



www.lutherparkdanbury.com

# ECHOES

From The Point

Vol. 31, No. 2

A Newsletter for Campers and Friends of Luther Park

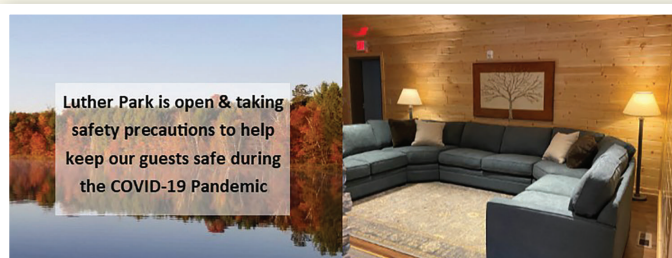
Fall/Winter 2020-2021

## Luther Park Is Open During COVID-19

Gather your small group or family group and come up to the Northwoods for a perfect escape at Luther Park!

The Retreat Center has 4 private, hotel style rooms, a coffee nook area with a fridge and small appliances, a cozy fireplace area and a great deck with a view! Family reunions, small group gatherings or friend groups are all welcome. Reserve your dates now!

The Log House is the perfect cozy space complete with many bedrooms, multiple bathrooms, a full kitchen (to do all your own cooking OR you can hire the cooks to do that for you!) and a comfy, warm living room with a wood burning fireplace. Family reunions, small group gatherings or friend groups are all welcome. Reserve your dates now!

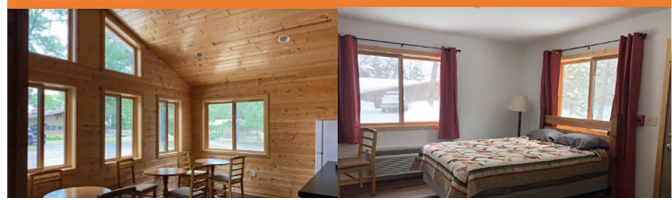


Luther Park is open & taking safety precautions to help keep our guests safe during the COVID-19 Pandemic



### Find Rest at Luther Park!

Rent the Retreat Center for your next family or small group gathering. Enjoy the days exploring fall in the North Woods & the evenings lounging by the warm fireplace!



Luther Park is open & taking safety precautions to help keep our guests safe during the COVID-19 Pandemic

### Find Rejuvenation at Luther Park!

The Log House may be the perfect spot for your family or small group getaway this fall or winter! Includes a full kitchen, a comfy and cozy living room with a wood burning fireplace and multiple bedrooms and bathrooms for all types of groups!

### LUTHER PARK HOUSING OPTIONS

- The **Bethel Family and Adult Retreat Center** offers hotel style rooms for up to 16 people, comfortable meeting areas, and access for people with a variety of physical abilities. Each room includes a queen size bed, two twin beds, and private bath.
- Our **Log House** features family style housing for up to 22 people. It includes six bunk rooms, living area, kitchen and dining room with three bathrooms.
- The **Welcome Center** offers hotel style lodging. Four rooms offer 10 beds including bunks and queen size beds as well as several bathrooms. This building also offers a large meeting space and a conference room.
- We have eight **Cabins** at Luther Park. Each has its own bathroom and can sleep 10-14 people. Our cabins are heated and can be used year-round.
- The **Lodge** is our main dining facility. It also includes several meeting spaces, pool table, ping pong table, foosball tables and air hockey.
- Our four **Tree Houses** offer a rustic, north woods experience. These cabins-on-stilts are located across the bay from Luther Park's other facilities. Visitors have the opportunity to cook over an open fire and eat in our open-air dining shelter.

<http://www.lutherparkdanbury.com/retreats--rentals.html>

## WE ARE PLANNING SUMMER CAMP FOR 2021!

Though things will look a little different than in years past, we are confident (as confident as one can be during this time of uncertainty!) that we can run traditional summer camp in a safe, healthy way for our staff members, families and campers. We are working alongside our local, state and federal authorities and the American Camp Association to adapt our camp experiences for summer 2021.

We assume that cabin groups will be smaller numbers and the total camper numbers for the week will be limited per program. There will be increased health protocols and changes in how we do the day to day things. We will

update these changes as we continue to adapt and develop our policies and programs.

We plan on working closely with the church hosts to develop the best protocol so that we can run Day Camps. Camp-in-a-Box will be making a return and be available for all families who attend onsite camp or choose not to participate in traditional camp. Lastly, we will be offering weekend opportunities for families to enjoy the Camp Getaway program that was developed in summer 2020.

We look forward to the campfires on the point, the singing at outdoor worship, the laughs and joy from campers as they play



games and the time we will spend together as God's people in God's beautiful creation!

Be on the lookout for the summer brochure! Registration will be opening up soon, as well.

To see more updates please visit [www.lutherparkdanbury.com](http://www.lutherparkdanbury.com)

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### BRING CAMP HOME THIS SUMMER WITH CAMP-IN-A-BOX



VISIT [WWW.LUTHERPARKDANBURY.COM](http://WWW.LUTHERPARKDANBURY.COM) TO ORDER YOURS!

