

# What's New at Camp?

Things are jumping at camp! It has been an incredible year of gift support and building and growth as we retool, reenergize, and take our strengths in new directions



First the pool. Spring didn't want to let go this year. All construction in our area fell way behind the seasonal norms and our pool project was in the thick of it. It certainly was not done by summer as hoped, but as this article is being written, the sparkling water is shimmering as it circulates during the 30 day plaster curing time and the deck has been poured. Soon the retaining wall will be built, and the restrooms completed. The financial response to the pool project was extraordinary. This is a first class addition to camp. It is a beautiful pool and it will be a highlight of camp life next summer and decades of summers to follow.

The new pool hosted its first pool party on November 4th when Randy, Erica, Tim, Todd, and Holly were the first to jump in!



Next, the riding arena. We were hopeful when we began asking for support for this project that we would be able to build an arena of minimum size for our needs (85' by 90'). We went with that and had it designed to be expandable... sometime in the future. What we really wanted was 85' by 150'. We were at the point of finalizing the drawings and setting the construction date for the conservative version when we ran into a building permit issue and a delay. During that delay, the money poured in and by the time the issue was resolved we had enough money to build the 150' version. This is huge for camp. Horses, unless they can work all year, have a hard time paying their way. It has been a struggle for years. Now, even in just the anticipation of year around access, our equestrian program is growing and our bottom line is improving. One of the exciting programs taking shape is a therapeutic riding program that will be of great benefit to people on the autism spec-

variety of challenges. We have also just become the training barn for a local college equestrian team. People love to ride at Lutherlyn. They love our commitment to safety and quality. They love our staff. They really love that they can enjoy all of that year around.



The Woodland Center art gallery with its newly paved parking lot, is awaiting wall and floor coverings, restroom finishes, and a sales desk. Oh, yes, and lots and lots of art! Once completed, it will be the sales point for some of the finest artists in western Pennsylvania. Many people have joined us in this fledgling enterprise; taking classes in pottery, weaving, blacksmithing, quilting, papermaking, and painting. Many more have browsed the pottery studio, finding it to be a marvelous source of special gifts and made-to-order communion ware. Our programs are expanding and so is our audience. Art always leads us consciously or unconscioustrum and others who are living with a wide ly into the sacred; whether we have words

for it or not. It's part of our DNA. Note: We have a need to build a general purpose studio near the gallery in Shaulis Village so that we can accelerate the growth. If you know someone who loves the arts and might be interested in helping with this project, please contact Ryan in our devel-



The worship and music center now boasts air conditioning and a new adjacent restroom building. Though we have been using the building for a couple of years in limited ways, severe humidity issues have stalled that project, but are now resolved and we are ready to move forward again toward full completion.

Each of these projects strengthens the capacity of Lutherlyn to do ministry; to meet the needs of people and to help them grow in one way or another: spiritually, mentally, physically, creatively, emotionally. Change is coming slowly as we find our way into the future and Lutherlyn is becoming "more."

## Fine Dining and Fine Fellowship....



In April and November Lutherlyn hosted a "Chef's Tasting". Guests enjoyed an excellent 7-Course meal in a beautiful setting with music, fellowship, wine, and great company while supporting Lutherlyn's campership fund. Watch for more to come—these will be annual events. The "Harvest Feast" in November also included a Quilt and Pie Auction that raised over \$6,000 for the campership fund. This will also be an annual event. Please join us in 2016 on April 24th for the Spring Chef's Tasting and November 13th for the Quilt & Pie Auction and Harvest Feast!





There are 3 ways that your online shopping can benefit Lutherlyn:

# You shop. Amazon gives.

- 1. When you shop on Amazon please go to smile.amazon.com and designate Lutherlyn as your charity. Lutherlyn will receive money every time that you shop on smile.amazon.com.
- 2. Lutherlyn has a wish list on Amazon.com. If you would like to donate something that camp needs; please check out the wish list and order something that we need. It will be shipped directly to us.
- 3. Visit goodshop.com, create an account, and designate Lutherlyn as your charity. We will get money when you shop on GoodShop.



### LIFE-CHANGING ADVENTURES IN FAITH!

The 67th summer of camp at Lutherlyn was AWESOME and full of LIFE-CHANGING ADVENTURES IN FAITH!

Our daily Worship, Bible Study, Morning Watch, and Candle Power focused on "**THE STORY**". Our campers explored their own personal stories and the ways that God's story is present, evident, and woven throughout their lives.

Every Wednesday evening we celebrated "Pirate Night". Campers and staff dressed up as pirates and enjoyed pirate games, worship, and a pirate campfire (including the campers voting for a staff person to walk the plank into the lake).

Campers enjoyed TONS of fun and exciting camp activities! Canoeing, gaga ball, swimming, ropes course, nature hikes, campfires, cookouts, human foosball, sleepouts, archery, crafts, mud whomping, horseback riding, games, rock climbing, hayrides, ziplining, sports, gardening, tie-dye; just to name a few.

Thank you to EVERYONE who played a part in a wonderful summer—campers, parents, volunteers, donors, congregations, and summer staff. We can't wait to do it again next summer!



