

Woodland Center for Arts and Crafts





The Woodland Center for Arts and Crafts is the latest "revolutionary new idea" that we are pursuing at Lutherlyn. In the conviction that we are created in the image of a creative God,

we believe that art and creative expression is actually an essential part of life well lived as God's people. We also believe that allowing the artist in each of us to find expression is part of what it means to be "whole" people - physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. Art provides profound connections among our thoughts, feelings, bodies, and spirituality. Art, music, poetry, stories, colors, shapes, the act of making something – these things stir us and move us to think differently about the world, ourselves, others, and God. Art is a language that speaks in ways that words can't.

We live in a culture that appreciates creative expression in children...until they are old enough to know that grass is green, the sky is blue and coloring is to be done inside the lines. Then we tend to consolidate their attention and leave colors and shapes behind in favor of numbers and letters. Everybody gets reading, writing, and arithmetic, while art becomes increasingly elective in American education.

Pablo Picasso is credited as having said, "Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up." Put a piece of clay in a person's hands and Pottery Studio. they immediately begin to "play" with it. Human beings create. We imagine. We doodle. We tweak. We build. We leave our mark. Life doesn't always afford us the opportunity to follow our creative im-

pulses as we leave childhood or student days behind.

As adults we often lack the time, the space, the encouragement, or the resources to explore the media that interest us. As a result, many of us let those "nonessential" passions move to the back burner and then slip away. We may even come to think of them as unimportant and of ourselves as "not really creative." Others may have "going back to try that, someday" on our bucket list, but when someday comes, we really don't know where to go or how to begin.



The Woodland Center for Arts and Crafts is intended to give adults opportunities to reclaim their artistic selves. Several things have converged to make this enterprise feasible. One is our persistent awareness of the popularity of crafts at camp. Another

is the ongoing growth of the crafting retreats that we have been offering adults over the last decade. The last is the closing of the Pottery Dome near Grove City at the end of 2013. This led to the opportunity to invite potter, Bob Isenberg, to be our potter/artist in resi-

dence, and the subsequent repurposing of Craft Cabin 2 as the Woodland

As this idea was taking shape, our board caught a vision and exciting things began to happen. As the pottery was coming on

line, Flavius Brinsfield was outfitting a blacksmithing forge. Over the years, Flavius has offered many blacksmithing demonstrations for retreats at camp and is especially well-known among those who have participated in Fathers and Sons days.



The vision begins with classes and moves toward community. In the

long term, Shaulis Village will be rebuilt with studios, upgraded cabins, a community building, and a gallery. All this is leading us to offer weekend and weeklong learning opportunities for adults year around.

The Woodland Gallery is currently under construction near the entrance to Shaulis Village. It is the first component to be built because we need to be able to properly display work in order to sell it. Of course we need to be able to sell the art that we create to support the program, but the gallery will also be a focal point for the community. We have been in conversation with lots of artists over the past year and have found that many of them are interested in having space in a gallery in exchange for teaching classes. This collaboration benefits everyone involved. Lots of artists will have space, the gallery will have a wide selection of works which is attractive to people looking for special gifts for special people, and we will have a invitation to the grand opening of the galtalented group of artist-instructors offering lery.

high quality classes.

Over the past year we have also been talking with our Ambassadors and many retreat participants about what kinds of opportunities they would be interested in. We have identified over 70 classes as diverse as painting, cooking, photography, weaving, wooden bowl turning, beer brewing, winemaking, and music. We are interested in hearing from people about their interests and about their skills and how

they might want to become involved. There is more information about classes on our website.



As might be expected, since Bob Isenberg is on site making pottery fulltime, pottery has been our flagship. We have had dozens of people taking classes, people signing on for open studio time, and lots of pottery sales. Bob's work is currently available in the pottery studio, at Phipps Conservatory, Clean Creek, and specially created items are available at Nemacolin Woodlands Resort.

The somewhat formal expression of the purpose of the Woodland Center for Arts and Crafts is that it "exists to build a community gathered around opportunities that invite, awaken, and nurture the spirit and expression of creativity. We believe that providing accessible, affordable, creative experiences of the highest quality can help people discover and develop a fuller and more abundant life.

Keep an eye on our website to see the progress and watch your mailbox for an





Non-Profit PAID PLATTEVILLE, WI 53818 Permit No.124



We are excited to share with you that we have exceeded our goal for the Pool Replacement Project!

Thanks to the participation of over 500 donors, we have raised over \$150,000 for our new pool! Thank you to those of you who gave to this **project.** Every gift added up and made a huge difference.

Our new pool will be constructed behind the Dining Hall (across the road on the way towards the Miller Center and Arbor Village). This move to a more centralized location provides campers closer access to cabins and will make the pool a natural center of activity. We have been working with a pool construction company and plan to break ground in early spring.

Keep updated on the project as construction begins by going to www.lutherlyn.com/pool and keep an eye out for pictures posted on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

Thank you for helping us "Fill the Pool"!



IT ALL ADDS UP TO LIFE-CHANGING ADVENTURES IN FAITH!

8 weeks of summer camp
28 DIFFERENT summer camp programs
56 summer staff

76 volunteers
9 Day Camp Sites

73 Family Camp & Rostered Leaders Family Camp Families
125 delicious meals
42 evening worships and campfires

1,284 Campers

1 AMAZING summer full of LIFE-CHANGING ADVENTURES IN FAITH!





July 5-10

Arts
Classics
Horse Camp
Salmagundi
Confirmation
Adventurers

June 14-20

Confirmation
Life in the Wild!
Adventurers
Horse Camp
Staff-in-Training

Classics
Classic Sampler
Young Folks
Horse Camp
Salmagundi

June 21-26

Confirmation
Classics
Leadership
Horse Camp
Adventurers
Salmagundi

July 19-25

Classics
Venture
Horse Camp
Rocketry
Adventurers

Family Camp
Horse Outpost
On-Site Day Camp

July 26-31
Night Owls
Sports Camp
Small Fry Days
Musical Theater
Horse Camp
Adventurers

UNDER THE RADAR

This year's Under the Radar Project once again visited the country of Liberia in Africa through our contact with B. Abel Learwellie, the founder and executive director of Camp For Peace Liberia (CFP - Liberia). This non-profit organization contributes to the empowerment, rehabilitation, and reintegration of former child soldiers, orphans, abductees, child mothers and vulnerable women heading households through education, peace building, human rights, livelihood support and HIV/AIDS programs. Our project supports the efforts of CFP - Liberia by helping to fund the needed construction of a shower house and dormitories at one of their sites, Camp KP. Lutherlyn's campers and friends raised \$12,240 for Camp KP!

MISSION QUILTS



Lutherlyn received a generous grant from Lutheran World Relief for summer campers to make Mission Quilts. This was a great opportunity for the Woodland Quilters and summer campers to work together on quilts that will be distributed to people in need all around the world! Every Tuesday during the summer campers had the opportunity to help make these guilts. By the end of the summer we made 18 quilts that were sent to Lutheran World Relief. The quilts are being tracked and we will post their final destination on our website and facebook page.

2014 SUMMER STAFF



SUMMER STAFF SEARCH 2015

The search is on! If you or someone you know is interested in serving God, making a difference in the lives of campers, being part of an intentional Christian community, and having a great time with lots of kids, please check out the "employment" section of lutherlyn.com or contact the camp office! Applications are being accepted.



