$8,225.19	\$12,877.06	\$(4,651.87)	\$14,000.00	\$12,000.00
457 Program Supplies/Expense	\$12,456.86	\$11,225.08	\$1,231.78	\$11,000.00	\$13,500.00
458 Canteen Supplies	\$19,957.54	\$16,685.06	\$3,272.48	\$19,000.00	\$20,000.00
460 Housekeeping Supplies	\$11,330.88	\$10,504.56	\$826.32	\$8,500.00	\$10,000.00
461 Kitchen Supplies	\$1,562.73	\$2,288.50	\$(725.77)	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Supplies Expense</b>	<b>\$145,465.33</b>	<b>\$126,275.79</b>	<b>\$19,189.54</b>	<b>\$131,500.00</b>	<b>\$151,200.00</b>

# EWALU FINANCIALS

## Income Statement & Budget (continued)

	Jan - Dec 2025	Jan - Dec 2024 (PY)	YTD Variance	2025 Budget	2026 Budget
471 Telephone - Ewalu	\$3,525.02	\$3,934.68	\$(409.66)	\$4,000.00	\$3,500.00
472 Telephone - Stone	\$1,297.74	\$719.40	\$578.34	\$750.00	\$750.00
473 Postage	\$2,747.75	\$3,050.15	\$(302.40)	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
474 IS/IT	\$12,373.02	\$10,141.66	\$2,231.36	\$11,000.00	\$12,500.00
481 Electricity	\$42,074.56	\$38,492.87	\$3,581.69	\$30,000.00	\$43,000.00
483 Heating Fuel	\$22,494.32	\$17,843.40	\$4,650.92	\$18,000.00	\$23,000.00
485 Water Maintenance	\$4,985.86	\$7,805.62	\$(2,819.76)	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
486 Improvement/Repair - Ewalu	\$18,680.03	\$66,124.45	\$(47,444.42)	\$15,000.00	\$21,000.00
487 Improvement/Repair - Stone	\$2,741.03	\$5,337.99	\$(2,596.96)	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
488 Insurance	\$78,487.87	\$61,315.65	\$17,172.22	\$62,000.00	\$68,000.00
<b>Total Operational Expense</b>	<b>\$189,407.20</b>	<b>\$214,765.87</b>	<b>\$(25,358.67)</b>	<b>\$158,750.00</b>	<b>\$189,750.00</b>
502 Quilt Auction Expense	\$9,223.93	\$10,054.68	\$(830.75)	\$10,000.00	\$9,000.00
503 Adventure Race Expense	\$14,364.92	\$302.34	\$14,062.58	\$6,000.00	\$22,000.00
511 Program / Camp Promotion	\$22,925.10	\$20,546.36	\$2,378.74	\$18,000.00	\$24,000.00
517 Development Expense	\$1,366.51	\$1,972.89	\$(606.38)	\$500.00	\$1,500.00
518 Employee Relations Expense				\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
519 Vehicle Fuel	\$6,227.58	\$7,878.50	\$(1,650.92)	\$8,000.00	\$7,500.00
520 Vehicle Expense	\$5,363.60	\$9,839.04	\$(4,475.44)	\$9,000.00	\$8,000.00
521 Mileage	\$102.48	\$894.31	\$(791.83)	\$500.00	\$4,500.00
532 Training	\$1,863.95	\$1,749.30	\$114.65	\$2,000.00	\$3,500.00
533 Employee/conference (Region 5)	\$1,260.00		\$1,260.00	\$3,000.00	\$500.00
534 Board Expenses	\$1,091.40	\$3,217.13	\$(2,125.73)	\$500.00	\$500.00
541 Recruiting	\$60.00	\$376.58	\$(316.58)	\$250.00	\$250.00
550 Finance Charge	\$476.04	\$401.93	\$74.11	\$250.00	\$500.00
551 Dues / Permit / License / Fees	\$8,923.71	\$9,579.80	\$(656.09)	\$10,000.00	\$8,000.00
552 Accounting Services	\$3,974.48	\$3,572.80	\$401.68	\$14,000.00	\$12,000.00
555 Miscellaneous Expense	\$9,725.90	\$8,630.31	\$1,095.59	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
556 Interest Payment	\$2,139.92	\$2,995.20	\$(855.28)	\$5,000.00	\$7,500.00
<b>Total General Expense</b>	<b>\$89,089.52</b>	<b>\$82,011.17</b>	<b>\$7,078.35</b>	<b>\$99,000.00</b>	<b>\$121,250.00</b>
631 Tools/Equip	\$302.72	\$739.36	\$(436.64)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
632 Office Equip - copier counter	\$1,261.79	\$1,017.65	\$244.14	\$1,000.00	\$1,750.00
633 Furnishings	\$110.24		\$110.24	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
635 Recreational Expense	\$7,884.05	\$4,956.97	\$2,927.08	\$5,000.00	\$8,000.00
637 Kitchen Equipment		\$3,233.83	\$(3,233.83)	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
<b>Total Equipment Expense</b>	<b>\$9,558.80</b>	<b>\$9,947.81</b>	<b>\$(389.01)</b>	<b>\$9,000.00</b>	<b>\$11,750.00</b>
881 Capital Campaign Expenses	\$188,342.53	\$123,337.22	\$65,005.31		
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,356,781.64</b>	<b>\$1,254,832.89</b>	<b>\$101,948.75</b>	<b>\$1,127,250.00</b>	<b>\$1,272,950.00</b>
Net Operating Revenue (Without Depreciation)	\$422,799.84	\$859,189.94	\$(436,390.10)	\$(3,750.00)	\$(32,382.00)
495 Depreciation Expense	\$155,920.80	\$155,920.80		\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
<b>Other Revenue</b>					
903 Gain/Loss - Fixed Asset Disposal	\$1,375.80	\$200.00	\$1,175.80		
<b>Net Other Revenue (Minus Depreciation)</b>	<b>-\$154,545.00</b>	<b>-\$155,720.80</b>	<b>\$1,175.80</b>	<b>-\$150,000.00</b>	<b>-\$150,000.00</b>
<b>Net Revenue (Including Depreciation)</b>	<b>\$268,254.84</b>	<b>\$703,469.14</b>	<b>-\$435,214.30</b>	<b>-\$153,750.00</b>	<b>-\$182,382.00</b>

# EWALU FINANCIALS

Balance Sheet—December 31, 2025

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
101 · General Checking -EWALU	40,053.81
105 · Petty Cash	528.19
110 · Capital Campaign	2,073,655.46
111 · Special Projects Savings	44,917.94
117 · Quilt Auction Acct	33,219.39
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$2,192,374.79</b>
Other Current Assets	
112 · Endowment Fund	659,656.52
113 · Temp Restricted Endowment Fund	44,370.08
114 · Restricted Endowment Fund	513,695.78
119 · Canteen Inventory	6,936.80
120 · Prepaid Expenses	18,504.50
122 · Payroll Credits Receivable	46,593.69
QuickBooks Tax Holding Account	4,757.23
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$1,294,514.60</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$3,486,889.39</b>
Fixed Assets	
155 · Buildings - Ewalu	2,939,219.41
157 · Buildings - Stone Center	668,481.16
160 · Equipment & Furnishings	211,659.05
162 · Equip & Furnishings - Stone Center	30,922.56
163 · Recreational Equipment	24,850.36
165 · Vehicles, Tools & Equipment	132,347.39
167 · Pool	272,755.09
170 · Land - Ewalu	522,358.00
172 · Land - Stone Center	52,671.11
175 · Accumulated Depreciation	-3,038,796.71
185 · Construction in Progress	41,436.45
186 · Horse Facilities	18,358.23
<b>187 · A-Frame Bridge</b>	<b>127,834.18</b>
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$2,004,096.28</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$5,490,985.67</b>