## SUMMER CAMP 2016





June 19-25

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



June 26-July 1

Confirmation
Classics
Young Folks
Horse Camp
Adventurers
Small Fry Days







### UNDER THE RADAR—GUATEMALA



Our campers amazed us again with their generosity towards this summer's "Under the Radar" project. This year we teamed with Shawn Smith (an old friend of camp) and Now is the Time for Missions. Now Is The Time for Missions shares the love and hope of Jesus by loving and serving children and their families living in extreme poverty in indigenous communities and orphanages in Guatemala. We raised \$8,826 for stoves in people's homes (that is 68 stoves)! The stoves are designed to burn 70% less wood and reduce smoke by 99%. The daily lives of dozens of women and children for many years will be improved, espe-

cially the women who spend much of their day collecting wood and who suffer from eye and respiratory problems from smoke from open fires in the kitchen. Some of the stoves were already installed this past summer and the rest will be installed next summer by teams of volunteers.

### **MISSION QUILTS**

Again, 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 campers could choose to work on the quilts during Activity Time. Thank you to Lutheran World Relief, the Woodland Quilters, and all of the campers who helped to make these wonderful quilts! We made 21 quilts this summer!

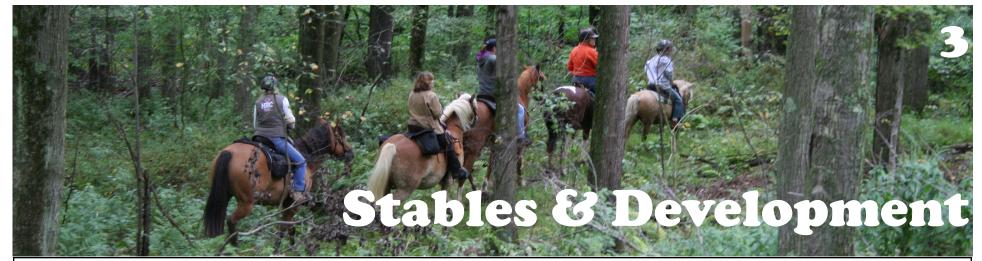


## **2015 SUMMER STAFF**



### SUMMER STAFF SEARCH 2016

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 campoffice! Applications are being accepted.





The leaves have changed and our long summer days are coming to an end. Typically I am sad for the end of our riding season, however this year I am excited.... after months of fundraising we will be building our indoor arena! So, this year our season will continue!

It became clear we needed to do something to financially support our program, so we began

the process of acquiring the funds and support to build a winter riding space. There has been an outpouring of support from the community that we were able to raise almost all of the funds in less than 9 months! What an amazing feat – thank you to all that continue to support us. Our new indoor arena is an 85 x 150 foot fabric building by Clearspan. This new building is going to allow us to continue to provide programming to our campers, students, community, and of course build up our lesson program so more people can enjoy our fabulous herd of horses. There are no words to describe the excitement we have. Having this indoor arena is going to improve the health of our herd and improve what we can offer in programming.

An exciting donation this year was the addition of a pony cart! Last year we received a team of driving ponies, and then a month later a pony harness. This year we asked our donors if anyone had a cart – and someone generously donated their cart to us! We are excited to offer driving lessons in the future.

Another bit of exciting news is the addition of the Westminster College Hunt Seat Equestrian Team. The coach heard about our indoor arena plans and asked if it

would be possible to support the girls on the team. The team started here this fall and we have had a fantastic first semester! We are looking forward to continuing to work with them.

In November, Elliot Acres Therapeutic Riding Program started riding here at Lutherlyn! Deb Campbell, the current owner and PATH certified instructor contacted me towards the end of summer about moving in this winter. I couldn't have been happier to say yes! Therapeutic Riding is something we have wanted to do here for a long time, but we have not had the PATH certified instructor manpower or the indoor space to do it. This is going to be a great addition to our program. One of our summer instructors, Leah McGuire, is going to work closely with Deb as she finishes her degree in therapeutic recreation from Slippery Rock University and gets her PATH certification. Anyone who is interested in helping with this program please contact us. Each horse and rider combination requires 3 ground assistants. You do not need to be experienced in horses – we can teach you what you need to know to help.

We do have one additional need that every farmer knows is essential to running a farm – a tractor. Last summer the engine on our mower finally called it quits. We contacted many repair shops and no one was able to find the necessary parts to repair our machine. We limped along this summer, getting the main camp mower when we could – but our grounds have suffered. It was hard to keep the weeds down in the fields and around the jumps and out buildings. Our largest (and most dangerous to the horses) problem was maintaining the fence lines. When you do not keep the weeds and growth off of your fence it shorts out the electric fences. Once the horses figure out that the electric does not work, they begin testing the waters to escape. Unfortunately this time

of year the grass is greener on the other side of our fence! If anyone out there knows of a tractor without a job please contact us! We would gladly accept the donation and put it to good use.

Thank You to everyone who supports us. Whether it is by coming to our events, camps, lessons, or just volunteering – you make a difference – and I cannot express how thankful I am to have you as part of our team.

