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ECHOES

From The Point

www.lutherpark.com

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Vol. 25, No. 2 A Newsletter for Campers and Friends of Luther Park Fall/Winter 2014-2015

Architect's new plans & naming opportunities for Retreat Center

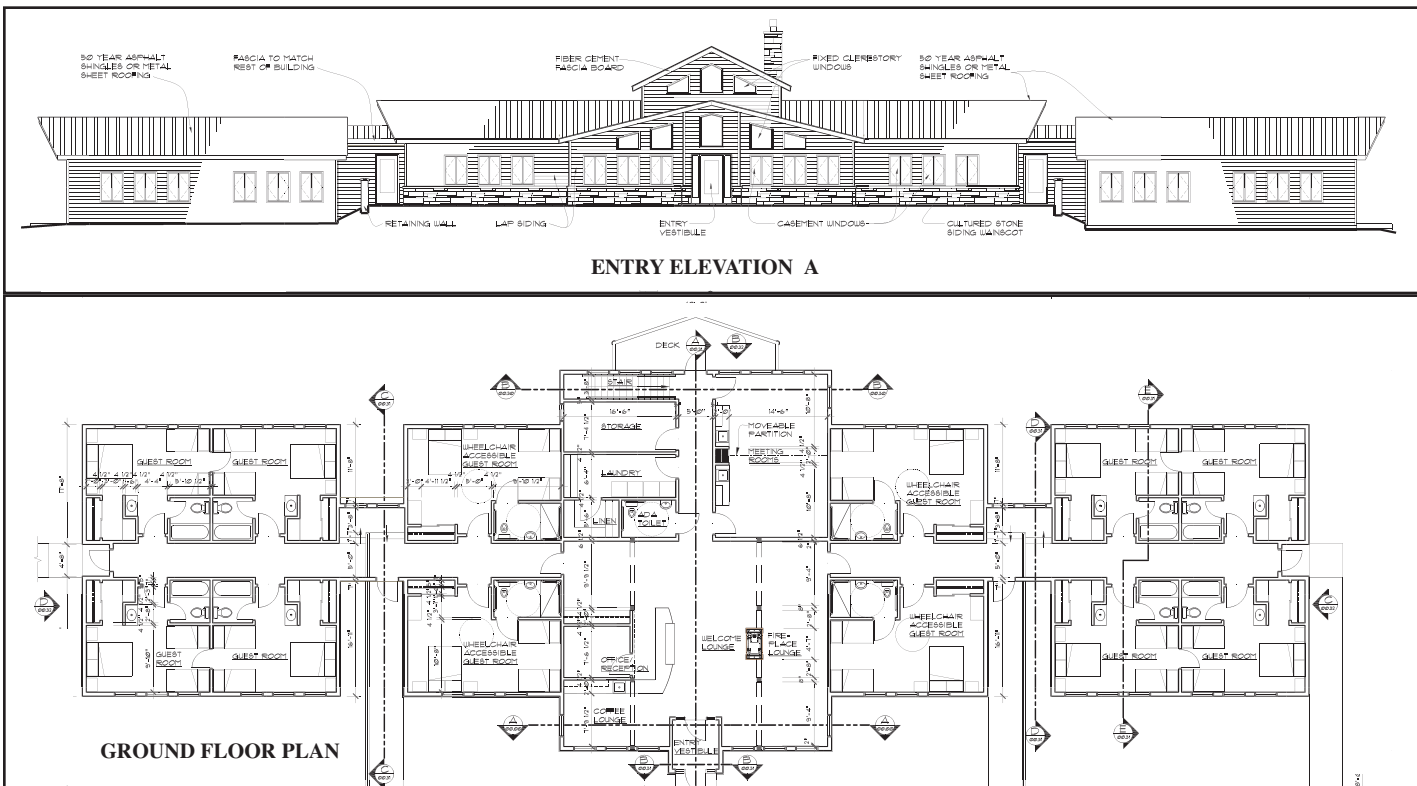
As shown in the drawings below, new architectural plans have been designed by MSAADA for Luther Park's Adult and Family Retreat Center.

The new facility will include:

- * Private hotel-style rooms with private bathrooms
- * Flexible, comfortable meeting spaces

after Bethel Lutheran Church whose members provided over \$200,000 for the project. While closing the door of their church, their generous gift was given as a symbol of the parishioners' desire to open new doors representing Bethel's long-time ministry. Individuals and families are invited to name other spaces in memory or honor of loved ones or

- * Two Welcome/Lounges/Fireplaces \$15,000 ea.
 - * Reception Area \$15,000.
- Over \$550,000 is already pledged or received toward the goal of \$850,000. All monies received are being invested in the ELCA's Mission Investment Fund and are earning interest daily. Groundbreaking will begin when the camp has \$750,000



- * Outdoor deck with conversation spaces
- * Fully accessible facilities for people of all physical abilities
- * Space accommodating adults, families/intergenerational groups. The Retreat Center will be named

- faith mentors.
- Naming and memorial opportunities:**
- * Retreat Center Wing \$200,000
 - * Worship/Gathering Space \$40,000
 - * Guest Rooms/Private Baths \$25,000

committed to the project. Gifts of all sizes are welcomed. Prayers of all lengths are invited.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Executive Director Joel Legred at 612.987.6628 or Jlegred@lutherpark.com.

