



**Lake Wapogasset**  
LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP, INC.



Camp Wapo



Ox Lake



Wilderness  
Canoe Base

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[lakewapo.org](http://lakewapo.org)

## Congregational Report 2022

**Thank you for being a Partner Congregation!** We remain grateful and inspired by the work and support of so many people who've continued to rally around this ministry in order that others should experience fellowship in community and come to know Jesus in these beautiful outdoor spaces. We are grateful for a year filled with campers and retreat guests, for our donors, prayer warriors, and our partner congregations. Though Covid continued to provide challenges during the year, our staff was thoughtful, diligent and creative in finding solutions so that safe & healthy ministry opportunities could happen.

**Summer 2022** We were back to business as usual at Wapo and Ox Lake welcoming over 3700 campers and families to camp. Wilderness Canoe Base sent 98 guided canoe trips into the BWCAW as well as hosted family groups and island camp on site. Our summer staff was outstanding! They were required to be flexible and resilient - and they excelled, often times responsible for unexpected tasks. We are constantly looking for young adults to work at camp so if you know someone who would be perfect, please send them our way! It's the perfect resume builder for any future career path.

**Strategic Plan Initiative** In December the Board approved the Strategic Plan Initiative. The Initiative focused on mission and core values and three main Strategic areas: Identity, Inclusivity, and Generosity/Engagement. Some of the first tasks to be completed in 2023 include: comprehensive site plans, the formation of a Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, Inclusion (DEAI) committee and the completion of a DEAI assessment, and a development audit to enhance fundraising capacity. We are confident this strategic initiative will help us provide meaningful and transformative outdoor ministry experiences for all.

**Hello and Farewell** In 2022 we welcomed Gay Gonnerman, to serve as the Director of Donor Engagement. With her vast experience in working with donors she is ready to work with individuals and families who want to support camp in all sorts of ways. Please reach out to her if you want to learn more about opportunities to support camp ([gayg@campwapo.org](mailto:gayg@campwapo.org)). We said goodbye to Bill & Kristin Middlesworth, who have served WCB for the past 7 years. We are so grateful for their diligent care of facility and people. Gracious hospitality, attention to every detail, and good hard physical labor were at the center of their work. We wish them every success in their new roles and community in Colorado.

**Retreats and Events in 2021** Retreats at Wapo and Wilderness continue to transition back to pre-pandemic schedule. Reach out to Ryan ([ryanb@campwapo.org](mailto:ryanb@campwapo.org)) to schedule your retreat at Wapo or Wilderness. Special events also looked a lot more normal in 2022. We hosted over 400 people for our Memorial Day Pancake Extravaganza, our 20<sup>th</sup> year of the Wapo Golf Tournament hosted 31 foursomes for a fun day on the course, and over 1000 guests and volunteers helped us welcome in Advent with 8 performances of the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Christmas Dinner Theater.

**Mission Support Fund** This year Wilderness Canoe Base received a \$40,000 gift match for the GiveMN Give to the Max day. On November 17<sup>th</sup>, friends of WCB met that match, raising just over \$80,000 for Wilderness Canoe Base. We also had a tremendous response to our Mission Support Fund appeal to support operating and camper scholarships. Every gift has a life changing impact on thousands of lives each year.

**A New Project for Camp Wapo** We are currently working on plans for a complete kitchen remodel and additional dining and meeting space at Camp Wapo. Stay tuned to learn more about how you can help support this important project.

**Our theme for 2023 is “All the Stars”** Isaiah 40:26 says “Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? God who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of God’s great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.” As a child of God, each of us has been beautifully and wonderfully made. Like all the stars in the sky, we are called by name and cannot be lost. No matter where we are in life, we belong to God.

We look ahead with eager anticipation and a sure sense of hope. See you at camp in 2023!