Happy Trails,

Carla

Babcock





Plans for the new







Eventing at Lutherlyn

## LUTHERLYN BLESSED WITH LEGACY GIFT



Alberta Armitage, 94, of Corry, Pennsylvania, passed away June 1, 2015, at Rouse Home in Youngville, PA where she had been a resident. During her lifetime, Alberta gained her Registered Nurses degree from Allegheny General Hospital School of Nursing and served as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps during World War II. Her career as a registered nurse spanned over 42 years before she retired in 1985.

Alberta was an active member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Corry. She participated in the church choir for over 60 years, served on Church Council, and ran the Altar Guild with excellence, always making sure there were live flowers in the church. Her love for children inspired her to play for the Kids' Choir and teach Sunday School. Her heart for the church was unwavering and she was always the first to volunteer.

St. Paul's has been involved in the ministry of Lutherlyn for many years, both officially and informally. The church regularly sends kids to camp and is a founding member of the W.A.C.O. confirmation camp that comes to Lutherlyn each June. The late Rev. Patrick A.L. Maier also served as pastor at St. Paul's. Rev. Maier's involvement at Lutherlyn spanned across the decades as he worked as a summer staff member in the 1950s, served on the Synodical Camp Committee in the 1970s and was called as Lutherlyn's second Development Director in the 1990s. There is no doubt that Pastor Maier's love and promotion of Lutherlyn caught Alberta's attention.

Alberta left behind just over \$175,000 for Lutherlyn through two life insurance policies. In addition, her home church and Bethesda Children's Home in Meadville also benefited in a similar way. The fact that she split her estate among other ministries of the ELCA is truly a testament to how important Ms. Armitage felt our work is toward spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and serving the western Pennsylvania region.

Because of her generosity, St. Paul's, Bethesda, and Lutherlyn are able to continue the ministry of sharing the love of God through Jesus Christ. That love is something that Alberta embodied during her lifetime and it lives on through her generosity in these legacy gifts! \*Please remember Lutherlyn when you are making your estate plans. Your final opportunity to express thanks to a good and loving God for His many gifts will help sustain this valuable ministry for future generations. Please contact Lutherlyn at 724-865-2161 if you would like us to send you a complimentary booklet entitled "How to Make a Will That Works" that will help you take your first steps in establishing your legacy.

### A WALK INTO THE EVERGREEN FOREST

There are many sacred spots throughout Lutherlyn. These places are not necessarily the ones we have officially designated as a worship space or chapel, though they could be. Many special places can be found inside buildings, around fire circles, or somewhere out in the woods. These places earn their status inside our hearts for many reasons. It could be the cabin you stayed in during your first week of camp. Perhaps it is on the dining hall porch where you enjoy relaxing on a rocking chair. Maybe your favorite is the drive from the entrance sign to the parking lot.

One unique spot at Lutherlyn that always brings me back to my time as a Night Owl camper is on the trail by Upper Lake on the way to the Bullfrog campfire circle. It is a place I remember sitting in the dark while doing activities in the dark with the environmental education staff. We got to listen to night sounds, experience night vision, and this is where I learned that Wint-O-Green Lifesavers can spark when you chew them! At night, this area can be one of the darkest places on camp because of the thick canopy the evergreen trees along the trail provide.

Evergreen trees in a cooler, seasonal climate such as western Pennsylvania, can be viewed as a marvel when compared to the deciduous trees also found in the region. Deciduous trees fluctuate throughout the seasons. Depending on the time of year, the branches of these trees may only be carrying buds and flowers. In summer they display full leaves, glimmering green. Later they change into bright reds, yellows, and oranges before falling off completely. In contrast, evergreens remain constant in the midst of the weather around them. They are green and full throughout the entire year. A cluster of evergreens can even provide shelter and shade to those who need to find respite from the harsh elements outside.

Lutherlyn offers programs in every season of the year. It is a rare sight to visit us at a time where a group of people are not enjoying this beautiful camp, even in winter. This constant use creates a year-round need for support. Like an evergreen tree, the support we receive needs to be active throughout the year. Our growing group of monthly donors is slowly creating a vibrant evergreen forest of consistent support.

You are invited to plant yourself in this forest of monthly donors. Your support will keep this ministry flourishing and strong now and into the future.

Creating a giving profile is now easier than ever. Just go to <a href="www.lutherlyn.com/monthly">www.lutherlyn.com/monthly</a> or complete the form below and send it back to us!

