



Greetings!

November is in the rearview mirror here at Walter Scott but not without the memory of temperatures from 20-80°F (in the same week) and the leaves quitting their branches. While God was moving in this non-human Creation, God was also present at Walter Scott in the human as well. We hosted several volunteers who helped us care for this special place, a Disciples Women's Quilting event, a table worship experience around a Friendsgiving Table, a college retreat group, a family baking event, and our youth Fireside Fall Retreat! While these events close out our major season for the year, we are grateful to have spent so much time in relationship and building relationship.

December this year will be, like in most years, a time for PPP. Policy, Planning, and Projects. We are updating our policies to continue to be proactive instead of reactive - both for our core youth camping ministry and for our many partners who use the grounds throughout the year. We are planning out promotions for the facility and programs in the coming year, strategies for building more relationships, and how to utilize much of the grant money we have received! That brings us to projects; the main floor bathrooms at Walter Scott are currently being renovated, and will be complete during December or near the beginning of 2026. We will be laying out the groundwork for a chapel revitalization and renovations for full kitchenettes in sleeping areas. Finally, we will be planning a new Creation Care videos series for release in 2026 using short form media (Reels, TikToks, Shorts, etc.) to engage all ages about how we can best care for our common home.

The future ahead of us is bright because it is a path we are all treading together. We are grateful for each of you who read this Newsletter and who support the ministry which impacts thousands and has made such an impact on each of us. Have a happy and safe holiday this week and we'll talk to you again in December.

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,

Clayton Summers

Bathroom Renovations Underway



The main bathrooms at Walter Scott have served us well for many years, but with all things time takes its toll. Loose tiles, sagging wall coverings, and failing plumbing have been the story of these bathrooms the last few years. We are therefore extremely grateful to our friends at the Rekindle Foundation for their funding of our bathroom remodel!

Starting the day after our last event for the year, our contractors began demolition (saving as many materials for repurposing as they could) and will continue to remodel the bathrooms. Instead of a men's and women's bathroom, the new bathrooms will be four self contained individual bathrooms (sink and toilet) with one still featuring a shower. The bathrooms will also be more easily cleanable with a combination of tile and moisture-resistant paint.

We're excited to see the end product and are grateful this will continue to be a reflection of the hospitality of Christ to the many who come to our facility in the year's ahead.

Walter Scott is Looking for a Pickup



Rather than selling or trading in your used truck, consider donating it to Walter Scott! Your donation of a pickup would help improve camp management functionality of hauling equipment, retrieving large orders, assisting during landscaping projects, as well as helping move other items around the camp. To see if your pickup donation is a good fit for CWS, please contact Resident Minister, Clayton Summers at (501) 570-6685 or acsummers@cciwdisciples.org.

The fine print: (1) A clear title & authorized signature is needed. (2) Within 30 days, a tax donation receipt will be provided to the donor. The receipt, IRS form 1098-C, will include:

- The "fair market value" of the vehicle.
- Year, make, model, and VIN information.
- A statement that no goods or services were received in return for the donation.

Check if Your Pickup is a Good Fit!

2026 Workdays



Believe it or not, we're only seven weeks away from our next workday at Walter Scott! This will be our first winter workday (at least in recent memory) and will focus on indoor tasks in our heated buildings. Depending on what skills you bring, there will be opportunities to put carpentry, plumbing, electrical, organization, cleaning, cooking, are more to use!

We'd love to see you at any of our workdays or our full service week, all of which are free, including overnight housing and meals. If you're interested, let us know you're coming by following the button below.

If you would rather volunteer on your own schedule, we accept volunteers throughout the year for a wide variety of projects. Check out the "Adopt-a-Project" section by following the button below to see some of the projects we have available or just reply to this email with what skills you have!

[Volunteer at Walter Scott!](#)

Climate Ambassador Training



We're hosting a free, virtual training to help you talk about climate change in ways that inspire real action. Whether you're just getting started or already active, you'll gain tools, confidence, and community.

