



Luther Park Log

Fall 2021



Hebrews 10:23-24 is one of my favorite passages. It simply states, “let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us encourage one another to love and good deeds.” This passage is a brief message of assurance as well as a call to action in service.



We cannot begin to say how fantastic it was to have a summer full of children at camp once again. After a 2020 season where we could not, 2021 was a season of renewed hope and an abundance of grace.

Summer 2021 was not without its own set of challenges. We were constantly struggling to find enough summer staff, and in some cases, we had to cancel some programs. Every cancellation was made with a great deal of prayer, anguish, and sorrow. Every session that was able to run was met with a great deal of prayer and hopefulness.

This summer over 100 campers each week were nurtured, encouraged, and loved by a wonderful group of summer staff that gave countless hours to a ministry of service and love. Each week campers were taught about Christ and community. Each week staff struggled to balance the necessary attention every child deserves with the protection from a virus that has caused stress for us all.

God is good! This summer of hope and renewal was great! We ask your prayers as we prepare for 2022 and the 90th year of ministry for Luther Park Bible Camp.

Keith Newman, Executive Director



"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." - Romans 12:2

In the 89 years since Luther Park first opened its doors, 2020 was the first summer without campers on site. We are so grateful to have welcomed back campers in 2021! Luther Park was filled once again. It was incredible to hear the joyful noises ranging from the Farm Center to the Waterfront. Children were laughing, singing, and praising God together! Rainbow tag, morning watch, kickball, and bible study are just a couple of the activities that kept the field full.

At Luther Park this summer we learned about how we are transformed by grace and through faith. It was outstanding to see metamorphosis take place within campers and staff members all throughout these woods. Transformation is happening all around us; it can be scary and exciting. It is something we might not always agree with, but we were not always intended to stay caterpillars, we were created to become butterflies.

One of the most amazing transformations to witness was the deepening of campers' faith. After the Passion Play on Thursday evening, campers gathered in their cabin groups to debrief about what they witnessed. During this time even the most high energy of groups would sit in silence, reflecting the sacrifice of Jesus' death and resurrection. For when God's love is so vast, and comprehension is challenging to grasp, sometimes all we can do is sit and be together.

Look out for next summer's registration for Luther Park Bible Camp! We are excited to invite campers to learn about the Characteristics of God through Sailing the High C's. Each day we will explore a different characteristic such as compassion, community, and creator.

There are so many adventurous activities to partake in at Luther Park, including Frisbee golf, high ropes, canoeing, pontooning, archery, swimming, and more! Join your friends and make new ones - we can't wait to see you at camp!

Bekah DaFoe, Program Director

Summer by the Numbers

Though summer camp is more about stories of faith being nurtured and the sharing of God's love, you may be curious about the number of youth and families reached in recent years. Here are the numbers showing individuals Luther Park had the opportunity to reach and impact this summer.

	2021
Resident Camp	694
Family Campers	89



WHY CAMP?

