



Greetings!

I hope you are well as you are reading this and if residing in the Midwest, enjoying the gorgeous (and yet unseasonal) cool temperatures which are still hanging around for at least another week. This month at Walter Scott has been quieter as many return to the patterns of a school year and its associated activities and responsibilities. Nonetheless, we still hosted a Celebration Recovery group this month, several groups for fishing, and our Advisory Board held their third quarter gathering. We also had several members of the Walter Scott diaspora put together resources for LGBTQ+ youth and their families to find hope, community, and affirmation.

Looking ahead, the fall at Walter Scott is packed! We are currently in the midst of our Labor Day Family Camp Weekend, have a workday next weekend, a K9 Search & Rescue retreat the following week, and then Disciples' Men's & Women's Retreat to round out September. Believe it or not, October is even more packed with November still having its weekends booked through Thanksgiving.

As we look ahead and the seasons continue to change, we live into our being as stewards of this place to help it change for the flourishing of all of God's Creation. Our dock will have been completely rebuilt by this fall, the main hall bathrooms renovated over the upcoming winter, and the goats will continue to munch away at our invasive underbrush. There are many ways for you to be involved in what we are doing at Walter Scott and we have many new programmatic initiatives just around the corner we're excited to share with you soon. As always, feel free to reach out with an email, message, or phone call to chat and if you're in the area - hot tea, coffee, and conversation are great additions to any day. I'll be seeing you soon!

Peace on the Journey,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Clayton Summers'. The script is fluid and cursive.

Resident Minister and Caretaker

Our New Dock





Starting last winter, we have been working towards a refresh of our beach swimming area and we were happy in August to kick our plans off in earnest with the removal of the old swimming dock and professional installation of the new! The old dock was 4' wide with a 12'x8' swimming platform at the end, while this new dock is 6' wide with a 12'x20' swimming platform at the end. Additionally, instead of the 4"x4" wood posts used in the old dock and wooden superstructure, the new dock has 7" steel and concrete pylons with a steel super structure. This should ensure this new structure lasts for decades to come and that the wooden top can be replaced several times before the structure itself needs replaced. The land portion is being constructed at our upcoming workdays with more improvements to the beach area as well! Make certain to visit soon to experience it for yourself!

A Program for Everyone



This fall at Walter Scott, our programming lineup has something for everyone (really, we mean it!)

- Workdays are a way to give back to this sacred place to so many - Sept. 6 & Nov. 1
- For those adults seeking more spiritual depth in community, we are having Disciples' Men's and Women's Retreats the last two weekends in September.
- The Disciples' Women have another opportunity on November 8th with their Ties That Bind Quilting Retreat!
- For those who want an alternative worship experience for all ages, come to our Friendsgiving Table Worship on Sunday, November 9th from 5-7PM for good food, good community, and a message of hope.
- Youth and sponsors will definitely enjoy fall vibes, good speakers, and a lot of fun activities at the Fireside Fall Retreat November 21-23.

Take some time this autumn to reset, take a bit of Sabbath, and spend some time in God's Creation at Walter Scott. We're here for you.

[Learn More & Sign Up for a Workday!](#)

[Sign Up for the Disciples' Men's Retreat](#)

[Sign Up for the Disciples' Women's Retreat](#)

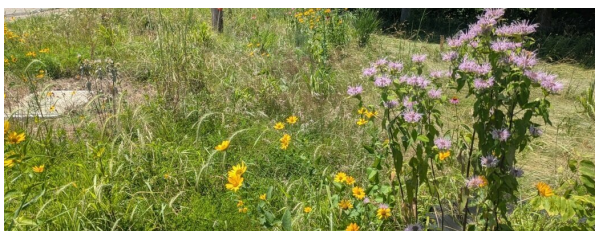
[Sign Up for the Ties That Bind Quilting Retreat](#)

[RSVP for Friendsgiving Table Worship](#)

[Learn More & Sign Up for the Fireside Fall Retreat](#)

[2026 Programming](#)

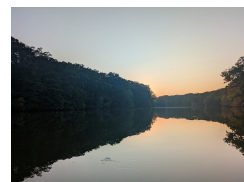
ICYMI (In Case You Missed It) A Blog!



What do old wooden pallets, dropping off hazardous household waste, and installing our new dock on the lake have in common? We have written articles about these on our social media in the past month! We know not everyone uses social media and social media algorithms don't always show all of our content to everyone, but we have a solution - a blog. Follow the link below and bookmark the page to stay up to date between editions of Forest & Fables. Usually on the Monday of each week, we will publish all our social media articles to the blog, so make sure to check back each week!

[Don't Miss It - Check Out Our Blog!](#)

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



Meet the Neighbors!



Meet another one of our neighbors, *Castor Canadensis*. *Castor Canadensis* (or the North American Beaver) is one of the residents in Lake Walter Scott and a vitally important species. While they do indeed gnaw on trees and they do eat fish and other animals within the lake, this isn't necessarily a bad thing. They act as a keystone species, changing the landscape and geography of where they reside to make new habitats for even more species to move into. By creating dams and altering water flows, they create more wetlands. This in turn continues the cycle of flourishing as these new habitats and biodiversity create more of the same. Who would have guessed a rodent who have such a big and beneficial impact? As stewards of God's Creation, we can only properly care for what we know, and a great place to start is learning a bit about a keystone species.

Sowing Wild Seeds



[Ways to Give](#)



[Book Your Group](#)



[Wishlist](#)

The Land Beneath Our Feet





Quick Creation Care Tip

As a CONSUMER, you can... pressure retailers and corporations to become green by the choices you make of what to buy and what to refuse or reduce. You can also switch from shopping with big shippers and their excessive packaging to thrifting and estate sales, using your own reusable bags. - UMC Justice Movement

Unsubscribe from this list

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



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