HERE'S WHAT CAMPERS, PARENTS AND OTHERS SAY ABOUT LUTHER PARK

By Sharon F. Miller
Editor/Writer

“God truly worked here at camp this summer, touching lives, not only of campers, but staff and guests as well,” said Associate Director Anna Treague.

Here are just a few of the many comments campers and others shared with camp staff this summer.

Quotes from campers

- »» I learned that God shows himself in lots of different ways.
- »» Camp was a blast!
- »» I saw a lot of my friends that I met at camp before, and I had chance to make new friends.
- »» I liked the welcoming feeling.

Quote from camper's parent

»» So, my son came home from camp and said YOUR lasagna was better than mine. I don't suppose you give out your



A group of campers and staff take a break for a photo

secret recipe

»» My son said he didn't know worshipping God could be so much fun.

»» I really like the Christian values being taught.

Quote from camper's grandmother

»» My granddaughter had so much fun and just loved Luther Park. Although she was just there for a few days, she really made a spiritual connection. We heard so much about the Labyrinth, the Holy Spirit, the home-made food, prayer, Bibles, and yes, even BOOFERS. You have re-confirmed my faith in the value of Christian Outdoor Education. THANK YOU TO ALL STAFF!

Quote from a counselor

»» I have been shown time and time again the power of prayer. I have come to realize that God is where He is wanted. Therefore, amidst our prayers, He is present. (Cont. on P. 2)

Look INSIDE For

- * 2015 Summer Camp Info., P 6
- * Quilt Auction Outcome, P. 3
- * Outstanding Christian Service Award to Dave Rice, Mount Calvary, Excelsior, P. 7
- * Retreat Information, P. 8

TO ALL OUR LOYAL FRIENDS

May God Bless You Richly and Grant You Peace & Joy This Wondrous Christmas Season and Throughout the New Year. It is Truly a Blessing and a Gift to Luther Park to Have You as a Partner in Christ! Thank You for Your Prayers and Support! Blessings,

The Board of Directors and Staff of Luther Park Camping and Retreat

COMING EVENTS

FEB. 5-8 or 6-8 Scrapbooking & Stamping Weekend I

MARCH 15 Annual Mtg., @ Messiah Lutheran, 1:30-3 p.m.

APRIL 11 Ole & Lena Event, Richfield Lutheran

APRIL 30-MAY 3 or May 1-3 Scrapbooking & Stamping Weekend II

JUNE 6-7 Bikeathon I

JUNE 7 Sum. Staff Train. Starts

JUNE 21 Summer Camp Starts

JULY 17-18 Bikeathon II

JULY 18 Summer Open House

All events take place at Luther Park unless otherwise noted.

A Message From the President

David P. Shirley



Pedaling Into the Future

As I once again pedaled from Messiah Lutheran Church in Minneapolis to Luther Park during the June 2 Bikeathon, my thoughts quite unexpectedly turned to the familiar Christ-inspired outdoor ministry that has been a part of my life for over 45 years. First as a camper in the 1960s and early 1970s, followed by on-and-off service with the board of directors for over 22 years.

For me, the spiritual experience of Luther Park has never dwindled. Just as the wheels keep turning on my now some-what *well-worn* bike (with my well-worn body atop its seat), Luther Park just keeps rolling and getting better.

Luther Park recently commissioned architects to draft updated plans for the

new Bethel Family Retreat Center, and we are getting closer to the reality of breaking ground on this long anticipated (and much needed) amenity to the Luther Park facilities. My personal goal is that we break ground on this project well before *term limits* come into play for my current service on the board.

A modern Retreat Center has been a prevailing goal for years. With additional commitments to fund this ongoing vision, let us work in unison to get the Retreat Center project started in the next year or two.

If your church is on the cusp of a capital fund drive, consider including Luther Park as a part of that initiative. Of course, if funds or stocks are burning a hole-in-your-pocket we certainly have a project in mind that will work for years. Please prayerfully explore how you and your church can help achieve this goal.

The theme for the 2015 summer camper season is *A Love That Never Ends*. With all of the New Testament passages written by Paul, Romans 12:10 rings true for the upcoming and future camper seasons: "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves." (New International Bible)

Certainly the groups of dedicated volunteers involved in renovating the cabins and working on other projects have been honoring those who will utilize Luther Park now and for many years to come.

On behalf of the Luther Park board of directors, thank you all for your efforts to maintain and improve the facilities for so many, along with every form of support for Luther Park's Christ-based ministry.

We are looking forward to a great 2015 and beyond for Luther Park. Let's keep pedalling!!

David P. Shirley

Board President on behalf of Luther Park

WANTED

A FEW ENTHUSIASTIC BIKE RIDERS!

Help with a great cause



For a great place

What: Annual Luther Park Bikeathons
When: 2015 Bikeathons set for June 6-7 & and July 17-18

Where: Mpls. - Danbury, WI
Why: Raises funds to send kids to camp

How: A 2-day 120 mi. trip Help is available to organize a new group or get you into a current group.