EFFECTIVE CAMP RESEARCH PROJECT BY

Dr. Paul Hill, Dr. Roland Martinson,
& Dr. Jake Sorenson



SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE 2022



Date	Program	Grade Completed
June 12-17 Week One	Discovery (Sun-Tues) or (Wed-Fri)	1-3
	Seekers	3-5
	Pathfinders	6-8
	Pedal & Paddle	7-9
	PALS (one or two week session)	8-11
	CIT (two week session)	9-11
June 19-24 Week Two	Day Camp	K-3
	Seekers	3-5
	MADD	4-7
	Basketball	4-7
	Pathfinders	6-8
	Backpack	8-11
June 26– July 1 Week Three	Discovery (Sun-Tues) or (Wed-Fri)	1-3
	Seekers	3-5
	Pathfinders	6-8
	Night Owls	7-9
	Art Camp	8-11
	PALS (one or two week session)	8-11
	CIT (2 week session)	9-11
July 6-8 Week Four	Seekers	3-5
	Adventure at the Woods	4-6
	Pathfinders	6-8
	Senior High Hammocks	8-11
July 10-15 Week Five	Discovery (Sun-Tues) or (Wed-Fri)	1-3
	Seekers	3-5
	Pathfinders	6-8
	Night Owls	7-9
	Boundary Waters Canoe	8-11
	PALS (one or two week session)	8-11
	CIT (2 week session)	9-11
July 17-22 Week Six	Day Camp	K-3
	Seekers	3-5
	Adventure at the Woods	4-6
	Pathfinders	6-8
	Namekagon Canoe	6-9
July 24-29 Week Seven	Discovery (Sun-Tues) or (Wed-Fri)	1-3
	Seekers	3-5
	Lower Trading Spaces	3-5
	Upper Trading Spaces	6-8
	Pathfinders	6-8
	PALS (one or two week session)	8-11
	CIT (2 week session)	9-11
July 31– August 5 Week Eight	Seekers	3-5
	Pathfinders	6-8
	Namekagon Canoe	6-9
	Senior High Hammocks	8-11
August 7-12	Family Camp	All
August 7	Heart for Luther Park Art & Quilt Auction!	

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Heart for Luther Park



THANK YOU!!! To all who made our Heart for Luther Park Fundraising Event on August 8, 2021 successful and wonderful, we can not say thank you enough. The Ministry Center provided a wonderful space for the new indoor auction led by Dolly Neby. This fundraiser is successful because of our many supporters in various ways; donors, volunteers, quilt making, raffle baskets, artistry, and so much more... we appreciate you and all you do! A special "Thank You" to Diana Thompson and Mary Soyck-Doring... we treasure all that you do before, during, and after this event in support of Luther Park! **The auction raised over 36,000.00!** This included proceeds from Chicken Dinner, Pie & Ice Cream, Kids Camp, Silent Auction, and Raffle Sales.

We would like to thank individuals and members from the following congregations as well as others who volunteered their time, quilting items, or donated in other ways to this event.

- Julia Accola—Rochester, MN
- Connie Anderson—Stockholm, WI
- Carol Anderson—Sand Creek, WI
- Christina Anderson
- Joel Bakken
- Ted Benson
- Wanda Bock—Rice Lake, WI
- Diane Brion—Nelson, WI
- Judy Byom—Ettrick, WI
- Dawn Caturia—Plum City, WI
- Trudie Chernak—Boyceville, WI
- Caroline Dahl—Chetek, WI
- Adele Danielson—Cadott, WI
- Marilyn Danielson—Cadott, WI
- Scott Davis—Lake Nebagamon, WI
- Paula Davis—Lake Nebagamon, WI
- Whitney Falkenberg
- JoDeen Forsyth—Arcadia, WI
- Jean Friske—Hayward, WI
- Kim Gasek—Medford, WI
- Vickie Girard—Elk Mound, WI
- Kristy Goettl—Altoona, WI
- Ross & Lucy Hardie—Chetek, WI
- Pastor Martin Halom
- LuAnn Harm—Cadott, WI
- Candi Hodgson—Chetek, WI
- Ali Janke Facklum—Eau Claire, WI
- Kris Jensen
- Kendyl Johnson—Chetek, WI
- Cheryl Johnson—Menomonie, WI
- Pastor Bridget Jones—Superior, WI
- Sally Kallenbach—Wheeler, WI
- Beth Kley
- Amy Kragness—Omaha, NE
- Wanda Krause Peterson—Wither, WI
- Roxi Kringle—Bethehem, PA
- Marlene Lee—Menomonie, WI
- Nancy Lyngen—Blair, WI
- Lisa Maves—Menomonie, WI
- Kathy McLellan—Chippewa Falls, WI
- Carolyn Meinen—Cornell, WI
- Don Moats
- Jean Moats
- Joan Moe
- Wendy Newman—Chetek, WI
- Dawn Olson—Spooner, WI
- Shannon Palma—Cameron, WI
- Margaret Raleigh—Elmwood, WI
- Sandy Rau—Iron River, WI
- Kathy Retzer—Medford, WI
- Linda Roth—Menomonie, WI
- Crystal Sands—Eleva, WI
- Cindy Scholfield—Menomonie, WI
- Bryan Staff
- Martha Stewart—Menomonie, WI
- Diana Thompson—Chetek, WI
- Ellie Toyen—Colfax, WI
- Ruth VanBlaricom—Menomonie, WI
- Deedra Wagner—Cumberland, WI
- Heidi Wagner—Cumberland, WI
- Linda Walsberger—Prairie Farm, WI
- Barb Webb
- Cindy Weyer—Loyal, WI
- Dean Williams—Hastings, MN
- Ann Zimmerman—Chetek, WI
- Bethany Friends—Rice Lake, WI
- Bethany Lutheran Quilting Group—Rice Lake, WI
- Churchberries Quilt Group—Cameron, WI
- Cover Girls—Hayward, WI
- Evangelical Church Sewing Circle—Black River Falls, WI
- First Lutheran Quilters—Prentice, WI
- Girls in Stitches—Menomonie/Chetek, WI
- Hope Lutheran—Ladysmith, WI
- Ladies Aide of North Running
- Little Elk Creek Church—Menomonie, WI
- LPBC May Quilt Retreat
- Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd—Eau Claire, WI
- Many Hands Quilt Group
- Nazareth Quilters—Wither, WI
- New Hope Comforters—Sand Creek, WI
- New Hope Quilters—Downsville, WI
- Osseo Evangelical Church Quilters—Osseo, WI
- Our Savior Community Quilters—Greenwood, WI
- Our Saviors Lutheran—Rice Lake, WI
- Quilting Queens—Menomonie, WI
- Sabylund Quilters—Stockholm, WI
- Sew Cool Chicks
- South Shore Quilters—Cornucopia, WI
- Trinity Lutheran Quilters—Lake Nebagamon, WI
- Trinity Quilters—Spooner, WI
- Trinity Quilters Eau Claire—Eau Claire, WI
- WELCA Our Saviour's Lutheran—Medford, WI



