

camping & retreat center

LUTHER PARK
danbury, wisconsin

25th Annual
LUTHER PARK
BIKE-A-THON



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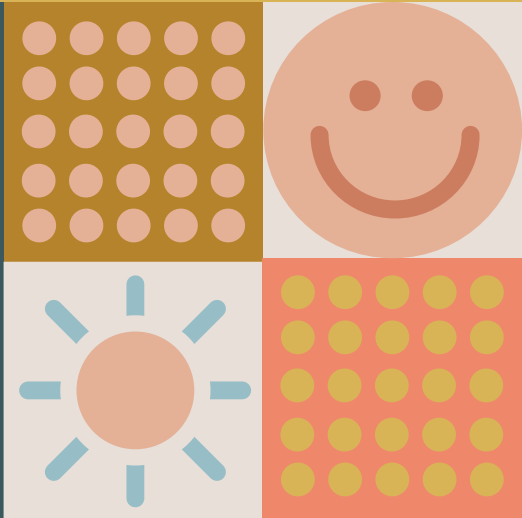
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Welcome!

Our annual Bike-A-Thon is our largest and longest running fundraiser. Thank you for being a part of it!

At Luther Park we think it's important that everyone has the opportunity to come to camp, no matter their financial situation. With the funds raised from the Bike-a-thons, we are able to subsidize the cost of each camper's fee by about 28-48%. Luther Park also gives out many partial or full scholarships to families. Bike-A-Thon participants like you are ambassadors of Luther Park's mission and help make camp possible for many families. All fundraising goes directly to making Luther Park's ministry possible!



About Luther Park

Luther Park Camping & Retreat Center is located on the beautiful Lake 26 in the heart of the north woods of Danbury, Wisconsin. It was founded in 1958 by a group of Churches who were eager to find a site where they could create faith-based programs in the outdoors. Today, Luther Park continues that vision by providing summer camp programs and space for year-round retreats. Luther Park prides itself on being able to provide opportunities for people of all ages to engage with God's creation, grow in community with each other and find personal renewal.

CHOOSE YOUR OWN BIKE-A-THON ADVENTURE

You get to choose how you want to participate in our annual Bike-a-Thon. You can ride on your own, ride with a group or be a sponsor and cheer on other participants! Whether you are doing it on your own or with the group, please sign up at lutherparkdanbury.com and let Luther Park know you are biking so we can all support in the best ways possible.



Bike with Others Locally or On Your Own

Ride on your own, anywhere you want, for as far as you want from May 20th to June 4th. Don't want to ride your bike? You can run, walk, hike, rollerblade, swim, etc. Any activity where you can track your miles counts for the Bike-a-Thon. You can participate in and around your own neighborhood or on any trails or spaces that you choose!

Go to page 4 for details.



Bike with Others to Luther Park - June 3rd-4th

Ride with a group of other bikers from Messiah Lutheran Church to Luther Park over the course of 2 days, June 3rd-4th. David Shirley, the Secretary of our Board, is leading this trip! Please contact David if you have any questions about this ride: 612.597.2921 or David.Nitrox@gmail.com.

Go to page 5 for details.



Want to participate but need a different option?

You can plan your own time and Bike-a-Thon event! Contact Leah Pletscher, Executive Director, and he will help you plan your own dates to either bike to Luther Park or create your own path. Phone: 651.472.4868 or Email: camp@lutherpark.com.

Go to page 8 for additional Bike-A-Thon information.

Bike with Others Locally or On Your Own ~~~~~



Steps for Participation:

1. Sign up so we know you are participating & can cheer you on!
www.lutherparkdanbury.com
2. Set a miles goal AND a financial goal.
3. Make a list of potential people you could ask to sponsor you.
4. Start asking people to sponsor you. **(See Participant Fundraising Tips page for suggestions)**
5. Save the dates May 20th - June 4th in your calendar for your rides.
6. Track your miles on the **My Bike-a-thon Miles** sheet (pg 5). Keep track of your sponsors and donations on the **My Bike-a-Thon Sponsors** sheet (pg 11).
7. Finally, turn in your miles & donations on or before June 4th!

