



www.lutherpark.com

ECHOES

From The Point

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Vol. 19, No. 3

A Newsletter for Campers and Friends of Luther Park

Fall 2008

Come, join in celebrating our 50th Anniversary in 2009 Events & projects for you all year long

Honoring the Past... Preparing for the Future

By Sharon F. Miller
Communications & Marketing

This an exciting time! We are fast approaching Christmas, the new year and the beginning of the 50th Anniversary of Luther Park Camp and Retreat Center in 2009.

Can it really be nearly 50 years ago that a small band of intrepid church men and women from 13 local Lutheran congregations forged their way from the Twin Cities to northwestern Wis. to examine an old fishing lodge in the woods on the shores of Lake 26, with the possibility of turning it into an outdoor ministry haven for families and children?

Obviously, the answer is "Yes!" and now we plan to celebrate the occasion by honoring our past and preparing for our future.

All of the events and projects we do in 2009 at Luther Park will reflect on what's happened over the past 50 years, while honoring the people who made it all happen. At the same time, we'll emphasize how you, your friends and family can be part of making our history for the next 50 years by preparing the camp for the future! A future that's built upon a strong foundation of faith and vision.

As we move into 2009, many exciting things are proposed and planned. With God's help and yours, our future is limitless. The need is great. More people than ever are requesting camperships. We know that camp really does change the lives of the kids who experience it. Many hear about Christ for the first time in their life at camp.

Highlights of the 50th Anniversary will include a very special celebration at Summer Open House on Saturday, July 18, when we hope to break ground for our new Retreat Center; honor the founding congregations of Luther Park, early staff, volunteers and other supporters; and dedicate the floral planter and flagpole donated in memory of Dorothy Fisher Carlson by her Richfield Lutheran Church friends and family. (cont. on P.

"Fit For the Next 50" project needs you!

By Anna Stevens, Former camper & summer staffer, and Sharon F. Miller, Communications & Marketing

Luther Park Camping and Retreat Center, an active Lutheran-sponsored Bible Camp for nearly 50 years, supports churches through summer ministry experiences for young children and teens alike. Retreat and mission opportunities are also provided for all ages throughout the year.

In 2009 Luther Park will celebrate its 50th Anniversary! This camp has offered a place for many people to call home

over the past 50 years, and that's not changing. However, there will be some other changes happening around camp soon.

Plans are in the process of being finalized on the exciting Fit for the Next 50 years program, and soon

volunteers and camp staff will begin to renew this place that has been like a home to many. From updated bathrooms to new paint, Luther Park is in for some wonderful changes.

The front four cabins (Ash, Birch, Elm and Fir) will be facing some major changes with the introduction of dual bathrooms. This will allow for more functional year-round use of the cabins and will ready them for the next 50 years of use.

The back four cabins (Hickory, Pine, Maple and Oak) will not be forgotten. The existing bathrooms in these four cabins will be updated using the floor plans already in place.

With the inside of the cabins set for the future, renovations will move to paint for the exteriors. The fresh colors will continue in the traditions of the Luther Park woods while also rejuvenating them to their full potential. The face of the top of the hill will also begin to look a little different with some updates in and around the Lodge, including removal of the old staff house.

These are just some of the changes that will (cont. on P. 2)



Look INSIDE For

- * 2009 Summer Camp Info.
- * Quilt Auction Outcome
- * Outstanding Christian Service Award to John Stevens/ Shepherd of the Hills Members and Joanne Nelson, Lakeside

COMING EVENTS



- DEC. 5 Advent Dinner
- DEC. 13 Santa Breakfast
- DEC. 27-29 Summer Staff Reunion
- JAN. 16-18 Ice Fishing Retreat
- JAN. 17 Winter Open House
- MARCH 13-15 Camp n' Pamperin' Ret.
- MARCH 13-15 Sr. High Leadership Ret.
- MARCH 13-15 LP Elementary Retreat
- MARCH 27-29 LP Jr./Sr. High Retreats
- APRIL 18 Ole & Lena Event, Richfield Lutheran
- APRIL TBA Spring Work Day
- MAY 3 Point & Cross Dinner, St. Barnabas, Plymouth
- MAY 31 Summer Staff Training Begins
- JUNE 6-7 Bikeathon I
- JUNE 14 Summer Camp Starts
- JULY 17-18 Bikeathon II
- JULY 18 Summer Open House
- JULY 24-26 Grandparent/Grandchild Camp

All events take place at Luther Park unless otherwise noted.

What parents, campers and others say about Luther Park

By Sharon F. Miller
Communications & Marketing

Another summer camp season has ended, but the impact of Luther Park on the lives of many young campers is just beginning.