Checkout CAMP IN A BOX Activities  
pages 4-5

Love Your Neighbor

who doesn't

Look like you

Think like you

Love like you

Speak like you

Pray like you

Vote like you

Love Your Neighbor

No exceptions

## COMING EVENTS

With the unexpected future due to COVID-19, coming events information will be available online at: [www.lutherparkdanbury.com](http://www.lutherparkdanbury.com) or call Joel Legred at 612-987-6628

Like us on  
**Facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/LutherParkDanbury](http://www.facebook.com/LutherParkDanbury)



A Message  
From The  
President

Scott Housman



Dear Friends in Luther Park Camp Ministry,  
Positive expectations and high hopes for the future drive accomplishments at Luther Park during these difficult times.

My father would always say, *“Positive thoughts, positive actions equal positive results”*. This describes the attitude and mantra that guides our Luther Park board, staff, volunteers, and donors. All of us are grateful for all the people who support the camp.

Examples of the positive faith-based results are abundant up here in the woods. The retreat center is open and being loved by all who visit/stay overnight. The boats, docks, plows and split wood are ready for winter. The remodel of the lodge basement is near completion with new paint, reclaimed trim, and a newly, professionally finished floor by Gopher State Cleaning co.

We encourage you to come up north to relax recreate and retreat. Recreation is a great way to get closer to God and obtain serenity during the difficult times we are in. LPC has retreat packages for serenity from all price ranges and availabilities. Company retreats, family retreats, and reunions. Please come up and relax, rejuvenate and refresh and shout your faith.

*May God bless you and keep you, make his face shine upon you and give you peace.*

A Message  
From The  
Associate  
Director

Leah McDougall



*“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you...” — Isaiah 43:2a NIV*

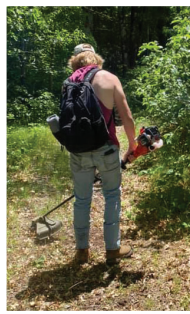
Isaiah was reminding the Israelites of the promise that God had made to Moses many years before, “When you pass through the waters, I [God] will be with you.” And this verse feels vitally important for us to remember as we go through 2020. God continues to live out this promise. God is still ever present with us through the waters, trials and hardships. This verse, which was our 2017 summer theme verse, was repeated many times this summer, in my head, outloud and with the summer staff. Throughout all the changes that COVID-19 brought and continues to bring I am so often reminded of the strength of God’s presence in some of the most unknown, scattered and ever changing times.

God was fully present this summer as we faced the challenge to redesign camping ministry as we know it. Summer staff arrived this summer ready to figure out the questions, work past the challenges and create a safe, unified community for each other. God was there and working among us. Families responded with gratitude and thankfulness for the gift of being able to participate safely with each other and other families in Camp Getaway for Families. “God was with them and reminding them they are not alone. Campers told us how much it meant to have the opportunity to connect with camp through Camp-in-a-Box, since they were not able to come to one of the most important places where they usually spend a part of their summer.”

God was showing care and never left those campers. It’s hard to appropriately sum up this summer in one paragraph, however, one thing I know for sure is that our God is a God who is present, who cares and who is always seeking us out.

# Camp Improvements

Thanks to our many volunteers, Luther Park has made many camp improvements this summer and fall. *And there are plans for more!*



The Lodge basement underwent renovations including removing the wall dividing it into two rooms to make it one big room, removing the carpet and refinishing the floors, and painting the walls. This will be called the Recreation Room and Indoor Chapel Space, a place that can fit everyone at camp.

This summer, the staff worked on many onsite projects including cleaning up the site, improving the challenge course, installing a wall in the Med Shed, and reorganizing the Pole Barn and Brown Shed. They also began the process of the Lodge renovation.

This fall, volunteers accomplished many things, including winterizing the cabins, taking the boats and docks in, cutting down dead trees, and splitting firewood.

The Log House is up next for improvements. These are too numerous to mention all here, but some of the planned renovations include refinishing the floors, installing new carpet, updating the bathrooms, new appliances in the kitchen, adding a deck, and replacing the current roof with a steel roof. This project will allow the Log House to be used to its full potential along with the new Bethel Adult and Family Retreat Center.

Thank you to all of the volunteers that have contributed their time to Luther Park. It’s amazing what you can do when you come together! We are so grateful for your passion and dedication. If you are interested in being a part of this team of monthly volunteers, contact **Joel Legred, Executive Director**, at **612-987-6628** or **jlegred@lutherpark.com**. *Thank You!* 🏡





## THOUGHTS FROM A LUTHER PARK FAMILY... THE CABRERA FAMILY

by Becky Cabrera

Finding out that Luther Park would be cancelled this past summer, was disappointing for our family. Natalie and Ruthie have both really grown to enjoy that week at camp. When the idea for 'Camp in a Box' was introduced, I have to admit that we were all not really expecting too much. But we signed up regardless, as it meant having at least something to look forward to, in what we suspected was going to be an



uneventful summer. We're glad we did, as the Luther Park 'Camp in a Box' far surpassed our expectations! It was fun to open up the box and see the nice variety. As the weeks went on, they had a chance to see familiar faces, to participate in games, discussion and prayer. The Scavenger Hunt was a hit! The recipes, books, craft supplies, pre-planned projects and chance to do them as a group, were all amazing. We have some colorful bird houses we now enjoy. It is obvious that a lot of creativity and care went into creating a fun camp



experience for kids, even in light of the fact that it would not be a traditional camp week (although tie dye and even canteen treats still took place). It still



Due to special needs, she has never attended camp, however this format meant that she could participate along with her sisters. They all enjoyed it very much! Thank you Luther Park, for another memorable and fun Bible camp experience! 🏕️

enabled everyone to come together, including our other daughter Maggie.