# EWALU FINANCIALS

Balance Sheet—December 31, 2025 (continued)

	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	
210 · Accounts Payable	2,164.45
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>\$2,164.45</b>
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
209 Emp Pension Deduct Payable	-394.60
211 Payroll Payable	4,728.11
215 Unearned Revenue-Sum Camp	9,010.00
216 Unearned Revenue-Day Camp	2,200.00
217 Deposits Payable	4,600.00
24000 Payroll Liabilities	\$4,939.57
253 Citizens Bank-Line of Credit	153,968.62
423 Flexible Spending Account	104.59
426 Supplemental Life Insurance	2.16
427 HSA EE Family	-252.53
428 Health Insurance Buy-Up	154.29
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$179,060.21</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$181,224.66</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
254 · Temporarily Rest Net Assets	147,064.89
290 · Fund Balance - EWALU	638,136.00
291 · Fund Balance - Stone Center	299,482.97
292 · Endowment Fund - Restricted	478,609.57
296 · Retained Earnings	1,680,472.29
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	1,795,710.40
Net Revenue	270,284.89
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$5,309,761.01</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>\$5,490,985.67</b>

# EWALU FINANCIALS

## Ewalu Endowment Report 2025

### Camp Ewalu Endowment Report 2025

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>Camp Ewalu Life Fund balance</b>	\$1,265,390.04	\$1,015,626.68	\$1,095,076.01	\$1,269,429.93	\$1,379,673.23
<b>Ewalu Fund with Dubuque Comm Foundation</b>	\$225,935.74	\$183,296.92	\$201,290.17	\$206,367.84	\$225,987.56
<b>Lybbert Fund for LVC held by DCF</b>	\$361,833.39	\$306,211.46	\$329,119.29	\$335,268.04	\$362,441.46
<b>Disbursements from Life Fund</b>	\$0.00	\$53,138.70	\$53,829.00	\$55,828.80	\$57,877.09
<b>Disbursements from Comm Foundation fund</b>	\$7,350.00	\$8,950.00	\$9,250.00	\$9,470.00	\$9,730.00
<b>Disbursement from Lybbert DCF held for LVC</b>	\$14,980.00	\$0.00	\$15,530.00	\$15,610.00	\$15,830.00
<b>Donations received for Life Fund</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,794.05	\$123,556.27	\$5,110.78
<b>Donations received for Comm Foundation fund</b>	\$2,500.00	\$962.80	\$3,873.77	\$1,250.00	\$2,714.22
<b>Return on investment for Life Fund</b>	10.79%	-15.54%	12.95%	9.74%	12.84%
<b>Return on investment for Comm Foundation fund</b>	15.69%	-15.34%	12.75%	6.61%	12.91%
<b>Return on investment for Lybbert DCF held for LVC</b>	15.29%	-15.37%	12.55%	6.61%	12.91%

Camp Ewalu’s Life Fund, which is controlled by the five members of the Endowment Committee, is the only endowment fund that camp has control over. The endowment funds managed by the Greater Dubuque Community Foundation (DCF) include the funds held for the Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) and the Invest in Iowa Community Foundation fund. Distribution limits are set by the Community Foundation. The fund held for the LVC is designated as to purpose for any disbursements. Also, due to the designations by donors to the Life Fund, distributions are broken down into three main areas, which are capital improvements, elementary education and environmental programs.

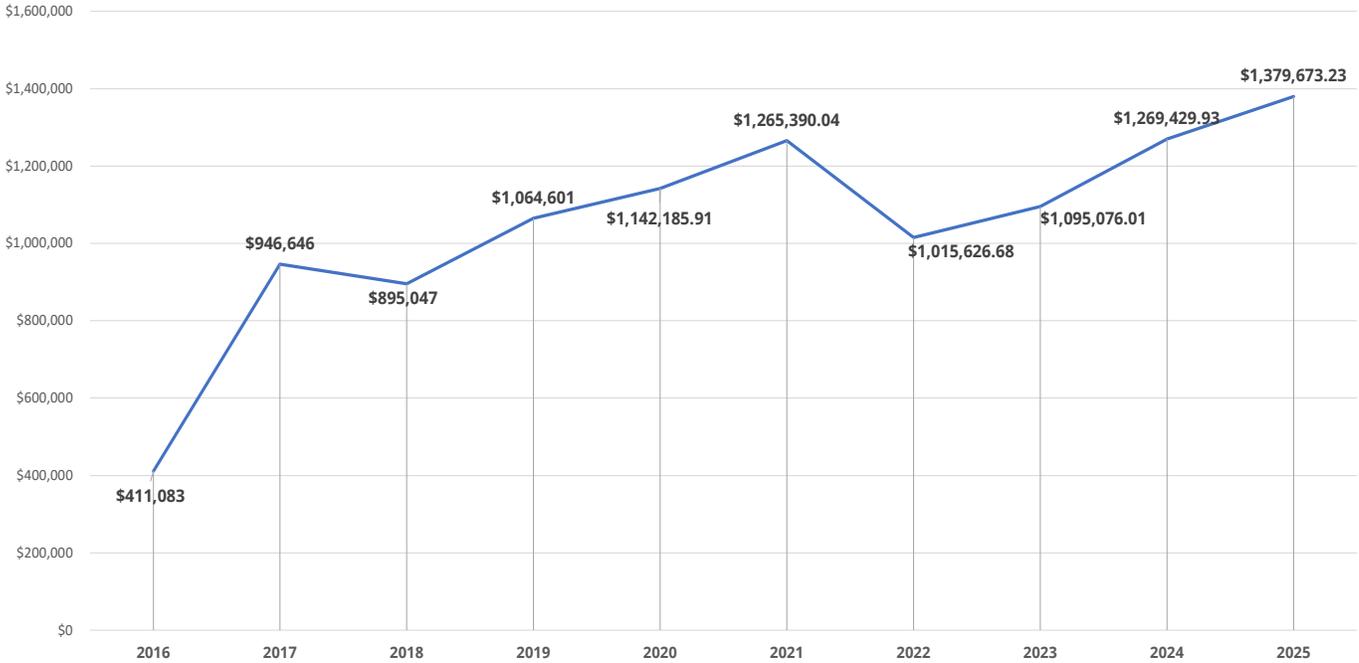
In April 2018, the endowment committee voted to have the Life Fund investments placed in a managed investment account with Thrivent Investments; Jeff Olinger is the fund manger for our Life Fund investments and is a certified fund manager. The cost of the managed account is comparable to, and in some cases slightly less than, a non-managed account. Before placing the funds in a managed account, the endowment committee members themselves were making the investment decisions.

This year the total amount available for distribution is **\$60,251.96**. The Endowment committee members are currently: Marcia Rueber, Jack Dahlby, Glenn Fenneman, Pam Ashing and Jim Meehan. Endowment Committee members are elected to a five-year term and cannot serve two consecutive terms.