At camp, God is part of your life every day. The leadership and role-modeling that's provided by staff members assures that campers participate in Bible studies and other faith-based activities. And that's in



addition to all of the awesome recreational and social opportunities available! Relationships and memories are created that last a lifetime. Here are some of the experiences and memories shared by campers, parents and others this past summer.

What campers say:
• We got to see what leading a Bible study would be like.

(cont. on P. 2)

FOR SALE LUTHER PARK LAKESHORE PROPERTY

2 1/2 acre lot with 216' of lakeshore on SE end of Luther Park property. Interested parties should contact Wade Wacholz, 763.225.6000; e-mail wwacholz@gislason.com asap.

For photos & other info. go to:
www.lutherpark.com

Congress Extends Time for Tax-Free Charitable Gift from your IRA

The historic tax package recently signed into law restored some popular tax breaks that expired at the end of last year. One that some of you may be interested in is a provision allowing people who are 70 1/2 or older to transfer up of \$100,000 a year directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as Luther Park without owing income taxes on the money.

This transfer is counted toward the taxpayer's required minimum distribution for the year. This gift—a Charitable IRA Rollover—can help you make a difference for your church or favorite charities while satisfying all or part of your annual minimum IRA distribution. Also the Charitable IRA Rollover doesn't count toward your charitable deductions, so individuals who take the standard deduction, or who would be constrained by the 50 percent of income limit, may find this opportunity particularly appealing. This provision, which is extremely popular among donors, is now effective for all of 2008 and also extends through 2009. Contact your financial advisor for individual advice.

For assistance on giving to Luther Park contact Executive Director Joel Legred at 612.987.6628 or jlegred@lutherpark.com. 🌲

Honoring the Past... (cont.from Page 1)

As we plan for our 50th Anniversary of Christian camping ministry, I wonder how many reading this issue of ECHOES remember the beginning of Luther Park? We'd like to hear from you. Jot down your early memories. They don't have to be 50 years old, but it's great if they are! We'd like to put together a collection of memories as we commemorate this milestone in Luther Park's ministry.

People like to stay involved in the ministry of Luther Park! Were you involved in any way with Luther Park back in 1959?

Or in the ensuing years? Did you donate funds toward something? Were you on the board...or a committee? Were you a staff member, a volunteer. Did your kids attend camp? Do you have any pictures of the early years? We'd love to have you share them with us.

Let us hear from you. Please contact Joel Legred, 612.987.6628 or e-mail: jlegred@lutherpark.com, or Sharon Miller, 612.869.4997, email smiller6712@msn.com. 🌲

"Fit for the Next 50..." (cont.from Page 2)

be happening around camp in the coming months. With all this in store, Luther Park is sure to be Fit for the Next 50 years of faith, fun and friendship while remaining the home we know and love.

The Fit for the Next 50 program targets Luther Park's sponsoring churches, requesting help to assure that Luther Park continues for another 50 years and beyond in a very unique outdoor ministry experience that changes lives...the lives of children and teens who attend and find ministry can be about more than what happens inside church walls; that ministry can be fun and engaging; and that ministry can be a part of every life no matter what your background and experience.

We are blessed to have John Stevens, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, as the supervisor and organizer of this program.

Here is an outline of the Fit for the Next 50 objectives:

- ➔ Update eight cabins, bathroom facilities, and improve housing spaces.
- ➔ Create additional recreational activity areas:
 - Volleyball court
 - Repave basketball court
 - Covered picnic area
 - Challenge/ropes course
- ➔ Improve handicapped accessibility
- ➔ Update of upper and lower levels of Lodge
- ➔ Renovate Log House

YOU ARE INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO HELP IN ANY WAY YOU CAN

It is our hope and prayer that we will be able to accomplish as much as possible by the July 24, 2009 Open House.

HERE'S WHAT IS NEEDED

Pray: Pray for God's blessing on the work and ministry of Luther Park — It changes lives!

Sponsor a Project: Raise funds at your congregational level, provide a team captain and crew that fit your congregational funding and carpentry abilities, and coordinate the completion of the project with designated supervisor John Stevens.

Co-sponsor a Project: Join forces with another congregation to complete a project as described above.

Supply Funding: Raise funds from your congregation to provide materials and supplies for a project to be completed by a separate crew.

Provide a crew for a weekend or more: Provide a work crew to complete projects on a weekend basis.

If you would like more information about this program or any of the suggested projects, please contact Executive Director Joel Legred at 612.987.6628 or e-mail: jlegred@lutherpark.com. 🌲

REMEMBER: LUTHER PARK CHANGES LIVES!

What campers, parents & others say about Luther Park (cont. from P. 1)

- Assertive behavior training showed me what kind of person I am.
- I learned that you need teamwork to solve your problems.
- I learned that I am a leader. When working in a group my actions and attitude affect everyone as their's affect me. I learned that kids like and respect me.
- I am closer to God than I thought.