## Luther Park Accredited by the American Camp Association

Did you know Luther Park is accredited through the American Camp Association (ACA)? We go through extra steps to follow the guidelines set by ACA to ensure we are maintaining the best camp site, safety precautions and programming we can for both summer campers & retreat groups. We are so proud to be an ACA camp! 🏕️



### 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.

Editor/Writer/Designer: Janet Nelson/Tom Nelson (tomdesign@comcast.net)

*Pictures, information and opinions are welcomed and encouraged. Call or send to:*  
Luther Park, 30376 Lakes Dr., Danbury, WI 54830 • Phone: 612-987-6628

#### YEAR-ROUND STAFF MEMBERS

Joanne Anderson, Food Service/Housekeeping

Marcia Brace, Office

Pete Brace, Maintenance

Joel Legred, Executive Director

Leah McDougall, Associate Director

**A Message  
From The  
Executive  
Director**

**Joel Legred**



*"Be still, and know that I am God" — Psalm 46:10.*

Stepping onto the path that rounds Lake 26, worries melt. The wind in the trees seems to whisper that things will be alright. A sparkling sunrise offers peace that passes understanding. God is present in this sacred space, an open air sanctuary. You can almost hear God say "I am the Lord your God; I've got this."

Luther Park has been a place of worship and spiritual renewal for 62 years. Families, campers, youth groups, and retreaters of all ages have enjoyed feeling closer to God and to each other on holy ground. People have heard God's grace pertains to them and that they are a beloved child of God, marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Here in this place we focus on what is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, and commendable. In other words, we keep our eyes on Jesus. When the mountains shake and the waters roar, we look into the eyes of one who stilled the storm. Here in God's great outdoors, we're reminded that Jesus still calms storms and moves stones.

For the faithful providers of this ministry there is joy and privilege in being a part of something bigger than ourselves. Our industrious volunteers know the hard work of maintaining the camp but also the satisfaction of shingles nailed and wood split, warm cabins and cozy fires. While we never stop asking people to support the camp, our gracious donors take delight in writing checks and gifting online.

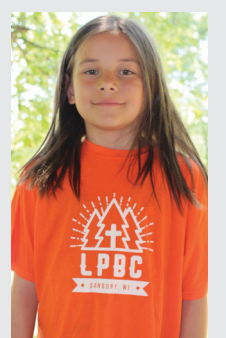
Together we trust and celebrate that God lovingly holds us and holds our world in God's hands. If you want to be reminded of this truth, come and sit for a spell in the woods by the lake where thousands of people have found refreshment.

Thank you for being a part of Luther Park Danbury. May God bless each of you with health, hope and gratitude in this season of seasons!

## Our Online Canteen Store is now **LIVE!**

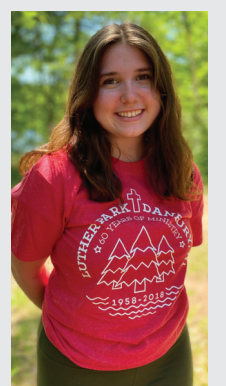
Go to <https://lutherparkdanbury.square.site/>

Pick from your favorite items at camp! From T-Shirts to water bottles and even blankets, this site will allow you to get some of the best souvenirs camp has to offer shipped to your home!



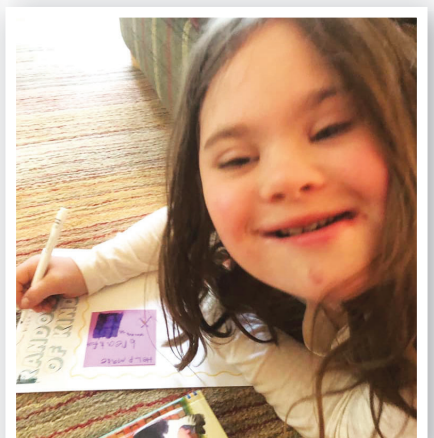
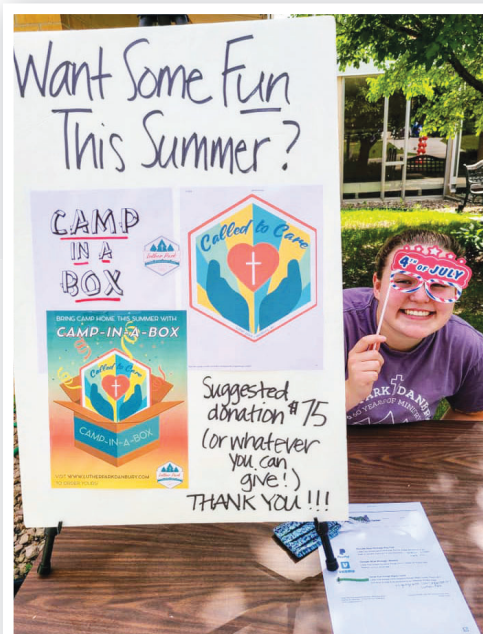
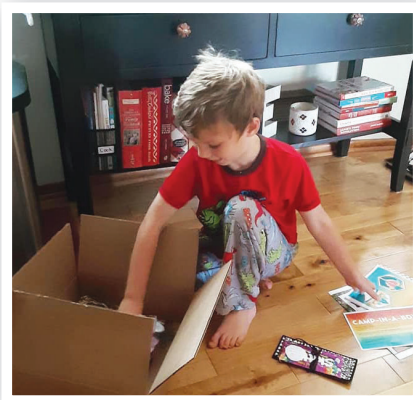
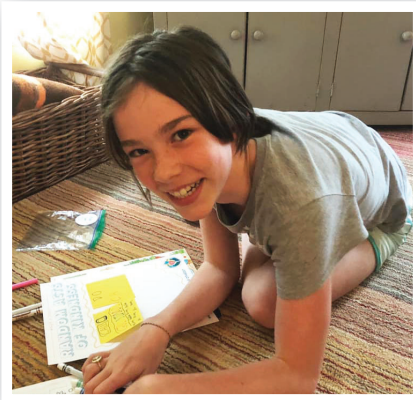
#### CANTEEN ITEMS:

