

2019

LUTHERLYN

Accepted. Challenged. Sent.

WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM

LUTHERLYN'S CORE AREAS OF MINISTRY

Exciting news: All 5 core areas of ministry experienced growth in 2018!



Adventure



Summer Camp



Environmental Education



Retreats



Equestrian



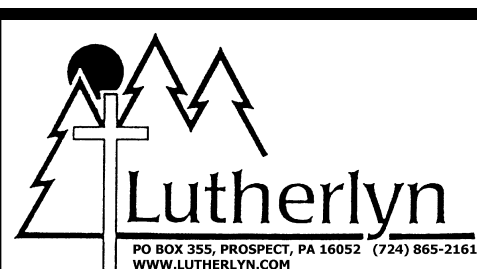
2018 ALL STAFF REUNION

More than 150 “staffers” and their families donned their vintage Lutherlyn tee’s, hats, and headbands and came to Lutherlyn for the 70th anniversary All Staff Reunion! We reminisced while enjoying classic camp activities like hay rides, crafts, canoeing, ropes course, swimming, and a cookout dinner. We worshipped together in the amphitheater and had a great time at campfire by Lower Lake. As a special reminder of our history, Rev. Sam Shaulis’ daughter, Betty Sue, lit the fire while reading “Kneel Always When You Light a Fire,” just as her father had done many times during his tenure at Lutherlyn. It was a fun and special day; we can’t wait to do it again!

If you served on staff but missed the reunion in 2018, don’t worry, we’ll celebrate Lutherlyn’s 75th anniversary in 2023 with another All Staff Reunion. We need your help to find more staffers! As we planned 2018’s All Staff Reunion, we received a lot of questions about whose information we do (or do not) have. Our current database does not contain any information from old payroll records, staff directories, or previous reunion events and, unfortunately, we were only able to manually search these records for the last few years. Even if you were on staff for many years and receive mailings from Lutherlyn (like this newsletter) it is possible that you are not labeled as former staff in our database.

If you were a member of Lutherlyn’s staff at any time and did not receive an invitation/brochure for the 2018 reunion, then we do not have you labeled correctly in our database. To correct this, please fill out the form at www.lutherlyn.com/staffinvite or contact us at 724-865-2161. Once we have your information updated in our database, we will be sure to keep you up to date on all future staff reunions and events! Many thanks to all of the past staff who came home to celebrate; it was such a special day in the life of Lutherlyn!

Kneel always when you light a fire. Kneel reverently and thankful be to God for His unfailing charity. And on the ascending flame inspire a prayer of thankfulness for this sweet gift of warmth and light; for here, indeed, is sacrifice for your delight. Kneel always when you light a fire. Kneel reverently and thankful be to God for His unfailing charity. - John Oxenham



Lutherlyn extends the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ by inviting all people to engage the Word of God, one another and themselves in an intentional, challenging, exciting, and fun outdoor Christian community centered in the grace of God and the goodness of earth and life.



LIFE-CHANGING ADVENTURES IN FAITH!

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY

One of the things that we want every camper to experience at Lutherlyn is the opportunity to pray and to make prayer a regular part of their life. We have always prayed each day at Morning Watch, meals, Bible Study, Worship, and Candle Power. Many people remember some of the meal time prayers from camp and use them at home with their own families (Johnny Appleseed, the Doxology, God is Great to the tune of "Meet the Flintstones," Thanks be to God to the tune of "Windy"). We continue to use those prayers but last summer we started a new prayer tradition at Lutherlyn. At lunch every day, each cabin group prays together at their table through a spoken prayer. This gives every camper the opportunity to share a spoken prayer with their cabin group, if they want to. We want our campers to learn that the words don't have to be fancy or long or sung to the tune of anything. We want them to learn that prayer is a conversation with God that everyone can have. We will continue this tradition at camp and we hope that our campers leave Lutherlyn knowing that they can pray to God about anything that is on their mind and heart.

\$100 off

for FIRST-TIME campers!

This coupon code entitles FIRST-TIME Lutherlyn campers to \$100 off of the registration fee for Summer 2019. This applies to Lutherlyn's residential week-long programs. Half week programs (Young Folks & Sampler) get \$50 off for FIRST-TIME campers. Does not apply to Family Camp, Confirmation Camp, Day Camps, or Small Fry Days. Must be a FIRST TIME summer camper. No additional discounts may be combined with this offer. Enter coupon code: **NLTR19**. Register at **WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM**.

UPDATE FROM ALEXANDER

In the summer of 2013, Lutherlyn hosted an international camp counselor from Liberia through the ELCA international camp staff program. Alexander spent the summer with us and shared his story of civil war throughout his childhood in Liberia. His dream was to go to college and become a nurse, so Lutherlyn's summer offering project that year was to provide money for Alexander's education. Through the generosity of Lutherlyn's campers and friends he was able to go to nursing school. Alexander took this gift very seriously, he worked hard through many obstacles (including an entire semester cancelled due to the Ebola outbreak in Liberia), and on June 26, 2018, Alexander graduated at the top of his class as a Physician Assistant. Here is a message from Alexander:



"Many thanks to God Almighty, the Lutheran Church in Liberia and the entire Lutherlyn family for providing me this amazing opportunity that resulted in graduating cum-laude with a Bachelors of Science as a Physician Assistant. Happy with my new career."



SPREAD THE WORD!

Please invite friends, neighbors, grandchildren, kids from your congregation, and friends of your children to register for summer camp! A personal invitation from someone who knows and loves camp is the most effective way to get new campers to Lutherlyn!