For more information: Please contact Joel Legred, 612.987.6628 or email: Jlegred@lutherpark.com

**JOIN US!
HAVE FUN WHILE HELPING OTHERS!**

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS FROM LUTHER PARK

Here's a great opportunity to get in a little early Christmas shopping and benefit Luther Park at the same time. You won't find these special offers anywhere else! And you'll make your happy camper even happier.

CAMPING SESSIONS AT \$50 OFF REGULAR FEES UNTIL DECEMBER 31.

If you would like to order a gift certificate for Christmas giving, we need to receive your request by December 15.

- * Please see the information on Page 6 for the cost of the various camping sessions.
- * Registration forms may then be completed and returned by the camper and/or family at a later date.

INTERESTED IN A TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFT FOR AN ANONYMOUS CAMPER IN NEED?

Christmas season is a wonderful time to give a tax-deductible gift to an anonymous camper who would otherwise not be able to attend camp. If you would like to share a financial gift to help provide camperships, here are a few ideas to consider:

Camperships are available for any amount.

- * \$120 provides camper one day of summer camp.
- * \$295 provides a half-week campership.
- * \$430 provides a one-week campership.
- * \$600 covers the total cost for one week

For more information call Joel Legred at 612.987.6628 or e-mail: Jlegred@lutherpark.com

ORDER FORM FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

(PLEASE PRINT)

COMPLETE THIS FORM AND MAIL WITH PAYMENT TO:
LUTHER PARK, 30376 LAKES DRIVE, DANBURY, WI 54830-9508

Purchaser's Name: _____
 Purchaser's Address: _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Purchaser's Phone # _____ Purchaser's Email _____
 Item(s) Purchasing (Check # wanted) **Camping Gift Certificate(s)**
 Name of camper _____ Payment Amount \$ _____
 (See Fee Schedule for all sessions on Page 6. Not tax deduct.)
 Attach additional sheet with information for more than one certificate.
 I wish to receive the certificate(s) for Christmas giving. (Must send money and this form to Luther Park by Dec. 15.)
 Campership Donation, tax deductible: Amt. Donating \$ _____
Method of Payment:
 Check/Money Order: Make payable to Luther Park Camp
 VISA **Mastercard** **Discover** **AMEX** Amount \$ _____
 Account #: _____ Expiration Date _____
 CSC# _____ (A 3 or 4 digit # on back of credit card)
 Signature: _____ Date: _____

WHAT CAMPERS AND OTHERS SAY....

(Cont. from P. 1)

Quote from a Donor

»» My wife of 26 years died recently, Her sojourns at Luther Park were long and firm in her memory. She had strong beliefs and lived by them.

Quote from a Servant Group participant

»» Our week at Luther Park was a gift. Thanks go to you and your staff for working so well with us.

Quote from a first-time Retreat Group (Sent to Joe Larrivy, our new Retreat Host and Director of Summer Program. See story on Page 7.)

»» Thank you so much for everything. We really appreciate it. You are so good at your job and added so much to our retreat via your organization, your music and your willingness to walk with us, set up campfire, etc. Luther Park is gorgeous and we had a great experience. All the parent volunteers were raving. So yes, we hope to be back soon!

A supportive faith community can make all the difference in the world for kids who are questioning why things happen the way they do. That spiritual strength and maturity carries over into their daily lives and helps them to make better choices as they strive to become contributing members of their communities. 🏕️



VISIT OUR WEB SITE

www.lutherpark.com
 Write: 30376 Lakes Drive, Danbury, WI 54830
 Phone: 715.656.7244
 Fax: 715.656.3013
 E-mail: camp@lutherpark.com

Luther Park ECHOES From the Point

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Editor/Writer/Designer/Photographer:
Sharon F. Miller, Miller Creative Communications

Pictures, information and opinions are welcomed and encouraged. Call or send to: Sharon F. Miller, Editor, Luther Park ECHOES From the Point, 6712 Pleasant Av. S., Richfield MN 55423, 612.869.4997.

YEAR-ROUND STAFF MEMBERS

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Kitchen | Rhonda DeMars | Executive Director | Joel Legred |
| Dir. of Sum. Program & Retreat Ministries | Joseph Larrivy | Kitchen | Arlene Miller |
| | | Associate Director | Anna Treague |

Quilters bring eye candy and warm, cozy comfort to 2014 auction at Mount Calvary

By Sharon F. Miller
Writer/Editor

Piece by piece the loving hands of quilters from Luther Park's corporate congregations, their friends and families, along with many others, have again touched the lives of many through quilting.


quilters, crafters, kitchen workers, those who helped with set-up and take down, planners, organizers, attendees, purchasers and more.

Although they've already picked up all the pieces and put everything away from 2014 Quilt Auction, a wonderful patchwork of memories remains for all who were there.

rolling right along.

Next year's auction will be held October 3rd at Mount Calvary. Viewing and lunch will begin at noon and the auction at 1 p.m. Mark your calendars now!

As always we'll be looking for quality double-, queen-, and king-size quilts as well as unique wall hangings and baby quilts.

