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Stewardship in Action: 2025 Annual Accomplishments

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, significant improvements and ongoing care were made across the retreat center this past year. These efforts enhanced the guest experience, strengthened infrastructure, and preserved the beauty and functionality of the grounds.

Facilities & Infrastructure Improvements

- Installed new flooring in Meadowlark (kitchen, bathroom, and sitting room)
- Replaced toilets in Woodbine and Mamre
- Replaced fogged windows in the Great Room and Chapel; refinished frames
- Installed new chapel lighting to illuminate the altar at night
- Installed exhaust fans in guest wing bathrooms
- Installed mini-split system for Guest Wing (contracted and completed)
- Installed PTAC unit in front office and upgraded HVAC ductwork in Great Room
- Installed new support post at front entry and stabilized roof structure
- Replaced rotten banister at back deck
- Installed culvert at main trail near Stone Creek trailhead
- Painted and maintained decks, railings, trim, and exterior structures
- Installed motion detector lighting at key entry points
- Installed and repaired fencing, gates, doors, and structural elements
- Completed structural and mechanical repairs across cabins and main building
- Installed new components and performed mechanical upkeep on maintenance vehicles
- Improved storage and organization in maintenance facilities

Grounds & Landscape Development

- Installed new chapel pond with landscaping, grass, and fountain system
- Graded parking areas and improved drainage
- Expanded and maintained trails, including gravel placement and accessibility improvements
- Replaced railroad ties with paver steps at Guadalupe Shrine and Stations of the Cross
- Planted and cultivated grass in key areas including shrines and trailheads
- Installed benches at St. Jude Shrine and improved trail access

Guest Accommodations & Interior Enhancements

- Installed campus-wide Google Wi-Fi mesh system with new outlets and Cat5 cabling
- Converted parlor into Guest Room #6 with furnishings and layout improvements
- Reconfigured front office to create a more welcoming reception area
- Updated Great Room cabinetry for hospitality and guest use
- Added storage solutions in kitchen and garage areas
- Installed blinds, shelving, and functional fixtures across guest spaces

Additions & Upgrades to Support Guest Experience

- Added new freezer for main kitchen
- Added guest amenities and furnishings
- Installed outdoor seating and picnic table
- Added recliners and furniture to guest rooms
- Upgraded maintenance and operational equipment