The long days of summer have passed, and the leaves have begun to change. For me fall is often a time of reflection of the year's riding season, and thinking of the changes to improve next year's programming. This year was a year of growth for our program.



All of our equestrian events had more participants than previous years. What a success! We hosted two hunter pace rides this year. In April, Washington and Jef-

ferson College Equestrian Team had their first hunter pace. The event was a success and the team is planning on having another. Mountaineer Hunter Jumper Association held their annual hunter pace in the beginning of June. As usual, it was a fabulous event. Our September mini trial was amazing! For the last four years we have been working hard to make a wonderful event, and this year was an all-around success. We had more participants than ever – 47! The show ran smoothly, and all of the participants had safe cross country rounds. We hope that our mini trial grows and continues to provide Western Pennsylvania eventers a place to school and compete. The haunted Judged Trail Ride, held October 5, finished up our events season. The colder temperatures of the day did not deter the competitors from coming. We had a wonderful (chilly!) day. As the leaves change we continue with equestrian gym class, private lessons, and the training of our new horses.

This year was an exciting year for horse donations. We are always keeping our eyes peeled for horses that meet our program needs. Frisco came to us in May. Frisco is a 23 year old Appendix quarter horse. Frisco has spent most of his life as a kid's lesson horse. He was donated to us from a local family that attends our homeschool programming and he has been a true asset to our program. He is a very good boy. He is very popular at the barn be-

cause he is jet black and is very good natured. Saison came to us on lease over the summer. Saison is a 19 year old Belgian Warmblood. She has an extensive training and show history. Saison lived most of her life in South Carolina and had a career showing up and down the east coast competing in 4 foot jumpers. She likes long walks on the beach (seriously) and hanging around giving beginner lessons. She is the epitome of a "gentle giant". She is the tallest horse in our barn and is often paired with the most timid of riders because of her gentle nature. Blue was purchased by one of our lesson students and is currently boarded at Lutherlyn. She will be available to us for lessons and summer camp (yay!). The feedback we got from campers who rode Blue was all very positive, and we are very happy to have her available for our use. Coffee and Tea were the last to join our crew this year in September. Coffee and Tea are an adorable 12 year old matched driving pair. They are also half sisters! (Just like our Tootsie and Sue). The girls are half Arabian and half Welsh pony. They are very steady and seem to enjoy everything we ask them to do. As our luck continues - three weeks after we received Coffee and Tea, another donor donated a pony driving harness! What an amazing learning opportunity the kids will have next season - driving!

Please keep us in mind when cleaning out your linen closets. We can always use donations of towels and wash-cloths. Another way you can help is by purchasing flea and tick treatments for our 5 cats. They are a very important part of our farm.

We are always in need of volunteers for our mini trial and judged trail ride. Both of these events require about 30 volunteers, or more. Please consider giving up a Sunday to help these fundraiser events go smoothly so we can continue to host them.

Happy Trails,

Carla

Babcock

On a personal note: This year I decided to take my horse, Reggie, to the Colorado Rangerbred National Horse Show. Reggie's breed of horse is a Colorado Rangerbred; they are a specific bloodline of appaloosa. His regis-



Request. This was my first breed show in over ten years so I wasn't sure what to expect. Reggie was fabulous and the show was really great. We won several prizes. Reggie was named the Reserve National Champion Gelding in Halter. We also got third in Hunt Seat Pleasure and first in the Road Hack Class. I was so proud of him! He has really been a special horse to me. I am glad to be able to see my children ride on my childhood horse, and to be able to share him with camp.



Frisco





Blue





Tea



Saison

WELCOME:



Erica Flanders joined the staff in September as the Office Manager/Registrar. Erica was a camper and summer staffer. She lived at camp for 3 years as a nanny and barn help where she discovered that she wanted to make "Outdoor Ministry" her career!

Bob Isenberg joined the staff in January as the "Potter in Residence". Bob comes to us from the Pottery Dome in Grove City. Bob brings an incredible amount of talent with him and is an excellent pottery teacher!



Eric Roehling re-joined the staff in September as the Site Manager. Over the past 30+ years Eric was a camper, summer staffer, full-time grounds crew, and the Site Manager. Eric left in 2008 to go to school for restoration carpentry. We are so happy to have him back!



Tim Bock joined the staff in November as the Adventure Coordinator. Tim was on summer staff for 3 summers and has been teaching Environmental education for the last year. Tim met his wife, Holly, at camp and they were married at Lake Side Chapel in June.



Joe and Jim joined the Maintenance staff this year and Shawna is the Housekeeper. This team, along with Gary and Eric, are doing great work at Lutherlyn to maintain 100 buildings and 660 acres of land with our guests and campers as their top priority!!



BE SURE TO DIRECT 2014 CHOICE DOLLARS®

If you are an eligible Thrivent
Financial member, you have until
March 31, 2015 to direct any
remaining 2014 Choice Dollars.
After that date, 2014
Choice Dollars will expire.

Through the Thrivent Choice* program, Lutherlyn receives over \$25,000 in grant funds annually from Thrivent Financial.

Act now before
Choice Dollars expire!

Direct Choice Dollars to Lutherlyn today.



HOW TO DIRECT CHOICE DOLLARS®

Call 1-800-THRIVENT • (1-800-847-4836) and state "Thrivent Choice" when prompted

Visit www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice and search "Lutherlyn"



If you have any questions about the Thrivent Choice*
program for Lutherlyn, please contact:
Ryan Ebner • Development Director
724-865-2161 • development@lutherlyn.com



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF LUTHERLYN THROUGH THRIVENT CHOICE!



(Gifts made between 1-1-2013 and 12-31-2013)

Shaulis Society (\$10,000 Lifetime) Ray & Lucille Allen Lynn & Nancy Alstadt Craig & Dawn Marie Andersson Gordon & Pauline Bachman Kathleen Frank Bacik Frank & Mary Baker Donald & M. JoAnne Bauman George & Sheila Beck George Bennitt & Debby

Miller-Bennitt

Kirk Bish Timothy Bish Gerald & Carolyn Blaney Judith Boal Leslie Boehmer & Kirk Morrison Evelyn Booth Robert & Courtney Bost Jack Brown, Jr. & Joan Brown Harry Burns & Patricia Wirth Butler Garden Club Roger & Barbara Claypoole Terrance Clever Ron & Laura Coombs Reldon Cooper James & Jeanette Cunningham Paul & Cindy Curran Wetauna Cypher Sigmund Decker Merab Drennen Richard & Violet Dunmyre Ronald Eslinger Roger & Catherine Fischer Charles Flach, III & Patricia Flach Curtis & Sally Frank Charles & Johanna Fuellgraf Kathy & Paul Gaberson Randal & Tracy Gullickson Nancy Headrick Jeff & Sandy Heasley Theodore & Gloria Hines Andy & Amy Huffman Dusty & Kolette Johnson Gregory & Ellen Jordan Mario & Susan Lanna Mr. Francis & Mrs. Francis Laube Roger & Martha Luppold W. Pete & Amy MacKay V. Ronald & Sally Marburger Wendy Mendenhall Edward Miller, Jr. & Pam Miller Marianne Miller Signe Mitchell Larry & Deborah Mort Barbara Nakles Laird Orr Pearl Parnell June Piontkowski Gwil & Kathy Price Cathy & Bruce Randolph Deb & Jeff Roberts Edward & Elaine Roehling Thomas & Sandy Rossman