If you are interested in how to get involved as a quilter, volunteer or other helper, please contact Joel Legred at 612.987.6628 or e-mail Jlegred@lutherpark.com. 



Shown above is a small portion of the many gorgeous handmade quilts at the auction.

"We are very thankful," said Executive Director Joel Legred. "About \$5,500 was raised for camp scholarships at Luther Park's 24th Annual Quilt Auction. And countless hours were spent by the many quilting groups and individuals who created more than 80 wonderful items auctioned at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Excelsior who hosted the event. **Thanks to all who participated!**" This includes numerous volunteers of all kinds:

Many arrived early to browse and examine the quilts and other items, then enjoyed a wonderful lunch provided by Mount Calvary's WELCA group.

Those attending were treated to a great show created by skilled quilters and crafters. Dozens of colorful items in a variety of patterns, were designed for all ages.

We were fortunate to again have Sarah Jean Knox as the auctioneer. She led the bidding with her usual flair, and kept the bids



Executive Director Joel Legred and Auctioneer Sarah Jean Knox agreed that it was a great event.

The continued dedication and creativity of Luther Park volunteers and supporters is legendary, and the core of the Quilt Auction's success...even after 24 years. For this we are very thankful to our faithful friends. Next year will be a special one for the Quilt Auction. We will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of this wonderful event. Although we are not yet sure of exactly what this will consist of there no doubt will be some fun and interesting happenings.




Summer Open House celebrates "Living in God's time"

Summer had definitely arrived with temperatures soaring into the 80s. The buildings and grounds of Luther Park were all spiffed up and open and the Lodge was bulging with lively visitors, campers and staff. Sun, fun, food and fellowship were the words for the day! A perfect day for Open House. Early arrivers indulged in coffee, juice and



Relaxing at the outdoor worship service is always enjoyable at the Luther Park Open House. Shown above are some of those waiting for the service to begin.

breakfast rolls while visiting with new friends and old, as they waited for the morning worship service to begin. We are thankful to Pastor Arden Haug, Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church, and the father of one of our summer staff members, who led the communion service outside, next to the Lodge. After participating in the spiritually uplifting worship service presented by staff, special awards and recognitions were presented including the Outstanding Christian Service Award to David Rice, Mount Calvary. Also recognized was the donation of a new Golf Cart given by Arlen Legred, Joel's father, and his family in memory of his mother, Mona (see Page 5).

A bountiful buffet lunch, created by Luther Park's great cooks, Rhonda DeMars and Arlene Miller, was served, followed by an ice-cream social. But that was just the beginning. All were invited to partake in rides on our luxury pontoon boat, visit the new Prayer Labyrinth Garden (on foot or via golf cart), camp tours, waterfront activities, shopping at the camp store and more. Another highlight was arrival of July Bikeathoners completing their trip from Minneapolis to Luther Park. More information and photos of special gifts, donated in honor or memory of loved ones, appear on Pages 4-5. 

Bikeathon riders raise over \$18,000 for camperships

The bikers like this motto: "The more the merrier," This past summer Luther Park had three separate groups and times for participating in the well-organized 120-mile rides to raise funds to send kids to camp. A great trip for a great cause!




June Bikeathon participants from Messiah are from left: Peggy Nerdahl (support vehicle) David Shirley, Michelle Xiong, Tom Gustafson and Matt Xiong. Linda Sandell, Grace Lutheran, Pat Shirley (support vehicle) and Ron Nerdahl, Messiah. Missing is Scott Wright, House of Prayer.

July bikers from Elim are shown on Page 5. They are: Rily Unzicker, Stafford Gutknecht, Tom Nelson, Blake Nelson and Linda Sandell from Grace Lutheran (as far as we know Linda has never missed a Bikeathon with either group), Bravo Linda!

Riding for Diamond Lake were Bob Kresse, Graydon Royce and John Degalau Jr. Christ Memorial participants were Pastor Rich Dahle-Koch, Gregg Ohman, and their sag wagon driver Monte Lovig.

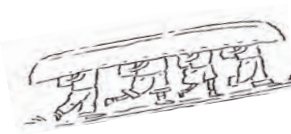
Included in the \$18,000 raised this past summer is \$1,000 from Thrivent's NW Henn. Cty. Chapter and \$500 from Thrivent's NW Minneapolis Chapter.

Next year's Bikeathons are set for the June 6-7 and July 17-18. Executive Director Joel Legred said, "Thanks to all involved in and guiding these fundraisers, and for doing such a wonderful job raising funds. What a joy it is to see these enthusiastic bikers in a faith-community building activity and having some fun at the same time." 



A group of happy Treehouse campers with their pastor from Trinity Lutheran Church in Detroit Lakes enjoy a sunny summer day at Luther Park.