LUTHERLYN EXPERIENCE

Over the past 25+ years I have been involved with Lutherlyn in a variety of ways. I first remember my parents signing me and my brothers up for summer camp. We were reluctant to go at first, but looking back it was one of the best experiences of our young lives. I was a camper from the time I was 10 until I was 16. I did Classic Camp for a majority of my younger years and then I discovered the Go-For-It program and truly found my place! It was in great part to my amazing counselors and one in particular, Geir. The Go-for-It experience has shaped me into the person that I am today, without a question. This was a program that allowed me to experience amazing adventures not only physically but also adventures in faith. Go-For-It was a week of high adventures in camping, rafting, canoeing, caving, and my personal favorite, rock climbing!

When my days of being a camper came to an end, I decided to try to become one of the counselors that I idolized. I spent a year as an on-site counselor, learning all the traditional camp activities and I loved every second of it. For the next several summers I was one of the Go-For-It counselors. That is still one of my favorite "jobs" that I have ever had. Taking 10 high schoolers out to experience adventures and seeing the pure joy and excitement on their faces when they overcame a challenge that they did not think they could possibly do was one of the most amazing feelings ever. Lutherlyn has given me so many amazing adventures, experiences, and memories over the years.

When my counselor days drew to an end I didn't return to Camp for several years... something about "adulthood" (over rated). However, I started to volunteer and found the love for camp once again! I have been volunteering for the last several years as an adventure resource person. I am again able to help campers conquer challenges that they did not believe they could overcome.

I have recently had the honor of giving the Lutherlyn experience to my own children, and I couldn't be happier! My three children have been attending camp and loving it as much as I did. My oldest son did the staff-in-training program last year and hopefully follows the path to become a counselor as well. Seeing camp as a camper, counselor, volunteer, and parent has been a blessing that I look back on now and can not properly put into words. I am so thankful to have Lutherlyn in my life and in the lives of my family. Lutherlyn is without a shadow of a doubt a life-changing adventure in faith!

Sincerely,
Brad Wheeler

SUMMER STAFF SEARCH

If you or someone you know is interested in serving God, making a difference in the lives of campers, being part of a 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!

Equestrian Center & Adventure



"I like riding and watching them play in the field."
~ Brandon, 16



I LOVE LUTHERLYN EQUESTRIAN CENTER BECAUSE...

"I love that as a beginner I never feel judged. Everyone is so supportive and encouraging."
~ Andi, 34



"I love the quirky horses. They can be funny and are great for kids. The barn is organized. You have a very patient instructor who will teach you something new every day. I also like the arena top."
~ Alexis, 14



"I love being able to pet horses and I love riding."
~ Ava, 8



"I love the bond you make with different horses."
~ Lauren, 22



"I am glad to learn the whole barn experience, which makes me appreciate all the work that needs to be done just to ride. I love my instructor and Carla; they make my experience enjoyable."
~ Gail, 56

"I would have to say the people: Carla and Teresa and the lesson students are so sweet. Everyone gets along so well! It makes the barn the best place to be."
~ Sarah, 16

WISH LIST

(see the full list at www.lutherlyn.com under the "support" menu)

Site and Facility:

Golf Cart for Nurses (prefer electric)
6-foot white plastic tables – Lifetime brand (16)
50-foot outdoor extension cords (10)
Multi-plug power strips (10)
Flatware (knives, forks, spoons)
New or gently used vacuum cleaners
Reliable mini vans or SUVs with current inspection
Reliable 4 wheel drive pick-up truck with inspection
Truckloads of 2A limestone (for roads and paths)
Gift Cards for Home Depot, Lowes, and Walmart
New work gloves (all sizes)
New or like-new washers and dryers
Painter's Tape (blue) – 1- and 2- in. wide
Tarps (all sizes, no holes)

Office:

Forever stamps
Pens & pencils
Dry erase markers and erasers
Copy paper
White cardstock
Paperclips
Masking tape
Scissors
Permanent markers
New easels and paper pads
Vis-à-vis wet erase markers

Summer Program:

Pony and Seed beads
Embroidery floss/Friendship bracelet string
New washable markers
New colored pencils
Paint brushes
Construction paper
Colored tissue paper
Glue sticks
New fishing rods – kid friendly (10)
New jar candles

Equestrian Center:

Shop Vac (around 15 gallons)
Electric Air Compressor
Rubber mats for stalls
Water proof sheets of all sizes
Water proof blankets of all sizes
Size 13, 14, 15 mens boots
Size 10 & 11 girls boots
Fly spray & fly masks
Dressage saddle
Horse Joint supplements
Horse Multivitamin supplements
Cat Food
Cat flea & tick treatment

Environmental Education:

Kid- and adult-sized rain coats
Riding mower or small tractor (for hauling compost)
NEW 8x10 tarps, and larger
Kid- and adult-sized winter gloves
8 oz. "Cool Whip" containers

Special Events that Benefit Camperships:

Handmade bed-size quilts for Quilt Auctions and Sales
Gift Baskets (contact the office for more specifics)
Monetary Sponsorships

Volunteers:

Skilled volunteers to hang drywall
Skilled volunteers for demolition of old cabins
Someone with video/editing skills to make promo video(s)
Help to maintain flower beds and Amphitheater
Assistants for therapeutic riding lessons
Help clearing hiking and riding trails
Event volunteers
General maintenance help
General cleaning help
General office help
Nurses to help for a week in the summer or on Sundays in the summer during check-in

LUTHERLYN ADVENTURE PROGRAM

Thank you to all of the campers, donors, volunteers, and participants that took advantage of adventure programming at Lutherlyn in 2018. We had another wonderful year and we look forward to providing more adventures that allow us to welcome and challenge all of our campers and guests in 2019!