Anna Trettel Thomas & Sandra Usher Dave & Nancy Williams James & Barbara Wilson Director's Circle: \$2,500 and above **Abigail Anderson**

Keith Runge

Judy Seanor

Jeane Smart

Jane Ann Suran

Phyllis J. Taylor

Randy & Susan Tost

Margaret Thompson

Walt & Janet Treser

Gerald & Cheryl Thomas

John Schlotter & Heidi Morris

Rob & Amelia Shillingsburg

Richard & Barbara Snyder

Henry Suhr, Jr. & Beverly Suhr

Robert & Emma Shock

Anonymous George & Shelia Beck 1 Merab Drennen Ronald Eslinger Andy & Amy Huffman 1 Dusty & Kolette Johnson † Lawrence & Rosemary Martin † Gwilym & Kathleen Price Richard & Barbara Snyder Henry Suhr, Jr. & Beverly Suhr 1 Margaret Thompson Thomas & Sandra Usher

Phyllis J. Taylor 2013 Lutherlyn Summer Staff Holy Trinity Lutheran, Chicora First Lutheran, Beaver Falls †

Diamond Circle: \$1,000 to \$2,499 Craig & Dawn Marie Andersson Donald & M. JoAnne Bauman

James & Lynn Beck † Kevin & Sandra Bell Kirk Bish Timothy Bish W. Gerald & Carolyn Blaney † John Brown Jr. & Joan Brown † Harry Burns & Patricia Wirth Patricia Bush † Wendy Campbell Jennifer Corrigan Paul & Cindy Curran Sigmund Decker † Heather & Joel Eidbo Curtis & Sally Frank Bill & Elaine Fugate Heather & Sam Goncz 1 **Linda Gross** Randal & Tracy Gullickson J. Kenneth & Susan Laber Dara Legg † Roger & Martha Luppold Elma Maier † Patrick & Jill Maier † Donald & Sandra McCoid † Wendy Mendenhall Signe Mitchell Daniel & Susan Morrow 1 Larry & Doborah Mort Luann Nollinger Patrick & Christine O'Brien † Bruce & Kathy Randolph Joe & Donna Reeder 1 Richard & Martha Rhoades Deb & Jeff Roberts Deborah Ross † David & Nancy Williams Butler Garden Club Faith Lutheran Church, Upper St. Clair Salem Lutheran Church, Smicksburg † St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Butler St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Scottsdale Trinity Lutheran Church, Gibsonia Trinity Lutheran Church, Ellwood City

Zion Lutheran Church, Penn Hills † Gold Circle: \$500 to \$999 Vernon & Debra Adams † Frank & Miriam Baker 1 Michael & Jacqueline Barber Jeff & Karen Bishop † Leslie Boehmer & Kirk Morrison Evelyn Booth Jeff & Kathy Bost Mont & Eileen Bowser Edward & Shirley Brut 1 James & Rosemary Clarke Terrance Clever Richard & Violet Dunmyre Charles & Patricia Flach Charles & Gretchen Fleischer Tim George John & Donna Helinski Richard & Ann Kessel Kirk & Cynthia Klingensmith Lewis (Clair) & Carroll Klingensmith Sharon & Mark Kresse Mario & Susan Lanna Gary & Penny Lester **Dorothy Lindner** Natalie McCloskey Patricia McKee † John & Pamela McMullan Colleen & Rick McWilliams Edward Jr. & Pam Miller Virginia & Richard Moyta † Earl & Jean Nollinger Megan & Erik Orient Elaine & Ed Roehling Keith Runge Judy Seanor Jeane Smart Donald & Illene Smith Jonathan & Laura Steiner † Carl & Anna Sutherland Randy Tost Walter & Janet Treser

Thomas Walrond & Ricarda Kelly-Wallrond

Gloria & Daniel Yount †

Christ Lutheran Church

Christ Lutheran Church, Sharon †

Faith Lutheran Church, Venus

Forks-Zion Lutheran Church

Harrold Zion Lutheran Church

English Lutheran Church, Zelienople †

Evangelical Lutheran, Worthington

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Irwin

St. John's Lutheran Church, Greenville

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Hunker

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Carmichaels

First Lutheran Church, Rural Valley

St. John's Lutheran Church, Mars †

Zion Lutheran Church, Harmony

Level 3: \$300 to \$499 Beverly Banyay † David & Annette Burns Richard & Ann Cheers † Karen Rae Cole † Ron & Laura Coombs † Cathleen Coudriet 1 James & Jeanette Cunningham 1 Jim & Sue Dickson † Herbert & Andrea Dubler Ted & Donna Fairley Harry & Pauline Faucett † Carl Follmer M. Darlene Frederickson † Al & Edwina Gesler † Jeff & Sandy Heasley † Tom & Gayl Henne C. Ted & Janet Kaltwasser Ronald & Joyce Kilgore Kenneth & Margherita King † Harold & Doris Laderer 1 John & Betty Sue Lehew Janet Lyons
Janice Marburger 1 Donald May 1 Stan & Patricia McCollough 1 Pam & Steve Mildren † Paul & Mona Miller Charles & Denise Morrison † Kanis Nealon † Linda Raschiatore † Sally Reesman Brenda & David Ritterpusch Paul & Carolyn Rizza Theresa & Ted Schroeder Richard & Eva Shearer 1 Ronald & Susan Smith † Robert & Bonnie Softcheck Jeremy & Rebeccah Tost † Reed & Lee Trimble Jim & Patti Vetter Maria Von Mickwitz Robert & Nancy Wright † Patricia Wuenstel Dottie & James Zaffuto Michael & Beth Zellhart 1 Michele Zinn † Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Export First English Lutheran Church, Butler Good Shepherd Lutheran, Emporium Grace Lutheran Church, Monogahela 1 Grace Lutheran Church, Manorville St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Corry † St. Peters Lutheran Church, Evans City

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, North East † Level 2: \$200 to \$299 Anonymous Donors Mark & Kathy Armstrong Sally Bachovchin-Janocko Frank & Mary Baker John & Kathy Bangor Neil Barker † Robert & Joan Belles † Cynthia Bognar Trudi Booth 1 Josh Bow 1 James & Shirley Bruggeman Lawrence & Susan Camberg † Alice Camp Sue & Ben Carothers John & Elizabeth Charters 1 John Cochran James & Vicki Daley 1 Russell & Cathy Dennis James & Sara Donnell

Shirley Dudenhoefer 1 Wilda Dumbaugh † Ryan Ebner Kenneth & Nancy Eisaman Susan Farrell Caroline Fassinger

Joan Ferraro John & Susan Frantz † Richard & Lynda Freed Kathy & Paul Gaberson Michael & Susan Gogol † Dorothy Goncz † Roger & Donna Graf

Susan Graham Shelley & Charles Guthoerl 1 Barbara & David Hall Ginny & Doug Hammer 1 John & Stephanie Harman † John & Anne Harmon Kevin & Marcie Heyl James & Carolyn Higgins Alexander Hileman William Hower Joseph & Janet Janukites Mike & Wilma Johnson 1 Susan & Joseph Kantz William Keller