What Parents Say:

- My son was apprehensive about going to camp. Now, he wants to go two weeks next year.
- There was great energy. It was really fun and exciting!
- He didn't want to leave. He had tons of exciting stories to tell. This was his best year yet. (TIM Team participant)
- My daughter couldn't stop talking and singing. She said: "This was the best year ever at Outpost!" She was most moved when a fox came close as she was quietly reading her Bible.

What Grandparents Say:

- Wonderful activities! We enjoyed spending time with nature, grandkids and God's love all around us.

What a Youth Director Says:

- **About Worship**—The staff did an amazing job connecting daily themes into worship. Most all of the counselors were actively worshipping with their kids, passing their excitement for the Lord on to the kids.
- **About Counselors**—Overall I felt they were doing a wonderful job...The young man who had our boys... was so understanding and compassionate towards them. He really respected them and they did the same to him. The counselors did a good job of looking out for campers, paying close attention to their needs.
- **About Favorite Part of Camp**—When I took our campers home, I asked them their favorite part of camp. They enjoyed it all, so it was hard for them to pick out any specifics! At first one said games, and then he changed his answer to campfire worships. Another said the songs. They sang songs on the way home and then fell asleep! Those songs will stick with them, and they'll be singing them all summer. I know the weeks get long and it's not always easy to keep going. There were some challenging moments for the counselors, but they kept going. I pray you had a wonderful summer and all who came to camp got the same splash of God's love that you and your staff gave our kids. Thanks for a great week! For God has made us what we are, creating us in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. —Ephesians 2:10 🌲

GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

- 🌲 ANY CAMPING SESSIONS @ \$25 OFF REGULAR FEE UNTIL JAN. 15.
- 🌲 A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT FOR AN ANONYMOUS CAMPER IN NEED. Camperships can be purchased for any amount you choose. See schedule on Page 6.
- 🌲 SONIC IMPACT T24 IPOD DIGITAL

DOCKING STATION @ 60% OF RETAIL PRICE.

For more information call camp at 715.656.7244 or e-mail: Camp@lutherpark.com.



www.lutherpark.com

or

Write: 30376 Lakes Drive, Danbury, WI 54830

Phone: 715.656.7244

Fax: 715.656.3013

E-mail: camp@lutherpark.com

ORDER FORM FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

(Please Print)

Purchaser's Name: _____
 Purchaser's Address: _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Purchaser's Phone #: _____ Purchaser's ZIP _____
 Item(s) [] (Check # wanted) Sonic Impact T24 iPod Docking Station, \$75 each,
 Purchasing: Add \$20 each for shipping and handling.
 [] (Check # wanted) Camping Gift Certificate(s)
 Type of camp session _____ Cost of camp \$ _____
 (Please see Fee Schedule on Page 6.)
 Attach additional sheet with information for more than one certificate.
 [] I wish to receive the certificate(s) for Christmas giving. (Must send money and this form to Luther Park before Dec. 15.)
 [] Campership Donation, tax deductible: Amt. Donating \$ _____

Method of Payment:
 () Check/Money Order: Make payable to Luther Park Camp
 () VISA () Mastercard () Discover Amount \$ _____
 Account Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Luther Park ECHOES From the Point

is published by the Luther Park Corporation, a non-profit organization affiliated with congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and other Lutheran congregations, to share the news and ministry of Luther Park Camping and Retreat Center with campers and friends of Luther Park. The camp is located at 30376 Lakes Drive, Danbury, WI 54830-9508.

Editor/Writer/Designer/Photographer: Sharon F. Miller

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

YEAR-ROUND STAFF MEMBERS:

Kitchen/Housekeeper	Joleen Clendening	Office Manager	Carolyn Pittman
Executive Director	Joel Legred	Retreat Host	Megan Sartwell
Communications/Mktg.	Sharon Miller	Cook/Housekeeper	Patti Schaaf
Maintenance Manager	Vic Nelson	Program Director	Anna Treague

Quilt Auction provides a warm and 'pieciful' patchwork of memories

By Sharon F. Miller
Communications & Marketing

Yes, the 18th Annual Luther Park Quilt Auction is now a beautiful patchwork of memories, but it is certainly not forgotten.

The caring hands of quilters from Luther Park congregations, their friends and families, along with many individuals, have once again touched the lives of many through the art of quilting.

Myriad hours were spent creating the record 118 items auctioned at Richfield



Richfield Lutheran's Naomi Circle members volunteered to prepare and serve the Quilt Auction luncheon. Pictured in the background are two of the many beautiful, handcrafted quilts in the auction. The large-star pattern quilt on the left was among the top three quilts bringing in the highest bids. See article below for more information (Photo by Sharon F. Miller).