Thanks to a generous donation to the adventure program this year, we replaced much of our climbing equipment. Lutherlyn's climbing program is now furnished with new ropes, helmets, harnesses, carabiners, and rescue equipment that will help us to continue to provide safe and exciting programs at Lutherlyn and offsite.

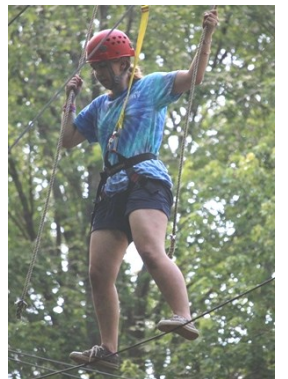
Our summer Adventurers program continues to grow. This past summer we expanded our second level to include a half week stay at Ohiopyle State Park; where campers were able to participate in whitewater rafting down the Youghiogheny River, practice rock climbing skills, and spend a morning caving at Laurel Caverns. This coming summer we are looking to offer this program three times, as well as four weeks of our level one program. The 2019 summer season will also extend an exciting special adventure program for our Junior campers. Keep an eye out for the summer brochure to read all about the opportunities to explore.

We also completed work on a new low challenge course and a new high ropes activity. At the high ropes course, we piloted an activity called "Crate Stack". The harnessed participant is placed on belay and works to build a stack of crates as high as they can. The participant climbs up the corners of the crates and places a new crate on top. The participant continues to climb and place crates until the tower gives way and the participant is caught by the rope.

The new low challenge course element has been named Stepping Stones and consists of a series of stumps with metal cradles on the sides that boards slide into. Participants must work together to get their team across the obstacle by deciding where the boards fit and by coming up with a plan for moving the boards and themselves from start to finish. The element is an exciting addition to the teambuilding program at Lutherlyn.

Finally, as we look forward to 2019 we are ready to give our existing low challenge course elements a facelift to keep them working in top shape for years to come. If anyone has any interest in volunteering to help work on an adventure specific project, please don't hesitate to contact adventure@lutherlyn.com.

In anticipation of another awesome summer,
Tim Bock, Adventure Program Director





Trinity Pines Club

Gifts made between 1-1-2017 and 12-31-2017

2017 Trinity Pines Club

Shaulis Society (\$10,000 Lifetime)

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Jennifer & Mark Marnich
Sister Caritas Marshall & Zita Como
L. Lea Marshall
Dean & Susan Matanin
Linda & Kevin Mathias
Peter May & Sally Smeltzer-May
Robert & Charlotte McCabe
Carol McCurdy
Bryan & Eva McFarland
Rev. Jill McGregor
Thomas McVicker

In Honor Of...

Dorothy McWilliams
William & Darla Mechling
George & Rose Mellors
Donald & Patti Melpolder
Meridian Station Gift Shop
Edward & Linda Mertz
Robert & Judith Michael
Janet Miller
Monteverde's Inc
Rev. Blair & Fay Morgan
Charles & Denise Morrison
Daniel & Susan Morrow
Donald Muenchow
Bill & Kathleen Murray
Robin & Jeremy Musher
Jack & Janet Muzzana
Myfunctionfirst Alternative Health Solutions, LLC
Randall & Cheryl Neish
Earl Nollinger
OASIS Open
David & Sally Oberdick
Ohio Valley Chapter 22 SPA
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Patricia & David Paraska
Parkers Appliance
Carolind Parson & Joelind Shirk
Diane Penfield Hankowsky & Scott Penfield
Chris Piatt
Pitchford Diversified, Inc.
Elizabeth Polanzke
Charles & Linda Potter
Nancy & John Powell
Colleen Prenovitz
Leila Protzman
Alexandra Pursglove
Liana Reynolds
Duane & Mary Ann Richards
Justin Rickert
Liam Riddle
Allen & Karen Riethmiller
Robert & Ardyce Rigg
Erica Ritenour
Ethan Ritenour
Luke Robertson
Rock Ann Haven
Deborah & Edward Roginski
Anthony Ruffolo
Tammy & James Scanga
Linda Schaeffer
Amanda Schaub
Erin Schmidt
Nancy Schreiber
Richard & Norma Schwab
Walter & Martha Senchesen
Sam Sesti
Jeff & Brenda Shearer
Joseph Shellenbarger
Donald & Sonja Shoup
Norann & James Shuey
Marilyn Smail
Joanne Smith
Jean Soergel
Donna Spinetti
Marie & Donald Spohn
St. John Lutheran Church Women, Carnegie
St. John's Lutheran Church, New Castle
St. John's Lutheran Church, Connoquenessing
Brenda & Brian States
Bill Sweeney
Ryan & Meredith Trimble
Hannah Trivilino
Mary Beth & Alan Trivilino
Virginia Trygstad
James Jr. & Linda Ulrich
Wallace Utley
Susan & Josef Vanek
Erika VanSickel
Ruth Vasey
Carmen & JoEllen Vergari
Laura Lebanik Vita
Vogel Disposal Service, Inc.
Jean & Philip Wancheck
WELCA Zion Lutheran Church, Mayport
Paul Wheeler
Ron & Stacey Winfield
WELCA Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Monaca
Don & Carolyn Worley
John Yedlowski
Althea Yenchak
Emily Yothers
James Young, Jr. & Mary Kay Young
Randy J. & Miriam R. Youngquist-Thurrow
Jacob Zaffuto
William Zundel