LUTHER CAMP SCRAP

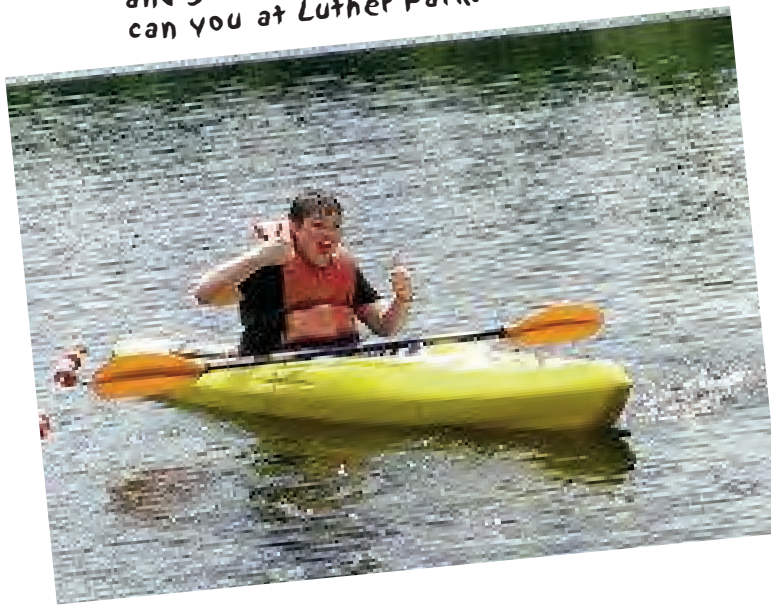


Teen girls have fun at Luther Park.



A weekly group of campers and staff w

This camper tried out kayaking and gave it a big thumbs-up! So can you at Luther Park.



Luther A Place for A A Place for A Mission S

Luther Park is a cooperative effort of congregations serving people of all ages. It is a place where a variety of programs in an outdoor setting is to provide an environment where faith may be strengthened and personal relationships are built.

How many Lutherans does it take to put a new roof on a Luther Park cabin? All kidding aside, this crew of wonderful volunteers did a great job!



The completed Prayer Labyrinth Garden is shown at right. The entry-way is to the right at the far end of the fence.

Flowers, other green plants and shrubs are being installed in many places in and around the site. Benches and a picnic table invite you to relax and enjoy the quiet spirituality of the Labyrinth.



LUTHER PARK CAMP CAMPBOOK

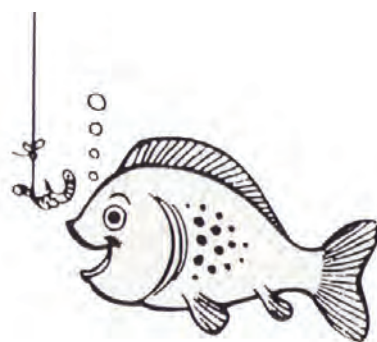
Fall/Winter 2014-2015



Shown above is the new golf cart donated by Arlen Legred (Joel's father) and his family in memory of his wife, Mona. Standing alongside is Joe Larrivy, Luther Park's new Director of Summer Program and Retreat Ministry. Joe said: "I'm loving the new company car."



who had their photo taken at The Point.



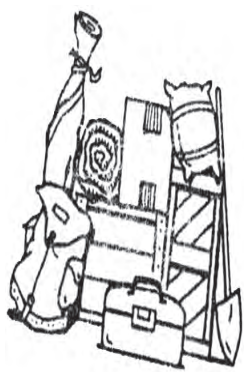
The Quilt Auction at Mount Calvary was a great way to spend time admiring all the items and have lunch, too.



Campers enjoying the Thursday night Camp Banquet in the Lodge

Luther Park for All Ages... for All Seasons Statement

retreat ministry of ELCA
for people of all ages through a
outdoor setting. Our mission
statement is in which the Christian
and people may grow in their
relationship with God.



Shown (l to r)
are July
Bikeathon riders:
Stafford
Gutknecht, Tom
Nelson, Blake
Nelson and Riley
Unzicker, all
from Elim, Linda
Sandell, Grace
Lutheran and
Rex Uzicker,
Elim. See story
on Page 7.



2015 Summer Camp Schedule Set

SAVE \$50! Register by Dec. 31; SAVE \$25 by registering by March 1 . Register online now!

DATE	CABINS	TREE HOUSES	CANOE TRIPS	SR. HIGH LEADERSHIP
June 7-21	Staff Training			
June 21-24	Gr. 1-4 (3 Night Camp)			
June 21-26	Gr. 3-6	Gr. 7-9 Night Owl Camp*	Group Regis. Reqd.	Gr. 10-12 Leadership Mentoring Gr. 9-12 Leadership Training
June 28-July 1	Gr. 1-6 (3-Night Camp)			Leadership Intensive Gr. 9-12
July 5-10	Gr. 6-9	Gr. 3-6	Group Regis. Reqd.	
July 12-17	Gr. 7-12	Gr. 3-6	Group Regis. Reqd.	
JULY 18 OPEN HOUSE - EVERYONE WELCOME-ALL AGES, ALL DAY!				
July 19-24	Gr.3-6	Gr. 7-9	Group Regis. Reqd.	
July 26--29	Gr. 1-4 (3-Night Camp)			
July 26-31	Gr. 3-6	Gr. 7-9 Night Owl Camp*	Group Regis. Reqd.	Reserved Log House and 2 cabins for Word of Peace Mission Trip
August 4-7	Reserved for Mount Calvary Confirmation Camp			

* During Night Owl Camp, campers will experience all the fun of a traditional camping sessions in a whole new way. By staying up late and sleeping in each morning, campers will be able to explore wonders of the natural world, its sights, creatures and sounds that often go unnoticed during the day. Night Owl campers sleep late, have breakfast around lunch-time, enjoy lunch at dinner-time, and cook out a delicious meal late in the evening. Games, night hikes, campfires, star-gazing and crafts will be part of this incredible experience. Christian education will have a fresh feel as campers learn more about themselves, God and each other through story-telling and discussion around campfires under the stars.