#### Yes, I want to become a part of the Evergreen Forest!

Name:	Phone:
Address: City:	State: Zip:
E-mail: What Would You Like To Do?	Name on Card:
☐ Contact me about beginning a donor profile☐ I would like set up a giving profile	Card #
☐ I would like to adjust my giving profile	Exp. Date: 3 Digit code:
Monthly Donation Amount: \$ Donation Frequency: □ 1 <sup>st</sup> of each month □ 15 <sup>th</sup> o	f each month Date of First Donation:

Method of Donation: ☐ Credit/Debit ☐ Checking/Savings (include voided check)

Return Completed Form To: Lutherlyn – PO Box 355 – Prospect, PA 16052



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St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Carmichaels St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Corry St. Peter's Lutheran Church, St. Petersburg St. Peter's Lutheran Church, North East Trinity Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh

Trov Allen Chevrolet Inc WELCA/St. John's Lutheran, Erie Western PA Roof Cleaning

Zion Lutheran Church, Oil City † Giving level increased from previous year

**Honorariums Christine Adams** By Cathleen Adams

Suzy and Charlotte Baker By Kathy Baker and Joel Petruschke **Pastor Beverly Banyay** 

By Nancy and Gary Stoehr Robert & Melanie (Best) Wilson Family

By Curt and Sally Frank The Birthday of Amanda Best

By Erin Maloney Michelle Steiner Tricia & Tony Schneck Joshua Bow Emily & Ty Honhart Deb & Jeff Roberts Marisa and Jimmy Erny Bryan Koval Meredith Harber Linda and Ron Campbell Debbie Best Paulette & Tom Irwin Janice Altenburger Megan Sias

Katherine Conway Ashlee Erny Benjamin Hong Jennifer Friedhaber Kaitlin Galbraith Kristine Kengor Lee and Karen Lindeman Julie Kosker Aubrey Jordan Nathan Keffer

Andrea Dunmyre

PRAISE THE LORD

PETERS EVANS CITY

Vie and Dick Dunmvre

Johnna Venuto Kristie Linden Josh Schaldenbrand Beth Orris Kayla Klingensmith Lori Miraldi Tara Milner Jaime Armstrong Shannon Hill Andrea Coens Marianne and Christopf Kasch Jocelyn Johnston John and Kathleen Bangor

Rvan & Amy Ebner Dr. Mark Carlsson's ministry to Camp By Andrew E. Carlsson

Jim, Ro, and Matthew Clarke By Curt and Sally Frank

Mario & Susan Lanna

Donna DuPont By Dorothy Goncz

The Marriage of Ryan and Amy Ebner By Judi Seanor

The 50th Wedding Anniversary of Curt and Sally Frank By Kathy and Brian Bacik

Helen Louise Walter Louis and Barbara Frischkorn Albert and Carole Dainton Pat and Craig Yost Lori Greene Ruth Moutsos & Frank Schreck Jeffrey and Lauren Heiger Robert and JoAnn Cook Dick, JoAnn, and Laurie Clarke Pat Tarquinio David and Rebecca Smail Nora and John Waddell Rev. Herb and Mrs. Andrea Dubler Robert and Kendra Ploski Jack and Betsy Ralston

Jean Wachter The 30th Anniversary of Rev. Randal K. Jane B. Clarke Gullickson at Lutherlyn

By Rev. Janice D. Altenberger Cathy Coudriet

Rev. Paul Lubold Carole & Chuck Helvig -

For Their Brithdays By David and Becky Smail The Scott Hunter Best Family By Curt and Sally Frank

Grace Shaffer Kaufman By Edward and Grace Kaufman Jodi Limber

By Helen Willaman **Grace Love** By Rev. Barbara E. Love

Arthur R. Patterson By Roy Lloyd Sue Carothers

By Ryan & Amy Ebner Jeff, Deb, Eli, and Grace Roberts

By Richard and Betty Roberts Theresa Schroeder By John and Anne Harmon

The 50th Wedding Anniversary of Bill & Sue Shape By Paul and Mona Miller

The Ordination of Rev. James E. Smith By St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Midland, MI

**Christina Thomas** By Amy Stroup Hancock Megan Helper Orient

Revs. Kimberly and Edwin van Driel By Kathryn Wood

William M. Luft & Sharon (Luft) Wach By John R. Frantz James H. Wilson

By Rebecca and Stephen Choiniere Mom and Dad Worthy By Don and June Kudas

My Daughter By Helen Willaman

CONFIRMED IN CHRIST KOBY KOVACS 2013

All our grandchildren By Margaret and Charles Skalos

FAMILY CAMP WEEK OUR FAVORITE WEEK!

Our Kids, Jan, John, & Tamm By John & Betty Sue Lehew Our Daughters, Jennifer and Melissa

By Patricia & Robert Young Grandsons, Nathan, Adam, & Hudson By Bishop & Mrs. Donald McCoid First English Lutheran Church, Butler,

By Jim and Jane Dollhopf The congregations and rostered leaders of the NWPA synod, ELCA

By Bishop Ralph and Rev. Sandra Jones

**Memorials** 

**Matthew Ammon** By Joyce B. Lydick Dr. John and Margaret Anderson By Kenneth and Shirley Reisenweber William and Cora Baer