Lutheran Church (RLC) to raise nearly \$9,000. Thanks to all who participated! This is one of the highest income-producing Quilt Auctions we have enjoyed over the past 18 years.

Many arrived early to browse and examine the quilts, afghans, pillows, wall hangings, table runners and silent auction items, and then enjoy a wonderful lunch prepared and served by RLC's Naomi Circle led by Lorraine Luchsinger.

Bringing the highest bid of the day was a hand-stitched, queen-size wedding ring patterned beauty of multi colors made by Edith Sullivan and donated by Steve Griffin of Richfield Lutheran Church. The second-highest bid was for an eye-catching machine-stitched quilt of star-pattern blocks in pinks and blues made and donated by Linda Peterson, Salem Lutheran; Jennifer Larson, Grace Lutheran in Andover; and Sharon Bennet, Holy Nativity. This quilt was also voted Best in Show by those attending. Close behind was a stunning Large-Star Pattern, queen-sized and machine-stitched quilt in green, white and gold, made by Helen Ask of RLC with funding

assistance from the Richfield Lutheran Church Men's Ministry.

Voted Best Design in Show was a queen-size quilt titled Rainbow Pastels made by Edith Sullivan and donated by Steve Griffin, Richfield Lutheran Church. Taking honors as the quilt with Best Color in Show was a child's quilt featuring cats on a vividly bright-colored background. The quilt was made and donated by Cheryl Skalbeck, St. Cloud, Minn.

Special thanks to the talented numerous quilters from more than 16 of our corporate congregations as well as other individuals who lovingly created and donated the quilts and other items; to those who attended and purchased items; to RLC for hosting the



Auctioneer Dennis Wiese led the lively bidding while Executive Director Joel Legred held up one of the popular items being auctioned. This child's blanket featuring colorful cats was voted by those attended to receive the "Best Color in Show" award (Photo by Sharon F. Miller).

event; to the Quilt Auction Task Force led by Olga Challman, Elim; to the many other volunteers from RLC and other congregation who organized and prepared the space for this event to be successful; and to auctioneer Dennis Wiese, former board member, who led the bidding with his usual flair and expertise.

The continued dedication and creativity of Luther Park's volunteers and supporters are legendary and the core of the Quilt Auction's success. For this we are very thankful to all of our faithful friends!

If you are interested in having this warm and "pieciful" event at your church next fall, or if you would like more information on how to get involved as a quilter or volunteer, please call Joel Legred at 612.987.6628 or e-mail: Jlegred@msn.com. 🌲



Summer Open House celebrates 49 years



Worship on The Point is always an inspiring and popular part of the Summer Open House, and this year was no exception. It was a sunny summer day, perfect for gathering on the lakeshore of a small bay on Lake 26, where Luther Park resides (Photo by Sharon F. Miller).

Another great turnout of friends and volunteers for Luther Park contributed to making Summer Open House a festive success. It was a very full day for all!

Highlights included Head Cook Patti Schaaf's wonderful buffet lunch, along with worship on The Point, special awards and recognitions, commissioning of new board members, an ice-cream social, introduction of the just-arrived Bikeathon riders from Elim and NE Community churches, waterfront activities, camp tours, and more.

John Stevens and members of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Hopkins, and JoAnne Nelson, Lakeside Lutheran Church, Webster, Wis. received Outstanding Christian Service Awards (see article on P. 7).

Honored through special recognitions were Bethel Lutheran, Minneapolis, Don and Marlene Bodin, also of Bethel Lutheran, and Executive Director Joel Legred. Bethel recently pledged a naming gift commitment of \$200,000 from the sale of their church building to help the Luther Park Retreat Center become a reality. The Bodins and Bethel donated the church altar, lectern and other items (article appeared in Summer 2008 issue). Legred was honored for 20 years of service to Luther Park (See photo in centerfold).

If you have not yet experienced Luther Park in person, be sure to plan now for the 50th Anniversary Summer Open House Celebration on July 18, 2009. Several special events, commemorations and activities will take place. 🌲

July Bikeathoners arrive at Open House



July Bikeathon riders, representing Elim and NE Community Lutheran churches, gathered funds from their congregations and others to support Luther Park camperships. Participants (pictured above, l. to r.) are Stafford Gutknecht, Grant Taft, Myles Gutknecht, sag wagon driver, all from Elim Lutheran, Robbinsdale; Linda Sandell, NE Community Lutheran; and Tom Nelson, Elim Lutheran, Robbinsdale.

"We all enjoyed great exercise biking through God's country with good friends while raising money for Luther Park!" said Nelson. "We arrived at the Open House to the sounds of cheers, tired but fulfilled."