WOOHOO! You did it.

~~~~~ Participant Suggestions for Riding with Others Locally



Rider Participants: Riders all ages can participate, but all minors should be accompanied by an adult at all times.



Prior to Trip: Have your bike serviced. Make sure to give yourself enough time to get it fixed before you are ready to ride. Take it for a ride a week or so before you are ready to ride it to make sure all other problems get resolved.



Bike Recommendations: Fill tires to 5-1 PSI less than maximum pressure shown on side of your tires. Lube chain with a good lube (preferably clear). Have at least one water bottle cage mounted on your bike & at least one 24-28 oz. bottle. Find a comfortable bike seat that feels good for your rear end.



Food & Beverages: No matter how long you are biking, hiking, walking, etc. please pack enough water/beverages or food to last the whole trip.



Biking Rules: A bike helmet is required for all bikers, rollerbladers, scooters, etc.! Do not cross busy roads until you know it is safe. Be aware of your surroundings, including other bikers, walkers and cars. Please yield to other bikers and let them pass. Unless space is sufficient, single file biking is safest.

My Bike-A-Thon Miles

- Record your miles bikes from May 20th - June 4th.
- Turn in this document to your team captain when you are done or send it to Luther Park so we can record all the miles of all the participants.

Rider Name _____ Phone/Email _____

Date	Route	Total Miles	Comments

Turn in to team captain or mail to Luther Park: 30376 Lakes Dr, Danbury WI 54830.



Bike with Others to Camp: June 3rd - 4th



Steps for Participation:

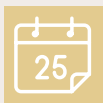
1. Sign up so we know you are participating & can connect with you! Registration for riding with the group closes on May 1st so that we can reserve enough hotel space & so that riders can properly prepare for the ride. www.lutherparkdanbury.com
2. Give yourself enough time to train for the long ride. It is highly suggested that you train for this trip and get your body (and bike) properly prepared.
3. Plan your ride home from camp (there may be space in the Messiah vehicles - contact David).
4. Make a list of potential people you could ask to sponsor you.
5. Start asking people to sponsor you & collect the donations. **(See Participant Fundraising Tips page for suggestions.)**
6. Keep track of your sponsors and donations on the **My Bike-a-Thon Sponsors** on page 11.
7. Finally, on June 3rd, join the riders @ Messiah Lutheran at 7am, have fun & turn in your donations!

WOOHOO! You did it.

Participant Suggestions for Riding with Others to Camp



Rider Participants: Must be 16 or older. All minors need written permission from their parent/guardian. Must be able to maintain a pace of 10-11 mph (including stops) over the course of at least 50 miles.



Prior to Trip: Have your bike serviced. Make sure to give yourself enough time to get it fixed before you are ready to ride, try the bike a week before the trip to make sure it's ready to go. Make sure you have a spare tube(s) for your size



tires, along with a pump and tire irons for the actual ride.

Bike Recommendations: Fill tires to 5-1 PSI less than maximum pressure shown on side of your tires. Lube chain with a good lube (preferably clear). Have at least one water bottle cage mounted on your bike & at least one 24-28 oz. bottle. Find a comfortable bike seat that feels good for your rear end.





Prior to Trip Participant Prep: It is strongly suggested that all potential riders do a pre-trip minimum of at least one 50 miles ride which takes no more than 5 hours, including a 10 minute stop every 1.5 hours.



Clothing & Other Items: Bike shorts with strategic padding (best if worn without underwear). Comfortable biking shoes and extra socks are highly recommended. A light, water repellent jacket and pants is recommended. The group will ride rain or shine!

Other items needed: A change of clothes for Saturday night & Sunday after the ride is over. Swimsuit/trunks, towel, sleepwear, toiletries, sunglasses, sunscreen, \$80 for hotel room, \$15-20 for meals on Saturday, \$8 for Gandy Dancer Permit, and \$10 for Sag vehicle fuel.



Food & Beverages: No matter how long you are biking, hiking, walking, etc. please pack enough water/ beverages or food to last the whole trip. You will drink approximately 2- 3 gallons of beverage during the trip. Recommendations for food: power



Biking Rules: A bike helmet is required for all bikers! Do not cross busy roads until you know it is safe. Be aware of your surroundings, including other bikers, walkers and cars. Please yield to other bikers and let them pass. Unless space is sufficient, single file biking is safest. Slower riders should start-off earlier and/or take shorter breaks. If you cannot maintain pace with any speed group, you may need to ride in the van for a bit.



Post Trip: It is suggested that you plan your own ride home, the "Sag Van" may be able to bring you home. However, it will depend on COVID-19 restrictions and the number of riders who need a ride home.



Information continues on next page.

Schedule & Day-Of Information

- A "Sag Van" & second support vehicle will be provided by Messiah for ride days. All the extra clothing, personal items, etc. will be stored in the vehicles. The vehicles provides general support, and if needed, a ride for tired/broken down riders and/or their bikes.