By Judi Seanor Justin Seanor

John and Florence (Sis) Bahurinsky By Kenneth and Shirley Reisenweber

Jean and Elmer Bentz By Mark and Kathy Armstrong

**Dorothy Bollen** By Joyce B. Lydick

Janet Borsh

By Ronald "Bubba" Hileman **Harry William Bost** By Walt and Janet Treser

Jack and Sue Lehew Tom Bowser, Jr. By Sue & Ben Carothers

**Bonnie Bullers** By Jane (Taylor) Jacoby Pat and Dan Melpolder

Dede Smail Lucienne Brocious & Family Paul Chalupka

By Dorothy Goncz A. Dale Clarke By Curt and Sally Frank

By Curt and Sally Frank

William Cole By Curt and Sally Frank Nancy Lee Cope

By Merab Drennen Carol Ann Decker

By Rev. Sigmund Decker Stephanie Eslinger

By Don Perkins and Elise Eslinger Rev. Dr. James N. Frank By Curt and Sally Frank

Edith W. Frank By Curt and Sally Frank Pat Freed

By Jack and Judy Freed John & Sally Freed

By Dick & Lynda Freed Patricia Freed By Dick & Lynda Freed

Su Rote Gergerich By Deborah Ross Joseph F. Goncz

By Dorothy Goncz Pastor Ron Harbaugh By Helen Willaman

Martha Helper By Megan and Erik Orient

Scott Henjum By Dan and Gloria Yount **Bob and Mary Claire Hileman** 

By Patti and Donald Melpolder Frederick G. Howell

By George and Shirley Bowser Mary Elizabeth Joyce By The LifeFLight Department of

Allegheny County General Hospital Dorothy Gracey Margretta Judy

By Patti and Donald Melpolder Lois Kleeb By Nancy and John Jeffries

Arthur and Martha Klein By William and Karen Newson

ROUGH THICK & THIN SCD JNRD RWH

William L. Lash By Margaret Lash

MEREDITH HARBER PSALM 103

**Pastor Pat Maier** 

By Cheryl and Kevin Kaclik **Evon Marrett** 

By Barbara and Donald Baker Mary May

By Donald May Kenneth & Mary May

By Donald May Mary B. May By Donald May **Cheryl Means Nuhfer** 

By Carol Means Mr. Ed Miller By Pamela and Ed Jr

"Grandpap George" Miller By Janet M. Miller

**Doris Moore** By Merab Drennen

**Doris Moore** By Bob Thompson

Wil Morrow

By Susan and Daniel Morrow The Pittsburgh Foundation

Jean Nollinger By Melanie and Dan Ritenour

Louise Nordsiek By Margaret E. Fuller & Family **Loved Ones** 

By Virginia and Dennis Stacy **Betty Piovesan** 

By Kenneth & Nancy Eisaman **Tina Rosendale** By Frank and Lois Hodas

Mary Jane Rossman By Judi Seanor Justin Seanor

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

Rev. Earl G. Runge

By Keith Runge John Sally

By Jack and Judy Freed

Bill Schrimper By Lynn Schrimper

Dr. Rev. Samuel & Mrs. Gracia Shaulis Daughter, Dorothy & Son, Samuel Alvin

By Jack and Sue Lehew The Shaulis Family: Dr. Rev. S. S. Shaulis, Gracia, Sam & Dorothy

By Mr. & Mrs. John G. Lehew Carl Smail

By Marilyn S. Smail Ruth D. Steen By Delmar and Ruth White

Ruth and Russell Steininger By Don Perkins and Elise Eslinger Clarence W. Strand

By Ray and Lucille Allen **Dolores Stumme** By Ron and Carol Pisarek

Bill Tomo By Ruth and Rick Boyle

**Randy Tost** 

By Sally Bachovchin-Janocko Charles Vasey Jr. By Ruth Vasey

Nancy Vodenichar By James and Jeanette Cunningham Jim and Cynthia Sweeney Jocelyn Sinopoli Tom and Liz DiPietro

Kim and Larry Moses John Carey & Thomas Dugan Big Knob V.F.D. Ladies Auxiliary **Edna Whiteside** 

By Linda Boice Schaeffer Barbara E. Wilson By Rebecca and Stephen Choiniere

David P. Worthy By Betty and Eugene Worthy Don & June Kudas

Our Son, David P. Worthy By Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Worthy Tom and Augusta Yezzetti

By Delwin and Alicia Brockett Our sincerest apologies if

we omitted your name.

**Remember and Honor Your Loved Ones** 

Buy a Brick: Leave a Tribute on Friendship Way

BILL SWEENEY

"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.







The Winter Tea in March is a fun way for a group of friends to enjoy a fancy afternoon together at camp while raising money for the Campership Fund. Each hostess decorates her own table and brings her own guests to fill that table. Lutherlyn provides the food, tea, prizes, and entertainment for the afternoon. We are always looking for table hostesses. If you are



golfers; it is also a great fundraiser for the Campship Fund. 74 golfers raised \$15,000 for camp while enjoying golf, great food, awesome prizes,

and wonderful fellowship. This year was a rec-

amount of money raised to send kids to camp.

ord high for the number of golfers and the





We hosted 4 Quilting/Crafting retreats in 2015. UFO

(UnFinished **O**bjects), Mystery Quilt, Crafty Lady Getaway, and Santa's Workshop all had great attend-

friendship in the large dining room when there are 60

70 creative women doing something that they love

ance and more fun and creativity than you could

imagine in a weekend! The joy, enthusiasm, and

in a caring Christian community is amazing!

through a "War of the Worlds" themed course. Thank you to Mary Anne Kristophel for planning the ride and putting together the alien themed obstacles. This was a record high for the number of riders (and the most beautiful fall day for the ride)!