Many thanks to the numerous individuals who donated to this annual scholarship fund raiser; to Thrivent for their additional funding; and of course, to this dedicated group of riders who deserve a round of rousing applause! Including \$1,600 from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, nearly \$6,500 was raised.

We strongly encourage you to have riders from your church participate in one of next year's Bikeathons. Since many churches already have bike-riding events or groups, the Bikeathon is a great opportunity for a faith community-building activity.

Next year's Bikeathon's will be held June 6-7 and July 17-18. For more information on joining one of these adventures, call Executive Director Joel Legred at 612.987.6628 or e-mail: Jlegred@lutherpark.com. 🌲

LUTHER PARK CAMP SCRAPBOOK



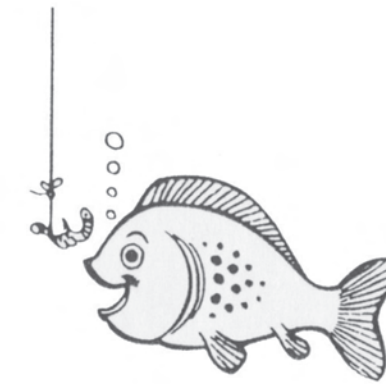
↑ Happy Week 5 campers from Lakeside Lutheran near Danbury enjoyed hanging out with their friends at camp.



↑ International summer staff members Anna Revesz, Soltvadkert, Hungary; Jahnai Scarlett-Brown, Nottingham, U.K.; and Ingrid Silva, Bogota, Columbia, serve up some welcome ice-cream at the hot July Summer Open House.



↑ Retreaters and campers are shown on the pathway to worship on The Point at Luther Park.



Caught off guard at a surprise 20th Anniversary Celebration of his years at Luther Park, was Executive Director Joel Legred, who was honored during Summer Open House.



↑ Great Lakes Mission Trip participants from Richfield Lutheran Church posed on the boardwalk they completed at Camp Amnicon.



← You've heard of Spiderman. Well, Luther Park has it's own version: Lifevest Man! Some might know him as staff member Zack Knoll when not saving a life with one of these vests.

Shown at the Quilt Auction in front of the quilt named "Best of Show" is Kami, a young Snooper camper from Northeast Community Lutheran Church, who also was a great helper at the auction.



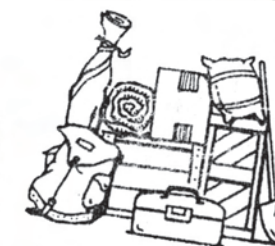
Luther Park
A Place for All Ages...
A Place for All Seasons
Mission Statement
Luther Park is a cooperative ministry of ELCA congregations serving people of all ages through a variety of programs in an outdoor setting. Our mission is to provide an environment in which the Christian faith may be strengthened and people may grow in their personal relationship with God.



Some talented campers show off their underwater swimming skills. We can't tell you their names, but we can tell you that there are 2 girls and a boy in this photo.



A colorful view of Fellowship Hall at Richfield Lutheran Church during the October Quilt Auction Luncheon. By the time bidding began at 1 p.m., all the chairs in front to the stage were filled, in addition to the tables. →



Shown having a crazy time at their September retreat are these women from Elin Lutheran Church. →



2009 Summer Camp Schedule Set

SAVE \$25! Register before Jan. 15 • Register online/printout regis. form @www.lutherpark.com

2009 SUMMER SCHEDULE

DATE	CABINS	TREE HOUSES	CANOE TRIPS	SENIOR HIGH LEADERSHIP
May 31-June 13	Staff Training			
June 14-19	Gr. 3-6	Gr. 7-9		Gr. 10-12 Leadership Mentoring *
June 14-17 (3 nights/4 days)	Gr. 1-4 Snoopers (cabins only)			
June 21-26	Gr. 3-6	Gr. 7-9	Gr. 7-9 Canoe **	Gr. 9-12 Leadership Training
June 21-24 (3 nights/4 days)	Gr. 1-4 Snoopers (cabins only)			
June 28-July 1 (3 nights/4 days)	Gr. 1-4 Snoopers	Gr. 3-6 Snoopers		
July 1-5 or July 3-5	Family Camp	Family Camp		
July 5-10	Gr. 7-9	Gr. 3-6		
July 12-17	Gr. 7-12	Gr. 7-9		
July 12-24	Gr. 7-12 Double Week			
July 18	50TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE - EVERYONE WELCOME!			
July 19-24	Gr. 7-12	Gr. 3-6		Gr. 10-12 Leadership Mentoring*
July 24-26	Grandparent/Grandchild	Weekend Camp		
July 26-31	Gr. 3-6	Gr. 7-9		Gr. 9-12 Leadership Training
August 2-7	Gr. 3-6	Gr. 7-12	Gr. 9-12 Canoe**	
August 2-14		Gr. 7-12 Double Week		
August 9-14		Gr. 7-12		

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

* Prereq. of attending Leadership Training or TIM Team Training.