- Adult and Youth Short Sleeve T-shirts
- Adult Crew Necks
- Adult Joggers
- Adult Sweatpants
- Adult Hockey String Sweatshirts
- Youth Sweatshirts
- Drawstring bags
- T-shirt Blankets
- Bandanas
- Nalgene Water Bottles
- Travel Mugs
- Tin Cups
- Lanyards
- Chip Clips





Zoom. There were 5 themed crafts, 5 Bible studies, 5 spiritual practices, 5 family activities PLUS bonus camp crafts, which were items and activities to keep the campers engaged. Each week Luther Park staff posted videos, worshipes and hosted different Zoom games/activities for campers and counselors to still engage together. 🏡





EXPERIENCE SOME OF THE ACTIVITES IN **CAMP IN A BOX**

Luther Park Bingo Board

pushed my counselor into the lake	gotten a camp song stuck in your head while not at camp	tried star spinning	played a game on the 100 acres	been to LP day camp at my church
stayed at outpost	performed at the variety show	cooked my own tinfoil dinner at outpost	made new friends	made a candle in arts and crafts
had to worship in the basement due to weather	played gaga ball	GRACE	camped at cookout	went on a float-ing lunch
made a friendship bracelet	can sing "goodnight sweet campers"	walked the labyrinth	canoed down the Namekagon River	saw a deer
played foosball or pool in the game room	did the polar plunge	taught a meal grace with my cabin	went paddle boarding	got booted by a boofer

1. mark your spots

2. take a photo

3. share it with us on Instagram or Facebook! @lutherparkdanbury

Luther Park Word Search

B X W A T E R F R O N T V A W  
I G B A N Q U E T I J E S U S  
R R B R U T Z F M E D S H E D  
C A F U U G R O L O D G E C Y  
H C L H D N R E T R E A T A G  
B E O I H D N O E I Q G H M L  
O W P C A A Y I U H Y O I P E  
O O K N S U B N T O D L F L  
F R N O K H U V O G P U L I M  
E S B R C A B I N A S O S R J  
R H U Y P L A K E K R H S E O  
S I N H I G H F I R Q D O T A  
T P K G N L O G H O U S E E K  
M A P L E B U G S P R A Y Z S  
S U N S C R E E N M B I B L E

runningshoes

bugspray

hickory

sunscreen

worship

birch

maple

hank

waterfront

treehouse

retreat

medshed

grace

elm

bible

oak

floponbunk

loghouse

banquet

outpost

lake

fir

pine

ash

buddyboard

campfire

boofers

cabin

jesus

lodge

hill

god

THIS WEEK'S FAMILY RECIPE

Cinnamon Twist on a Stick!

With both the absence of the State Fair and camp, we thought we would throw in a recipe on a stick!

What you'll need:

☐ A package of biscuits or crescent rolls

☐ A cleaned off stick or roasting stick

☐ Cinnamon and sugar, mixed

☐ A campfire or oven

CINNAMON TWIST INSTRUCTIONS

Steps:

☐ 1. Create a campfire and let it simmer, we want to cook these over the hot coals in order for the dough to get fully cooked! If cooking in the oven, preheat the oven to 350° to prepare!

☐ 2. Unwrap the crescent into a long strip of dough or roll out the biscuit into a skinny roll of dough.

☐ 3. Sprinkle cinnamon and sugar all over the dough. If the cinnamon sugar mixture is sticking, try spreading melted butter on it and then rolling it in the cinnamon and sugar!

☐ 4. Carefully wrap the dough around the stick and make sure it is secure and stuck to your cooking equipment.