Thrivent/United Way

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Linda Armstrong
Dennis Atkin
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Chelsea Benson
Matthew Benson
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Evelyn Booth
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Jeffrey Bost
Joshua Bow
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Thomas & Julie Myers
Glenda Naas
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Rev Robert Schlotter
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Gretchen Smith
Roger Spencer
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Mark Steiner

Michelle Steiner
Stephen & Lisa Thelin
Jason & Tanya Tost
Seth Tost
Walt Tresser
Meredith Trimble
Maria Von Mickwitz
David Williams
J. F. Wineman
Reynolds Wingard
David Wingerd
Robert & Nancy Wright
Darlene Wyland
Catherine Yeager
Dorothy Zaffuto
Randall Zeigler

Honorarium Gifts from 11/01/2017 – 10/31/2018

Christine Adams
by Cathleen Adams
Rev. Jonathan C. Adams
by Joshua Adams
S. Hunter Best Family
by Curtis & Sally Frank
Jack Best, Future Camper
by Josh Schaldenbrand
Tim & Holly Bock
by Jeff & Kathy Bost
Stephanie Bost
by Jeff & Kathy Bost
Dr. Mark A Carlsson
by Andrew Carlsson
James & Rosemary Clarke
by Curtis & Sally Frank
Matt Clarke
by Curtis & Sally Frank
Rev. Jeff Ewing
by Jim & Denise Pearson
Benjamin Flanders
by Barbara & George Flanders
Elizabeth Flanders
by Barbara & George Flanders
Erica Flanders
by Barbara & George Flanders
Beck Galbraith
by Rev. Susan Irons
Sara Goncz
by Rev. Susan Irons
Rev. Meredith Harber
by Colleen Montgomery
by Charlotte & Wayne Epley
John Jeffries
by Joan Ferraro
Katie Kerr
by Renee Calder
Marilyn Ludwig's 76th Birthday
by Dr. Thomas Ludwig
William Luft
by John Frantz
Rev. Jerry & Ann O'Neill
by Linda Schaeffer
The Price Family
by James & Ruth Ann Pastorius
Rev. Julie Reuning-Scherer
by Meredith & Ryan Trimble
Deb Roberts
by Gordon & Pauline Bachman
by Ed & Shirley Brut
by Trudy Taylor
Deb Roberts' Installation as Executive Director
by Dick & Vie Dunmyre
by Kristie Linden
by Bri & Jon Major
by Blair & Fay Morgan
by Tammy & James Scanga
by The Woodland Quilters
Mark Steiner
by Michelle Steiner
Joyce Steiner's 90th Birthday
by Melissa & Mark Steiner
Jonathan Steiner's Birthday
by Melissa & Mark Steiner
Walt Treser, for Father's Day
by Meredith & Ryan Trimble
Reed Trimble, for Father's Day
by Meredith & Ryan Trimble
Sharon Wach
by John Frantz
Marian Walters
by Cindy Karr
LuAnn Wheeler
by Matt Wheeler
Robert Wilson Family
by Curtis & Sally Frank
Our Grandchildren
by Bishop Emeritus & Mrs. Donald McCoid
Our 40th Wedding Anniversary
by Jim & Dottie Zaffuto

Memoriam Gifts from 11/01/2017 – 10/31/2018

Vernon Adams
by Doris Adams
by Michael & Suzanne Dominick
by John & Carol Hahn
by Lynn Mance
by Benscreek Lutheran Church
Ray Allen
by Lucille Allen
Matthew Ammon
by Joyce Kottner
Sally Bachovchin-Janocko
by Becky Beck
Anna Bainbridge
by Scott Peters
Jean & Elmer Bentz
by Kathy Armstrong

