



2022 Annual Report



Exploring God in creation
Growing faith in community
Engaging the world as followers of Jesus

Executive Director's Report

Dear Good Earth Village Members,

We did it! We saw the return of our regular summer programming in 2022! You all provided the support to ensure that the best of outdoor ministry - life-affirming, soul-enriching programs, games, hikes, singing, canoeing, and friendships built on a foundation of Christian faith - was alive and vital in southeast Minnesota.

The world is different than it was three years ago. Many of our member congregations and other ministry partners are still feeling the effects of the pandemic and shut downs. While many of us have implemented lessons that we learned during that time, we continue to find new joys and new ways to reach our constituencies. We can never go back to the way it was, so we have to embrace new opportunities and celebrate the lessons we have learned in recent years.

A lesson that I personally was very glad to have reinforced was how committed the Good Earth Village community is.

From founders to staff alumni, from former campers to ministry leaders, and so many others, we have been very grateful for your support and love in the form of monetary gifts, cards and letters, and volunteer hours. Truly, the



reason that faith breakthroughs and leadership insights are realized is because of your care and stewardship.

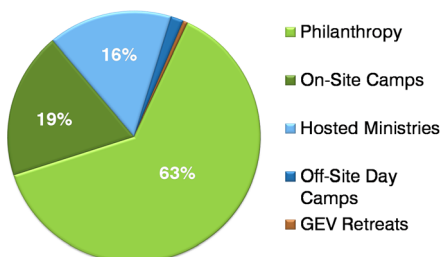
Thank you for providing the financial and human resources it takes to provide year-round professional faith formation. I hope that you will visit as you are able, and keep sending your support. It takes a village to make Good Earth Village, and each of you is vital. Together we are changing the world through our people.

Sincerely,

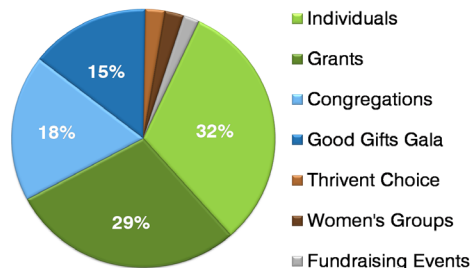
Dianna M. Parks
Executive Director



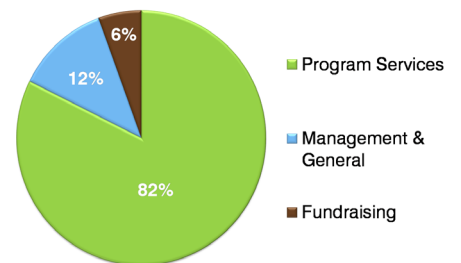
Sources of Revenue



Sources of Contribution



Expenses by Category



Program Director's Report

2022 Summer Theme: *Created Good* "God saw all that God had made, and it was very good." Genesis 1:31

Created to Create: We are called to be co-creators with God. Campers explored the story of Noah and the Ark and how God calls us to create things.

Created to Wonder: We are called to wonder within God's creation. Campers read the story of Abram and how his descendants would be as numerous as the stars. Campers learned about the importance of having awe and wonder for God's creation.

Created to Care: We are called to care for all of God's creation. Campers heard the story of Jesus and the paralyzed man and learned how to follow the example Jesus gives to care for others even if we don't know them.

Created to Flourish: We are called to flourish as God's creation. Campers learned that God created us not to be stagnant but to flourish! The story of Jesus and the children was used to show that God wants us to flourish at every stage in our lives.

Created to Share: We are called to share the abundance of God's creation. The story of Jesus feeding the five thousand was used to show how we are called to share our experiences and resources to love our neighbor.

Summer 2022, allowed campers to explore God in creation, make new friends, and reflect on what God has created us to be. We were surrounded by God's beautiful creation here at camp, and it gave us countless opportunities to wonder and be in awe of God's handiwork. Campers were encouraged to love God and each other throughout their time here at camp. It is our hope that campers left this place with a renewed sense

of God's love for them and how they might live life differently knowing that they are created good.