John & Barb Kersey

Lorraine Kesterson † Donald & Helen Kleckner † Henry Leri † Randi & Bob MacKeil † Andrea Miller Billie Lee Miller Laura Miller † Marianne Miller 1 James & Susan Neal † Nora & Jim Nealon † Donald E. Perkins & Elise A. Eslinger Anne Pierotti 1 Tom & Sandy Rea 1 Elizabeth & Wayne Rideout † Cheryl Scheck † John Schlotter & Heidi Morris Barb Schumacher † James & Rebecca Slade Marie & Donald Spohn † Jaakko & Sandra Suni † Jenn Taylor & Bill Miller † Anna K. Trettel Susan & Josef Vanek † LuAnn & Timothy Wheeler † Gary & Susan Whitling Thomas & Jean Wiles Reynolds & Joyce Wingard Betty M. & Eugene Worthy † Shirley & Warren Zundel † Bethlehem Lutheran, Scenery Hill **Carousel Horse Tack ESB Bank** Grace Lutheran Church, Franklin 7 Hebron Lutheran Church, Leechburg † Hope Lutheran Church, Homer City

St. Peter's Lutheran, St. Petersburg 1 Level 1: \$100 to \$199 Kenneth & Rita Aber **Eleanor Abplanalp** Jonathan Adams James Adelman Richard & Betty Albright Lynn & Nancy Alstadt Linda Anderson **Ronald Anderson** James & Christine Antis David & Bonita Bachman Gordon & Pauline Bachman Donald & Barbara Baker Helena & Clyde Baker Helen Bash Audrey Bauer John & Joyce Beach **David Bedell** John & Amy Kay Beiler Joel & Mindy Benson James & Bonnie Berzonski

Amanda & Ty Best Colin Blackburn Ed Blans Bill & Jane Boarts Timothy Bock Marlin & Karen Boltz John & Sheryl Borden Holly Bost Stephanie Bost **Shirley Bowser Daniel Brammell Ruth Bream** Delwin & Alicia Brockett David & Robin Brown Ralph & Doris Brown Dawn Brut

John & Susan Burger Kayla Burgess Mary Jo & John Burglund Jeffrey & Paula Bussard Joel Bussard Kara Bussard

Philip Byford Andrew Carlsson Randal Cavalero Rebecca & Stephen Choiniere Christ's Lutheran Church, Murrysville Roger & Barbara Claypoole William & Wylda Cole Sarah Compher Kathy Conrad Kim Coombs Barbara Coon Ron & Bev Cowen Bill Cox Clyde L. & Dorothy K. Croupe Kristine & Kenneth Deiss

William & Becky Devore Megan Dickson William Dietrich, Jr. & Patricia Dietrich James & Jane Dollhopf John & Nancy Doman Stephen & Judith Downing Leslie & Sylvan Easler Kathy & Dale Ebner

Kirk Elkin

Richard Evans Paul & Elizabeth Fackler Charles & C. Louise Fair Elaina Fenstermacher The Fenton Family DeWayne Filges Martha Fisher Elizabeth Flanders Victoria Foeks Andre & Mischele Francois Kathleen Frank Bacik Alan S. & Amy L. Freed Jack & Judy C. Freed Rachelle & Larry Fritz **Sharon Fugent** Martin Galbraith & Margarethe

Galbraith-Cordes

Lorraine Golan Glen & Donna Gold **Madaline Golec** Caitlin Goncz Richard & Carolyn Graff Peter Graff, IV & Nancy W. Graff Richard & Janet Graham Ronald & Susan Haener Rebecca Hall Larry Hamil **Beatrice Hansen** William & Norma Jean Hansmann Barbara Hartman Don & Peggy Hayn Walter Hebda, Jr. & Diana Hebda Robert & Wendy Hedegore

Clair & Pearl Held Rachel Higgins Roberta & Robert Hill Frank & Lois Hodas Jack Hohbach Mark & Catherine Holm John & Jacquelyn Holmberg Mary Ann Hoovler Scott & JoAnne Hyde

Jacque Jacobs Kate Jacobsen-Caughlan John Jacoby Nancy & John Jeffries Hildegarde Jenson Kurt & Karen Johanknecht **Emily Johns** Paul & Laura Johnson Jocelyn Johnston Gene & Karen Jones Charles & Sharon Kaltwasser Marianne & Christoph Kasch Robert & Jean Kestner

Michael & Lynn Kinney Dayna Kirby Phyllis Klingensmith **Daniel Klopfer** Cindy & Jeff Knoll Rochelle & Michael Koerbel Julie & Jake Kosker Paul & Mary Ann Kowalik Kelsey Kresse Gloria Krieger Robert & Rita Kromer Don & June Kudas

Ralph & Carol Kusserow

Margaret Lally Dorothy Lamey Harry Laube Alan & Roseann Lee Sarah Lee-Faulkner David Lendt William Lenz John & Deanna Leuenberger Lee M. & Karen W. Lindeman

Erika Linden & Randy Thompson Dan Livengood

Susan Lockhart Marie Loebig John Logan Joyce Lydick Samuel & Shirley Lyon Kathleen Maclean Jeff & Charlotte Maier Jennifer & Mark Marnich Stephen & Lea Marshall Philip J. & Sally E. McAfee Robert & Charlotte McCabe Missy McCann Valerie & John McConnell Robert & Carol McCurdy Catherine McKnight

Virginia McMullan Dorothy McWilliams Kelly McWilliams George Means, Jr. & Carol A. Means William & Darla Mechling Julie & Rorik Melberg George & Rose Mellors Charles Merroth Colleen & Paul Mertens

Edward & Linda Mertz Charlene Michael Lauren Mildren Fred & Merry Miller Janet Miller Robert & Margaret Miller Jennifer Montag Lee & Judy Montgomery Cleo Morgan **Emilia Moseley** Bill & Kathleen Murray Evelyn R. Myers Mary Lou Neff Keith & Paulette Nelson Karen & William Newson Elizabeth Orris Joel & Carolind Parson James Petsinger Kathryn & Loretta Pickett Earl & Debbie Pifer Andrea & Steve Plummer Steven & Jane Poskanzer Leila Protzman David & Jacqueline Puchnick Nathan Radebaugh Melissa & Roger Ray **Duane & Mary Ann Richards** Katie Richards

Nathan Radebaugh
Melissa & Roger Ray
Duane & Mary Ann Richard
Katie Richards
Jeremy & Laura Rockwell
Eric & Missy Roehling
Mark & Janet Rosenbury
Abigail Scanga
William A. & Carol Schaal

Linda Schaeffer Christine M. Schall Richard & Virginia Schindler

Richard & Virginia Schind Bill & Laurie Schmidt Tony & Tricia Schneck Nancy Schreiber

Kathleen Schubert Richard & Norma Schwab Jackie & Marshall Scott Justin Seanor

Judy Serafine Joseph Shellenbarger John & Irene Sigler Margaret & Charles Skalos

Amy Slade
John & Dorothy Slomer

John & Dorothy Slor Summer Slupe Kari & Dan Smail Marilyn Smail Darlene Smith

Rachael Smith Christine Snyder Jean Soergel Carol Springer

Naomi Smith

Esther & Bill Stahlman
Frances Stitely
Gary & Nancy Stoehr
Renee & Dale Stone
Carolyn L. Street
MaryAnn & William Swanson