Jean & Elmer Bentz
by Mark & Kathy Armstrong
Eric Bish
by St. John's Lutheran Church, Kittanning
Homer & Dorothy Bollen
by Joyce Kottner
Dave Brown
by The Brown Family
Igor Cilik
by Ivan Cilik
Jane B. Clarke
by Curtis & Sally Frank
A. Dale Clarke
by Curtis & Sally Frank
Barbara L. Claypoole
by Roger Claypoole
Ray Covert
by David & Robin Brown
by Doug & Donna DeWard
by Dick & Vie Dunmyre
by Bud & Mary Gerber
by Chuck & Mary Lee Tompkins
Rev. Herb Dubler
by Ronald & Karen Creedy
by Edward & Carolee Lee Demmy
by Keith & Shannon Glenn
Mary & Ed Eller
by Schrimper Family
Rev. Paul Eugene Fauth
by David Fauth
Alice Filges
by DeWayne Filges
Wilma Follmer
by Carl Follmer
Carol Folwell
by Kathleen Schubert
Pamela Fox
by Merab Drennen
Rev. Dr. James N. Frank
by Curtis & Sally Frank
Edith W. Frank
by Curtis & Sally Frank
Pat Freed
by John & Judy Freed
Su Rote Gergerich
by Deborah Ross
Michael D Helinski
by Gary & Deborah Scheib
Scott Henjum
by John & Nancy Jeffries
Bob & Mary Claire Hileman
by Pat & Don Melpolder
Kelly Christen Jones
by Gene & Karen Jones
Virginia Jones
by Carl Jones
Charlotte Krause
by Janet Werhnyak
Pastor David Laakso
by Carolyn & Ed Fialkowski
Harrison Grant Lapen
by Gloria & Dan Yount
John & Hazel Lehw
by John & Betty Lehw
Rev. Patrick Maier
by Sally Smeltzer May
Mary B. May
by Donald May
Kenneth R & Mary B May
by Donald May
Ada Mae McGregor
by Mira L Merritt
Gordon Meixner
by Dean & Moira Meixner
Ed & Helen Miller
by William & Norma Hansmann
Floyd Miller
by Erica Miller
"Grandpap" George Miller
by Janet Miller
Wil Morrow
by Daniel & Susan Morrow
Herman Nelson
by Dr. Linda Wellner
Mary Ann Nicotra
by Nancy & John Jeffries
Hans Paa
by Jason & Tanya Tost
Eleanor Petsinger
by Dr. Linda Wellner
John Sally
by John & Judy Freed
Helen Schratz
by Ruth & Rick Boyle
Bill Schrimper
by Lynn Schrimper
by Schrimper Family
by His Family
Rev. Samuel & Gracia Shaulis
by John & Betty Lehw
Rev. Samuel Shaulis
by John & Betty Lehw
by Lois R Pogyor
Dorothy Shaulis
by John & Betty Lehw
The Shaulis Family
by John & Betty Sue Lehw
Carl Smail
by Marilyn Smail
John K. Smith
by Leslie Easler
William J. Smith
by Merab Drennen
Deb Steiner
by Doric Herceg, Noah & Rachel
by Doris Herceg
Rev. Dr. Russell F Steinger
by Merab Drennen
Ruth Steinger
by Merab Drennen

Stephanie Steinger Eslinger
by Merab Drennen
by Ronald Eslinger
Rev. & Mrs. Robert Sternat
by John & Betty Lehw
Tom & Augusta Vezzetti
by Del & Alicia Brockett
Dale William Walters
by LuAnn & Tim Wheeler
Robert Wellner
by Dr. Linda Wellner
Tom Wellner
by Dr. Linda Wellner
Anya Werhnyak
by Janet Werhnyak
David Worthy
by June & Donald Kudas
by Donald Kudas
Loved Ones
by Dorothy Goncz

Our sincerest apologies if we omitted your name. Please notify Lutherlyn of any omissions or errors.

Lutherlyn promises to never turn a child away from summer camp for financial reasons.

Lutherlyn can keep this promise thanks to the many individuals, families, congregations, foundations, and businesses who support camp with prayers, participation, volunteering, and financial gifts.

In addition to providing vitally important camperships, this support also plays a part in providing safe, engaging activities and spaces our campers and guests enjoy throughout the year.

Thank you to each and every donor and volunteer for being part of the community that makes Lutherlyn possible!

Save the Date:

**The 2019
Trinity Pines
Club Banquet
is on
June 9, 2019.**

(Anyone who participated in giving \$200 or more in 2018 will be invited to attend the Trinity Pines Club Banquet.)

Retreats & Events

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Do you enjoy yard work or basic home repair projects? Are you looking for a reason to spend more time outdoors? Would you like to make an impact on your community while meeting new people?

With a large site and a relatively small year-round staff, we can ALWAYS use extra help for projects around camp. In a similar way to the Woodland Quilters, who come to camp on most Tuesdays to work on items for the quilt show and auction, a group of regular volunteers coming to camp weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly, could make a huge difference for the thousands of visitors who come to camp each year.

We are hoping to find a group of people who would work on a variety of common indoor and outdoor tasks. Examples include: trimming grass around buildings or fence lines, splitting firewood, trimming branches away from trails and fences, tidying up flower beds, spreading mulch, painting walls and fences, and pressure washing decks and other surfaces. Lutherlyn will provide the necessary tools, materials, and instruction. Much like the Woodland Quilters, we believe that, while this group will accomplish a lot for Lutherlyn, this is a great opportunity for fellowship and friendships for those who participate.

Based on interest, we anticipate meeting on a specific weekday from early spring until autumn, likely occurring mid-week so our maintenance staff can prepare for or complete projects without affecting their ability to accommodate incoming or departing groups.

If you are interested in being a part of this regular volunteer group at Lutherlyn, please let us know by contacting the Development Office at 724-865-2161 or by email at development@lutherlyn.com.

TAKE THE PLUNGE!

On the chilly morning of December 1st we held our 3rd annual Plunge! This fundraising event involves a group of brave individuals (affectionately known as “plungers”) running, jumping, and sliding into the lake on the first Saturday morning in December after obtaining sponsorships from their friends, families, churches, and coworkers. It includes spectators who make s’mores and drink hot chocolate around a campfire while volunteers take the plunge. After the event, everyone enjoys lunch in the Dining Hall.

Throughout the fall each of our “plungers” gathered sponsorships from \$5 to \$2,000 from their communities, and thanks to all their hard work, together they raised more than \$10,000 for Lutherlyn’s Annual Fund! Amanda Zelnis (from 2018’s summer staff), with the help of Pastor Scott Hall, friends at Nativity Evangelical Lutheran Church, and her family, raised the most funds and earned the highly esteemed title of Queen Plunger, earning her the honor of carrying the golden plunger! Though the Plunge has already taken place, you can still warm the hearts of our Plungers by making a gift to support their icy adventure at www.lutherlyn.com/plungeme.

