



2020 ANNUAL ADVENTURE REPORT



Amnicon equips people to experience GRACE BEYOND THEIR COMFORT ZONE through adventure-centered programming, life in Christian community, and access to wild places in God's creation.



Strong Communities and Profound Faith Experiences in the Wilderness

"God was with us in the beauty of nature, and in the faith and friendships we had with each other."



"God showed up in the peacefulness of the water and the power of the storms. I grew closer to God and the other people on the trip. It was an awesome experience to have."



"The best part of the trip was how much we all laughed together."

"I always learn (on Amnicon trips) that I'm physically and mentally capable to do more than I ever imagine."



"This trip helped me realize that everyone is family and they can all help in their own ways."



"Gathering around the campfire helped me grow in my faith."

FROM OUR AMNICON BOARD CHAIR:

Early in the pandemic, the Board of Directors faced the oncoming storm by asking, "What if this changes everything?" Because we are Amnicon, we are actually quite comfortable in this space beyond comfort, and capable of adapting to adventure. So we lived into this crazy space with an intentionality that still leaves me breathless.

This year we hired our summer staff and ran a full summer of camp, albeit very different from what we are used to. We finished the year with a profoundly new understanding of what it means to embrace change. Grace abounds, and this is where God moves, works and beautifully alters lives. As a part of Amnicon, you share this grace and are with us as we find faith on the trail and become equipped to navigate life's challenges. Be inspired, for here by God's grace everything changes.

—Sara Woodruff Larson, Chair of the Board of Directors

STAY UPDATED - [AMNICON.ORG/NEWS](https://amnicon.org/news)

THANK YOU FOR MAKING ADVENTURE POSSIBLE

Never was the ministry of Amnicon more needed than it was in 2020. In a time of isolation, loss, grief, anxiety, and more, we are so grateful we were able to safely provide youth, adults, and families with a meaningful experience in community. Being "together" was so much more difficult by all the necessary virus protocols we needed to put into place, but it was worth every ounce of extra effort.



"The kids already kind of knew each other from church & school, but it was so fun to see them interact with each other after a long COVID-19 spring & summer. You can tell that this was really good for them and they deeply enjoyed and valued their time together."
~ Hikaru (2020 Group Trip Adult Leader)

Your support made adventure possible in 2020. Your words of encouragement, your prayers, and your generous financial support gave us the confidence to step out boldly in a time of so much unknown. Thank you for providing youth, adults, and families with the opportunity to experience "Grace Beyond their Comfort Zone" in 2020.

2020 WILDERNESS GROUP TRIPS

13 TRIPS COMPLETED FROM 11 GROUPS

Almost all of our group adventures were canoe trips on the Namekagon and Flambeau rivers this year. We enjoyed lots of beautiful and dry weather, plenty of laughter, many deep conversations, and countless moments of Grace.

11 TRIPS CANCELLED FROM 8 GROUPS

Many groups made the difficult but necessary decision to cancel their trips due to COVID-19 concerns. We offered full refunds for all cancellations and lost \$60,000 in potential group trip income.

60 YOUTH, 23 ADULT ADVENTURERS

We had an increase in the number of adults coming along on our group trips in 2020. Because of the pandemic, this was the only opportunity for many of these adults to get away this summer. We are thankful to provide meaningful experiences for all ages!

A NEW ADVENTURE: TWIN CITIES DAY TRIPS

This past summer we began implementing a new adventure program: day-long trips near the Twin Cities. These trips provide groups with easily accessible adventure close to home. 2020 was an experimental year, with staff spending time scouting the best places for these trips. At the end of the summer we did 3 trips with 28 participants. We plan to grow this program in 2021.



A BIG YEAR IN SMALL CABINS

Thanks to some new marketing efforts and a lot of people looking for safe places to get away to, our Hermitage Personal Retreat Cabins had their busiest year ever! We were so thankful to provide a place of rest for so many!

	2019	2020
NIGHTS BOOKED:	77	326
RENTAL INCOME:	\$5,000	\$24,000

A NEW PARTNER: JONATHAN HOUSE

We were grateful to welcome Jonathan House, a ministry in St. Paul that provides temporary housing for asylum-seekers and refugees who have recently been through the trauma of forced displacement and are seeking to rebuild their lives. This diverse group came to Amnicon and spent several days enjoying the wilderness at our tent-cabin village overlooking Lake Superior. Thanks to our Campership Fund, we were able to provide this experience at no cost.