- The route includes a variety of terrain- paved roadways, crushed limestone (48 miles on the Gandy Dancer Trail), and sand (the Luther Park driveway).

Saturday, June 3rd

- 7:00 AM – Meet at Messiah Lutheran Church (2400 Park Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404).
- 7:30 AM – Leave Messiah & start the journey north (about 75 miles)! We will stop every 1.5 hours for a break. Look forward to ice cream at one of these stops (or maybe more)!
- 4:00 PM – Or around this time, arrive in Luck, WI. Depending on COVID-19 restrictions the pool/hot tub may or may not be open. There is a garage for bikes during the night.
- 6:00 PM – Group Dinner @ Lumberjacks in Milltown depending on COVID-19 restrictions.

Sunday, June 4th

- 7:00 AM – Breakfast.
- 7:30 AM – Begin biking again (about 40 miles). Woo! We will stop every 1.5 hours again. The Log Cabin store in Danbury, WI marks a little over 7 miles left of the ride!
- 12:00 PM – Or around that time, arrive at camp (30376 Lakes Dr. Danbury, WI 54830)!!!
- 1:00 PM – Eat a wonderful, homemade lunch by the Luther Park Kitchen Staff.
- 2:30 PM – Leave camp (or stay for a bit & enjoy it)! *(Reminder: arrange rides home before coming!)*

DONATION COLLECTION

There are many ways you can collect donations from your sponsors. Luther Park suggests doing most of your collection online so you do not have to deal with the money yourself, however, all forms of payment are accepted. Visit the “donate” tab on the website to find direct links that are easy to copy and paste.

Sponsors can donate by...



MAIL

Send a check to
30376 Lakes Dr.
Danbury, WI 54830.



Use the QR code or
click [here](#) for a link.



venmo

Search & Friend
@LutherParkDanbury



MIGHTYCAUSE

Click [here](#) to access the
MightyCause link.

Or collect cash/check donations and turn in to your team captain.

Personal Fundraising Page

Steps for setting up your own Fundraising Page on Mighty Cause:

1. Go to <https://www.mightycause.com/organization/Luther-Park>.
2. Click on the “fundraise” tab.
3. You can create a personal “Fundraiser” page OR you may decide to create a “Team” fundraising page with other members of your church or group.
4. When asked “Where will the funds go?” make sure you search and click “Luther Park Inc.” in Danbury, WI.
5. From here, you get to customize your page. Make sure you set a goal (it doesn’t have to be as high as your overall goal if you are planning on fundraising in different ways). Choose the name of the Fundraiser to be called something Like “[YOUR NAME]’s Luther Park Bike-a-Thon Fundraiser.” A logo and a short “story” description are under the “donate” tab, labeled “Bike-a-Thon” on the website.



Steps for setting up your on Fundraising Event on Facebook:

1. Go to www.facebook.com/fundraisers.
2. Under "Raise Money," click "Choose a Non-Profit"
3. Search for "Luther Park Inc." in Danbury, WI
4. From here you get to customize your page. Make sure you set a goal (it doesn't have to be as high as your overall goal if you are planning on fundraising in different ways). You can change the name of the Fundraiser to be called something Like "[YOUR NAME]'s Luther Park Bike-a-Thon Fundraiser." An example of a short description and a cover photo are under the "donate" tab, labeled "Bike-a-Thon" on the website.

If you need any help setting up your fundraising page, please ask Leah Pletscher, Executive Director. She will help walk you through the steps and troubleshoot any problems. Contact her by phone: 651.472.4868 or email: camp@lutherpark.com.



My Bike-A-Thon Sponsors

- Record info for every sponsorship you receive in the form of cash, check or online (if you can).
- If sponsors fill out all personal information they will receive a tax receipt after the event.
- Download and print more sponsor sheets at www.lutherparkdanbury.com
- Staple all sheets together & give to your team captain or send to Luther Park.

Rider Name _____ Phone/Email _____

Amount \$ _____ Method: cash check online Full Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Address _____

Amount \$ _____ Method: cash check online Full Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Address _____

Amount \$ _____ Method: cash check online Full Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Address _____

Amount \$ _____ Method: cash check online Full Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Address _____

Amount \$ _____ Method: cash check online Full Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Address _____

Amount \$ _____ Method: cash check online Full Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Address _____



PARTICIPANT FUNDRAISING TIPS

Follow this guide and make fundraising easy and fun! Make sure you give yourself enough time to fundraise so you are not left with last minute stress.

Make a Donation

Make a donation yourself to show people you are serious about the cause and meeting your goal. Share about your contribution on social media and ask people to join you in contributing. Even if it's a small donation, people like to witness people practicing what they are preaching.



Share on Social Media