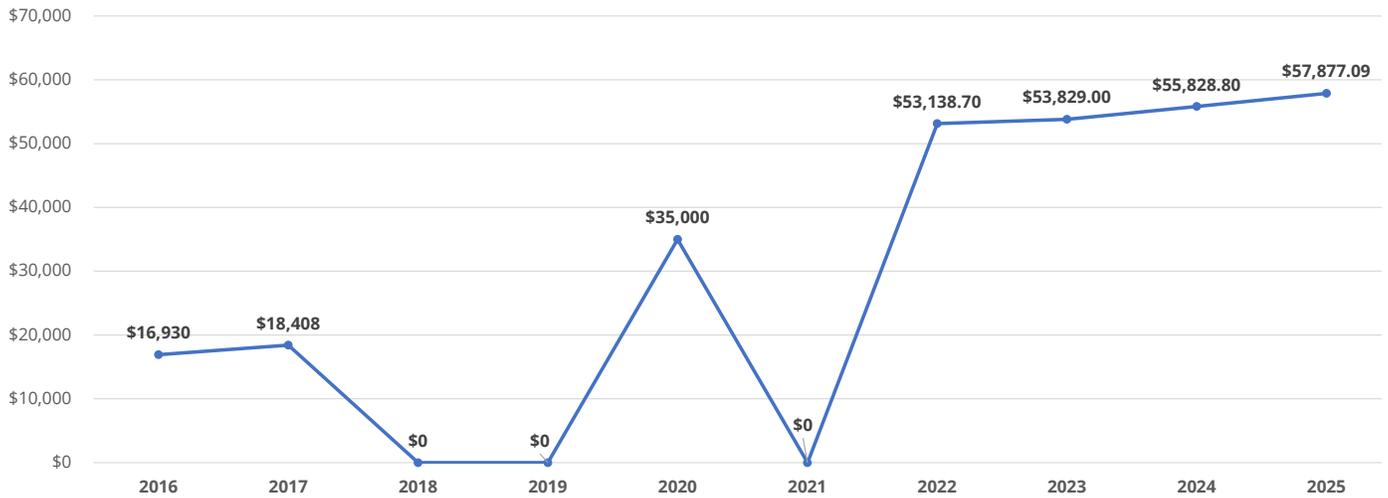
# EWALU FINANCIALS

## Ewalu Endowment Report 2025

### LIFE FUND YEAR-END BALANCE - 10-YEAR TREND



### LIFE FUND DISBURSEMENTS - 10-YEAR TREND



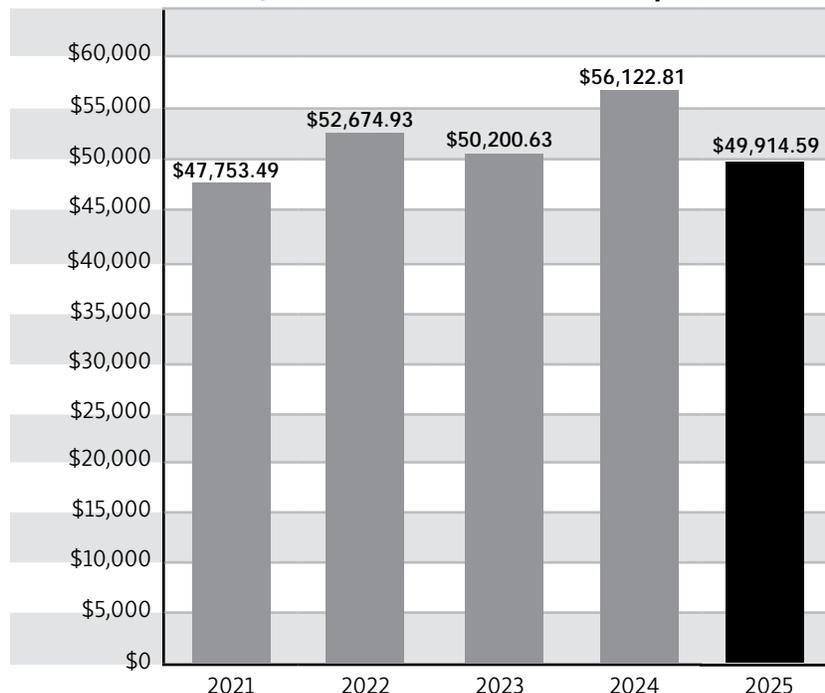
# Quilt Auction Report

The Ewalu Quilt Auction, held annually in September, depends on involvement from members of many congregations and allows supporters and friends to enjoy time at camp. In 2025, we had over 300 quilts and handcrafted items donated for the event. With 127 quilts and items auctioned in the Live Auction and nearly 200 additional items online, we had another great fundraiser that involves so many talented folks! *Watch for the next Quilters Luncheon in fall 2026, as our way of saying thank you.*

Quilt Auction Results 2025	
Live Auction quilt/item sales	\$34,545.00
Online Auction quilt/item sales + shipping charges and donations	\$20,332.00
Country Store sales	\$1,973.25
"In Lieu of Quilts" donations	\$250.00
Canteen Sales	\$1,111.50
Free-will Lunch Donations	\$1,964.05
Gross proceeds from Quilt Auction	\$60,176.32
Quilt Auction expenses	(\$10,261.73)
<b>Net proceeds from Quilt Auction</b>	<b>\$49,914.59</b>



Quilt Auction Net Proceeds Comparison



## Thank you!

The Quilt Auction is supported by many individuals, volunteers, and congregations.

*Thank you for supporting Ewalu!*

**Save the date for the 2026 Quilt Auction: Saturday, Sept. 19**

*Quilt & item donations due to the Ewalu office by Aug. 21 to guarantee inclusion in booklet.*

# NORTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD

## 2025 Congregations' Support & Usage Statistics

**NOTE:** "Camper Participation" totals reflect summer camp AND year-round retreat participation, for youth and adults. Monetary gifts may include gifts to the endowment and the capital campaign.

Congregation	Town	Camper Participation	No. of Retreats	Congregational Gifts	WELCA Gifts
St. James Lutheran Church	Allison			\$125.00	
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church - One in Faith	Arlington	11		\$552.00	\$200.00
Lord of Life Lutheran Church	Asbury	2			
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Balltown				
Calmar Lutheran Church	Calmar	8		\$202.98	\$100.00
Zion Lutheran Church	Castalia				
Bethlehem Lutheran Church	Cedar Falls	2		\$1,500.00	
Fredsville Lutheran Church	Cedar Falls				
St. John American Lutheran Church	Cedar Falls	3	2	\$2,500.00	
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Cedar Falls			\$182.45	
Messiah Lutheran Church	Charles City				
St. John Lutheran Church	Charles City	1			
St. John Lutheran Church	Clarksville				
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Peace	Clayton	1		\$150.00	
East Clermont Lutheran Church	Clermont				\$140.00
West Clermont Lutheran Church	Clermont	2		\$250.00	\$225.00
First Lutheran Church	Cresco	4		\$25.00	\$500.00
Immanuel Lutheran Church	Cresco	9		\$65.06	
Big Canoe Lutheran Church	Decorah	1		\$500.00	
Burr Oak Lutheran Church	Decorah	12		\$400.00	\$200.00
Canoe Ridge Lutheran Church	Decorah				\$150.00
Decorah Lutheran Church	Decorah	14		\$8,500.00	
First Lutheran Church	Decorah	31	1	\$7,950.00	

## NORTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD (continued)

Congregation	Town	Camper Participation	No. of Retreats	Congregational Gifts	WELCA Gifts
Glenwood Lutheran Church	Decorah	4		\$500.00	
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	Decorah	10		\$3,000.00	\$275.00
Hauge Lutheran Church	Decorah				\$200.00
Hesper Lutheran Church	Decorah	<i>(with Burr Oak, pg. 22)</i>			\$75.00
Highland Lutheran Church	Decorah				
Luther College Congregation	Decorah				
Springfield Lutheran Church (Calmar)	Decorah			\$150.00	\$150.00
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church	Decorah				
Washington Prairie Lutheran Church	Decorah			\$3,129.00	
St. John Lutheran Church (Maxfield)	Denver				
St. Peter Lutheran Church	Denver	8		\$3,000.00	
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church	Dubuque	7			
St. John's Lutheran Church	Dubuque				
St. Matthew Lutheran Church	Dubuque			\$459.80	
St. Peter Lutheran Church	Dubuque	8	1	\$2,200.00	
Wartburg Theological Seminary	Dubuque				
St. John Lutheran Church	Dundee	1		\$950.00	
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church	Dysart	4			
St. Peter Lutheran Church	Eldorado	5		\$585.00	\$100.00
Elgin Lutheran Church	Elgin			\$300.00	
Highland Lutheran Church	Elgin	1			
Bethany Lutheran Church	Elkader	0		\$1,453.29	
Hope Lutheran Church (Littleport) - One in Faith	Elkader			\$100.00	\$180.00
Zion Lutheran Church (Clayton Center)	Elkader				
St. Paul Lutheran Church (Maple Leaf)	Elma				

## NORTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD (continued)

Congregation	Town	Camper Participation	No. of Retreats	Congregational Gifts	WELCA Gifts
St. John Lutheran Church	Farmersburg				
St. John Lutheran Church	Frederika				
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church	Garnavillo	6			
St. Peter Lutheran Church	Garnavillo	12	1	\$1,950.00	\$200.00
St. John Lutheran Church (Vilmar)	Greene				
St. Peter Lutheran Church	Greene				\$50.00
American Lutheran Church	Grundy Center				
St. John's American Lutheran Church	Guttenberg	2		\$280.00	
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Guttenberg	2			
St. John Lutheran Church	Hampton				
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Hampton	3		\$800.85	\$300.00
Trinity Lutheran Church	Hawkeye			\$240.00	\$200.00
St. Timothy Lutheran Church	Hudson			\$171.00	
Immanuel Lutheran Church	Independence	11		\$500.00	
Bethany Lutheran Church	Iowa Falls	3		\$375.00	
Messiah Lutheran Church	Janesville				
American Lutheran Church	Jesup	4		\$220.00	
American Lutheran Church	La Porte City	1			
Zion Lutheran Church (Jubilee)	La Porte City	11		\$500.00	
Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Lansing				
Immanuel Lutheran Church (Crane Creek)	Lawler				
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Lime Springs			\$1,000.00	
St. John Lutheran Church	Luana				
Trinity Lutheran Church	Mason City	1			
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Maynard	1		\$750.00	\$200.00
First Evangelical Lutheran Church	McGregor	2			
Dwelling in Faith	Mitchell				

## NORTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD (continued)

Congregation	Town	Camper Participation	No. of Retreats	Congregational Gifts	WELCA Gifts
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Monona	13		\$3,753.52	
St. John Lutheran Church	Nashua				\$100.00
Trinity Lutheran Church	New Hampton	8		\$855.00	
St. Luke Lutheran Church	Nora Springs				
Zion Lutheran Church	Oelwein	2			
St. Peter Lutheran Church	Oran			\$245.00	
Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Osage				
Rock Creek Lutheran Church	Osage				
St. John Lutheran Church (Rock Township)	Osage			\$50.00	\$50.00
Stavanger Lutheran Church	Ossian	1			
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Postville	9			
Orleans Lutheran (Cresco)	Ridgeway				
Peace Lutheran Church	Ridgeway				
Peace Lutheran Church	Ryan	2		\$1,500.00	
Faith Lutheran Church	Shell Rock				
St. Petri Lutheran Church	Story City				
Emanuel Lutheran Church	Strawberry Point	14		\$662.90	
St. Sebald Lutheran Church - One in Faith	Strawberry Point	1		\$1,241.50	\$100.00
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church	Sumner	10		\$2,000.00	\$100.00
St. John Lutheran Church (Buck Creek)	Sumner			\$500.00	\$100.00
St. Peter Lutheran Church (Richfield)	Sumner			\$240.00	
Grace Lutheran Church	Tripoli	5			
St. John Lutheran Church (Crane Creek)	Tripoli	4		\$450.00	
St. Paul Lutheran Church - One in Faith	Volga			\$340.00	
Redeemer Lutheran Church	Washburn				
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd	Waterloo	1			\$1,757.64
Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Waterloo				

## NORTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD (continued)

Congregation	Town	Camper Participation	No. of Retreats	Congregational Gifts	WELCA Gifts
St. Ansgar Lutheran Church	Waterloo				
St. John's Lutheran Church (Bennington)	Waterloo			\$630.00	
Trinity American Lutheran Church	Waterloo	5			
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church	Waterloo			\$600.00	
St. John Lutheran Church (Stapleton)	Waucoma			\$20300	
St. John Lutheran Church	Waukon				
Northeastern Iowa Synod	Waverly		3		\$500.00
Redeemer Lutheran Church	Waverly	18	1	\$6,200.00	
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School	Waverly	21	2	\$1,269.02	
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Wellsburg				
Zion Lutheran Church	West Union	1		\$695.78	

# CLOSING THE GAP

Help us minimize borrowing to finish the Cedar Lodge project! Make a gift:  
[Ewalu.org/Cedar-Lodge-Project](http://Ewalu.org/Cedar-Lodge-Project)



CEDAR at 60

-  **Hospitality & Accessibility**
-  **Food Service & Dining Experience**
-  **Living Conditions for Summer Staff**
-  **Environmental Stewardship**

TOTAL: \$2.79 million raised!

NEW GOAL: \$3.4 million

- \$3.25 million
- \$3 million
- \$2.75 million
- \$2.5 million
- \$2.25 million

*\$2.1 million already raised in first phase of campaign!*



Learn more about the plans for Cedar!



Updated: February 25, 2026

# SOUTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD

## 2025 Congregations' Support & Usage Statistics

**NOTE:** "Camper Participation" totals reflect summer camp AND year-round retreat participation, for youth and adults. Monetary gifts may include gifts to the endowment and the capital campaign.

Congregation	Town	Camper Participation	No. of Retreats	Congregational Gifts	WELCA Gifts
Bethesda Lutheran Church	Ames	7		\$1,929.00	
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Anamosa				
Faith Lutheran Church	Andover			\$450.00	\$50.00
Salem Lutheran Church	Andrew			\$500.00	
Zion Lutheran Church	Atalissa				
St. John Lutheran Church	Bellevue			\$150.00	
St. John's Lutheran Church of St. Donatus	Bellevue				\$50.00
Redeemer Lutheran Church	Bettendorf	1			
St. James Lutheran Church	Bettendorf				
Trinity Lutheran Church (Pleasant Valley)	Bettendorf			\$250.00	
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	Bloomfield				
Calvary Lutheran Church	Buffalo				
Bethany Lutheran Church	Burlington	1			
Messiah Lutheran Church	Burlington	6			
Unity Lutheran Church (formerly Trinity LC & Faith LC, now combined)	Burlington			\$199.92	
Faith Lutheran Church	Calamus				
Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Calamus	3			
Immanuel Lutheran Church	Camanche				
First Lutheran Church	Cedar Rapids	14		\$500.00	
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church	Cedar Rapids	14			
Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church	Cedar Rapids			\$203.00	
Hope Lutheran Church	Cedar Rapids	3			
Our Savior's Lutheran Church	Cedar Rapids				

## SOUTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD (continued)

Congregation	Town	Camper Participation	No. of Retreats	Congregational Gifts	WELCA Gifts
St. Andrew Lutheran Church	Cedar Rapids				
St. Stephen's Lutheran Church	Cedar Rapids	6		\$500.00	
Elvira Zion Lutheran Church	Clinton				
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Clinton	2			
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church	Clinton	1			
All Saints Lutheran Church	Davenport				
Grace Lutheran Church	Davenport			\$100.00	
St. Mark Lutheran Church	Davenport				
St. Matthew Lutheran Church	Davenport				
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Davenport	2			
Zion Lutheran Church	Davenport	2		\$360.00	
Capitol Hill Lutheran Church	Des Moines	3			
Grand View Lutheran Church	Des Moines				
Hope Lutheran Church	Dixon				
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church	Durant				
Faith Lutheran Church	Eldridge				
St. John Lutheran Church	Ely	18			
Ascension Lutheran Church	Goose Lake				
St. John Lutheran Church (Bliedorn)	Grand Mound				
St. Peter Lutheran Church	Grimes	1			
St. John's Lutheran Church	Grinnell				
Fjeldberg Lutheran Church	Huxley				
Palestine Lutheran Church	Huxley				
Redeemer Lutheran Church	Indianola				
Christ the King Lutheran Church	Iowa City	27		\$1,500.00	
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church	Iowa City	6			
Southeastern Iowa Synod	Iowa City				

## SOUTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD (continued)

Congregation	Town	Camper Participation	No. of Retreats	Congregational Gifts	WELCA Gifts
Zion Lutheran Church	Iowa City	2		\$2,500.00	
St. James Lutheran Church	Johnston			\$100.00	
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	Knoxville				
St. Paul Lutheran Church	La Motte				
Seeds of Faith Lutheran Church	Lisbon	4			
Bethlehem Lutheran Church	Lost Nation			\$2,000.00	\$120.00
First Lutheran Church	Maquoketa	7		\$720.00	
First Lutheran Church Conroy	Marengo			\$650.00	
Ascension Lutheran Church	Marion	8			
Faith Lutheran Church	Marion	3	1		
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection	Marion	13		\$1,000.00	
Elim Lutheran Church	Marshalltown				
Our Savior Lutheran Church	Marshalltown				
Trinity Lutheran Church	Marshalltown				
Immanuel Lutheran Church	Mediapolis			\$200.00	
St. Matthew Lutheran Church	Monticello			\$500.00	
St. Peter & St. Paul Lutheran Church	Monticello	6			
Wayne Zion Lutheran Church	Monticello	2		\$1,093.36	
Grace Lutheran Church	Muscatine	2			
New Era Lutheran Church	Muscatine				
Shepherd of the Cross Lutheran Church	Muscatine	2			
Zion Lutheran Church	Muscatine	2		\$5,200.00	
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church	North Liberty	4		\$1,100.00	
New Life Lutheran Church	Norwalk				
St. John Lutheran Church	Olin				
St. Paul Lutheran Church	Ottumwa				
St. Mark Lutheran Church	Oxford Junction	2			

## SOUTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD (continued)

Congregation	Town	Camper Participation	No. of Retreats	Congregational Gifts	WELCA Gifts
Peace Lutheran Church	Pella		1		
St. John Lutheran Church	Preston				
Zion Lutheran Church	Princeton				
Calvary Lutheran Church	Sabula				
Bethlehem Lutheran Church	Slater	3			
Swedesburg Lutheran Church	Swedesburg			\$500.00	
Trinity Lutheran Church	Tipton	1			
Bethlehem Lutheran Church	Vinton	3			
Trinity Lutheran Church	Walford	11			
Immanuel Lutheran Church	Washington				
Bethany Lutheran Church	West Branch				
Peace Lutheran Church	West Burlington				\$100.00
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church	West Liberty	1			
Windsor Heights Lutheran Church	Windsor Heights			\$500.00	
Zion American Lutheran Church	Wyoming	2			\$50.00

**PRICING AS LOW AS \$220\*  
FOR A WEEK OF CAMP!**

**Camp Ewalu**

**2026 SUMMER  
REGISTRATION  
NOW OPEN**

[WWW.EWALU.ORG/SUMMER-CAMP](http://WWW.EWALU.ORG/SUMMER-CAMP)

**Wear Love**  
COLOSSIANS 3:12

\*IF YOU REGISTER BY APRIL 15

# GIFTS TO CAMP EWALU

**Your gifts have IMPACT at Ewalu!** It takes many of you offering your gifts of prayer, time, donations of specific items needed at camp, and financial contributions to support the mission and ministry of Ewalu. We are grateful for your generous hearts. Without you, this ministry would not thrive and change lives by connecting the Word of God to the world of God. We thank those list here for their financial gifts to the General Fund, the Cedar at 60 campaign, the Campership fund, and for gifts in kind. (NOTE: Donors of quilts and items for the annual Quilt Auction are listed in the Quilt Auction Report, which can be found online at [www.Ewalu.org/Quilt-Auction](http://www.Ewalu.org/Quilt-Auction).)

---

## GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS

Kimberly and Sean Abbas  
Al and Judy Albrecht  
Juan Jo Alitz  
Kristi Dienst and Alan Allbee  
Candace and Richard Altorfer  
Amy Wilms Anderson  
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Estate of Lois Cordes  
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Dale and Frances Kittleson  
Dave and Lisa Kittleson  
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Mark and Laura Klingner

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 David Strudthoff  
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 Carrie and John Martin  
 Jason and Karin Martin-Hiner  
 Paul Marxen  
 Toni and Gregory Mason  
 Leslie Matthias  
 Ronald Matthias  
 Bruce and Grace Maurer  
 Mary and Dr. Greg Maxwell  
 Michael and Marge McCoy  
 Amanda and Daniel McCurley  
 Edward and Janet McEvoy  
 Thomas McGrane  
 Sheri McKechnie  
 Doug McKechnie  
 Nicole and Andy McRoberts  
 Jim and Sarah Meehan  
 June Mehlhaus  
 Cheryl Melchert  
 Debbie Merrill and Michael Murray  
 Lindsey Meyer



**October 3, 2026**

**WILD DRIFTLESS**  
 ADVENTURE RACE

EST. 2025

**ELKADER, IA**

[www.WildDriftless.com](http://www.WildDriftless.com)

**WILD DRIFTLESS LITE:  
 5-HOUR RACE**  
 Trekking | Biking | NO Paddling  
 Special Tasks

**WILD DRIFTLESS:  
 9-HOUR RACE**  
 Trekking | Biking | Paddling  
 Special Tasks

 **DETAILS & REGISTRATION**  
 Volunteers needed  
 for race day!  
 Sign up online.

## GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS (continued)

Charles and Ria Meyer  
Nadyne and Larry Meyer  
Jessica Michael  
Sharon and Alton Midthus  
Joann Hillery and Nathan Miller  
Joyce Miller  
Carol and Larry Minard  
Virginia Mitchell  
Pr. Jack and Rachel Mithelman  
Andrew and Stephanie Moeller  
John and Lindy Moeller  
Linda and Richard Moeller  
Sheryl and James Moeller  
Arthur Walter Moellering  
John and Linda Mohr  
Dr. Bridget Monaghan  
Robert and Rosalie Moninger  
Margaret Monson and John Freund  
Kevin and Julie Monson  
Anita Moon  
Emma Jean Moore  
Garry and Delores Moose  
Kimberly and Curt Mueller  
Dale and Jo Ellen Mueller  
Tad and Lisa Mueller  
Tawanda and Bethany Murinda  
Michele Myrom  
  
Keri and Derek Navratil  
Pr. Paul Nelson  
Ramona and Cy Nelson

Chad Nelson  
Matthew and Kenza Nelson  
Lisa Nelson-Nguyen  
Greg and Melanie Nichols  
Robert Nicolai and Jeanette White  
Carrie and Jake Nimrod  
Dale and Sonya Nimrod  
Dona and Carey Noble  
Cynthia Nodland  
Crystal Nodurft  
Marissa and Scott Nordschow  
Derek Norland  
Estate of Norma Kappmeyer  
Martha Noyes  
Bonnie Nus  
Tim and Beth Nuss  
Gene and Jane Nuss  
  
Darlene O'Brien and Lisa Heying  
Karla O'Connor  
Gary and Deatra O'Dell  
Ronald and Barbara O'Kones  
Emma Olk  
Tom and Dixie Olmstead  
Kenneth and Therese Olson  
Lana and Ervin Ott  
Karen Ott  
  
Jeanette and Richard L. Pagel  
Diane Parker  
Alison and Michele Peck

Megan and Trevor Petersen  
Barbara Peterson  
Dianne and Robert Peterson  
Pr. Wayne and Irene Pfannkuch  
Rev. Frank and Dr. Janet Philipp  
Connie Picken  
Stan Poe  
Pr. Mark and Lesley Pries  
Michelle and Larry Prohaska  
  
