



DuBois Center is the camp and retreat center of the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ.

***May God's peace be with you during this time of thanksgiving and preparation.***

***Dear Friends and Supporters of DuBois Center,***

When the leaves turn such vibrant colors this time of year, it is a vivid reminder of the beautiful transformations that often occur in the campers, guests, staff and volunteers who make DuBois Center their home away from home.

This past summer we were again blessed to have a student from Eden Theological Seminary on our summer staff. Mtipe came to Eden from Tanzania with significant experience working with children, youth and young adults. While at DuBois Center he hoped to immerse himself in another culture and work with young people from backgrounds very

different than his own. Though nervous at first, especially about the horses and the lake – he embraced the experience! With gentle encouragement from his co-workers, he even learned to ride horses and swim, and now enjoys both immensely!

Mtipe was a wonderful example of a faithful servant for all of us. He was also someone who opened himself up to new people and experiences. His life is richer and more colorful because of it, and so are the lives of those he and God touched along the way.

At summer camp, during a family retreat or at a confirmation event... the horses, the lake, the campfires, late nights talking, even the silly songs are all tools for faith development and personal growth. The DuBois Center experience is finding joy and total acceptance on the water mat, with a new friend at the barn, or in God's loving embrace through the words of a chaplain or in the care of a counselor or the camp nurse. We give thanks for opportunities to grow and serve together and for the rich tapestry of colors God weaves within us.



***Thank you for your continued prayers and support of this ministry. Your gifts, in any amount, will help DuBois Center continue to be a place of transformation.***

Peace on Your Journey,

Shirley Asmussen  
Director, Outdoor Ministries

Nancy Wagner  
Chair, Outdoor Ministries Team



Growing Together...  
In Faith, Respect for Ourselves & Others,  
and in Our Care for Creation

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## *Faith Works*

2019 saw countless transformations at DuBois Center through the generous efforts of work crews, program volunteers, church groups, committee members, the Outdoor Ministries Team (OMT), the equestrian team, Green DuBois, and of course, our financial donors.

**These volunteer efforts and donations made improvements and additions possible throughout DuBois Center.**

*Every contribution makes a significant difference.*

*The efforts of many hands and varied talents do pile up — just like fall leaves!*



Beach House safety upgrades completed  
 Entrance sign painted  
 Tractor purchased  
 Lenten and Advent devotionals created  
 Rustic Cabin doors & screens repaired  
 Ukuleles and cameras donated for use during camps & retreats  
 Over 17,000 pounds of scrap metal removed and recycled  
 Main Camp Chapel extended

Old dock at Deer Run removed  
 Brighter and more efficient lighting installed in the Rustic Shower House  
 Benches built for multiple areas  
 Paved seating area installed at Boat Dock  
 Ga-ga pit made more accessible  
 Trails cleared  
 Medical supplies donated for Health Center  
 Deer Run Cabins upgraded with new foundations and extended decks

Generous donations to Operation Shimmer are enabling the lake spillway to be replaced and air conditioning to be added in Oak Lodge.  
 Green DuBois volunteers removed hundreds of invasive Japanese honeysuckle plants, installed and blessed new bee hives, and enhanced our recycling and composting efforts.  
 Rain barrels now collect water for program use and conserve tap water.

Your donation keeps us on the path: sending children and youth to camp, enhancing our camp and retreat experiences, and maintaining DuBois Center as holy ground and a place of peace.

Thank you for your partnership and for keeping our shared mission in your prayers.

### **Why DuBois Center?**

As the camp and retreat center of the Illinois South Conference of the United Church of Christ, we seek to provide programs, leadership and a sacred space where church members and the wider community can:

- Deepen their Faith**
- Discover Christian Community**
- Learn to Appreciate & Care for Creation**
- Grow in Respect for Themselves & Others**