Gary & Janet Switzer Russell & Ruth Thelin Stephen & Lisa Thelin Brianne Thomas Robert Thompson

William S. & Youxu Cai Tjader Paul & Shari Todaro Meredith A. & Ryan Trimble Janet Vandyke Ruth Vasey

Michelle & Chuck Walters William Watson Kristina & David Wessel

Paul Wheeler

Kyle & Gwen Whittaker

Sonya & Roy Wilt

Caroline Wolff

James Workman, Jr. & Cynthia Workman

James Workman, J Phyllis Wylie Patty Wynn John Yedlowski Althea Yenchak Margaret Young James Young, Jr. &

ANTHONY J SCHNEC

James Young, Jr. & Mary Kay Young

Randy J. & Miriam Youngquist-Thurow Jennifer Yurky Jacob Zaffuto
Tracey & Randall Zeigler
Bethesda Lutheran, New Kensington
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Glenshaw Emmanuel Lutheran, Jefferson Heights
Holy Trinity Lutheran, Grove City Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Erie Lutheran University Center, Pittsburgh Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church St. John's Lutheran, New Castle St. John's Lutheran Church, Warren St. John's Perrysville

Trinity Lutheran Church, Reynoldsville WELCA - Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Monaca WELCA -St. Peter's Lutheran Church,

St. Peters Lutheran Church, Uniontown

St. Paul's Lutheran, Vandergrift

Evans City
New Members in Bold
† Giving level increased from previous year

Honorariums Scott Best Family

By Curtis and Sally Frank
Stephen and Sarah Bond
By Becky and Bob Rougeaux
Tim and Holly Bost
By Jeff and Kathy Bost

Jim, Ro, and Matthew Clarke By Curtis and Sally Frank Thomas and Phyllis Clarke By Curtis and Sally Frank

Karen Cole
By William and Wylda Cole
Pastor and Mrs. Dollhopf
By Mary Ann and Bill Swanson

Donna Dupont
By Dorothy Goncz
Ron Eslinger

By Erika Linden Sarah & Josh Gold By Glen & Donna Gold

Florence Green
By Linda Anderson
John Jeffries

By Johnathon and Judith Erlen Richard and Linda Neumann Drs. Jonathon and Judith Erlen John and Joni Kepple

By Suzanne Switzer The Rev. Ted Kerr By Ray and Lucille Allen Pastor Ryan Kobert

By Faith Lutheran, New Florence, PA Kelsey Kresse

By Mark and Sharon Kresse William Luft By John R. Frantz Elma Maier

By Gary and Suzanne Jaquith Bill and Jenn Miller By Penny Davis

By Penny Davis Gloria and Daniel Yount Vie Dunmyre Pastor Brian Moran By Nancy Varner

Leslie Boehmer and Kirk Morrison By Thomas and Jean Wiles My Grandchildren Noah, Rachel,

Alana, and Cora
By Doris Herceg

Arthur Patterson
By Roy Lloyd
Julie Ranelli
By Daniel and Melanie Taormina
Colleen Schriver

By David and Robin Brown
Daniel and Gloria Yount

Rev. John Smaligo
By William and Evelyn Clark & Family
Jeane Smart
By Christine Schall
Gwen Tickner Carmack

IN HONOR OF BARRY NELSON'S RETIREMENT

By Ron and Anita Carmack Sharon Wach By John R. Frantz Melanie Wilson Family
By Curtis and Sally Fran

By Curtis and Sally Frank Members of First English, Butler By James and Jane Dollhopf

Jan, John & Tamm By Jack and Sue Lehew

Memorials
Matthew Ammon
By Susan Richards
Cora and William Baer

By Judy Seanor Eric Bish By Peter and Nancy Graff

Adam Bishop

By Robert and Sarah Bishop

Jeff and Karen Bishop

Louis and Bonnie Bowser
By Julie Bowser

Susan J. Brown Cravener
By The descendants of the Ramsey

Brown Family
Harry & Ruth Burns
By David and Annette Burns

Donald and Iva Carlson
By Earl and Jean Nollinger
Dale and Jane Clarke
By Curtis and Sally Frank
Lois and Clyde Clever Jr.

By Terrance R. Clever
June H. Cowan
By Robert and Jean Kestner
Suzanne & Richard Wagner

Robert and Bonnie Batina Richard E. Dumbaugh, Sr. By Wilda Dumbaugh

Stephanie Eslinger

By Elise Eslinger and Don Perkins
Ron Eslinger

Alice M Filges
By Dewayne Filges
Wilma Follmer
By Ron and Sandy Boltey
Patricia Ross
Wendy Rosswaag

Cleo Morgan
The Szakach Family
Ruth and William Santulli and Family
Carl Follmer

Thelma Forsythe
By Jan and Walt Treser
St. John's Lutheran of Highland Golf League
James and Edith Frank
By Curtis and Sally Frank

Faith Lynn Franklin
By Karen and Robert Lorence
Becky & Chip, Shawn & Ryan Franklin

Becky & Chip, Shawn & Ryan Frankli John, Sally, and Pat Freed By Jacky and Judy Freed

Amy and Alan Freed Jack and Judy Freed Russel Gabriel

By Betty Gabriel
Joseph Goncz
By Dorothy Goncz
Ethel Mae Graff

By Trinity Lutheran Church of Ellwood City **Katherine (Kitty) Green** By Nancy and John Jeffries

Bob and Mary Hileman
By Don and Pat Melpolder
Fred Howell

By Raymond and Shirley Kramer Fred Hufnagel By Janet Geiger

Kelly Christen Jones
By Gene and Karen Jones
Arthur and Martha Klein

By William and Karen Newson

Cassandra Elaine Kovacs

By Kovacs, Sadler, and O'neal Families

By Elma Maier Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Yandora Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Raymond Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Liebel Mr. and Mrs. Rick McCauley

Patrick A.L. Maier By Elma Maier

> ONFIRMED IN CHRIST KOBY KOVACS 2013

FAMILY CAMP WEEK

Henry Leri

Gary and Suzanne Jaquith Henry Leri Tom and Jean Wiles

Kenneth & Mary May By Donald May Kathleen McBride

By Jim and Jeanette Cunningham "Grandpap" George Miller By Janet Miller

Wil Morrow
By Susan and Daniel Morrow
Ben Myers

Jean Nollinger
By Lucille M. Genberg
Penn Ohio Rehabilitation
Dorothy Goncz
Lori Browne

By Evelyn Myers

Frank Calandra
Oliver and Shirely Oill
Eric and Elisha Schreiber
Vie and Dick Dunmyre
Sandra and Thomas Boudewyns
Kristen Nollinger
Greg and Donna Howard
John and Ruth Anna Cornelius
Guido and Phyllis Riccadonna
George and Helen Phillips
The Travel Girls: Lynn, Carol M.,

Alberta, Colleen, Vicki, Helene, Cindy, Carol S., Sandy Card Club: Ruth Anna, Joann, Dorothy, Bobbi, Esther, Jo, Dorothy

Lynn and Pete Olshavsky Wanda and David Fenstermacher Lois Stewart John and Louise Campbell

Jonn and Louise Campbell
Your Cousins: Barb Simpson, Jack
Anderson, Mike Cesnick, Cheryl
Brown, Peggy and George Shoskin,
Joan and By Virgina and Dennis Stacy
Don Pennock, Eric & Divie Youngberg
Marilyn Moon
Gloria Yount