"Trauma, sadly, is a reality for people who experience forced displacement and I believe the beautiful setting of Amnicon had a therapeutic effect. I heard parts of people's stories during that week that I had not heard before. Retelling those experiences...can be healing and Amnicon provides a setting conducive to healing."
~ Josh, Jonathan House Program Manager



2020 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

AMNICON LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors

Sara Woodruff Larson - Chair
 Gaelyn Beal - Vice Chair
 Michelle Damon - Secretary
 Dave Larsen - Treasurer
 Matt Louge
 Michael Farmer
 Jason Lukis

Year-Round Staff

Hannah Damon - Assoc. Director
 Brad Damon - Assoc. Director
 Jesse Weiss - Executive Director

OPERATING INCOME VS EXPENSE

INCOME	2019	2020	2021 BUDGET
Program/Misc.	\$122,792	\$88,055	\$163,000
Donations	\$135,346	\$121,122	\$168,000
EXPENSE			
Staffing	\$199,821	\$188,399	\$217,000
Operational	\$201,049	\$163,717	\$171,500
PROFIT(LOSS)	(\$142,732)	(\$142,939)	(\$57,000)
TRANSFER FROM RESERVE FUNDS			
	\$165,000	\$140,000	\$57,000

CAPITAL INCOME VS EXPENSE

	2019	2020	2021 BUDGET
DONATIONS	\$172,392	\$33,353	\$56,500
EXPENSE	\$140,694	\$143,047	\$56,500
PROFIT(LOSS)	\$31,698	(\$109,694)	(\$0)

YEAR-END BALANCE SHEET

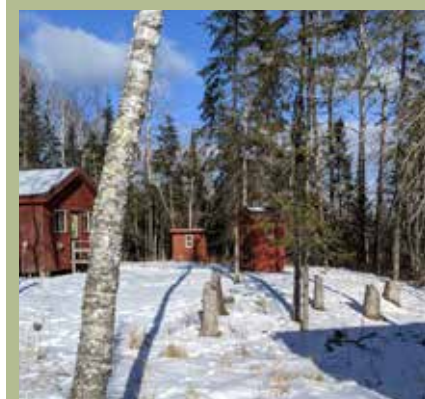
CURRENT ASSETS	\$199,856
Bank Accounts	\$48,960
Investment Acnt (Reserve Funds)	\$150,895
CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$19,816

2020 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Due to COVID-related concerns, we weren't able to have our traditional work weekends and volunteer crews at camp last year. However, we still had volunteers in small numbers come and complete a variety of projects, including:

- New doors on the Adirondack staff cabins
- Replacing the Kitchen floor with new tile
- New Fellowship Hall hospitality center & dining table
- De-cluttering & refreshing the back of the Dining Hall
- New woodshed & stairway to the beach at Adizokan

There was also trail clearing, raking, cleaning, mowing and many more important tasks done by our volunteers.



TREE REMOVAL

We finished a multi-year forest management project of clearing hundreds of trees around the main site for safety & aesthetics. We are planning on replanting a variety of new trees beginning in 2021 to increase species diversity around our site.



WASTEWATER PONDS

The necessary overhaul of our treatment ponds was completed in spring 2020. The new ponds will be easier to maintain and will ensure we are properly treating our wastewater.



LODGE SIDING REPLACEMENT

A much needed replacement of the siding on Alleluia Lodge was completed in the fall. The new high quality SmartSide brand siding was donated by the manufacturer Louisiana-Pacific Corp. We will be painting the siding in 2021. We are thankful for a grant from the ELCA and a few generous donations that provided the funds to cover the cost of installation.



GATHERING PAVILION & SOLAR

This new space will be used in so many ways with our campers and guests. The solar panels should provide at least 70% of our yearly electrical usage. We give thanks for the volunteers who helped with building and installation, as well as for all of the donors who provided over \$27,000 in funding for the solar panels. A special thanks goes to the members of the Community of St. Martin for donating over half of the funds.

2020 FINANCIAL DONORS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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If any information is incorrect, please accept our apologies and let us know.