We would love to have more “plungers” than ever next year and we have already started recruiting for 2019! If you’re willing to take the plunge to help support Lutherlyn and our campers please contact the Development Office at 724-865-2161; we can answer any questions you may have and, if you’re bold enough to brave the cold, sign you up for 2019’s Plunge, which will take place on the morning of Saturday, December 7th, 2019.



WELCOME BACK KATIE!

We are happy to welcome Katie McNeal back to Lutherlyn! Katie was a camper and then served on Summer staff in 2008-2013. In the few years since Katie was on summer staff she attended Yale Divinity School, served as Director of Youth and Family Ministries at a church in Connecticut, worked as a kickboxing instructor and academic tutor, and performed on America’s Got Talent (check out Three Penny Orchestra on YouTube). In October, Katie returned to Lutherlyn to serve as the Office Manager/Registrar.



WELCOME LISA!

Lisa Blackburn became the Food Service Manager in August. Lisa has been working as a cook at Lutherlyn for the past 3 years and was an obvious choice for a promotion to Food Service Manager when Chef Nick left in August. Lisa was a camper as a child and served on summer staff, then her children attended camp and her son served on summer staff. Lisa has been providing excellent meals to our campers and guests and we are so happy to have her serving in this way. Thanks for the great food Lisa!

THE “FATHERS AND SONS RETREAT” IS NOT SCHEDULED FOR 2019 BUT WILL RETURN IN FEBRUARY OF 2020. MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!

BAKER CHAPEL DEDICATION

In last year’s newsletter we announced that the interior of Baker Chapel was nearly complete and it had already been used for worship during summer camp and for Deb’s installation.

After the finishing touches were completed, there remained just one final detail to discuss for the chapel; the dedication. On May 28th, Frank and Mary Baker, joined by some of their friends and family, gathered together for a worship and dedication service in Baker Chapel, followed by a picnic.

We are so grateful for the Baker’s generosity, and for the overwhelming support and patience they showed while we worked to complete this amazing addition to Lutherlyn. Thank you to all the donors and volunteers who helped make this dream a reality, we appreciate your support! We are so happy to have this beautiful space to meet, reflect, and worship.



2019 Calendar

January

15-20—Quilting/Crafting Retreat
25-27—Winter Retreat (4-12 grade)
26—Blacksmithing Class

February

2—Saturday Safari—Night Hike

March

2—Saturday Safari—Maple Sugaring
19-24—Quilting/Crafting Retreat
23—Blacksmithing Class

April

26-28—YouthFest (Jr. High & Sr. High)
27—Work Day
27—Blacksmithing Class

May

11—Fun Run
11—CAMP BLAST!!!

June

2-14—Summer Staff Training
7-9—Grown-Up Camp
9—Trinity Pines Club Banquet
16—SUMMER CAMP BEGINS!

July

1-31—SUMMER CAMP CONTINUES!

August

2—Last day of Summer Camp
23-25—Grown-Up Camp

September

4-8—Quilting/Crafting Retreat
7—Blacksmithing Class
14—Saturday Safari—Amphibians

October

19—Blacksmithing Class
25-27—Family Getaway Weekend
26—Family Halloween Fun Day

November

2—Saturday Safari—Archeology
19-24—Quilting/Crafting Retreat
23—Blacksmithing Class

December

6-8—Advent Retreat
7—The Plunge
7—Family Advent Festival
7—Advent Dinner & Worship (for all)

Visit www.lutherlyn.com/2019 for complete schedules, details and registration information.

Want to bring your own group to camp?

Lutherlyn hosts retreat groups of all types throughout the year (with the exception of during summer camp). Please give us a call to talk about all of the ways that you and your group can use camp’s facilities.



Lutherlyn Environmental Education Program

LEEP CONTINUES TO GROW

After serving more students than ever in 2017, we thought that 2018 may not be quite as busy. We were wrong! We added three new overnight schools in 2018 and eleven new day schools. In total, 6,194 students were accepted, challenged, and sent by the Lutherlyn Environmental Education Program in 2018.

NEW PRAYER PATH AT LUTHERLYN



Slow down. Let your mind slow down. Let your feet follow the path in front of you. Let the path show you where to go. When your mind is still, you can become aware of God's presence, of God's peace. You can enter into prayer.

Inspired by prayer labyrinths, stations of the cross, and other outdoor prayer paths, Lutherlyn's newest trail offers this kind of experience to guests.

The short winding trail, lined with sticks and logs, leaves the Chapel Hill Trail (between Chapel Hill and Upper Lake) and loops through the evergreen trees, with seven marked prayer stations and two gathering spots with log seats.

The genesis of the trail began with YouthFest, the annual youth event of the Northwest and Southwest PA synods of the ELCA. In April 2018, about 80 youth in grades 7-12 from churches all over the two synods came together at Lutherlyn for a weekend of worship, bible study, fun, and service. YouthFest participants lived out retreat themes of service and community by sharing in a service project that has already made a lasting impact on the community of Lutherlyn. Groups of students spent an afternoon clearing the path, lining the edges of the path with sticks and logs, and scouting locations and ideas for prayer stations.

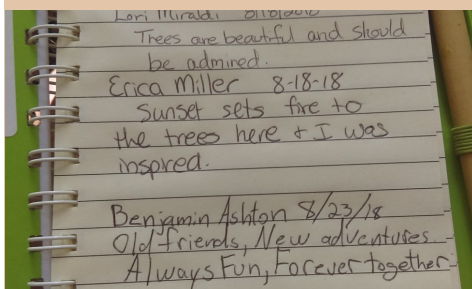
Later in June, confirmation campers added to the trail by moving logs into place to provide seating in gathering spaces for reflection. One area with log seats, in a clearing in the center of the trail, is just the right size for a small group to gather together for reflection, prayer, or conversation – ideal for summer camp cabin groups and other small groups. Two more log seats are placed alongside a small spring and stream.