Woodland Quilters: Penny, Mary Ann, Robin, Sue, Rachelle, Pat, Nancy, Mindy, Vie, Gloria C., Gloria Y., Kathy

Kathy Jennmar Corporation Employees Luann Nollinger Avalon Springs Nursing Center Mr. & Mrs. Edward Sawaya Doris Beck

Kelsey Moon
Diana Nordby
By Camp Frie

By Camp Friends: Bri & Jon Major, Andrew Weigold, Zach Lonsinger, Joel Bussard, Erica Flanders, Bekah George, Kim Coombs, Luke Nealon

Ellie Petsinger
By James Petsinger
Bill Pierotti
By Charles Fair

By Charles Fair
Betty Piovesan
By Kenneth and Nancy Eisaman
Sylvia Reibel
By William and Walda Cala

By William and Wylda Cole Elaine Roehling By Charles and Frances Baurle Mary Tomo-Gardner

Mary Tomo-Gardner
Richard and Ruth Ann Boyle
Irene Dinning
Thomas Leddy Jr
Pat Leddy
Betty Scott

Kathleen and Paul Gaberson Gregory and Jane Cushion Su Rote Gergerich By Deborah Ross

Thomas W. Rowe, Jr.
By Larry & Mollie Ann Hibbs
Earl Runge
By Keith Runge

Bill Schrimper
By The Schrimper Family
Lynn Schrimper and Family
Rev. & Mrs. S. S. Shaulis

By Jack and Sue Lehew

By Mr. & Mrs. John G. Lehew, Jr. Samuel A. Shaulis By Mr. & Mrs. John G. Lehew, Jr. John Shirely

Dr. Samuel & Gracia Shaulis

By Jean and Harry Bost **Dorothy Sternat** By Mr. & Mrs. John G. Lehew, Jr.

Anna Strand White By Ray and Lucille Allen Delores Stumme By Ron and Carol Pisarek

Pastor John Tickner
By Ron and Anita Carmack

Allan Tolley By Mildred K. Fincke Catheine S. Dodge Ann Harty and Christa Hartmann Lynn Hunter Karen Wolfinger Sandra Whitaker Bob and Sue Stover Shirley Simon Family Bonnie C. Pearson Donna and John Helinski Paul J. Hill Robin K. Grubis Gary and Karin Lindsay Susan Tolley Robinson Carol T. Bolger James D. Tolley

Charlie and Elsie Brown Amy Kitchens Randy Tost By Jacqueline Jacobs Mark and Roseann Armstrong Jeff and Deb Roberts George Myers Sandra Suran

Sandra Suran
Ralph and Doris Brown
Mac's Health Club
Carol Springer
Compunetix, Inc.
Ronald and Margaret Haener
Marilyn Cosgrove
Ronald and Susan Haener

Charter School of Excellence - Maritime Ctr Marian Cline Karen and Calvin Hill Leota Gromley Richard and Natalina Brown Kay Detrick Owen Marilyn Barger Robert and Bonnie Softcheck Vivian and Richard Cribbs

James and Susan Neal
Rev. William Chamberlin
Mr. & Mrs. James Watson & Olivia
Patty Rupp
Deborah Scheib
Pamela Dodds
Ruth Rothwell
Anna and Ronald Rodkey
Jan and Walt Treser

Jan and Walt Treser
Harry Tost
Mary Jo Brozenick
John and Donna Helinski
Charles Vasey Jr.

By Robert and Joyce Laverick The Laverick Family Tom and Augusta Vezzetti

By Delwin and Alicia Brockett

Edna Whiteside

By Linda Scheffer

Barbara Wilson
By Rebecca and Stephen Choiniere
George D. Wolfe, Jr.
By Theodore & Veronica Labuda

David Worthy
By Betty and Eugene Worthy
Don and June Kudas

Betty and Eugene Worthy Loved Ones By Virgina and Dennis Stacy

Our sincerest apologies if we omitted your name.

Remember and Honor Your Loved Ones

BILL SWEENEY

Buy a Brick: Leave a Tribute on Friendship Way

"Friendship Way" serves as a lasting tribute to those who have been honored or remembered; for those who have "left their footprint" at Lutherlyn.

Become a part of the future of Lutherlyn! Bricks are a perfect way to remember a loved one, honor a special occasion, or show your support to our mission. Your name or message can be engraved on a brick and will be placed in the brick walkway called "Friendship Way" that leads to the Lutherlyn Dining Hall. Bricks start at \$50. You can now purchase bricks quickly and easily by going to www.lutherlyn.com/bricks.







Four times a year the Quilting and Crafting Retreats take over the dining hall and it becomes a beautiful place of fun, creativity, fellowship, laughter, friendship, and LOTS of great projects! Each year Lutherlyn offers the UFO (unfinished objects) Retreat in January, the Mystery Quilt Retreat in March, the Crafty Lady Week-Long Getaway in September, and the Santa's Workshop Retreat in November. 50-75 women join us for each of these retreats and they bring with them all of their supplies and tools needed to work on their projects. Over the years we have had retreat participants working on quilts, scrapbooks, stained glass, cards, embroidery, handwoven baskets, loom-woven tapestries, clothing, ornaments, stuffed animals, knitted scarves, drawings, novels (reading and writing), and many other beautiful pieces of art and expressions of creativity!

The annual Golf Outing is held every May. In 2014 we had 68 golfers and raised \$12,600 for the campership fund! The golf outing is held at Oakview Golf Club in Slippery Rock. The day starts with a hot dog lunch followed by 18 holes of golf in a scramble format. After golfing is complete there is an awards dinner with door prizes and team and individual skill prizes. Visit Lutherlyn.com/golf for more information about the 2015 golf outing.



The Winter Retreat was truly a WINTER RETREAT!! We had lots of fun in the snow and started exploring our summer Bible Study theme: Life Together! The Winter Retreat is for 4th-12th graders (they are divided into Juniors, Jr. High, and Sr. High for the weekend).

Shawn Smith joined us for YouthFest in April. YouthFest is the Jr. High and Sr. High Youth Retreat for the Northwestern PA and Southwestern PA synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.





The Winter Tea was a huge success. In February our Table Hostesses brought their tea sets, table decorations, and 6-8 of their friends for a lovely tea party. Chef Mike provided excellent food and Potter Bob did an amazing pottery wheel demonstration. There were great ticket auction prizes and everyone voted for their favorite tea party table. Every year we look for 10-15 table hostesses to invite their friends to Lutherlyn for the tea. If you are interested in hosting a table at the Winter Tea, please contact Deb in the camp office.



Over 160 people joined us for Halloween Family Fun! We had a great day carving pumpkins, playing games, roasting marshmallows, going on a hay ride, and trick-or-treating.

The woodland Quilters host a beautiful Quilt Show in the Dining Hall and Rice Hall each October. This year the theme was "Garden Party" and it featured over 100 quilts. The 2014 Quilt Show was in memory of our dear friend, Jean Nollinger. Jean was one of the original Woodland Quilters who helped to make the quilts hanging in the Dining Hall.