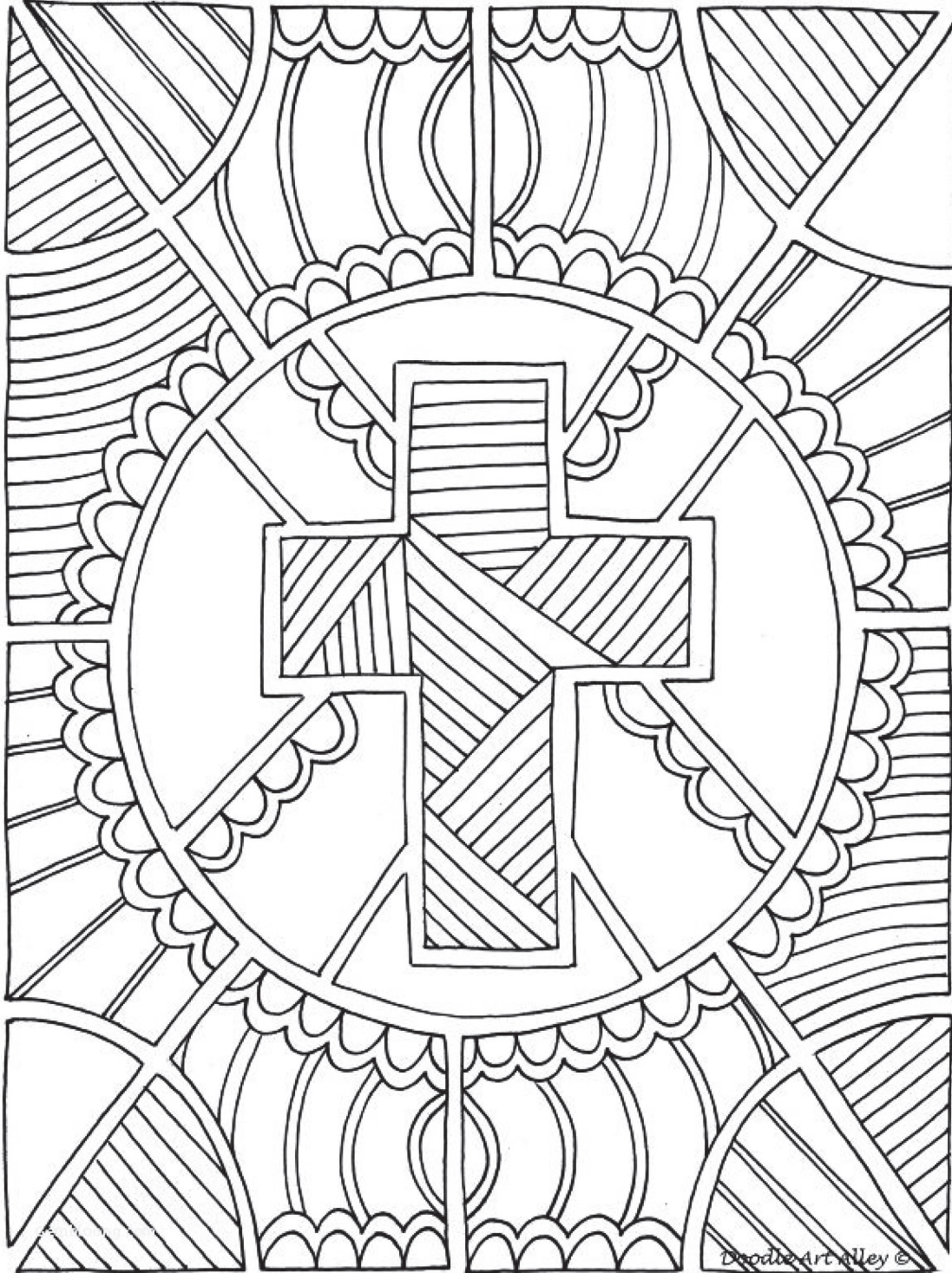
☐ 5. Cook your dough over hot coals until the outside of the dough is golden brown and the insides are no longer doughy. If you are cooking in the oven, cook for roughly 10 minutes or until golden brown, making sure to rotate your cinnamon sticks halfway through cooking.

☐ 6. After the twist has cooled slightly, remove it from your cooking equipment. Use proper oven mits and be safe! You can also re-roll it in cinnamon sugar if you want!

☐ 7. Enjoy!

Variations:

You could also use this cooking method with a package of cinnamon rolls by rolling them out, wrapping them around the stick, cooking them, and then drizzling the frosting on the warm cinnamon twist!





# WAYS TO GIVE

## Estate & Legacy Planning

Would you like to leave a legacy for future generations that reflects your faith and values?

The **Luther Park Legacy Society** has been created to help friends of Luther Park leave a legacy.

Legacy gifts to Luther Park will be a seed planted in good soil, because it will help people of all ages deepen their faith in Jesus. You can provide a legacy gift through a life insurance policy or a will bequest. If you have already completed your will, a codicil can be added at a nominal charge.

If you would like to donate stock, our account number is TY9617814, and our DTC number is 0226. If you are donating stock or have questions about Legacy gifts, please contact **Joel Legred** at [jlegred@lutherpark.com](mailto:jlegred@lutherpark.com), or at 612-987-6628.