Prayer station markers and a welcome box completed the finishing touches. The welcome box holds suggestions on how to use the prayer path, as well as a prayer path register which allows participants to share their experience with visitors who come after them.

Even before its completion, summer campers and other visitors were enjoying the peace and prayerful spirit of the prayer path. We have

already heard many people relate that their experiences at the prayer path have been very meaningful and powerful. We hope the creation of this trail will continue to give people the opportunity for meaningful experiences of prayer in the midst of God's creation.



UNIVERSAL ACCESS TRAIL

Thousands of people come to Lutherlyn each year to experience God's creation through our forests, streams, wetlands, and trails. Some of our guests have mobility issues that keep them from enjoying the hilly terrain that characterizes Lutherlyn. The level areas that Lutherlyn does have are often fairly wet and muddy. In order to improve everyone's experience, we have begun a multi-year project to construct a Universal Access Trail through the forest to the marsh at the top of the Upper Lake.

A Universal Access Trail is a trail that is "usable by all people to the greatest extent possible," as defined by the US Forest Service. Any grades in the trail will be very slight and the surface will be packed limestone. In many places boardwalks will be constructed over wet areas.

The design process for the trail was completed in May and the first section was constructed in September and October. We thank Glenn Hawbaker, Inc. for their donation of limestone for the trail and Penn Trails, LLC for designing the trail and working many hours with us to construct the first section.

Future sections will be constructed as we receive donations to purchase materials and volunteer crews to help with construction. The materials for each boardwalk section cost \$425 and are great projects for Thrivent Action Teams.



"COME TO LUTHERLYN"

"Come to Lutherlyn!" was the message that church provided us one spring in the mid-80's, so that year we took our eldest child to camp. When we heard the excitement as he related his experiences, and discovered that the summer's focus was the joy of Christ in the worth and unique gifts of each camper, we knew that this was a great place. In summer, Lutherlyn is a kid place. No camper is ignored, neglected or mistreated. Here everyone is accepted. For some, this may be quite a life-changing event.

Lutherlyn was a place that led both of our children, and now our grandchildren, to experience God-given programs from Classic to Horse Camp to the challenges of Adventurers. It became a place that calls us to become Camp Grandparents for a week each summer. Here we see firsthand why Camp Lutherlyn is a great place. It's the people. From carefully selected counselors, to maintenance and kitchen staff, volunteer nurses, to office workers and the director, everyone shines with the love of God. Everyone wants to spread His word. Campers quickly discover feelings of self-worth. No one is invisible here. For us, our own church family expanded to include those here. And that sense of belonging that campers encounter? It is felt by us, too.

In our own life, retirement brought changes that allowed us to become more involved in camp. For Patti, part-time employment in the Environmental Education Center fulfilled two personal goals—making time for exercise and working again with children. At Lutherlyn, a renewal of the sense of wonder came from observing God's gifts through children's eyes. It was first graders who spied the baby raccoons peering at us from their hole near the tree top. Here is where joy is found in the actions of preschoolers tramping through newly fallen snow or in youngsters tapping sugar maple trees and sampling the sap straight from its source. Joy and wonder keep us returning.

Our volunteer roles are varied. Both of us have been Camp Ambassadors, enticing others to camp. This led to a monthly, monetary commitment that values and supports camperships for children whose families cannot afford this experience. As members of the Trinity Pines Club, our goal is to make certain that no one misses the opportunity to attend summer camp due to lack of funds. Lutherlyn's spring work days always need volunteer laborers. From children to us "old folks," there are jobs for all. The initiative to upgrade facilities also requires money and workers. Charlie has spent many hours staining, building, roofing, mowing, and more assisting with these tasks. As a board member, he also works with others to shape the future and make programs possible. Work at Lutherlyn can be fun, intense at times, but always rewarding.

Like most of our churches, Lutherlyn is continually challenged to fund its marvelous mission. How many of our campers have returned to be counselors? How many of those have found their spouse here? How many church leaders have fond memories of finding or building their faith here? It is our duty and our joy to give time and treasure to preserve the good of today and the promise for the future.

~Charlie & Patti Flach

Calling all Teachers!



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & DEMOCRACY

A workshop series for formal and informal educators

featuring author and illustrator **Lynne Cherry**

(*The Great Kapok Tree*).

March 9, 2019, Lutherlyn Dining Hall, 9:30 am- 4:00pm

Registration is only \$15 and includes lunch & snacks. Act

48 credit available for \$5 more.

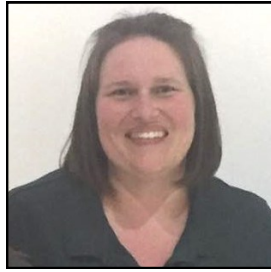
For more info contact (724) 865-9079, leep@lutherlyn.com, or visit www.youngvoicesfortheplanet.com/workshops



News and Notes

The Director's Notebook.....

What a great year we have had! It has been just over one year since I became the Executive Director and your encouragement, kindness, and support has been amazing! Lutherlyn has been a HUGE part of my life since my first summer as a camper in 1989 but in this past year, I have been blessed to get to know so many more of you, the Lutherlyn family, and to hear so many of your amazing stories of Life-Changing Adventures in Faith at Lutherlyn. Thank you for your continued support for and love of Lutherlyn. You are a blessing to camp, to me, and, most importantly, to the current and future generations of campers and guests!