In November, St. John's Lutheran Church of Highland hosted a Quilt Auction to benefit the Lutherlyn Campership Fund. Pastor Bill Diehm was the auctioneer and the event raised over \$3,800 for campers! Each year we look for 1 or 2 congregations to host an auction. Please contact the camp office if you are interested in hosting a quilt auction in the future.



CampBlast Lutherlyn Saturday, May 9th, 2015, 11am-4:30pm FREE!!!

Visit www.lutherlyn.com/campblast for more details.

2015 Calendar

January

16-18—UFO (Unfinished Objects) Retreat 30-Feb. 1—Winter Retreat (4-12 grade)

February

- 7—Saturday Safari
- 7—Ambassador Training

March

- 6-8—Youth Leadership Development Institute
- 7—Maple Sugaring Saturday Safari
- 8—Winter Tea
- 16-22—Mystery Quilting Retreat

April

- 10-12—YouthFest (Jr. High & Sr. High)
- 11—Mini Horse Camp
- 21,22,28,29—Equestrian Gym Class
- 25—Mini Horse Camp
- 25—Work Day

May

- 5,76,12,13—Equestrian Gym Class
- 9—CAMP BLAST!!!
- 22—Golf Outing
- 31—Summer Staff Training Starts

June

- 1-12—Summer Staff Training
- 6—Mini Horse Camp
- 7—Trinity Pines Club Banquet
- 14—SUMMER CAMP BEGINS!

July

1-31—SUMMER CAMP CONTINUES!
31—Last Day of Summer Camp

August

3-6—Family Camp for NWPA & SWPA Synod Rostered Leaders & families

21—Pony Pals

29-30—Fathers and Sons Retreat

September

4-5—Fathers and Sons Retreat

7-13—Crafty Lady Week-Long Getaway 15,16,22,23,29,30—Equestrian Gym Class

18—Pony Pals

20—Judged Pleasure Trail Ride

25-27—Wild Women Weekend

October

3—Work Day

6,7—Equestrian Gym Class

9—Pony Pals

17,18—Woodland Quilters Quilt Show

19—Horselovers Class

20—Horsemanship Class

23—Pony Pals

25—Family Halloween Fun

26—Horselovers Class

November

7—Saturday Safari

20-22—Santa's Workshop Retreat

December

4-6—Advent Retreat

Visit www.lutherlyn.com for details and registration information.



Archaeology Continues at Indian Cave

Over the last 15 years, a couple of archaeologists have taken the time to periodically dig at Lutherlyn's Indian Cave. However, digging had been rather sporadic and infrequent until this year. Laura DeYoung, who has been part of the environmental education staff at Lutherlyn since 2001, has become a certified field archaeologist and has been digging at the cave as time and weather permit.

This past year, Laura unearthed a piece of chert that Native Americans had used 10,000 years ago! This represents the first evidence of Paleo-Americans at Lutherlyn. These people often followed large animal herds and lived in the area as the last ice age was ending.

Thanks to Laura for taking up the challenge of becoming a field archaeologist and doing the hard work that it takes to dig into the past.



WISH LISTS

Maintenance/Housekeeping

- -1 Ton Dump Truck
- -Home Depot and Lowes Gift Cards -Reliable mini van or SUV (for program use)**
- -25 hp Tractor with belly mower and snowplow (or \$18,000 to purchase one) -NEW twin & Queen size sheets

**Lutherlyn relies on donated vehicles for Summer Day Camp Teams and program use. If you are ready to get rid of a used vehicle that is still road-worthy; please consider a donation to Lutherlyn that is tax deductable!

(NEW vehicle donations welcomed too!)

Office

-pens & pencils
-Post-It notes
-copy paper
-cardstock
-paperclips
-scotch tape
-masking tape
-glue sticks
-scissors
-thumb tacks
-permanent markers
-new 3-ring binders
-new easels and paper pads
-Bibles

Crafts

-tacky glue

-scissors (adult & kids)
-pony beads
-seed beads
-tempera paint
-embroidery floss
-new markers
-new colored pencils
-paint brushes
-yarn
-construction paper
-colored tissue paper
-glue

-baby food jars

Stables

-pony driving cart or wagon
-garden tractor
-rubber mats for stalls
-water proof sheets and winter blankets of all sizes
-size 13, 14, 15 mens boots
-fly spray & fly masks
-dressage saddle
-joint supplements
-multivitamin supplements
-cat food
-cat flea & tick treatments

Environmental Education

-Rain coats for kids
-Riding mower or small tractor (for hauling compost)
-Winter coats for kids

-Winter gloves and hats for kids and adults

-8 ounce "Cool-whip" containers

Volunteers & Skilled Labor

We often have projects that could use volunteers with specific skills (painting, electrical work, carpentry, construction). If you have a trade or specific skill that you are willing to share with Lutherlyn, please let us know. Our schedule can be flexible to accommodate your availability.

We also have projects that do not require much skill but need people willing to dedicate their time. Individuals and groups are always helpful in completing these tasks.

St. Luke Lutheran School and LEEP – A 25-Year Partnership

On October 3, 1989 students from St. Luke Lutheran School in Cabot were some of the first students to attend a field trip of the brand new Lutherlyn Environmental Education Program. Brenda Fett, fourth grade teacher at St. Luke, may not have realized that she was starting a partner-ship that would last for 25 years.

On October 21, 2014, fourth and fifth graders from St. Luke returned for their annual field trip. This year the trip included a pond study, hiking to the Venango Trail and learning about pioneer life, exploring some of the life skills needed by Native Americans of the Eastern Woodlands, and St. Luke's traditional hot dog cookout.

Over the years the partnership has expanded to include annual field trips for the kindergarten class, maple sugaring field trips for first and second graders, and special in-school events for students in pre-school and kindergarten. The teachers keep returning because LEEP experiences offer hands-on, kid-friendly activities that correlate well with their curriculum.

This partnership has benefitted Lutherlyn, too. LEEP has been able to pilot programs and activities with St. Luke students. Both ministries are stronger because of this lasting partnership.



LEEP Staff Changes

The New Year will bring some role changes to the staff of the Lutherlyn Environmental Education Program. Kathy Price, who has been part of the LEEP staff since 1990, will continue to teach with school groups, but she will turn over many of her year-round responsibilities to Holly Schubert. Kathy has done a fabulous job keeping the EE program organized and running efficiently. This change will give Kathy a little more time to spend with her family, especially her 5 grandchildren.

Holly has been a member of the LEEP staff since 2012 and was the summer gardener in 2012 and 2013. Holly has a myriad of talents, is a wonderful educator, and has a vision for ministry. Holly has also moved into Terra Dei Homestead and has taken over responsibilities there.

THE FALL 2014 L.E.E.P. STAFF

(Lutherlyn Environmental Education Program)





Reformation Sunday was confirmation day at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Eastmont and Pastor Linda Orsen Theophilus invited me to preach a ReformationconfirmationLutheranidentity kind of sermon. It seems to me that there is a lot of pressure in our culture today to homogenize our faith. "A Christian is a Christian is a Christian" - so society seems to say and believe, so I welcomed the invitation and found it energizing to restate for myself and those at worship what it is that makes Lutheran Christianity important.

The text for the day was from the 8th chapter of John and included this, "if you continue in my word, you will know the truth and the truth will make you free."