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The Ministry Center has seen steady usage this summer and fall, with camper worships, synod meetings, quilt and crafters groups and a wedding. Luther Park has had excellent reviews by all groups who love the building and the future ministry. Luther Park is also seeing increased interest in the Ministry Center as well as the camp ministry in general. Fall of 2021 is looking to be very busy!



To date we have raised in **gifts and pledges over \$2,100,000!** To date Luther Park has raised \$425,600.00 toward the Dave and Carolyn Cleveland \$500,000 matching funds. We just need to raise from our churches **\$74,400 to complete this match by December 30, 2021!** This has been an amazing gift to the camp!

The Menomonie match is also nearing completion and we expect to have that complete by the end of the year. This \$100,000 matching fund gift, was a catalyst for so much more.

Work continues to progress on the lower level thanks to staff and volunteers. This work is being completed as time and finances allow.

The total cost of the campaign is expected to be about \$175,000 over the original goal. With this in mind, we continue to encourage individual donors to partner with us in this **project of Growth and Ministry.**

Donor churches and individuals are being recognized on the donor board in the lobby of the Ministry Center. This beautiful board was made and donated by one of the camp's wonderful board members and has space for more names and the ability to shift names into different categories.

If you have any questions about the campaign, please contact the camp. We would love to share with you about the ministry potential of this project.

Help us celebrate Luther Park Bible Camp's 90th year of ministry by partnering with us in completing the Ministry Center at Luther Park.



Ministry Center Dedication

Thank you to all of those who showed support in the construction of the Ministry Center. It is astonishing the amount of time, energy and love that has been cheerfully given by so many in such inspiring ways.

During this past summer on June 5th we celebrated the new Ministry Center with a dedication of the building. There was incredible "Camp Through the Ages" music. Pastor Paul Omen created an extraordinary painting depicting life at camp. Thank you again to all who made this space possible.

Weddings at Luther Park

Luther Park celebrated it's first wedding in the Ministry Center this past summer. We offer a variety of ceremony locations both indoors and out to meet your wedding needs. Onsite lodging and dining facilities available.