** Denotes weeks where individual youth may sign up for this program. Group registration for Canoe trips can be booked any week by contacting camp.

CAMP FEE SCHEDULE

NEW FOR 2009: FEE INCLUDES FREE DVD OF WEEK AND FREE T-SHIRT

MEMBER/NON-MEMBER*

Partial Week (Snoopers)	\$295/315
(3 nights/4 days)	
One Full Week.	\$430/450
Double Week.	\$700/760
Sr. High Leadership Programs.	\$445/465
(Includes one free week & Recharge Weekend in Fall.)	
— Leadership Training	
— Leadership Mentoring	
— TIM (Teens in Mission)	

SAVE \$25: REGISTER BY JAN. 15 OR SAVE \$15: REGISTER BY MARCH 1

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

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

Check with your church about camp scholarships.

Fees Cover: Meals, lodging, program materials (except campground).

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

Transportation available only for weeks of July 12-17, July 19-24, and Aug. 2-7.

Campground \$13 per site/per night:
\$15 with electricity

Family Camp July 1-5 (7 p.m. Wed-noon Sun.) \$125 per person/Log House; Includes 4 nights/10 meals (Wed. breakfast-Sun. brunch). Ages 5-12, 1/2 above rate; under age 5, FREE.

Family Camp July 3-5 (7 p.m. Fri. to noon Sun.) \$80 per person/Log House. Includes 2 nights/4 meals, (Sat. breakfast-Sun. brunch). Ages 5-12, 1/2 above rate; under age 5 FREE.

LUTHER PARK WISH LIST

Listed below are some of the camp's current needs. Perhaps you don't have any of them on hand, but would like to give a special gift — or a gift to purchase one of these—in honor or memory of someone. To contribute toward any of these items, please make a check out to Luther Park, note your wishes and mail to 30376 Lakes Drive, Danbury, WI 54830.

URGENT NEEDS

3/4 ton 4-wheel-drive pickup
15 passenger van, heavy duty
Digital Light Projector
Convection oven

SPECIAL NEEDS

Maintenance:
Autos, Van/ 7-12 passengers
Canoe trailer
Cement mixer, elec. or gas
Covered pontoon boat lift
Gas power washer (portable)
Lawn mowers
Paint spray gun
Pontoon boat lift (covered)
Radial arm saw, 10"
Snowmobile trailer
Volunteers/assist w/renovating cabins

Kitchen:

Electric soup pot (3-4 gallon)
Hobart mixer
Soup bowls

Program:

Candles, tapered
DVD burner, multiple
Piano tuning (periodic)

Office:

Computer, laptop (Mac or other PC)
Copy paper (white and color)
Office supplies

THANKS FOR THESE GIFTS!

(Received since 5/14/08)
Altar/items for altar: lectern, w brass candle holders, brass cross and paraments.
Casio keyboard with karaoke
Eight field guides/nature study

A Message
From the
Program
Director

Anna Treague



The Son's Reflection

I'm guessing that a lot of us have built or helped build a house or building? When doing so, one of the first things needed is to find a good place to build it, and then it needs a strong foundation. I'm also betting that even more of us have, at one point or another, built or tried to build a sand castle. Most of the time they don't last very long.

In Matthew 7:24-27, Jesus says: *Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain came down, the*

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

Some people may hear this story and think: "Oh, that is a great architectural lesson; but it really doesn't have anything to do with me." But it does, and this story goes way beyond architecture. Jesus is talking about us,

about our lives, how we live them, and if He is our rock or not. Jesus is talking about building our lives in Him.

The difference between building our house on rock or on sand is how we use what we hear and learn. Going back to the building aspect of structures, what are some of the tools you may need: hammer, nails, saws, levels, wrenches? Now think about the tools you need to build your life in Christ. What are some of those tools: faith, scripture, fellowship with other Christians, honesty, love, and perseverance, just to name a few. Those things and Jesus are that strong foundation for all of us.

As we go through life, it is our choice regarding where and how we want to use those tools to build our lives; our houses.

In Christ,

Anna Treague

Quotable Quote

*A little camper said,
"Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?"
Smiling, she said:
"No, How?"
He replied,
"You're both old."
—Anonymous*

Two honored with 2008 award for Outstanding Christian Service

By Sharon F. Miller
Communications & Marketing

July's Open House highlighted how truly blessed Luther Park really is with the presentation of not one, but two, Outstanding Christian Service Awards. Each year an individual or group is honored through this award, the highest volunteer and donor award Luther Park bestows.

Honorees this year are: John Stevens and members of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Hopkins and JoAnne Nelson, Lakeside Lutheran Church in Webster, Wis.