CAMP FEE SCHEDULE

REGISTER ONLINE/PRINT OUT REGISTRATION FORM @ WWW.LUTHERPARK.COM

MEMBER/NON-MEMBER*

3-Night Camp	\$295/315
One Full Week.	\$430/450
Great Lakes Mission Trip	\$450/450
Sr. High Leadership Programs.	\$445/465
(Includes one free week)	
— Leadership Training	— TIM (Teens in Mission)
— Leadership Mentoring	
Leadership Intensive	\$390/370

SAVE \$50: REGISTER BY DEC. 31 OR SAVE \$25: REGISTER BY MARCH 1

NOTE: Camper fees shown are subsidized by gift allocations. The actual cost per camper, per week is about \$600.

* Non-member churches are those that are not members of Luther Park Corporation.

SPECIAL OFFER! Sign up for a second week (of equal or lesser value) for half-price.

Check with your church about camp scholarships.

Fees Cover meals, lodging and all program materials, except on campground.

Fees do NOT include bus. Round-trip bus from Twin Cities area: \$80; one-way bus: \$60. Pick-ups at House of Prayer (Richfield) & Elim (Robbinsdale).

Transportation available only for weeks of July 5-10, July 12-17, and July 26-August 31.

Campground	\$18 per site/per night: \$20 with electricity
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LUTHER PARK WISH LIST

Listed below are some of the camp's current needs. Perhaps you don't have any of them on hand, but would like to give a special gift or a gift in honor or memory of someone.

To contribute toward any of these items, please make a check out to Luther Park, note your wishes and mail to: Luther Park, 30376 Lakes Drive, Danbury WI 54830-9508.

*** URGENT NEEDS ***

- 3/4 ton pickup truck & 1/2 ton snow plow
- Ceiling Fans: New or gently used
- Ice Lights for in Lodge (to use yr.-round)
- Guitars
- Passenger car/van- (reliable)
- Weed Whips
- Chain saws

SPECIAL NEEDS

- Maintenance:**
- Bagless Vacuums
 - Rubber floor mats
 - Small Refrigerator
 - New or gently used deck chairs and tables
 - Four-wheeler
 - Rubber floor mats (for shower)
 - Wire-feed welder
 - 3' x 5' commercial entrance mats (15)
 - Solar lights for pathways
 - Work gloves
 - Ice packs
 - Ice maker
 - Big fry pans
 - Serving bowls/trays/cake servers
 - Coffee maker/kitchenette

- Program:**
- Bicycle Helmets
 - Portable DVD Player with screen
 - Seed beads & pony beads
 - White boards & markers
 - Craft supplies, coloring utensils, Boxes of Duraflame Firestarter
 - Candle wicks

- Office:**
- Copy Paper (white and colored)
 - Cork board
 - Laminating sheets for GBC machine
 - Poster boards
 - Bulletin boards for cabins

- Housekeeping:**
- Curtain fabric for cabins (16-19 yds. per cabin)
 - Pillows
 - New or gently used sleeping bags
 - Twin & queen size sheets

THANKS FOR THESE GIFTS!

- Golf Cart in memory of Mona Legred
- Deck chairs & table
- Smaller Refrigerator/freezer
- Art supplies
- 42" flat screen TV
- Couch, coffee table, 2 end tables
- Lawnmower
- Four deck chairs
- Water hoses
- Large trash can
- Kitchen utensils & equipment
- Computer, 2 flat screen monitors, etc.
- Stainless steel sink

PLANNED GIFTS HELP SUSTAIN BIBLE CAMPS

By Joel Legred
Executive Director

Luther Park is more grateful than ever for the support of individual donors who have made special provisions for the camp's future.

Each year, Luther Park receives legacy gifts that donors make possible through their will and estate plans. A number of years ago, a woman by the name of Jessie Bonn left monies for Luther Park through her will because she wanted "every child to attend Bible camp." Luther Park's board of director's has established a policy that no one is turned away from attending camp just because of limited financial resources. A few years after that, Luther Park received a gift of real estate—a large donated house which they have worked to refurbish. The house, now referred to as the Welcome Center, serves as new staff offices, conference center and year-round retreat space.

Gifts of cash and stock, gifts of life insurance, gifts from IRAs, gifts of time and talents, and gifts-in-kind like used vehicles and brand-new canoes are a huge blessing to the camp.


Donors have enjoyed supporting the camp because camp continues to be one of the few places where youth remain active after confirmation.

Bible camp is one of the reasons people in their 20s and 30s remain active in their faith life.

Dynamic college-age counselors ignite the faith of children and youth and are inspired in their own faith.