### 2016 Calendar

#### **January**

15-17—UFO (Unfinished Objects) Retreat 29-31—Winter Retreat (4-12 grade)

#### **February**

6—Saturday Safari

6—Ambassador Training

### <u>March</u>

- 4-6—Youth Leadership Development
- 5—Maple Sugaring Saturday Safari
- 6—Winter Tea
- 14-20—Mystery Quilting Retreat

8-10—YouthFest (Jr. High & Sr. High)

23—Work Day

24—Spring Chef's Tasting

7—CAMP BLAST!!!

27—Golf Outing

### <u>June</u>

5-17—Summer Staff Training

12—Trinity Pines Club Banquet

19—SUMMER CAMP BEGINS!

1-31—SUMMER CAMP CONTINUES!

5—Last day of Summer Camp

2-3—Fathers and Sons Retreat

6-11—Crafty Lady Week-Long Getaway 23-25—Wild Women Weekend

### October

15,16—Woodland Quilters Quilt Show 30—Family Halloween Fun

#### **November**

5—Saturday Safari

13—Quilt & Pie Auction and Harvest Feast

18-20—Santa's Workshop Retreat

#### December

2-4—Advent Retreat

## **Lutherlyn Equestrian Center**

Woodland Center for Arts & Crafts each have their own schedule FULL of classes and events.

Visit www.lutherlyn.com for complete schedules, details and registration information.

## Want to bring your own group to camp?

Most weekends (and some weekdays) we have groups using Lutherlyn's facilities and/or programs. Please give us a call to talk about all of the ways that you and your group can use camp's facilities. Lutherlyn is a great place for a retreat in any season!



The Winter Retreat in January brought summer campers and counselors back to camp for a fun winter weekend! We played in the snow, tapped Maple trees and learned how to make syrup, introduced the Bible Study theme for the next summer, played games, worshiped, and had campfire. It is always cool to see camp covered in snow!

Halloween Family Fun continues to grow. 175 peo-

craft, play Halloween games, enjoy dinner, and trick -or-treat at the cabins in a "non-spooky", family-

friendly, Christian environment. We also celebrate a

short, kid-friendly, All Saints Day worship service.

Each family brings treats to pass out at the cabins

and Lutherlyn staff takes the kids trick-or-treating.

ple came to camp in the end of October to carve

pumpkins, go on a hay ride, make s'mores, do a



Saturday, May 7th, 2016, 11am-4:30pm FREE!!!

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

### WOODLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Woodland Center for the Arts had a great year full of creative excitement! Blacksmithing, Pottery, Quilting, Weaving, Painting, and Paper Making classes were all offered. Classes are a great way to explore your creativity in a

beautiful environment with wonderful teachers! Students can sign-up individually or bring a whole group of friends to take a class together.

Also, please remember the Woodland Pottery Studio when you are looking for the perfect gift for someone. To shop at the studio, just call camp and arrange a time to visit and pick out the perfect gift!

Watch your mail and e-mail for the GRAND OPENING celebration of the Woodland Gallery!











### LUTHERLYN'S FIRST ORGANIC CIDER



In early September, several Lutherlyn staff members armed with ladders, a homemade apple picker, and bushel baskets, spent a morning picking apples. This was the first sizeable harvest of apples (about 4 ½ bushels) from the trees at Terra Dei Homestead that were planted in 1996. Inspired by this harvest, staff members proceeded to the lower lake and picked another 4 bushels of apples from trees that were planted closer to 1896. All of the apples were taken to a cider press and made into the finest tasting cider we've ever had. Most of the cider was frozen and featured at the Harvest Feast on November 15th.

### **ECO-THEOLOGY**

Gettysburg Seminary hosted its second Eco-Theology class at Lutherlyn in June. Seminary Students spent a week at camp exploring the connections between theology and care for the earth. What a great classroom!



### MAPLE SUGARING SEASON-

At the end of February, just as the snow is starting to melt, the environmental education staff will be gearing up for our annual maple sugaring season. For four weeks, school students, church groups, scout groups, and families will be coming to Lutherlyn to learn how to tap maple trees and make maple syrup. The maple syrup that is made (about 15 gallons in 2015) is used throughout the year in the Dining



Several groups have already reserved dates for 2016. If your group is interested, please contact the LEEP office to reserve a date. If you and your family are interested in learning about maple sugaring, call the LEEP office and reserve a spot for our annual Maple Saturday Safari on March 5. We offer both a morning and afternoon session, but space is limited to 60 for each session, so call early!

### **WISH LISTS**

### Maintenance/Housekeeping

- -Home Depot and Lowes Gift Cards -\*Reliable mini van or SUV (for pro-
- 4X4 Pick-Up Truck
- -NEW twin & queen size sheets
- -New work gloves (for volunteer groups) -NEW or LIKE-NEW washer and dryer
- \*\*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 and safe; please consider a donation to Lutherlyn that is tax deductable! (NEW vehicle donations welcomed too!)