Call us at 715-859-2215 for more information or to set up a tour of our facilities. Information can also be found at lutherpark.org.



EVENTS AT LUTHER PARK



Family Advent

Gather for fellowship, homemade crafts, advent devotions, sledding and so much more! Family Advent runs **December 3-4** with meals starting with dinner on Friday and go through lunch on Saturday. Cost is \$50-75 per person with a max of \$200 per family. Register online!

PALS and CIT Reunion

Calling all PALS and CITs from the summer of 2021 for a fun reunion at Luther Park! Join us on **December 27-28** for a fun filled 24 hours of games and discipleship. More information to come.



Annual Meeting

Join us on **February 5, 2022** for the Luther Park Bible Camp Annual Meeting held in the Ministry Center. Reports from the 2021 year will be shared, information about the upcoming summer camp season and current events at Luther Park. Refreshments are served at 9:30, the meeting will begin at 10:00 am. Lunch is served after the meeting. Stay at Luther Park Saturday evening for a free will donation and join us Sunday for Chilifest!



Chilifest

You are invited to Luther Park Chilifest on **Sunday, February 6, 2022**. Join us for an afternoon of fun winter activities: sledding, ice fishing, snow play and indoor activities. Hot chocolate and coffee will be served along side tasty bottomless chili, hotdogs, and desserts. All profits benefit Luther Park. Enter your pot of chili in the chili contest for a chance to win the best chili. Call to let us know if you are bringin your famous chili!

Luther Park Quilt Retreats

Renew your creative spirit! Pack up your sewing machine and quilt projects and head to Luther Park for a fun-filled weekend of quilting. Brunch and dinner is served daily. Cost per person is \$150-\$180 per weekend. Register online! Spring events: **January 26-30, March 9-13, May 11-15 in 2022**.



Recharge

Recharge is a 24 hour retreat for youth in grades 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, looking to recharge their faith. Worship, faith talks, recreation, service projects and more. The cost per participant is \$80 , Adults \$30. Register online! Spring events: **January 7-8, March 25-26 in 2022**.

Register online for Quilt Retreats, Recharge & Family Advent
Lutherpark.org

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Work Day!

Luther Park counts on thousands of volunteer hours to decrease expenses and allow donor dollars to accomplish so much more. Join us for the work day in April 2022! Cost is free; however, a free will offering will be taken to cover meals and support camp scholarships. Breakfast and lunch on Saturday are provided.

Sign up online or call Luther Park to let us know if you are coming. We welcome everyone to join us on Tuesdays for our weekly Volunteer Day, Year-round!



Thrivent Financial Partners

Thrivent Financial partners with many non-profits around the country to help our communities, camps and churches. There are two ways that Thrivent Financial partners with individuals and Luther Park to greatly enhance this ministry and directly affect the lives of over 2000 youth.

Did you know? Over 80 Thrivent members designate their **Thrivent Choice** dollars to the camp. Choice Dollars are earned quarterly and members have until March 31 each year to designate their dollars.

Did you know? Thrivent members can use **Thrivent Action** team dollars to improve projects at your camps and churches. These \$250 dollar gifts can be used for a variety of projects, are easy to apply for, and each Thrivent Financial member can apply for two per year.

Did you know? Thrivent representatives say that less than 5% of members take advantage of the **Thrivent Action Team Dollars** and many eligible Thrivent members fail to designate their **Thrivent Choice dollars**. Don't be a statistic, designate your Choice Dollars and use your Action Team Dollars today! Call us and ask how!

715-859-2215

- Wish list
- Lifejackets
 - Reams of white paper
 - 20' Parachutes for games
 - Spark Bible (NRSV)
 - Basketballs, volleyballs,, soccer balls

Luther Park Bible Camp is a 501 c3 non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible

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Where Faith is nurtured through holy play



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"Prepare ye the way of the Lord" -Isaiah 40:3

2022 Summer Camp

Join Luther Park
as we celebrate our
90th year of
ministry in 2022!
Keep a lookout for
the 2022 summer
brochure. Summer
registration will
open in November.

