



Greetings!

It has been nearly two months since the last edition of Forest & Fables at Walter Scott and a busy two months it has been! During March and April we have served over 1,000 meals from our kitchen, had over 250 nights of usage by guests, and 12 different fishing groups began to get nibbles on their lines in the lake. Our geothermal system has been fully installed into the Retreat House and the wells and lines have been ran for our remaining buildings as we convert them before the end of the decade. At the same time the goats have continued to clear invasive brush as we've begun working on dead-hedge to serve as some fencing.

As we look ahead, we are quickly approaching camp season! Memorial Day Weekend Family camp will be here in a little under a month followed by our service week and then four weeks of youth camps in June and July. Our other weekend youth camps will lead us into August before Labor Day Weekend Family Camp takes us into September. We are excited for all the ways in which God will move as Spirit during these camps and the opportunities afforded by this Holy Ground. We can't wait to share some of those stories with you later this year.

As a final note, I will be taking off the month of May for paternity leave! This means our next Forest & Fables should be expected at the end of June. If you have any questions or needs during that time, please reach out to Rev. Eli Rolón-Jeong at eli@ccwdisciples.org.

Peace on the Journey,

Clayton Summers
Resident Minister and Caretaker

Summer Camp Sign Ups



If you or a child in your life are looking for a summer of community, peace, and opportunities for faith formation in God's Creation, look no further than our many summer camp opportunities! From 1:1 time between a trusted adult and child at You & Me Camp to a weeklong camp by themselves, the memories will last a lifetime. If you're looking for something for the whole family, our two family camp weekends around Memorial Day and Labor Day offer a less structured time where you prepare your own meals, spend time in relaxation and recreation, and attend an evening campfire or two with brief keynotes. Perhaps you're looking for something entirely different, like our completely free service week where you bring the skills you have (or a willingness to learn) and leave your mark on this sacred place. As always, if cost is an obstacle, let us know so we can help with scholarship assistance; we aim to never turn away a child or youth who wants to come to camp on the basis of cost.

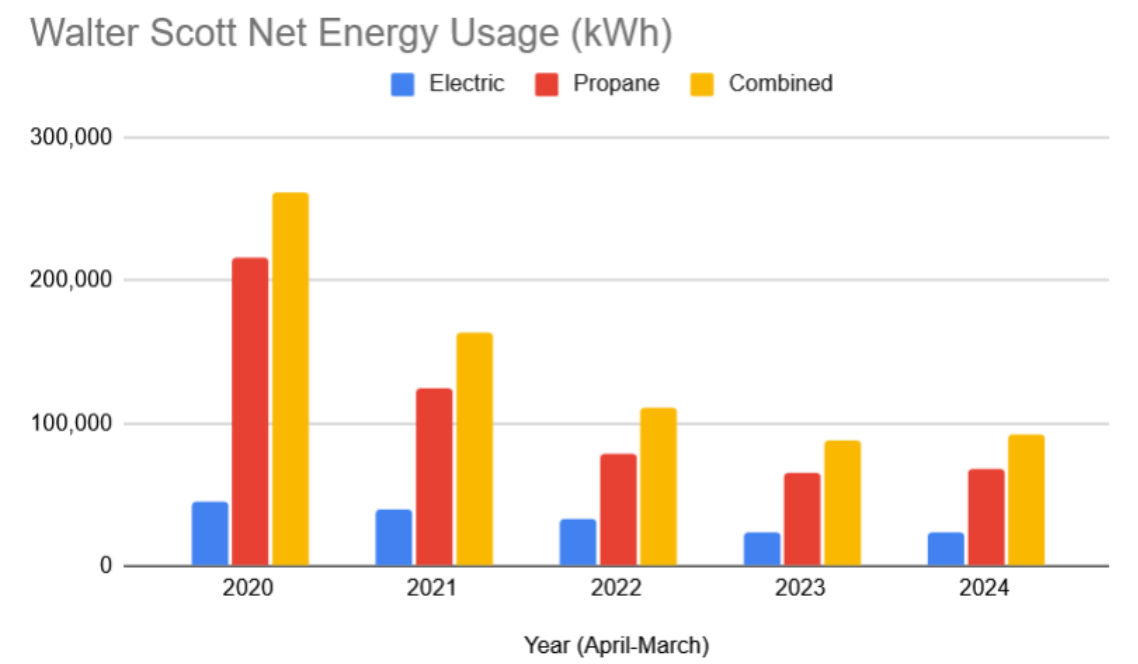
[Check Out Our Camps!](#)

Reimagining Old Spaces



We have updated the back office in our main building into another apartment space! This will allow us to sleep more guests, house more volunteers during camps, and create more individual spaces for retreats and reflection. We are excited for the ways in which this will enable us to continue to live into collaboration with more people and authentically live out our hospitality.

Conservation & Caring Gently for God's Creation



At Walter Scott, we continue to do our best to care gently for God's Creation, and reducing our energy usage is a keystone practice in our endeavor. Tracking our utility bills over the past five years, we are able to tell a story of reducing facility energy usage by 66% in the same period we have seen an increase in total overnight stays, total meals served, and total numbers of visitors to the grounds. Propane usage has decreased nearly 70% and net electric is down nearly 50%. To be clear, this data reflects no appliances being converted from gas to electric, but a holistic approach to energy conservation as well as the installation of our first solar array. Let's dive in to all the changes that added up to make this picture (and which you can do at your church, business, non profit organization, home, or anywhere!)