*Thanks so much for your support of Luther Park! God bless!*

## Cash Donations

Our donors are very generous and have been for 60+ years. This year is no different! Despite all the challenges, hardships and changes we have all experienced, God is still good and provides. Luther Park experienced a great loss of revenue in 2020 because of COVID-19. If you are in a place to donate to Luther Park to help make up some of the loss of revenue that would be greatly appreciated! As we prepare for 2021, we assume that there are many families who have experienced or may experience financial hardship and may need assistance paying for summer camp. Contributions towards Luther Park help us keep the promise that no camper or family will be turned away because of financial difficulties. Thank you for your generous donations that ensure the ministry of Luther Park will stay healthy and thriving!

### Ways you can donate funds:

1. Paypal ([paypal.me/lutherparkdanbury](https://paypal.me/lutherparkdanbury))
2. Venmo (Friend "Luther Park Danbury, WI" if the last 4 digits of a phone # needed use 6628)
3. Mail in a Check (Luther Park, 30376 Lakes Dr., Danbury, WI, 54830)
4. Give us a call and donate over the phone (Joel, 612-987-6628)
5. Employer match giving or other employer contributions for non-profits (Check with your employer and ask if they match giving or provide financial contributions to your favorite non-profit, Luther Park!)

## Volunteer For Work Day Projects

It is amazing how much work can get done when you come together! Thank YOU to all the volunteers who have spent hours at Luther Park fixing and maintaining our beautiful site. We are so grateful for your passion and dedication!!!



Visit <http://www.lutherpark.com/volunteer.html> for the most updated information on volunteer projects around camp!

If you are interested in being a part of this team of monthly volunteers, contact **Joel Legred**, Executive Director, 612-987-6628 or [jlegred@lutherpark.com](mailto:jlegred@lutherpark.com). We are taking COVID-19 precautions to help keep our volunteers safe. We ask that you wear a mask and social distance while at Luther Park.

## Help Luther Park Through Thrivent Choice and Thrivent Action Plans

If you have a **Thrivent Financial** product you may be eligible to participate in the **Thrivent Choice** program. Through **Thrivent Choice**, you can help direct the company's charitable dollars to Luther Park and other non-profits enrolled in the program. Thank you to all who have designated monies to Luther Park through **Thrivent Choice**. Please visit [www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice), or call 1-800-847-4836 to direct your **Thrivent Choice** Dollars to Luther Park.

Thrivent also has an employer matching program that matches contributions their employees make to a non-profit organization. If you would like to know more about this program please visit: <https://doublethedonation.com/matching-gifts/thrivent-financial-for-lutherans>

Another way Thrivent members can help Luther Park is through a **Thrivent Action Plan**. You can donate \$250 from Thrivent to Luther Park at no cost to you!

Policy holders are eligible to set up an **"Action Team"** project that benefits Luther Park. Choose a project from the list to the right or come up with your own! Then go to the Thrivent website or contact your Thrivent rep to fill out the papers to apply. Upon approval, you will receive a \$250 gift card to be used toward the project or you can gift it to Luther Park who will utilize the money for the project.

To apply go to:

<https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams/>



Diamond Lake Lutheran Youth used funds from a Thrivent Action Team grant to build a large wood storage unit for the campfire pit at the point this summer.



### PAST ACTION TEAM PROJECT IDEAS

- Food for Workdays
- Plants for pots around camp
- Seeds for wildflowers behind Retreat Center
- Summer staff recognition
- Arts & Crafts supplies
- Day Camp Craft Supplies
- Snacks for staff training
- Stamps for mailings
- Wood shed supplies
- Paint for painting projects

### ACTION TEAM PROJECT IDEAS

- Food for Workdays
- Lodge, Log House, or Retreat Center additions/fixes/renovations
- Canoe Rack
- Waterfront Improvements
- Cabin kits for summer camp
- Medical Supplies
- Health kits for counselors
- Arts & Craft Supplies
- Improvements to the Arts & Crafts space
- Golf Cart/Four Wheeler Repair
- Kitchen supplies for retreat/rental groups

Have a different Idea, contact Leah and talk it out!

651-472-4868 or [camp@lutherpark.com](mailto:camp@lutherpark.com)  
<http://www.lutherpark.com/thrivent.html>

## Luther Park Wish List

Listed below are some of the camp's current needs. Perhaps you don't have any of these items on hand, but could give a special gift or a gift in honor or memory of someone.

To contribute toward any of these items, just make a check out to Luther Park and note your wishes and mail to: Luther Park, 30376 Lakes Drive, Danbury WI 54830-9508. You can also help purchase any of these items from our Amazon Smile Charity Wishlist and/or order your Amazon items through Amazon Smile and Amazon Donates!

Amazon Wishlist: [www.amazon.com/gp/clpf](https://www.amazon.com/gp/clpf)

Amazon Smile: [smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0841180](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0841180)

### URGENT NEEDS

Reliable Passenger Car/Van  
 Dehumidifiers  
 Gas Cards (Prefer Speedway or Holiday)  
 Wilson Amplifier  
 Ping Ball Paddles  
 Pool Table Triangle Rack  
 Pillow Protectors

### MAINTENANCE

Rakes  
 Shovels  
 LED Light Bulbs  
 Chain Saws & chains  
 Wire-Feed Welder  
 Work Gloves  
 Screen for windows (regular and "dog" screen)  
 Hand Tools (screwdrivers, hammers, etc.)