JoAnne Nelson accepts the Outstanding Christian Service Award for 2008 from Executive Director Joel Legred at the Summer Open House in July (Photo by Sharon F. Miller).

Stevens, and members of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, received the award for major efforts in putting finishing touches on the Welcome Center as well as other work. He is also instrumental in helping with the 50th Anniversary Fit for the Next 50 project.

"John Stevens is a tremendous volunteer and organizer," said Executive Director Joel Legred. "He works a lot with Habitat projects, and we really appreciate that he's made Luther Park his next such project as he leads the effort for improvements in preparation for our 50th Anniversary in 2009." Stevens has taken the lead in organizing a group to identify renovation projects for all Luther Park facilities including timelines, costs

and implementation."

Nelson is a long time volunteer, former office employee, and a great friend to Luther Park. She and her husband Vic Nelson are active members of Lakeside Lutheran Church. Nelson was selected to receive the award for her many hundreds of volunteer hours of behind the scenes work in a variety of areas. Her recent endeavors include making new draperies, and beautifully staining and varnishing nearly all the woodwork for the recently-completed Welcome Center. "We are so grateful for JoAnne's contributions," said Executive Director Joel Legred. "She is always ready and willing to



John Stevens and Wade Wacholz (l. to r.), Shepherd of the Hills, spoke after accepting the 2008 Outstanding Christian Service Award from Joel Legred (Photo by Sharon F. Miller).

help us out where she is needed. Luther Park is blessed by her service, skills and pride in the work she does."

Luther Park is truly blessed with many outstanding Christian servants each year. If you are a volunteer, donor, or staff member, you too, are one of the camp's Outstanding Christian Servants. It is only because of the dedication and commitment of people like you that Luther Park has been able to serve children, families and others for nearly 50 years as we strive to make a difference in the lives of all who spend time at camp. 🌲

👉
👉
👉

GIVE A GIFT OF STOCK

👉
👉
👉

With the tight economy, cash flow is tighter than ever. Not only for families, but also for organizations such as Luther Park. One way to not hurt the budget, but still support Luther Park is with a gift of stock. "I wanted to give an extra gift to Luther Park, without taking money out of our regular budget," said Scott Wright, Luther Park board member. "I had some stock that had appreciated in value. Instead of selling it and paying taxes on it, I was able to transfer the stock to Luther Park and get a tax deduction for the whole amount. It was a WIN, WIN! It feels great to make a difference!" The process is very easy. For more information, contact Joel Legred at 612.987.6628 or e-mail: Jlegred@lutherpark.com. 🌲

Did You Know...

This summer, Luther Park's 13 teams brought the Day Camp program to 805 campers at 10 churches!

For information about Day Camp contact Anna at 715.656.7244 or anna@lutherpark.com.

A Fond Farewell and Many Thanks to Ryan Beggs, who served as one of our Retreat Hosts for the past year!

A Message From the Executive Director

Joel Legred

A New Thing at Luther Park
"I am about to do a new thing!"
— Isaiah 43:19

In the book of Isaiah, God is doing a new thing by pouring out God's Spirit upon future generations. God is doing a new thing at Luther Park as faith is passed from one generation to the next. Luther Park is doing a new thing too! This coming summer (2009) will mark our 50th anniversary as a Bible camp, and with the help of volunteers from our churches, we'll be working hard to beautify and upgrade camp facilities and equipment. God-willing, we will break ground on a new retreat center. You can help celebrate our 50th anniversary by sharing a special gift for our ongoing operations, camper scholarships, or facility enhancements. You can also help by volunteering your time. And we hope you will help by

keeping the camp in your prayers and by giving God thanks for faithfulness in continually providing for this ministry. Over the past 50 years, there have been a number of changes. What hasn't changed is that we still provide a place in God's beautiful creation where people of all ages grow in their love and service of Jesus Christ. We continue to be an extension of the 40-plus congregations who own and operate the camp—several of which were instrumental in starting the camp back in 1959. What new things will God do during our next 50 years? One thing is certain: faith will be passed from one generation to the next.

Praise be to God!

Joel Legred

Winter Open House

Saturday Jan. 17 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mark your calendar now, and be sure to join us!

- Buffet Lunch
- Outdoor Activities
- Indoor Activities/Crafts
- Special Worship
- Relax by fireplace
- Celebrate our 50th Anniversary!

Luther Park Retreat Review

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

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

Announcing 2009 Programmed Retreats

SLIDE INTO CAMP THIS WINTER!

Plan now for some winter and spring excitement!