[Read More...](#)

Build Your Own Experience at Walter Scott



At Walter Scott, we want to enable you to build a retreat, gathering, or experience for your group which lives into the unique opportunities we have to offer (beyond just recreation). If you're considering having an event, start the conversation with us today to learn how your event can incorporate one or several of the listed opportunities into a stay at Walter Scott.

[Build Your Own Experience](#)

Photo Gallery...Follow us on Instagram for more!



Caring for Creation



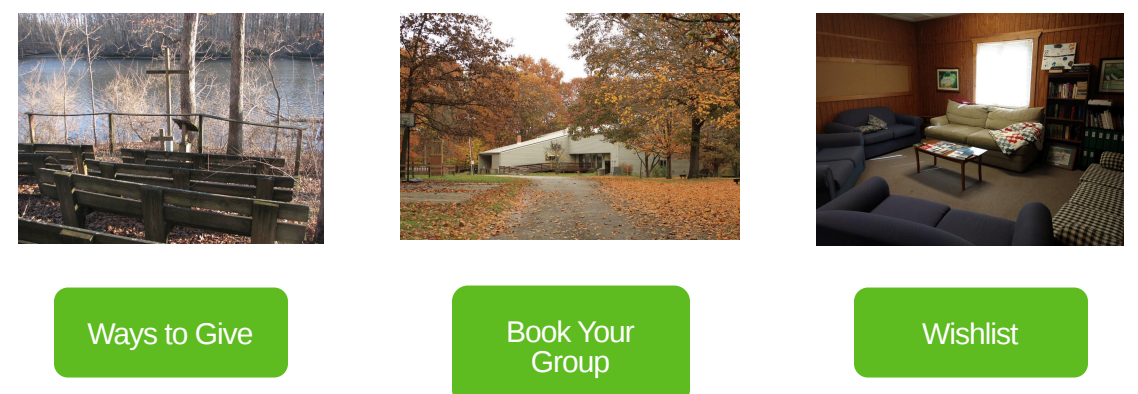
This next section is a recurring article about the theme of Creation Care. Each article is written by a different member of the Disciples diaspora who are linked to Walter Scott. The topics, views, and focuses will vary, but the connection with faith and practice will remain constant.

Waste and Witness: A Family Learns Creation Care
By Rev. April McClure-Stewart

Like many in my generation, I grew up with messages that recycling was good, littering was bad, and we should turn off the lights when leaving a room. My faith formation included some environmental stewardship—our youth group washed dishes for after-church fellowship rather than using disposables. But I hadn't spent much time thinking about the theology of Creation Care until my family became part of a Mennonite Church (USA) congregation. The Mennonite Church (USA) is the progressive arm of the Anabaptists in the US. Though its congregations vary in theological and cultural expression, they share a commitment to being transformed by the Spirit of Jesus into people whose lived-out witness...

[Read More...](#)

Sowing Wild Seeds

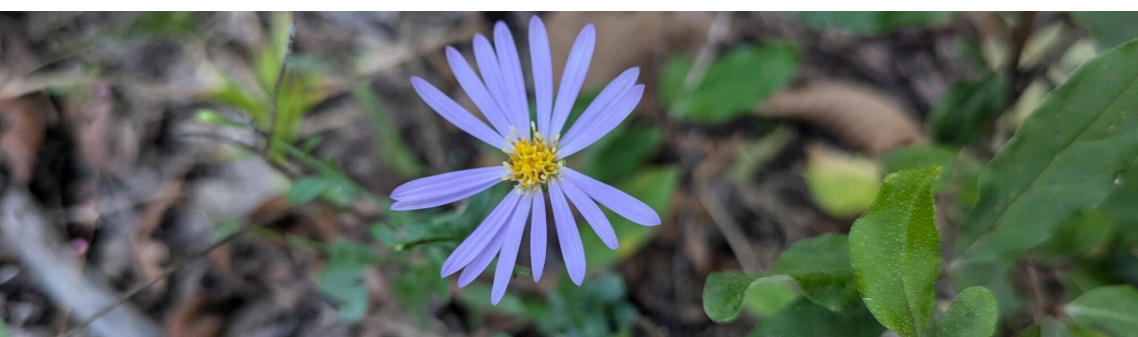


[Ways to Give](#)

[Book Your Group](#)

[Wishlist](#)

The Land Beneath Our Feet



Quick Creation Care Tip

Green Your Laundry Routine!

- Use cold water when washing clothes to reduce energy use. Energy is needed to heat water. You can also opt for a shorter wash cycle.
- Only do laundry when the load is full. Not only does this save water and electricity but it also saves you money and time. You can either wait until you have more items to wash or combine your partial load with your family or housemates.
- Avoid using energy to dry your laundry by hanging a laundry line or using a drying rack. This cuts down on your electricity bill as well!

- Adapted from Creation Justice Ministries

Unsubscribe from this list

Walter Scott Camp and Learning Center
15290 E. 300th Ave
Dietrich, IL 62424
(301) 570-6885
caretaker@ccwdisciples.org



Since you stuck around this long, enjoy the goats. And care gently for God's creation.