- -pens & pencils -dry erase markers -copy paper -cardstock -paperclips -scotch tape -masking tape -scissors
- -thumb tacks -permanent markers -new 3-ring binders -new easels and paper pads -Bibles
- -tacky glue -scissors (adult & kids) -pony beads
- -seed beads -tempera paint -embroidery floss
- -new markers -new colored pencils -paint brushes
- -construction paper -colored tissue paper
- -glue -baby food jars

### **Stables** -\*TRACTOR for mow-

- -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 haul-
- ing compost) -Winter coats for kids
- -Winter gloves and hats for kids and
- -8 ounce "Cool-whip" containers
- -vis-à-vis wet erase markers

### **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.

### L.O.M. INTENSIVE

The LEEP Staff was privileged to host the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Environmental Education and Team Building Intensive at the beginning of February. This event brought together 33 program directors from Lutheran camps across the country. We spent four days sharing, learning, worshipping, and discussing. Everyone left with ideas of how to expand existing programs or start new ones.

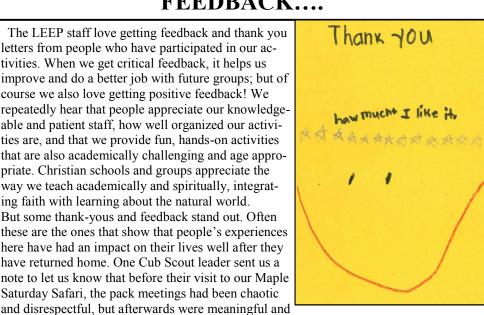
As an outgrowth of our shared ex-



periences, Holly Schubert, Lutherlyn's Assistant Environmental Education Director, spent two days at Mar-Lu Ridge Camp in Maryland. While there in June, Holly trained the staff in nature activities and consulted with their summer naturalist. This kind of sharing benefits all of us and helps us better live out our mission.

### FEEDBACK....

The LEEP staff love getting feedback and thank you letters from people who have participated in our activities. When we get critical feedback, it helps us improve and do a better job with future groups; but of course we also love getting positive feedback! We repeatedly hear that people appreciate our knowledgeable and patient staff, how well organized our activities are, and that we provide fun, hands-on activities that are also academically challenging and age appropriate. Christian schools and groups appreciate the way we teach academically and spiritually, integrating faith with learning about the natural world. But some thank-yous and feedback stand out. Often these are the ones that show that people's experiences here have had an impact on their lives well after they have returned home. One Cub Scout leader sent us a note to let us know that before their visit to our Maple Saturday Safari, the pack meetings had been chaotic



focused on honor and character, with both boys and adult leaders engaged and reenergized. She said "the pack leader must have mentioned 'Lutherlyn' 10 times that night" in their discussions.

A science teacher told of her 9<sup>th</sup> grade students referencing their FIFTH grade trip to Lutherlyn, while working on an ecology project! "They kept talking about how they had such a great time there and all the stuff they learned and how it applied to what they were working on in class." A different teacher wrote us that "We are still talking about our experience at Lutherlyn as we create our own ecosystems in the lab."

Often teachers use their experiences at Lutherlyn to prompt writing projects after their trip here. Some thank you notes we recently received from 6<sup>th</sup> graders were in poem form! And another teacher related to us that her students were much more able to write stories with a beginning, middle, end, and strong narrative, once they used their LEEP experience as the basis for their writing. They wrote, published, and presented their stories about LEEP at an Author's Tea.

We love the feedback we get directly from students too, formally and informally. On a recent field trip, one student (who had been challenging all day and clearly faces some difficulties in his life and school) leaned his head back after a day of outside learning activities and roared "Ahhhh, I love this so much!!" One thank you note received from a student said "Thank you for making my Lutherlyn trip more fun. I would never forget this because this was my first trip in the woods." We get many variations on "Thank you for the best time of my life!" (We know students are often given to hyperbole, but we'll assume it's true!)

"There is no Wi-Fi in the forest, but I promise you will find a better connection." -7th grader from Grove City Middle School

### THE FALL 2015 L.E.E.P. STAFF

(Lutherlyn Environmental Education Program)





Last June we had a visitor at camp who came to see what we do. His name is Jacob Sorenson. He is a Ph.D. candidate at Luther Seminary. He is a part of the Confirmation Project, a study of catechism practices across mainline denominations, under the auspices of Princeton Theological Seminary and funded by the Lily Foundation. You can find information on this work at: <a href="http://">http://</a> theconfirmationproject.com. I bring

this up because it is a good thing to, occasionally, see yourself through the eyes of a stranger. Lutherlyn was the only Lutheran camp visited in the study. (There were four total.) As a part of the study, Jacob wrote a "portrait" of Lutherlyn based on his week with us. A short version of it is posted on the project website, the long version is posted on our website: http://lutherlyn.com/Jacob. Please read it.