### ARTS & CRAFTS

Scrapbook Paper  
 Markers  
 Construction Paper

### PROGRAM

Projector with HDMI input  
 Spark Story Bibles  
 Battery Powered Votive Candles  
 Taper Candles (to burn)  
 Boxes of "duraflame firestart"  
 for starting campfire  
 Solar Powered Lanterns  
 New or Gently used Canoes

### RECREATION ROOM/LODGE BASEMENT

Ping Ball Balls  
 Pool Cue Chalk & Replacement Heads  
 White Icicle Hanging Christmas Lights

### SPECIAL NEEDS FOR RETREAT CENTER

Microwave  
 4 Piece Toaster  
 Luggage Rack for closets  
 Bath Towel Sets - DARK COLORS  
**SPECIAL NEEDS FOR THE LOG HOUSE**  
 New or Gently used Pots & Pans Set  
 4 piece toaster

Reusable/washable sponges for dishes  
 Kitchen Clothes and Towels  
 Coffee Maker with reusable filter  
 Baking sheets  
 Non-scratch kitchen and cooking utensils

### KITCHEN

8 Cup Food Processor  
 Commercial Electric Steam Table

### SPORTS EQUIPMENT

Soft Dodgeballs  
 Soccer Balls, Basketballs, Volleyballs, Kick Balls  
 Soccer Nets (2 - 12x6)  
 Disk Golf Goal Basket  
 Ball Pump

### OFFICE

Laminating sheets for GBC Laminating machine  
 Large Paper Cutter  
 Copy Paper (white and colored)  
 Card Stock (white and colored)  
 Poster Board  
 Bulletin boards for cabins  
 White boards & markers  
 Batteries (D, AA, AAA, 9V, CR2032)

### WATERFRONT

Kayak Paddles  
 New or Gently Used Canoes

### HOUSEKEEPING

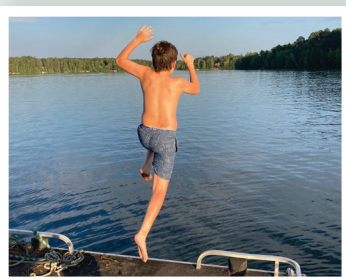
Plastic and Cloth Shower Curtians  
 Waterproof mattress covers - twin and queen  
 Pillow Protectors  
 Box Fans  
 Gently used top load washer & front load dryer

**THANKS FOR GIFTS GIVEN IN 2020!**



# CAMP GETAWAY FOR FAMILIES

This summer we launched a new program called, Camp Getaway for Families, which was a huge success! Families enjoyed a 3 days, 2 nights, 6 meal camp package experience in the beauty of God's great creation. Families were able to spend relaxing, fun time with each other (and other families) at camp while still being safe and social distanced. They had ALL of their meals cooked and served to them. And each family got their own private and safe place to rest and sleep. 🏕️



## Shelley's Family Getaway Reflection

**BIO ABOUT SHELLEY:** Shelley (Pelton) McKenzie grew up a member of Diamond Lake Lutheran Church in Minneapolis and came to Luther Park as a confirmation student. She later became a High School Leadership Trainer (assistant counselor) then joined the Luther Park staff as a young adult. She worked in the kitchen in 1978 and as a part of the maintenance team in 1979. Shelley's children, Sarah and Corey, were both campers and summer staff members at Luther Park as well.

"2020 has been a challenge for everyone, myself included. One evening while online, I was led to the Luther Park Camp website, and noticed a Family Camping Getaway for dates in July. The dates were perfect, so my husband Dean and I ventured up to Luther Park Camp for the weekend. It had been ten LONG years since we were up there, the last time being an Open House in July of 2010. We had the chance to reconnect with the place I called home for so many years, including two whole summers as Camp Staff. The Luther Park Staff didn't disappoint in delivering a fabulous camp experience, which included a campfire, a pontoon ride, and wonderful meals. We kayaked and swam both days and vowed we would return soon to God's wondrous creation! The new Retreat Center was our home for the weekend, air conditioning and all!



Left to right, Tom Peart ('78 - '80), Shelley McKenzie ('78 - '79) and Shelley's husband, Dean.

We were overjoyed at the announcement that August dates had been added, so we quickly got in touch with former staff friends and spread the word. Dean and I went back up with one of our friends, Tom Peart, who also goes by Puck. Tom (Puck) hadn't been at camp since he worked there in 1980, so we witnessed Puck reconnecting with the place that changed his life back in 1978. What a joyful experience! The three of us had a wonderful time and enjoyed the meals, the awesome staff, other families who were also on the Family Camping weekend, and each other! During COVID-19 this experience was literally a Godsend, and we were cared for and loved unconditionally. We were told by current staff that we brought a new insight to Luther Park Camp with our stories of the "way it used to be." We will be back next summer to create new memories, hopefully with many other former staff!" 🏕️

### The perks of the Camp Getaway for Families packaged deal:

- All your meals and snacks prepared for you!
- You choose your housing! (Retreat Center rooms, the Log House, Welcome Center or cabin space)
- Free use of seasonal recreation equipment!
- A balance of being on your own schedule and going along with some fun, optional programmed activities by the Luther Park staff!
- Great *GETWAY* for you, but also relaxing time spent with your family in a safe environment!