Year after year, stories are shared...stories about lives changed, youth connected, pastors called, lay people serving, counselors married, babies baptized, corporate churches enjoying fellowship and communion together in the body of Christ.

Camp works because it's a relational ministry.

Camp continues because generous donors believe it's worth their investment." 

Dave Rice receives 2014 Outstanding Christian Service Award

By Sharon F. Miller
Editor/Writer

When you ask Dave Rice why he likes to volunteer at Luther Park, you'll get a quick, short, clear and enthusiastic answer; "I just enjoy it!" And then he goes on to say, "I like the people, I like the food, I like helping out. I like the friendly greetings I always get. I just really enjoy being there." The only complaints he has are about the food. He joyfully says: "There's too much, and it's way too good!"

Dave Rice (left) receiving the Outstanding Christian Service Award from Joel Legred



Rice first came up to camp about four years ago with a group from Mount Calvary in Excelsior for the Men's Ice-fishing Weekend (he even caught the biggest fish). "I fixed a few things and they asked me to come back," he added.

His volunteer involvements at Luther Park include helping with re-roofing of the Log House and five cabins, taking out and putting in docks and the pontoon lift. He has also worked on vehicles, plumbing under and in the cabins, cleared snow off the roofs, and many other tasks too numerous to mention here. He's even fixed the coffeemaker in the Lodge!


It's easy to tell that Rice is a man who likes to be busy...all the time. After retiring from working as a factory repairman on water heaters and boilers, he now spends his time working as a general handy-man for about 50 homes, as well as doing lots of volunteering.

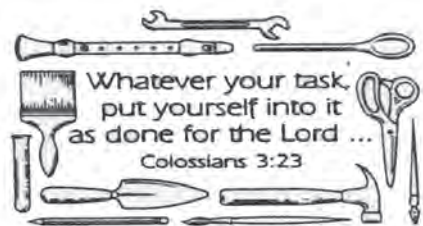
Rice noted that his wife, Cindy's, life was saved twice about a year and a half ago. Out of thankfulness for the help they received from others he now volunteers whenever he can, including once each week at the Waconia Hospital.

He also enjoys summer fishing at his cabin on Little Sand lake with family and friends, as well as ice fishing with buddies on Lake Minnetonka in the winter. With a blended family of two daughters (his), two sons (her's), and five grandkids, there's no shortage of fishing partners.

Rice explained that growing up he never went to camp, and rarely went to church. His life now is a little different since he is at camp many weekends and remarked "I'm in church every Sunday now," Executive Director Joel Legred said, "Not long after he received the award, he was back up at camp again...roofing, taking in docks and boats and painting and wood splitting, and on, and on and on."

As it says on the plaque honoring his service, "*Jack of all trades, master of all!*"

We are truly blessed to have Dave Rice among us and as a volunteer. 



A Message
From the
Associate
Director

Anna Treague



The Sun's Reflection

I'm guessing that a lot of us have built, helped build or repair a house or a building?

This past fall at camp we had a great crew working on a lot of buildings and other things. When doing so, one of the first things needed is to find a good place to build it, and then it needs a strong foundation. I'm also betting that even more of us have at one point or another built or tried to build a sand castle. Most of the time they don't last long.

In Matthew 7:24-27, Jesus says, "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

Some people may hear this story and think, 'Oh, that is a great architectural lesson, however it really doesn't have anything to do with me.' But it does, and this story goes way beyond architecture. Jesus is talking about us, about our lives, how we live them, and if He is our Rock or not. It's about building our lives in Him.

The difference between building our "house" on the rock or on the sand is how we use what we hear and learn. Going back to the building aspect of structures, what are some of the tools you may need: hammer, nails, saws, levels, wrenches?

Now think about the tools you need to build your life in Christ. What are some of the tools you'll need? Faith, scripture, fellowship with other Christians, honesty, love and perseverance are just a few you'll need.

These things and Jesus are that strong foundation for all of us. Camp is also a great tool that helps provide all these things to those who let Luther Park into their lives. As we go through life it is our choice where and how we want to use these tools to build our lives—"our houses."

Let Luther Park be a year-round tool to help you. We are here and open and waiting to be a part in building and supporting a strong Christian foundation in everyone's life.


Anna Treague

Anna Treague

Associate Director
Luther Park Camp and Retreat Center

DO YOU HAVE A CAR YOU CAN DONATE?



Donating a vehicle is easy to do, and you can receive a significant tax savings. If you are interested in learning more call Joel Legred at 612.987. 6628 or or email: Jlegred@lutherpark.com. 



WELCOME JOE LARRIVY!

Director of Summer Program and Retreat Ministries


Editor's Note:

We asked Joe Larrivy to tell us a little about his background so you can get to know him. He comes to us from Colorado where he was attending school, and is originally from Duluth, Minn. He has some great ideas to continue growing both our summer ministry and our retreat ministry. Please help us welcome Joe, and stop by to visit him at camp. Here's what he wrote: (To read what a retreat leader recently said about Joe see Page 2 (an extension from an article on the bottom of Page 1).

I first visited Luther Park as a camper when I was in middle school and immediately loved it. I returned as a camper several more times and vowed that I would one day come back as counselor. Several years later, I was looking for a summer job and again thought about Luther Park.