When I was about 7 years old, it came time for my mother to make a rule: no ball playing in the house. There came a day when Mom was out and my brother and I disregarded that rule. The game of catch quickly became a game of "let's see if you can handle this one..." Of course the game ended with the destruction of one of those knickknacky things that mothers care about and 7 year olds don't get. We did our best to camouflage the damage, but within seconds of walking in the door, Mom noticed. How do moms do that? She sat me down and asked me... something about it...I was soooo sorry...I was crying...I got a hug...and a "don't do it again." So how did I react to that? Of course, I thought, "Wow. That was a fine example of grace. Just like Jesus, Mom forgave the sinner and said, 'your sin is forgiven. Go and sin no more." Not. I actually thought, "I dodged that bullet." But I couldn't help but notice that Mom was sad and disappointed and maybe a little hurt. It took years for me to see that exchange for what it was - which really was...Mom being like Jesus. We didn't play ball in the house after that - not because of fear of punishment under the law,

but because we didn't want to see that dis-

appointed look again.

This word of Jesus that he calls disciples to "continue in" is "grace." I love that Bishop Kusserow defines grace as, "unexpected welcome." It's not the kind that happens when you open the door and people blow horns and shout, "surprise." It's the kind that comes when you are the prodigal coming home in shame and your father runs to meet you – even sparing you the "I told you so."

This is the word that Jesus brought: God is not a wrathful deity with a people swatter just waiting for the humans he created to screw up so he can swat us. God is all about life...and love...and has expectations about how it should work. We are called to be gracious and forgiving... loving. In spite of her anger, it never occurred to me that my mom would kick me out of the house for all eternity for messing up. That's not God's way either. Sin hurts and disappoints God, but it doesn't stop grace.

We are called to the Jesus Path, the way of love and graciousness. We are called to do the things that give life to all whom we encounter - as Jesus taught and did. Feed the hungry, help the sick and the outcast, be a peacemaker...be the neighbor.

Grace is key in Lutheran thinking. Grace is what saves us. Grace sets us free Grace calls us home. There are still rules and it hurts and disappoints God when we disregard them because it's not good for us or anybody else. Bad things happen. Life is hard; sometimes very hard, but life is good. God doesn't send Ebola or AIDS or hurricanes or volcanic eruptions to punish us anymore than he sends sunny days and good health to reward us for good behavior. God is in it all – not causing – not abandoning, but being with us in the midst of this very complicated universe that gives us the opportunity to participate in

It was the matter of grace, and the for-

giveness and relationship implicit in it, that wrenching heart-breaking loss. Hunger is became the major bone of contention in the Reformation. Rome had taken upon itself the role of gatekeeper. Gatekeeper of the Word (keep the Latin), of the means of grace (who is permitted at the table), of forgiveness (indulgences), and even the gate to heaven (purgatory and limbo). It was against this that Luther rebelled. And a bloody rebellion it was. We sometimes forget, if we ever really knew, that the Reformation was not only a battle of theology, but one of politics and the authority of a church that had positioned itself to have power over nations. People died for access to the truth that yields the freedom that Jesus had already given them.

In recent years there are a couple of theological points of view that have become popular. One is a version of Christianity that is very much rooted in Old Testament law and, for all practical purposes, fails to grasp the concept of grace. These are people who claim that Ebola and even the death of a child is punishment for somebody's sin. They can tell you who is going to hell. Another is the Theology of Glory that focuses only on Christ risen, and is only about a personal relationship with Jesus. These are the folks who will tell you that once they came to Jesus all is glorious and if it isn't for you, it is because your faith is weak or you don't pray enough. They hang the "He is Risen" banner on their church the Friday before Passion Sunday and go straight to Easter. They don't feel they need confession and absolution as part of their worship. It's a warm and fuzzy kind of Christianity. They will tell you that the death of a child is God's will or that God "needed another little angel."

Luther built his theology on the cross and expounded the "Theology of the Cross." In a nutshell, it means Lutherans call things what they are. Ebola is a disease. The death of a young child is a guta bad thing that can be eased by sharing. Earthquakes and big storms happen just because they do. In the midst of loss and grief and struggle, Lutherans do not sugar coat or assign blame. We pray and wade into the struggle with a sandwich and a shovel and "peace be with you" on our lips. God does not abandon people and neither do we. That's why our disaster services reach into 120 countries and our social service network is un-paralleled. That's why we go to Ground Zero and Camp Victor. It's why we work with our partners in the Lutheran Church Liberia to fight Ebola. That's why we say, "This death is heart-breaking and gut-wrenching, but God has not abandoned you and neither will we. We will get through this together. We will not let you do this alone."

The world needs gritty Lutheran theology and bold Lutherans reaching into the world in love to give life. In our generations, Lutherans, for the sake of God's people, must continue to step up as stewards of the earth, peacemakers, workers for the common good, and people who in word and action proclaim Christ and Him crucified...and risen.

At the end of John's Gospel, Jesus gave the disciples a new command - "Love one another. This is what people will see. This is how people will know that you are my disciples." Gritty Lutherans living in the freedom of grace, committed to living life and sharing God's gifts of life with others that's the kind of faith formation we work to nurture in our campers. It's never too early to help kids understand that they can make life-giving choices and positive differences in the lives of others; from neighbors to classmates to people in need around the world.

For more information or to make a donation to Lutherlyn, please complete the

oupon below and mail it to:	Lutherlyn,	PO Box 35:	5, Prospect,	PA 16052
Your gift is an invest	tment and a	commitment	to the future	and
	mission of I			

Table of the Committee			1 1 211	'C C

Name	
Address	
Phone	E-Mail
[] In Memory of_	
[] In Honor of	
	Please send notification of my gift to:
Name	
Address	
	State Zip_
want more inf [] Summe [] Serving	formation about: er Camp [] Retreats and Events [] Volunteering as an Ambassador [] Day Camp [] Family Camp ting Lutherlyn's facilities [] Monthly Giving [] Other:
Name	

Lutherlyn sends out a monthly e-newsletter through constant contact. If you are not on our e-mail list and would like to receive a monthly update from camp, please visit www.lutherlyn.com. There is a box on the front page of the web site that says "Join our Mailing



List". Please submit your e-mail address there and you will be added to our e-mail list. Each monthly newsletter includes upcoming events, photos, and news from camp!

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD...

We may think we have little impact on the world today, much less in the future. Yet, that concept is one that we at Lutherlyn refuse to accept.

We firmly believe that our work contributes toward a brighter future for those we

Perhaps you've wondered what you could do to enrich the future quality of life for your family, friends, and others. You've worked hard to insure their security and you probably want to see the fruits of those efforts last beyond your days. By making a will with the assistance of an attorney, you can provide long-term benefits for those you wish to remember.

With that thought in mind, we are offering a booklet entitled, "How to Make a Will That Works" available to you at no cost. It describes how your individual wishes about the management of your property can be recorded to be carried out when you are gone. In short, a will allows no other authority, such as state laws, to decide who most deserves to share the property you have worked hard to attain.

A will is one of the best ways to be assured that you will make a difference in the lives of those you love. That is a satisfying feeling.

To receive your free copy of "How to Make a Will That Works" please contact: Ryan Ebner, Development Director

Phone: (724) 865-2161

E-Mail: development@lutherlyn.com



Lutherlyn has over 2,500 "likes" on Facebook! Check out Lutherlyn on Facebook for the daily "Past Photo of the Day" and the most current happenings at camp!