This was Lutherlyn's first full year of operating under the three-year strategic direction and it has allowed us to focus closely on the five core areas of Ministry; Summer Camp, Environmental Education, Retreats/Events, the Equestrian Center, and the Adventure Program. I am so happy to share with you that all five of our core areas of ministry have experienced growth in the past year. That means that more and more people have experienced Lutherlyn as a God-given place to be accepted, challenged, and sent! The staff, the board of directors, our amazing volunteers, and everyone who has provided financial support, registered a camper, brought a retreat group, attended a field trip, taken a riding lesson, brought friends to an event, or told others about Lutherlyn has contributed towards supporting and growing this ministry.

As you read through this newsletter, I hope that you can sense the love and grace of God in all that is going on at camp! The All-Staff Reunion was a FUN reminder of how many people over the past 70 years have spread God's love with over 100,000 campers. The dedication of Baker Chapel was a celebration of the many and various ways that we worship God at Lutherlyn and provides our first indoor sanctuary (that was put to good use through a very wet summer). The Trinity Pines Banquet and Shaulis

Society Dinner highlighted how many generous donors give so that no child is turned away due to finances. Thousands of kids came to Lutherlyn for an Environmental Education field trip and went home with new knowledge and a clearer understanding of what it is to be a good steward of God's Creation. Groups of all ages were challenged by the high ropes course and gained confidence in what they are able to do or overcome. Summer Campers took a break from technology and distractions to experience community, to interact with each other face-to-face, to grow in their leadership skills and independence, and to explore the ways that the love and grace of God changes EVERYTHING (this was our summer Bible Study and Worship theme). Children and adults gained confidence and strength through riding lessons and trail rides at the Equestrian Center. Retreat groups had time and space away to relax, learn, create, explore, and do whatever they needed to do to connect with God and be refreshed for the busyness of life.

So, now what? A committee appointed by the Board of Directors is in the process of turning the strategic direction into a strategic plan with measurable goals and objectives. The "Preserving the Future" campaign continues to reduce Lutherlyn's debt so we can plan for the future. We are working our way through all of the buildings and facilities to evaluate what needs to be done to take care of Lutherlyn's site so we can financially plan for needed maintenance and upkeep. All of this, and many other "behind the scenes" projects are in motion so Lutherlyn can continue to serve God's people and be a place for ALL to feel accepted, challenged, and sent out into the world to make a difference.

Again, thank you for being a part of the Lutherlyn family! Please accept this open invitation to come back to camp and share any ideas, concerns, stories, thoughts, suggestions, or input with me so that Lutherlyn can continue to provide Life-Changing Adventures in Faith for many years to come!

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

As stewards of God's creation we realize that we are commanded to care for and sustain the earth. We also realize that at times we fail to understand our impact upon the created world around us. For this reason Lutherlyn places a high priority on the careful management and restoration of the land with which we have been blessed. Education of campers and staff is seen as an important part of sharing God's vision for the world.

OFFICE UPDATE

The next time that you visit Lutherlyn, you will notice changes to the camp office. As this newsletter is being printed, the main entrance is being moved (so it isn't right next to the camp store), a covered porch for the new entrance is being added, a new furnace is being installed, the concrete patio in front of the store is being replaced, and (the most visually pleasing change) beautiful new wooden siding is being added over NEW insulation for heat efficiency.

A wonderful and dedicated group of volunteers from "Butler Area Lutheran Ministries" has been working on the outside of the building since late August. They removed the old siding, repaired/replaced the soffit and fascia, applied insulation and water-resistant barrier paper, and installed new siding. They have done a great job and have worked through beautiful days, hot muggy days, and some downright cold days. We truly could not have done this project without their help. We are so grateful for all of their hard work and we are excited for everyone to see what a difference these major improvements have made!

If you have construction experience and would like to volunteer for a similar project at camp, please contact Lutherlyn's office at 724-865-2161. We are working hard to update several cabins and other buildings where your skills could make a big impact!



UNDER THE RADAR: BLESSING BAGS



Lutherlyn's summer campers have, yet again, opened their hands and generously given to provide for God's people. Our 2018 summer offering project was a local project. Campers had the opportunity to give an offering from their store account to make "Blessing Bags" for those experiencing homelessness right here in Butler. Throughout the summer we collected the offering, in the fall we used that offering to purchase all of the supplies, and at the Advent Retreat we assembled 240 Blessing Bags that were distributed through Catholic Charities in Butler in December. We are blessed to be a blessing to others; thank you to everyone who contributed towards these Blessing Bags!

CAMPBLAST!

Saturday, May 11th, 2019, 11am-4:30pm

Join us for a day of FUN that highlights all that Lutherlyn has to offer. Horseback riding, campfire, crafts, gaga ball, archery, high ropes course, zipline, bouldering room, hikes, nature activities, canoeing, hay rides, games, sports, archaeology, kayaking, biking, tours, great food, and MORE! The best part....

EVERYTHING IS FREE! SPREAD THE WORD!

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

Lutherlyn sends out a monthly e-newsletter through Constant Contact. If you would like to receive a monthly update from camp, please visit www.lutherlyn.com/newsletter and sign up!



Lutherlyn has over 4,000 "likes" on Facebook! Check out Lutherlyn on Facebook for "What is it Wednesday," "Throwback Thursday," news, photos from events, and the most current happenings at camp!