Share your personal connection to Luther Park and that you are participating in this wonderful event for a great cause. Get creative, be consistent and share more than once. If you need help writing a post or need a picture/graphic examples are provided in this document.



Personalize Everything

People listen when they get told why the cause matters to you. Use our templates to help you personalize your ask or come up with a good testament of your own. How has Luther Park made an impact in your life or in the life of someone you know?



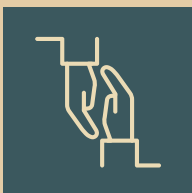
Send a Letter

Who doesn't love to receive a piece of snail mail? Especially if it's handwritten and personalized! Sometimes, snail mail gets more attention because social media can often be overwhelming and doesn't always grab the attention of everyone. Get creative with what you write and/or follow the template we provide in this packet.



Find a Match

Do you have an awesome employer or work for a company that matches their employee's gifts? Ask your employer to match your gift and make double the impact!



Raise the Bar

Most bikers raise between \$200-\$2000, however, you need to set a goal that is right for you! And then aim a little higher! There is no consequence if you do not meet your goal. If you end up meeting your goal and still have time to fundraise, raise your goal to a higher amount. People are more willing to give if you haven't met your goal yet.



Templates: Letters (via snail mail)

Use this template to write letters to your sponsors. Remember to be creative and personalize the letter. The example below will help get you started. Happy writing!

Dear (insert name),

On Saturday, June 3rd, 2023 [OR Over the course May 20th - June 4th , 2023] I will be riding in the Luther Park 25th Annual Bike-a-Thon to raise funds for their campership program. Over the years, thousands of people have been impacted by the ministries at Luther Park, specifically, their summer camp programs. Luther Park believes that everyone should be able to experience the life changing experience that camp offers. This is why I am partnering with them, supporting their mission and making sure that no one gets turned away from the camp experience because of financial reasons.

I will be biking 115 miles from Minneapolis to Danbury, WI over the course of two days [OR set your own mile goal if not riding with the group]. I have set a goal of raising \$_____ to support their ministry.

Will you support me in this goal? Your gift will directly support Luther Park. Checks can be made to Luther Park Inc. and returned to me or sent directly to Luther Park, 30376 Lakes Dr. Danbury, WI 54830. Donations may also be expected online at www.lutherparkdanbury.com/donate. Make sure you right down that you are sponsoring me in the memo or description of payment. Thank you so much for any gift you are able to give!

It's also a good idea to send this form that participants can respond with:

I would like to help support Luther Park. I will sponsor _____ in the Luther Park Bike-a-Thon for 2023 for the amount of \$_____ as a one-time donation. Or I would like sponsor each mile the above named person is riding, \$_____ x _____ miles = \$_____.

My name and address are as follows so that I can receive a thank you and a tax receipt:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Don't want to type this all up? No worries! Click [here](#) or find the link on our website and you can simply copy and paste!

Templates: Social Media Posts

Use these templates for Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and more! All the images and prompts can be found on our Website under the “Donate” tab, click on “Bike-a-Thon 2023”.

**I am riding my bike for Luther Park,
can you help sponsor me?**



— bike-a-thon-2023 —
LUTHER PARK
— danbury, wisconsin —

Find out more at
lutherparkdanbury.com

Sample Caption: “Camp provides many opportunities for children to develop independence, strengthen their faith, learn to live with others in community and build confidence! Camp is an important experience for many children each summer. Luther Park is raising funds to help keep their cost down and affordable for families. This summer I am riding my bike and raising money, please donate if you are able!”

**LUTHER PARK'S 25TH ANNUAL BIKE-A-THON
IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!**



I REGISTERED, WILL YOU?

— bike-a-thon-2023 —
LUTHER PARK
— danbury, wisconsin —

Join us for a ride!
lutherparkdanbury.com

Sample Caption: “Our team is looking for more riders! We are riding for Luther Park because _____. There is still time to sign up and ride with us!”

— bike-a-thon-2023 —
LUTHER PARK
— danbury, wisconsin —

**EVERY DOLLAR
COUNTS TO
HELP SEND
KIDS TO CAMP!**



Join me in supporting Luther Park. Visit lutherparkdanbury.com

Sample Caption: “I am riding for Luther Park because _____. My goal is to raise \$___ for Luther Park and their ministry! Can you help me reach my goal?”

MAIL-IN DONATIONS CAN BE SENT TO:

**LUTHER PARK
30376 LAKES DR.
DANBURY, WI 54830**

**ONLINE DONATIONS MAY BE ACCEPTED
ONLINE UNDER THE 'DONATE' TAB.**



**MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT
WWW.LUTHERPARKDANBURY.COM**

QUESTIONS?

**CONTACT LEAH PLETSCHER
CAMP@LUTHERPARK.COM | 651.472.4868**

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