**Look for next summer's schedule, as these weekends will be offered again!**



## JOIN THE SUMMER STAFF MINISTRY TEAM

Are you or do you know a young adult that is looking to make a difference? Being on summer staff at Luther Park not only gives you the opportunity to make a difference in another's life but will also change your life! You get to work closely with many children, youth, peers and other adults in a fun, Christ-filled environment. Expect to discover new things about yourself, God and the world around you all while having the best summer of your life!

Currently hiring for summer leadership, specialty (waterfront, activities, health care) and counseling positions.



Apply online at [www.lutherparkdanbury.com](http://www.lutherparkdanbury.com) under the staff tab. Contact Leah McDougall with any questions at [camp@lutherpark.com](mailto:camp@lutherpark.com) or 651.472.4868.

## ARE YOU MISSING CAMP WORSHIPS & CAMPFIRES?

The 2020 Summer Staff recorded all our camp songs (and mealtime graces) for you to sing-a-long to at home!!! Check out our Youtube Channel and find all of your favorites! Search for "Luther Park Danbury, WI" on YouTube to find our Channel! 🏕️





# THOUGHTS FROM THE...SUMMER STAFF

This summer was very different than all other summers in the past. Luther Park made the decision to not host summer camp in its traditional form because of COVID-19. Although we all were saddened that campers did not get to experience the life-changing experience of summer camp, our summer staff were able to spend the summer at camp. Throughout the summer, the staff did many, many work projects that improved the site and created new programs to reach camp families in a new way.

At the closing ceremony of the summer together, the summer staff shared their blessings of the summer. A general "blessing" that the staff experienced this summer was that they were able to create and live in an intentional, safe and loving camp community despite what was going on in the world. They shared how they felt challenged and ready to discuss tough life questions, explore their faith in new ways and grow as a Child of God - all of which will benefit them in other areas of life outside of camp. It was a unique summer full of challenges and many, many new memories that will be remembered by the summer staff for years to come! 🏡

**Gabe Nordby - Center City, MN**

"I saw God in the people I worked with, through the tough and trying times or through the smiles and laughs created by the community. Something I will take with me is the experience of slowing down at the end of the day, watching the sunset over the lake, surrounded by people who care, and admiring God's beauty. Even though the day may have been hard, and we may not have always done our best, we could come together at the end of it and still be a caring community talking and getting to know each other better."



**Greta Delaune - Shoreview, MN**

"I saw God this summer in the community created here at camp. We came together with a common goal and accomplished it through the passion and care to serve campers. We faced many challenges and roadblocks, but in the end, we created many beautiful things!"



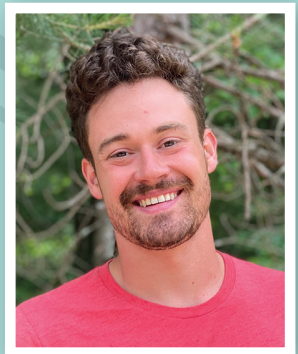
**Liz Pemberton - Richfield, MN**

"Being at camp full time during the summer as a staff member is greatly different than experiencing camp as a camper. I not only made new friends, but also grew immensely in my self confidence, work ethic and how I view the world around me. I fully experienced God in nature, gaining a new perspective of how God works in my life and realizing how God is always rooting for me. It was an amazing summer!"



**Quentin Emole - Cameron WI**

"I think that love is at the heart of Christianity and that is all I felt here. With the cancellation of onsite camp, Luther Park did not have to go out of their way to create such a sense of community [with the summer staff]. But they did and it's because they care about the most important thing: people. I saw God in all of them and would do summer at camp again, a thousand times, if I could."



**Zach Fisher - Rice Lake, WI**

"This summer was so full of a life and energy never experienced here at camp. We built and set some new foundations for camp while expanding on what we already had to offer. I think we have really improved and set the table for future summers here at camp. I'm just really happy to have been a part of all the projects this summer."



**Caity Wright - Apple Valley, MN**

"I saw God in the people we impacted. The campers that got our Camp-in-a-Box packages, the family groups that were so excited to come to camp for a few days, the retreat groups that lit up our staff who were craving the normalcy of summer camp, and in my fellow staff members who worked so hard to carry out the Word and actions that God calls us to share."



**Madison Main - Webster, WI**

"I learned that hardships often bring people together, and with the feeling of division in our world, this summer was very appreciated. I felt this experience of working together in an unusual time brought us all together in a stronger, powerful and needed way. I experienced hope in the kindness and goodness in the other summer staff. It was a summer that I needed!"



**James Powell - Rosemount, MN**

"This summer taught me to be more adaptable, more understanding and more welcoming to daily challenges."



**Tommy Shultz - Bloomington, MN**

"This summer I have learned how to worship and praise God even when the times are not ideal. I have also learned how to work with a group through times of great challenge, and being able to find moments of enjoyment together."



**Noah Hanson-Best - St. Paul, MN**

"In a world formerly filled with certainty, filled with established schedules, rules and expectations, what happened this year was wildly unexpected. Throughout this summer things were very fluid. What was true one day was different the next. What I really learned from this summer was to think on my toes. To not assume I knew what was going to happen and to always have an open mind. Getting to come together with the other staff members this year we were able to engage in deeper conversations and to learn more about what makes each other unique."

