



## **Taconic Report to the Metro NY District Assembly April 2019**

Taconic Retreat is a ministry of the Metro New York District and we are grateful for the opportunity to partner with our District in this ministry. The mission of Taconic Retreat is to serve God, the church, and our community by offering retreat, rest, refuge, and renewal. We strive to offer generous hospitality and opportunities for discipleship in an environment of natural beauty and tranquility.

Taconic partners with District churches in a variety of innovative ways in order to help our churches achieve their goals and grow their discipleship ministries. We work intentionally with churches before they arrive to create the right environment for the fulfillment of the goals that each pastor has for their retreat. Once they arrive here, some churches choose to lead all the various aspects of their retreat themselves, while other churches look to us to offer various programming for them. We also offer guided retreats such as our men's retreat, youth retreat, and young adult retreat where Nazarenes from across our District can come together for worship and discipleship.

On Saturday June 1st Taconic will offer a one-day leadership seminar for pastors and other church leaders who work with youth and young adults. This seminar will present a highly effective model of Christian character formation and leadership development for youth and young adults that Taconic has developed and implemented over the past four years. We invite all District leaders who work with youth and young adults to attend this seminar.

In 2018, Taconic served 4,114 overnight guests and 2,144 day guests for a total of 6,228 guests served in 2018. This represents a significant increase from 2017 when we served 3,638 overnight guests and 537 day guests for a total of 4,175 guests. We appreciate the support of our District which allowed us to significantly expand both the number of guests that we served and the range of ministry partnerships that we were able to offer in 2018. This past year we have hosted missions retreats, prayer retreats, women's and men's retreats, family retreats and camps, and retreats and camps for children and youth.

In 2019 we are continuing in the third year of our growing partnership with Lutheran Social Services of New York where we continue to provide monthly day retreats for refugee children and youth from Central America. Taconic does not receive any funding to support our ministry to refugee children and youth and so we must raise all of the funding for this ministry from individual donors. We invite both individuals and churches to prayerfully consider giving to support this ministry.

We are ready and willing to partner with any District church to co-create individual day retreats and/or overnight retreats that will accomplish the specific goals that each pastor sets. These unique retreats can cover areas such as children's and youth ministry, men's and women's ministry, prayer and discipleship, or missions and evangelism. Please contact us to learn more about how we can customize programming to meet your unique needs and goals. We are grateful for the prayerful support of our District, and we invite you to visit and experience for yourself all that God is doing in this ministry.

Respectfully Submitted by Paul Bowen  
Executive Director of the Taconic Retreat Center