Renee and Craig Rabe  
Carol and Lyle Rasmussen  
Paul and Paula Rasmussen  
Joan and Jon Rasmussen  
Richard and Donna Rasmussen  
Jim and Mary Jo Rathe  
Victor and Dianne Rathje  
Douglas and Cynthia R. Recker  
Pr. Linda L. Reichstadter  
Cheri and Jamie Reider  
Douglas and Kathryn Reimer  
Richard and Shirley Retz  
Susan and Dennis Richter  
Susan Richter  
Rachel Riensche  
Pr. Troy and Laura Rife  
Peggy Jo and Steven Robbins  
Rev. Kristen Corr and Charlie Rod  
David and Bette Rod  
Richard and Barbara Roepke  
Paul and Darlys Rogers

## GIFTS FROM ORGANIZATIONS & BUSINESSES

*THANK YOU to these organizations and businesses  
(and churches not listed elsewhere) for their support of Ewalu!*

Bear Creek Construction & Roofing LLC -  
Edgewood  
Citizens State Bank - Strawberry Point  
Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque  
Crowning Revelations - Houston, TX  
ELCA Youth Ministry Network  
First Evangelical Lutheran Church (NALC) -  
Manchester

HJR Financial Group - Coralville  
Northeastern Iowa Synodical Women's  
Organization  
NAPA Auto Parts, Jim Oelrich - Strawberry Point  
St. Matthew Lutheran Church WELCA (NALC) -  
Readlyn  
Winding Media, Josh Voigt - Cedar Falls  
Zion Ruth Circle WELCA (NALC) - Readlyn

## GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS (continued)

Rick and Linda Rogness  
Andrew and Carrie Roquet  
Donald and Eleanor Roquet  
Ricky and Michelle Roquet  
Russell and Ann Roquet  
Janice Rosauer  
Gwen Rosenberg  
Pastor Willie and Jennifer Rosin  
Myrna Ross  
Rebecca and Christopher Rothfuss  
Ron and Ann Rowland  
Valarie and Andrew Rowland  
Marcia and Doug Rueber  
Connie Ruhser  
Gina and Perry Russett  
Joan Emmaline and Richard Rust  
Karri Buresh and Dale Rutledge  
Pastor Steven Rye  
Dean Ryerson

Sonja Salvesson  
Ellen and Jared Samuelson  
Eugene and Barbara Sanderman  
Sarah and Blair Sanderson  
Jean Sandrock  
Stephen and Denise Saunders  
Frank and Mary Scamman  
Stephanie and Eric Schares  
Edwin and Rennie Scharlau  
Rich and Linnae Scheffel  
Galen Schellhorn  
Marietta Schemmel  
Joel and Susan Schlatter  
Anna Mae Schlatter  
Karen Schmidt  
Dr. Jean and Pr. Curtis Schneider  
Neil and Ruth Schraeder  
Steve L. Schuchmann  
Evelyn Schultz  
Susan Schulz  
Rae Nette Schurman  
Carolyn Scott  
Bob and Sadie Sersland  
David and Darlene Shaw  
Sue Simonson  
Dennis and Amy Smith  
Pr. Corey and Brandy Smith  
Dian Smith  
Allan (AW) and Mary Smith

Dr. Andrew and Margaret Smith  
Brian and Ann Soenen  
Pr. David and Diane Solberg  
Pr. Ronald Spears  
Paul Specht  
Angela and Chris Spier  
Craig and Jeanette Spilde  
Ron Stahlberg  
Beth and Mike Stanek  
Joyce and Bill Steffenson  
Karen and Glen Steffenson  
Estate of Earl Steffenson  
Tim Steffenson  
Daniel and Kimberly Stieler  
William and Janet Striepe  
Gerhard O. Strohmmer  
Denise and David Strudthoff  
Larry and Eleanor Stumme  
Sue Suek  
Sherri and Keith Swartz  
Jana Swenson  
Robert and June Swenson  
Darryl and Shelly Syverson

Kathy and John Tegler  
Jon Tehven  
Ronald and Jane Thein  
Abbie and Nick Thompson  
Pr. Luther and Paula Thoresen  
Richard Tiegs and Carolyn Laxson  
Billie Jo and Martin Timm  
David and Shirley Titman  
George Tobiason  
Pr. Larry Trachte  
Abs Trewin  
Sherry and Ronn Trudo  
Sue and Mark Tull  
Ken Turnquist and Linda Tellberg

Gerald and Susan Vallem  
Lance and Ellen Vanderloo  
Dave and Brenda Versteeg  
Will Versteegh  
Nicole and Gary Vogt  
Anabeth and David Voigts  
David and Anabeth Voigts

Sherillynn Wagner  
Dr. August and Barb Waltmann

Donna and Harry Walton  
Ruth Warmanen  
Craig and LeAnn Watson  
Shirley and Kenneth Wellnitz  
Dr. Gilbert and Mary Wessel  
Arol Westervelt  
Charlotte and Duaine Westpfahl  
Tom Weyant  
Madge White  
Sarah and Shane Wicks  
Michelle Wikner and Michelle Norman  
Daniel and Betsy Wild  
Cheryl Wilms and Ron Versteegh  
Audrey and Roger Wilms  
Marsha and Mark Witte  
Don and Nancy Wolfe  
Lilly Womeldorf  
Sharla and David Wrage  
Amanda Wuest  
Tim and Janet Wuest  
Joan Wuest

Gene and Gloria York

Carol and Carl Zander  
Burkard and Marina Zellner  
Kay and Dave Zepeski  
Joel and Ann Black Ziegelbein  
Nathan and Meredith Zietlow  
John and Vicki Zietlow  
Norm and Donna Zimmerman  
Kirk Zismer  
Kathleen Zwanziger

# TRIBUTES

*Celebrating the memories of those who have gone before us, and honoring those who journey with us! Gifts to Camp Ewalu are an opportunity to have loved ones and friends remembered and honored. Your gifts in memory or honor of loved ones provide programs of life and promise in the name of Christ. The following gifts given to Camp Ewalu during 2025 are in tribute of those listed in bold.*

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## GIFTS HONORING:

**All former and current board members, staff and volunteers**

Karla O'Connor

**Paul Behrends**

David & Shirley Titman

**Bryce Biedermann**

Carie & Corey Fisher

**Elle & Harry Blobaum**

Ruth Warmanen

**Rev. Melvin and Mary Lou Blobaum**

Paul Blobaum & Dennis Azuma

**William R. Brown**

Karen Brown

**Brenda Bush Jess**

Sherillynn Wagner

**Carr Family**

Pr. Mark & Jennifer Carr

**Caitlin Clougherty Stack**

Jennifer & Leo Clougherty

**Dennis Christeleit**

Roger & Mary Knehans

**Lois Cordes**

Lois Cordes Estate

**Dave Davidson**

Debra Gardner

**Pastor John Deines**

Keith & Dawn (Deines) Christensen

**Phyllis Dougherty**

Kimberly & Tim Duggan  
Darlene O'Brien & Lisa Heying  
John & Linda Mohr

Karen & Glen Steffenson

Joyce & Bill Steffenson

**Emily Dreessen Tull**

Eugene & Barbara Sanderman

**James R. Eby**

Dick & Joyce Fishwild  
Eulyn Frostestad  
David & Shirley Titman

**Dr. Sarah Efflandt and Pr. Dave Efflandt**

Harry & Elle Blobaum

**Jayne Margaret Eiben**

Robert & Margaret Hoversten

**Dale Farris**

Harry & Elle Blobaum

**Rachel Foelske**

Sarah & Blair Sanderson

**Paul Frantsen**

Pr. Steven Rye

**Lois Freese**

David & Shirley Titman

**Valeria Frey**

Rev. Kevin & Marian Frey

**Pr. Simon Fue from Tanzania**

St. James Lutheran Church,  
Johnston  
Zion Lutheran Church,  
Davenport

**Dr. James (Jim) Fuller**

Carolyn Laxson & Richard Tiegs

**Dale Gohl, former Ewalu staff**

David Gohl  
Aaron & Lindsay Johnson

Sherrill & Marvin Kriefall

**Dale & Susan Goodman**

St. Peter Lutheran Church,  
Dubuque

**Pam Gordon**

Sherry & Ronn Trudo

**Pr. Dennis Hanson**

St. John Lutheran Church,  
Dundee

**Matthew Charles Harper**

Alexis & Robert Casey  
Phyllis Chang & Judith Gerlitz  
Jeff & Kristi Harper  
Jim & Sarah Meehan  
Gwen Rosenberg