I was eager when I applied, and coming back was like coming home. I worked two years as a counselor, then three years as an assistant program director. When I found out the program director/retreat host position was available, I applied immediately.

In my time as a camper and staff member I fell in love with camping ministry and with Luther Park. I got to see the same campers and counselors come back year after year, and knew that I wanted to become a bigger part of what happens here.

I am thrilled to be at Luther Park full time and to truly call it home. I am excited to be getting to know all those who visit Luther Park and happy to be helping to continue to make Luther Park an amazing place. 

Luther Park Retreat Ministry

A review of future retreat events for campers, retreaters and friends of Luther Park

For more information contact Retreat Host Joseph Larrivy at 715.656.7244; e-mail: retreats@lutherpark.com

WE NOW HAVE RELIABLE WI-FI IN THE WELCOME CENTER, ELECTRONIC SCRAPBOOKERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!

Announcing 2014-15 Programmed Retreats

SLIDE INTO CAMP THIS WINTER!

Plan now for some winter excitement

Programmed Retreat Weekends

- ◆ Winter Scrapbooking and Stamping Weekend I, Feb. 5-8 or Feb. 6-8, 2015
- ◆ Spring Scrapbooking and Stamping Weekend II, April 30-May 3 or May 1-3, 2015

Scrapbooking Retreat Costs

- ◆ Thursday-Sunday Option \$125.00
- ◆ Friday-Sunday Option \$95.00

To Register, please complete the attached form and return it with your \$50 deposit to: Scrapbook & Stamping Weekend, Anna Treague, 30376 Lakes Drive, Danbury, WI 54830.

Luther Park is not just for summer activities. We're open year-round! Join us for some fun, fresh ideas to jazz up those cold-weather blues. Retreats programmed by Luther Park staff begin promptly at 7 p.m. the first evening. Bring a friend, church group, or come alone. Just be sure not to miss out on a great weekend.

Watch for more retreats that may be added this Winter and Spring. And remember, you can choose your own times and program your own retreats. Luther Park will be happy to assist you in whatever ways possible. Just ask!

All type of groups are invited—youth, men, women, quilters, confirmands and families, just to name a few—to head up to the North Woods for a relaxing/exciting weekend. Mid-week retreats are also welcome for a reduced rate, and retreat planning assistance is available.

Questions? Please call Retreat Host Joseph Larrivy at (715) 656-7244 or e-mail retreats@lutherpark.com to book a retreat or to see what opportunities Luther Park can provide for your next retreat. You can also check out our web site: www.lutherpark.com.

LUTHER PARK SCRAPBOOK & STAMPING CAMP WEEKEND REGISTRATION FORM

Retreater(s) Name(s) _____ Age _____ Gender _____
 Spouse (If applicable) _____ (optional for adults)
Registering for:
 Winter Scrapbooking & Stamping Camp, Feb. 5-8 or Feb. 6-8 (Circle length option)
 Spring Scrapbooking & Stamping Camp, April 30-May 3 or May 1-3 (Circle length option)
 Congregation _____ Names of preferred roommate(s) _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ E-mail _____
 Emergency Contact _____ Emergency Phone _____
Weekend Fees: Thursday option is \$125 and Friday option is \$95 per person.
 Total price: _____ Please send a deposit of half the total amount when registering.
 Deposit amount: _____
Method of payment:
 Check/Money Order: Make payable to; Luther Park Camping & Retreat Center
 Visa ___/MC ___/Discover ___/AMEX ___ Acc't # _____
Expiration Date _____
Signature _____ CSC#: _____ A 3 or 4 digit #on back of credit card.
 THIS AUTHORIZATION MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY PARTICIPANT.
 I understand that unless I provide separate written notice, photos taken of myself at camp may be used for camp-approved publications such as the Luther Park Echoes. Please list ALL allergies & dietary restrictions so we are better able to provide you with the best service possible.

 Signed _____ Participant _____ Date _____
 Please mail to: Anna Treague, 30376 Lakes Drive, Danbury, WI 54830



Moonlight Moments on Lake 26

Quotable Quote

We are all pencils in the hand of God
~ Mother Teresa

A Message From the Executive Director

Joel Legred



A place to ask questions, have faith, and learn from each other.

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them."

—Matthew 18:20

I've been so touched lately by memorial gifts given to Luther Park in memory of family members who have had longtime and rich associations with the camp. Not surprisingly, when one member is moved by this

place, it is likely other family members will not be far behind.

Luther Park has been a sacred place for my own family. As a place where our families have gathered and a place where my wife Brenda and I have invested our lives, we see God at work ... not only in one-on-one relationships but in bringing whole communities and our churches together.

Camp has been a place where our churches worship together even if they do not agree about

everything. Camp is a place where we can ask questions and have faith conversations and learn from each other.

Why is it that the camp can serve so many who don't even know the transformation that is in store for them? Hmm.... God at work, perhaps? Jesus walking with us? Holy Spirit breezing through?

Yes, this is the place for holy relationships, not because they are pure, but because they are real. In this place, we live and breathe what it means to be human.

Blessings,

Joel Legred

Executive Director