Programmed Winter & Spring Retreat Weekends

- ◆ Ice Fishin' Retreat,* January 16-18
- ◆ Camp n' Pamperin' Weekend, March 13-15
- ◆ Elementary Spring Retreat, March 13-15
- ◆ Sr. High Leadership Retreat, March 13-15
- ◆ Jr./Sr. High Spring Retreat, March 27-29

Retreat Costs

- ◆ Camp n' Pamperin' Weekend: \$140 includes food, lodging and programming for both mother and child.
- ◆ All other Retreats: \$70/person for food, lodging, programming.
- ◆ Deposit Amount: \$50/person for all retreats.

* Children ages 18 and under must be accompanied by an adult for Ice Fishin' Retreat.

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

NEW! The Camp n' Pamperin' Weekend

Luther Park is proud to announce a new alliance with Heartwood Conference Center for the Camp n' Pamperin' Weekend. Moms, grab the kids (Grades 1-6) and head up north for a weekend of relaxation and pampering. Give your kids a great camp weekend at Luther Park, while you unwind and relax in the great north woods at Heartwood Conference and Retreat Center. Heartwood is located 14 miles east of camp on 700 acres of natural woodlands surrounding two private lakes and the nationally protected Namekagon River. Moms come back rejuvenated, Kids happy and full of new memories! For more information on Heartwood visit: <http://www.heartwoodconferencecenter.com>.

Questions? Please call Megan at (715) 656-7244 or e-mail retreats@lutherpark.com.

To Register, please complete the attached form and return it with your \$50 deposit to: Luther Park, Att'n: Retreats, 30376 Lakes Drive, Danbury, WI, 54830.

2009 WINTER/SPRING PROGRAMMED RETREAT REGISTRATION & HEALTH FORM

Retreater(s) Name(s) _____ Grade _____ Age _____
 (Please attach another sheet with additional names, etc., if necessary.)
 Gender _____ Birthdate _____ E-mail _____
Registering for: Retreats begin Friday at 7 p. m. and end Sunday at noon)
 Ice Fishin' Retreat, Jan. 16-18 Sr. High Leadership Retreat, March 13-15
 Elementary Retreat, March 13-15 Jr./Sr. High Retreat, March 27-29
 Camp n' Pamperin' Weekend, March 13-15
 Congregation _____ Name of one cabin mate _____
Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ E-mail _____
 Emergency Contact _____ Emergency Phone _____

INSURANCE INFORMATION

Policy Holder _____ Birthdate of Policy Holder _____
 Employer _____
 Insurance Co. _____ Insurance Co. Phone _____
 Insurance Co. Address _____
 Group Number _____ Policy ID Number _____
 Family Physician & Phone Number _____
 Emergency Contact _____ Emergency Phone _____

HEALTH HISTORY & PARENT/GUARDIAN AUTHORIZATION

Please list ALL allergies & medications (including over-the-counter or non-prescription drugs) taken routinely. Bring enough medication to last the entire weekend. Keep it in the original packaging/bottle that identifies the prescribing physician (if a prescription drug), the name of the medication, the dosage, and the frequency of administration. For everyone's safety medications brought to camp including prescription, over-the-counter, medicated creams and ointments will be kept in the Health Center.

Allergies: _____
Medications: _____

My child has permission to engage in all camp activities, except as noted by myself and the examining physician. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I give permission to the physician selected by the camp director to hospitalize, secure proper treatment, order injection, anesthesia or surgery for my child as named above. I voluntarily waive any claim against the sponsoring institution, local churches and camp personnel for any mishaps or lost articles, or any and all causes which may arise in connection with activities of the above organization, I understand that unless I provide separate written notice, photos taken of my child at camp may be used for camp-approved publications such as the *Luther Park Echoes*.

Signed: _____ / _____
 Date: _____ Parent _____ Camper _____

December Events to plan for now! Glad Tidings Advent Dinner, Friday, Dec. 5

It's time again to start planning to get together with your Luther Park friends and neighbors for this Fourth Annual Advent Dinner Celebration. You'll be treated to a relaxing time of fellowship and food!

Enjoy a traditional Swedish Meatball Dinner with all the trimmings. Special music and special people will again add up to a special evening for all.

SILENT AUCTION:

Silent Auction of donated items. Do some early Christmas shopping while benefitting Luther Park.
TIME: Social Hour at 5 p.m.; Dinner at 6 p.m.

WHERE: Lodge/Dining Hall at Luther Park

COST: \$12 for adults. Additional donations welcome for this fundraiser.

CONTACT: Anna at 715.656.7244 or e-mail: anna@lutherpark.com.

Breakfast with Santa, Sat., Dec.13



WHAT: Enjoy a delicious breakfast including pancakes & sausage, visit with Santa himself in the Lodge/Dining Hall, get your FREE picture taken receive a goodie bag from Santa, and take part in holiday crafts.

TIME: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. **COST:** \$5 per person or \$25 per family **CONTACT:** Megan at 715.656.7244 or e-mail: retreats@lutherpark.com.