**Dorothy Harrison, Lawrence**

**Noe, Larry Reuter, Bill**

**Mitchell, Dixie Jaens**

Paul & Darlys Rogers

**Laurel Hibbard**

Carolyn Laxson & Richard Tiegs

**Virginia Mae Hinders, James**

**Stanley Chandler, Cheryl**

**Winter**

Lana Luhring-Bailey & Shawn Bailey

**Pr. Tyler Hoey**

Evangelical Lutheran Church  
of Peace (Clayton)  
Susan & Tom Hoey  
Alyssa Hoey  
Jade & Steffen Hoey  
Kristin Hoey & Ike Branstad  
Arthur Walter Moellering  
Billie Jo & Martin Timm

*Continued on next page*

# TRIBUTES (continued)

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## GIFTS HONORING:

**David Hokanson**

Nancy Hokanson

**JH Hoskyn**

James & Elizabeth Hoskyn

**Willis John Huck**

Jane Huck

**Pam Jaben**

Kara & Christopher Godwin  
Kelley Foehrkolb & Greg Van  
Sickle

**Jesus Christ**

Crowning Revelations

**Fred Johnson**

Katherine Gibson

**Gerald Johnson**

Linda Johnson

**Haleisa Johnson**

Everett & Jean Blobaum

**Norma M Kappmeyer**

Carolyn Laxson & Richard  
Tiegs  
Joyce & Bill Steffenson  
Norma Kappmeyer Estate

**Dean and Elsie Kittleson**

Dave & Lisa Kittleson

**Richard Larson**

Gail Larson

**William Linstrom**

Kathy & John Tegler

**Robin Ludeking's dog (puppy)**

**Lacey, 16 years old**

David & Laurie Ludeking

**Beth M.**

Kendra & Justin Elwood

**March Confirmation Retreat**

First Lutheran Church,  
Decorah

**Demery & Caleb Maughan**

Barbara Peterson

**Marilyn Mohr**

Kimberly & Tim Duggan

Darlene O'Brien & Lisa  
Heying

John & Linda Mohr  
Karen & Glen Steffenson  
Joyce & Bill Steffenson

**Howard Mueller**

Harry & Elle Blobaum

**Nelson Family Reunion**

Chad Nelson  
Ron & Ann Rowland

**Millard and Lavonne Nelson**

Valarie & Andrew Rowland

**Jack Neumeister, camper**

Paige & Justin Elledge

**Lucille (Lucy) Nieman**

Michael Murray and Debbie  
Merrill

**Karen Ott**

Susan Richter

**Les and Elaine Peterson**

Debbie & Dennis Green

**Norma Putnam**

Karen & Glen Steffenson  
Joyce & Bill Steffenson

**Ozzie Quandahl**

Carolyn Laxson & Richard  
Tiegs

**Redeemer Lutheran Church  
(Waverly) 60th Anniversary**

Stephanie & Jay Boeding

**Betty Rehmke**

Bethlehem Evangelical  
Lutheran WELCA - Lost  
Nation

**Nelson Reunion**

Bridget Berns

**Mary Reynolds**

Abbie & Nick Thompson

**Dennis Richter**

Susan Richter

**Steve and Peggy Robbins**

Erin & Doug Campbell

**Ron Roe**

Jackie & Mark Fober

**Roquet Family**

Mark & June Birdnow

**Cindy Rose and Liz Bowen**

East Clermont Lutheran  
WELCA

**Anne Rosenberger**

Susan Cunningham

**Pastor Warren Frank Salveson**

Harry & Elle Blobaum  
Mike & Carla Cooley  
Pr. Kenneth & Barbara Gamb  
Dale & Susan Goodman  
Edna Kamper  
Karen & Mark Lehmann  
David & Bette Rod  
Ron Stahlberg  
John & Vicki Zietlow

**Aaron Schutte, former  
counselor**

Sandy Caya

**St. John Lutheran Church  
(Dundee) 125 Year Anniversary**

St. John Lutheran Church,  
Dundee

**Kati Stieler**

Daniel & Kimberly Stieler

**Rex Struve**

David & Shirley Titman

**Summer Staff 2025**

Kimberly & Curt Mueller

**Supporting Jesse, McKenzie  
and Maggie and all future  
campers**

Dan & Jayne Kielman

**Colby & Joyce Withers, Lynn  
(Schroeder) Lubben, Lily  
(Berner) Pitts, Herold Rhemke,  
Kathryn Jepsen, Charlen  
(Bartels) Walsh**

Elenor Bentrrott

**Al and Ethel Zwanziger**

Kathleen Zwanziger

# 2025 VOLUNTEERS

*We rely on volunteers for so much at Ewalu! The folks listed below have donated their time in various ways, from helping at Work Days, to filling in during summer camp, or cleaning out Cedar Lodge, helping with meals, doing landscaping work around camp, and much more. And don't forget about the Quilt Auction! Thank you to those listed here for all the ways you give of your time to the glory of God at Ewalu!*

Zavier Alexander	Peyton Hahn	Don & Kerri Nelson
Melissa Alexander	Aimee Hangartner	Mariah Nuss-Schmitz
Jared & Courtney Almandinger	Brent Hanna	Karla O'Connor
Keaton Anderson	Marva Hanna	Karen Ott
Paige Anderson	Dan Harms	Megan Petersen
Pr. Ginger Anderson-Larson	Carrie Harper	Ken Pitt
Allison & Deno Andrews	Kristi and Jeff Harper	Andy & Quinn Potts
Michael Aubrey	Pr. Neil Harrison	Will Reisner
Michael Babcock	Pr. Tyler, Miranda & Cal Hoey	Mike Roberts
Sue Bahe	Kristin Hoey	Shania Robison
Harry & Elle Blobaum	Sue & Tom Hoey	Janice Rosauer
Pr. Minna Bothwell	Pr. Maureen Howard	Ellen Samuelson
Ike Branstad	Richard & Sandy Hyman	Darlene Sarvis
Aaron, Kristin, Finnigan and Sadie Cannon	Gary Johnson	Rich & Linnae Scheffel
Patrick Cannon	Pr. Kate Longtin-Johnson	Summer Staff (Cedar Clean Out)
Theo Carr	Lauren Johnson	Bill & Joyce Steffenson
Laura Carruthers	Lisa & Naomi Kammerer	St. Peter LC youth, Garnavillo
Rev. Nikki Cooley	Ian Keller	Ronda Stonerook
Chuck Corr	Nicole Kiefer	Betty Sullivan
Mark & Jill Davidson	Roger & Mary Knehans	Sherri Swartz
Evan Dreessen	Marissa Kolander	Abbie Thompson
Kelley Foehrkolb	Pr. Kari Lee	Mark & Sue Tull
Katherine Gibson	Paula Letsche	Tina Vaughan
David Gohl	Lily Lumb	Will Versteegh
Diane & Mike Gohl	Jill Marquardt	Hal Versteegh
Crystal Golay	Leslie Matthias	Max Versteegh
Sarah & Devin Grainger	Rachel Meehan	August & Barb Waltmann
Daniel, Allie, Sylvie & Beau Grainger	Israel Mockray	Dave Wessels
Jace Gruman	Lily Moninger	Cheryl Wilms
Schlee Gulrud	Zach & Kelsey Morgan	Pr. Margaret Yackel-Juleen
	Kimberly Mueller	Carol & Carl Zander
	Nick & Delaney Neihus	Dan & Devon Zauche

## 2025 'HOLY FOLDERS'

These faithful and joyful volunteers save camp thousands of dollars in postage and stuffing fees by helping with our mailings several times a year. We always have a great time of fellowship while we work! Contact the office at 563-933-4700 if you are interested in serving in this way.