Jake has the credibility that comes with distance. He has no investment in Lutherlyn; no axe to grind; no horn to toot. Would I be encouraging you to read this if it were a negative portrayal? Probably not. The thing about Jake's experience with us is that the things he found and noticed and experienced are exactly the things that we work so hard to forge into those "Lifechanging Adventures in Faith" that have shaped this ministry for six decades.

The part of the portrait that causes

me concern is Jake's description of a random encounter with a pastor of one of our synods who was not at camp that week, but who had strong opinions: "This pastor suggested that the camp model has outlived its usefulness. The pastor admitted to never setting foot on Lutherlyn property, but the pastor critiqued the camp programs based on names like Rocketry Camp and Horse Camp ("they have no mention of God") and asserted that after returning home campers talk more about model rockets than about faith."

What do Rocketry Camp and Horse Camp and all the other camp programs at Lutherlyn have in common? One is something expressed in words that this pastor, perhaps, failed to read: "All programs include daily morning devotions, Bible Study, worship, and evening devotions, regardless of the focus of the camp program." Beyond these spiritual disciplines, there is the role modeling, the way we do what we do at camp. It is experiential. It's in the fabric of camp. And there's more. A question: Does all of life belong to God or only part? John's gospel (1:3) tells us that not so much as one single thing came into being apart from God's creative action. Who are we, then, to divide life into the sacred and the secular; the things that are of God and those that are not? *How* we do life is important. Helping people to live fully, to develop their gifts, to become whole, to test their

relationships and identity and gifts and vocation. These things – rockets and the camp experience.

Lutherlyn has been changing in order to continue to offer our youth and children the best possible faithforming weeks of summer camp. Mind you, 1,000 campers per summer is still a lot of campers by most camp standards. It's just not enough to sustain a camp with 100 buildings and requisite staff in today's economic and cultural climate with its regulation, higher costs, and diminished resources.

In 1988 Lutherlyn broke new ground in programming when we started the Lutherlyn Environmental Education Program. It is a ministry that teaches students respect and care for God's world. We can't say, "God's world" when we teach public school students, but we can with private and parochial school students. Either way, it is ministry. The same principle applies as we venture into other new enterprises. Our new indoor riding arena and a dozen or so new equestrian programs will be up and going by year's end. We are working now to get Venango Trail Preserve, our "green cemetery," opened by the end of 2016. We have decided to go "all in" as a wedding venue to accommodate the onslaught of people who are no longer getting married in churches and want an outdoor setting. Woodland Center

limits, to grow in creativity, to explore for Arts and Crafts has added painting to our expanding course offerings and we will be offering a variety of art horses and all – are of God and part of camp weeks next summer. Woodland Gallery will open in 2016.

> These new ventures do not tell the story of the "secularizing" of Lutherlyn. Rather it is the story of a ministry adapting to changing times and finding new ways to welcome people into the consciously sacred space of Lutherlyn where the witness of the gospel is lived. God's love and presence are perceptible in the fabric of this special place. Regardless of the particulars of a program, through the life of this community, we continue to proclaim the gospel through how we do what we do and using words whenever possible.

Pastor Kandy Shellickson

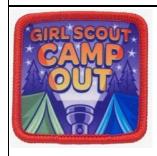


Constant Contact

### Lutherlyn has many opportunities for gift-giving!

Gift Certificates for Summer Camp Gift Certificates for Retreats/Events Items from the Camp Store A Brick on Friendship Way A Camp Songs CD Pottery Woodland Center Classes A weekend stay in the Ark Guest House







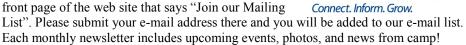


### **SCOUTS and GROUPS**

Utilizing Lutherlyn's wide variety of program offerings, the Girl Scout Fun Patch Program brings the worlds of Equine, Adventure, Environmental Education, and Cooking to you. Pick and choose the programs you want and customize your Fun Patch day or overnight retreat.

This isn't only for girl scouts—any group can come and enjoy a day or weekend at camp. Programs run from 2 hours to a full weekend. Each event is customized to meet the needs, budget, age, and interests of the group.

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





**Nick Claus** joined the full-time staff in June as the Food Service Manager. Chef Nick jumped right into summer camp and provided excellent meals for our campers with rave reviews on summer evaluations! The food at Lutherlyn is great and we are pleased to have Chef Nick on board! Nick isn't a stranger to Lutherlyn: he has been a family camper for many years!

Congratulations to Ryan Ebner (Development Director) and Amy Slade on their marriage. They met at camp in 2001 when they were on summer staff together and they got married at camp in August. Rev. Meredith Harber and Rev. Jonathan Steiner officiated for the wedding—they were also on summer staff with Ryan and Amy.



**Erica Ritenour** started in November as the Office Manager and Registrar. Erica was a camper and served on summer staff in 2009 & 2010. She has several years of experience as an office manager. We are happy to have her (and her son, Ben) join the staff family!



Lutherlyn has over 3,000 "likes" on Facebook! Check out Lutherlyn on Facebook for the daily "Past Photo of the Day" and the most current happenings at camp!