The Go Fish! program was implemented in July. We had a cabin full of enthusiastic campers ready to learn how to fly fish. We welcomed a local fly fishing expert to come and teach our campers the basics on the first day, and from there they went on to catch many trout! The Thursday Evening

Worship this summer connected all the daily themes of Bible study. Campers moved to different locations around camp. Each location had a story skit, and an interactive station. The stations included a drawing, a guided meditation, a hand-washing blessing and an affirmation circle. Campers then had a time to reflect both personally and in their cabin group with song and prayer.

Women's Day participants gathered to hear stories from Rev. Emily Carson from the Office of the Bishop, SEMN Synod, Tharan Leopold from ELCA Churchwide and SEMN Synod, and Executive Director Dianna Parks from



CreatedGOOD

Good Earth Village. Women's Day focused on the theme of "Legacy." We talked about how to build our lives around our values, how to make space for grace around our regrets, and how to release those regrets. What we leave behind is more than our stuff and our money -- we also leave a legacy of behaviors, choices, and our example. The resurrection of Jesus Christ teaches us that we can be born into a new sense of purpose and love at any time we choose, and we can do it as often as is necessary.

Two **Rekindle Fall Youth Retreats** were held this year building on the summer theme. The overnight retreats welcomed campers from grades 3-12. Campers enjoyed Bible study, campfire worship, nature hikes, a challenge course and s'mores.

This year, Good Earth Village continued to provide a year-round adult program. **Lunch and Learn** programs are a space for adults to gather at camp for a delicious meal, time with new and old friends, and an opportunity to learn from an expert on a variety of topics. We had speakers share stories and topics such as, Sermon preparation, Norwegian travels and architecture, and Psalms and Christmas carols.

We wrapped up our program season with a pair of **Beer and Carols** events in Rochester and Chatfield. We are looking forward to the 2023 season!



Good Earth Village Staff

Amy Aarsvold

*Housekeeper
(October - December)*

Tyler Anderson

Director of Retreat Services

Andrea Atwood

*Housekeeper
(January - September)*

Steve Atwood

Property Manager

Jeff Barrow

*Interim Program Director
(January - February)*

Erik Dahl

Program Director

Rachel Hershberger

*Housekeeper
(March - October)*

Karly Irish

*Housekeeper
(March - May)*

Julie Kulsrud

*Food Service Assistant
(January - February)*

Paul Little

Food Service Manager

Michala Morrow

*Housekeeper
(December - Present)*

Dianna Parks

Executive Director

Mary Swartzentruber

*Housekeeper
(July - September)*

Vanessa Tesch

Business Manager

Drew Timmerman

Food Service Assistant

Good Earth Village Summer Staff

Adam Anderson

Health Office Assistant

Greta Hagen

Counselor

Broden Hobbs

Counselor

Dana Howell

Counselor

Rhianna Knope

Leadership

Zach Kromminga

Leadership

Josie LaVoi

Leadership

Molly Lewis

Counselor

Madi McChesney

Leadership

Luke McKeon

Health Officer

Rachel Meany

Leadership

Erin Oberle

Program Coordinator

David Peal

Counselor

Laura Ruiz Caballero

International Counselor

Santi Ruiz Caballero

International Leadership

Yeli Salcedo Gonzalez

International Counselor



Ryan Schimek

Leadership

Bode Skustad

Kitchen Assistant

Logan Skustad

Property Assistant

Ian Timmerman

Kitchen Assistant

Annika Weber

Media Specialist

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Member At-Large

Rev Cindy Fisher-Broin

Treasurer

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President

Heidi Goemann

Member At-Large

Rev Maureen Hagen

Vice President

Julie Klock

Secretary

Wendy Moon

Member At-Large

Tom Overlie

Member At-Large

Rachel Welch

Member At-Large