Beth Bachman	Erhart Hehr	Joan Moody
Harry & Elle Blobaum	Richard & Sandra Hyman	Emma Jean Moore
Dave & Rita Dudley	Lisa & Naomi Kammerer	Lana & Erv Ott
Kelley Foerhkolb	Roger & Mary Knehans	Joyce & Bill Steffenson
Katherine Gibson	Leslie Matthias	Ronda Stonerook
Chuck & Janice Hamlett	Carol Minard	Cheryl Wilms

# 2025 EWALU SUMMER STAFF

NAME	SUMMER POSITION	HOMETOWN
Neo Alexander	Counselor	Cedar Rapids, IA
Sam Anderson	Houseboating Coordinator & Outdoor Adventure Specialist	Ryan, IA
Josie Barber	Counselor	Cedar Rapids, IA
Jhon Castrillon Restrepo	Counselor	Medellín, Colombia
Annie Cummer	Farm Coordinator	Strawberry Point, IA
Wren Feuerhelm	Counselor	Farmersburg, IA
Natalia Flack	Counselor	Iowa City, IA
Emily Frey	Foresters Coordinator	Postville, IA
Hileni Gebhard	Counselor	Namibia
Rosemary Godwin	Co-Trailroom Coordinator	Lakeville, MN
Rony Gonzalez	Counselor	Charles City, IA
Jesus (Lalo) Gonzalez Camacho	Counselor	Puebla, Mexico
Jace Gruman	Counselor	Strawberry Point, IA
Logan Hartwig	Out-Trip Coordinator	Amana, IA
Gabe Hiner	Counselor	Decorah, IA
Hanna Jimenez Gonzalez	Counselor	Ibagué, Columbia
Nadia Johnson	Mediographer	Ridgeway, IA
Bea Johnston	Counselor	Clarence, IA
Bojta Kadlecik	Counselor	Hungary
Caleb Kammerer	LT Coordinator	Cresco, IA
Makenna Kammerer	Pool Coordinator	Fort Dodge, IA
Brooklyn Kelchen	Counselor	Winthrop, IA
Carter Kowitz	Pioneers Coordinator	Decorah, IA
Ansel Kowitz	Counselor	Decorah, IA
Paige Lange	Night Camp Coordinator	Decorah, IA
Matthias Letsche	Chaplain	Waverly, IA
Ruth Meehan	Health Officer	Iowa City, IA
Rachel Meehan	Program Assistant	Iowa City, IA
Oliver Michael	Day Camp Coordinator	Independence, IA
Jared Moninger	Confirmation Coordinator	Iowa City, IA
Rylee Moran	Counselor	Independence, IA
Nathan Ottesen	Counselor	Strawberry Point, IA
Will Reisner	Uplifted Coordinator	Sumner, IA
Kristen Rosauer	MAD Camp Coordinator	Cedar Rapids, IA
Emma Runge	Counselor	St. Peter, IL
Brylee Rupp	Co-Trailroom Coordinator	Waverly, IA
Claire Streif	Arts & Crafts Coordinator	West Union, IA
Heather Swartz	Trailblazers Coordinator	Madison, WI
Lexie Vogt	Counselor	Iowa City, IA
Emily Vogt	Counselor	Iowa City, IA
Luke Walter	Mini/Farm Mini/Explorers	Decorah, IA
William Wicks	Counselor	Cedar Rapids, IA

# EVENTS & RETREATS IN 2026

Visit [www.Ewalu.org/events/](http://www.Ewalu.org/events/) for year-round event details!

## APRIL 15 | Second Early Discount Deadline for Summer Camp

Register before April 15 for a \$20 early discount on all week-long overnight programs, and \$10 off for Mini Camp and Day Camp. Go to [www.Ewalu.org/Summer-Camp](http://www.Ewalu.org/Summer-Camp) to see options & sign up!

## MAY 2 | Spring Volunteer Work Weekend

Great work projects for all ages and abilities. Help us get ready for summer! Come on Friday evening and stay overnight for free at Ewalu (RSVP for lodging by calling the office: 563-933-4700).

## MAY 20 | Great Give Day (online)

This online giving event through the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque offers special bonuses as we raise funds for Ewalu over a 24-hour period. Watch our social media for details as the date approaches!

## MAY 30 | Donor Appreciation Event (new time and date!)

Our annual Donor Dinner is our special way to thank those who support Ewalu with their time and treasures! Watch for your invitation to a garden party-style event and be among the first to see the renewed Cedar Lodge with a tour.

## JUNE 7 | First Day of Summer Camp

Register at [www.Ewalu.org/Summer-Camp](http://www.Ewalu.org/Summer-Camp)! We have 8 weeks full of programs for Grades 1-12!

## JUNE 12-14 | Family Camp Weekend

An opportunity to enjoy a weekend at camp with your family! Families can sleep in cabins, lodges, or settle into the campground. All types and sizes of families welcome. This is a Friday-Sunday camp.

Cost: \$135/Adult | \$110/Age 14 and under | FREE for ages 1-3! **Additional Weekend: July 10-12**

## JUNE 22-24 | Grandparent Camp

Grandparents and grandkids can experience camp together in this special program. Stay in the comfort of the Stone Center and shuttle to Ewalu daily for fun camp activities. This is a Monday-Wednesday camp.

Cost: \$185/Adult | \$160/Child (designed for ages 4-12, but all ages welcome) **Additional Session: July 13-15**

## SEPTEMBER 19 | 39th Annual Quilt Auction (live event)

Our largest annual fundraiser includes a live auction at camp and a separate online auction starting Sept. 14! To donate quilts and other quality handcrafted items, please mail or bring to the Ewalu office by Friday, Aug. 21, to make sure you are included in our auction booklet. Details at [www.Ewalu.org/Quilt-Auction](http://www.Ewalu.org/Quilt-Auction).

## OCTOBER 3 | Wild Driftless Adventure Race in Elkader



Adventure racing is a bike-trek-paddle sport for teams (solo racers also welcome). Participants will navigate on trails and off-trail through the beautiful landscape of the Driftless Region in Northeast Iowa. 2 courses for teams and solo racers: The Wild Driftless Lite is a 5-hour race, great for beginners, and the Wild Driftless is a 9-hour race. New to adventure racing? Check out the website to learn more! Details, costs and registration at [www.WildDriftless.com](http://www.WildDriftless.com). Proceeds benefit Camp Ewalu and area conservation nonprofits. *Volunteers needed—details at the website.*



[www.WildDriftless.com](http://www.WildDriftless.com)

## OCTOBER TBA | Autumn Odyssey - 55+ Retreat

Enjoy a 3-day, 2-night retreat with other seniors at the comfortable Stone Center, with meals and hotel-style lodging provided along with time to relax, plus optional activities to enjoy the outdoors and the beauty of autumn in NE Iowa. Watch for details, featured speaker and registration later this year!

## NOVEMBER TBA | Quilters Luncheon

Quilt Auction donors, we want to thank you with a special event and meal in 2026! Watch for details and your invitation later this year.