-  January 10, 2026
-  10:00AM-2:00PM (Central)
-  Virtually (Zoom)

At Walter Scott we care deeply about all of God's Creation and know this training enables us to be the best stewards we can. Like the resurrected Christ, we hope we may be mistaken as gardeners.

We'll watch short videos, join in small-group discussions, and take part in hands-on activities to:

-  Understand key climate science and impacts
-  Connect climate issues to your values and community
-  Explore practical, real-world solutions
-  Build confidence in communication and advocacy
-  Craft your personal message for action

After the training, you'll be invited to join a national network of nearly 5,000 Climate Ambassadors with access to resources, events, and ongoing support.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

[Register for Climate Ambassador Training](#)

Green Justice at Walter Scott



Green Justice is a brand new opportunity provided through the Walter Scott Camp & Learning Center.

This opportunity will provide hands-on education over five nights and four days with opening and closing forest church worship experiences. Food for meals and snacks will be provided and prepared communally as a cohort for the experience. During this time together we will focus on climate change mitigation, better caring for (and knowing) our Creation-kin neighbors, restoring biodiversity, and advocacy across all topics.

We will be rooted in our common human vocation as laid out in the opening of Genesis, to steward the rest of God's Creation of which we are a part. As stewards of Creation, we are called to find the spots we have worn thin and the threads we have frayed so we may repair them and restore the whole to the best of our ability. Through weaving together Scripture, Science, and Story with hands-on activities, this opportunity will equip participants to care gently and justly for God's Creation in their communities.

This experience will be led by Rev. Clayton Summers, the Minister in Residence at the Walter Scott Camp & Learning Center.

[Learn More & Register!](#)

Look Ahead to 2026!



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 - Jan. 17, Apr. 18, Nov. 7
- Green Justice at Walter Scott - March 23-28
- Resurrection (Sunrise) Service - April 5 (Easter)
- Non-Profit Fair - April 11
- Faith and Climate Forum - April 25
- More!

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.

Look Ahead at 2026 Programming

ICYMI (In Case You Missed It) Fireside Retreat



At our Fireside Youth Retreat, we had a great weekend with our youth, their sponsors, our staff, and our volunteers. There were keynotes, campfires, Taskmaster, Goats, D&D, Good Meals, and more! But ultimately, we were most thankful for spending time in community and building relationships.

If you want to stay up to date not just with the Forest and Fables, but with all of our communications, make sure to check out our "blog" page on our website, where we post everything we put on social media (for those who don't want to be on it).

[Check Out the Blog!](#)

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



Meet the Neighbors!



Meet another one of our neighbors, Fungi! An entire branch of the tree of life, fungi come in all colors, shapes, sizes, and configurations. They're as varied as a woodpecker is from a blue whale in the animal kingdom and are everywhere! Some of the fungi here at Walter Scott decompose and recycle dead and decaying plant and animal matter, some function primarily as a nutrient transfer agent for trees, and others still exist just as mold and mildew. Fungi even are one half of the symbiotic and resilient lichen we see in grays, greens, and blues growing on tree bark.

Fungi are a necessary and wonderful part of God's Creation that help us and our beloved forest at Walter Scott to flourish. To better care for them, we can reduce our tilling of soil (which chops up their near invisible 'root' systems) and stop using fungicides on lawns. We can even help nature's recyclers by combatting invasive species that harm other parts of the ecosystem upon which they rely.

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 our neighbors.

Sowing Wild Seeds

[Ways to Give](#)[Book Your Group](#)[Wishlist](#)

The Land Beneath Our Feet



Quick Creation Care Tip

The innkeeper gave shelter to the Holy Family and likely some food too. Who in your community is struggling with meeting basic needs? Volunteer at a local shelter or donate to a food drive. Seek out opportunities that help people and planet. Both are in need. - 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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