

CHIPS

From the Lutherhaven Log

Spring/Summer 2012

Rock On!

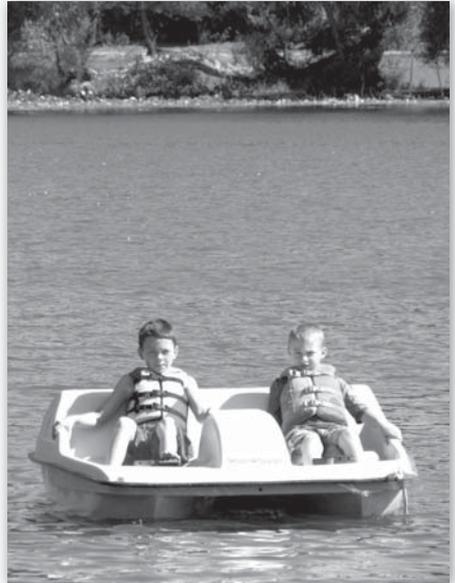
As we fly by the official first day of summer, the days are long and lately very warm. But that's the perfect environment for a summer filled with laughter, learning, craziness, and time with our Creator. Over 1200 have already signed up! Are you coming?

This year's theme is
Life on the Rock!

"He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all His ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He." Deuteronomy 32:4

Campers are being challenged to place their faith on the only true Rock while learning how to proclaim his unchanging mercy and faithfulness to the world. Close to 30 staff members from a variety of colleges have signed on to spend 11 weeks this year in leading campers through all of the great activities offered at camp like archery, boating, singing, swimming, Bible study, and a number of sports.

Camp Lutherhaven offers over 20 different programs that include those individually designed for families, children, and teens. The length of programs varies from one day to fourteen days based on the ages of the participants. This summer we are still looking forward to the new addition of a Horse Camp held in partnership with Dusty Dreams horse ranch. Some of the camps are already full so hurry to register through Camp's website (www.lutherhaven.org) or call for a brochure. (260.636.7101)



Cool off at Camp Lutherhaven this Summer, Sign up today!

Also Inside

- New Cabins Being Used!
- Chicken Dinner Sunday
- Do You Like Polar Bear?
- Camp Has Osprey!
- Annual Meeting



From the Director

I don't think there's a more exciting time to be plugged into Lutherhaven! God has put lots of things before us - both opportunities and challenges. We're serving more campers this summer from the Fort Wayne and surrounding tri-state areas, finished our first new triplex cabins, looking to build more, God willing, rebuilding our beach playground, reaching out to foster kids in our community, ministering to confirmation age youth through weekend retreats, helping to serve the refugee population in Fort Wayne, updating the concrete flooring in the Lodge, offering a unique learn-

ing environment to school groups, compliments of our Creator, and providing a place of rest, renewal, and retreat to thousands each year.



We value your investment into this special outdoor ministry as together we reach out with the incredible love of Christ. His promises are sure and blessings abundant as we daily recount the work of God in our lives.

Tim Jank

Fall Work Weekend

In the spirit of Camp's Memorial Family Work Weekend, a Fall Work Weekend is scheduled for October 12 - 13. This is open to families, youth groups, men's groups, women's groups and any other servant workers! We start at 7:30 pm on Friday with an orientation followed by an evening campfire devotion and sing along. After a hearty breakfast Saturday morning, everyone gets started with

the morning work session. Following the afternoon session, at approximately 4:00 pm, workers can take off the gloves and enjoy the labors of their love at Camp. The day will end with dinner and closing at 6:00 pm. You may also come just on Saturday. All meals, cabin lodging, and children programs are free as a thank you for your time and hard work.

Lutherhaven's Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting of the Lutheran Camp Association (which is the legal name for Camp Lutherhaven) is scheduled for 2 pm on September 16th at Camp Lutherhaven. Join with other friends and supporters of Camp Lutherhaven's year round ministry to share information, ideas, find out more about the



Built on the Rock new cabin campaign, and to elect several new board members. Partners, Congregational Representatives, and visitors are invited to attend. Free child care and refreshments will be provided. (please call ahead with child care needs) For more information, please contact Tim Jank at the Camp office.

Chicken Dinner Sunday

You're Invited!

You are invited to Lutherhaven's annual Chicken Dinner on July 22nd, celebrating its 63rd year of ministry in God's creation. Come out for the 11:00 am worship service and stay for the chicken dinner. Enjoy a day of outdoor worship, good food, fellowship, and water fun while supporting the ministry of Camp Lutherhaven.

Sharing God's Word with us this year is Rev. David Maki.

Pastor Maki graduated from Concordia University in St. Paul in 1978 with a B.A. in Liberal Arts. He worked for a short time in a private group home for delinquent teens in South Minneapolis. He married Deb (Monson) in August of 1978 and then attended seminary at Concordia Theological Seminary from 1978 - 1982. Maki has served churches in Dorchester, Wisconsin from 1982 - 1989, Mondovi, Wisconsin from 1989 -2000, Gallatin, Tennessee from 2000-2003 and began his ministry at Southwest in 2003.

He and Deb have been blessed with three sons: Ryan (Tessa) living in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Matthew (Jen) in Oviedo, Florida and Joel living Fort Wayne.

Rev. Maki has also served a mission start up among the Sudanese in Gallatin for three years, taken numerous mission trips to Haiti, Mexico and Russia, and has served on the boards of Star 88.3 Christian radio station, Harvest Mission International, Mission Planters Advocates, Lutheran Agency for Mission to Burmese, and served as Director of All Nations Friendship Center.



Rev. David Maki, Southwest Lutheran Church

During this last year, he has now taken up hammer to help Lutherhaven complete its first new triplex cabin. All of this event's proceeds will go towards the next phase of the Built on the Rock cabin campaign which includes completing six more cabins in time for the summer of 2013. See the new cabins article on page 11 for more information.

The dinner will be catered by Goeglein's of Fort Wayne, including chicken, rolls, vegetables, drinks, and dessert. Adult servings will be sold for \$7.00 and child servings will be sold for \$5.00 at the door.

For more information on Camp Lutherhaven's Chicken Dinner, contact the camp office at 260.636.7101 or at camp@lutherhaven.org.

We hope to see you there!



Adopt the Staff

She is a referee, a coach, a teacher, and an advisor. He is a song leader, an entertainer, and a faith leader.

A summer camp worker is a rare and special breed of person who gives themselves to the summer ministry of Camp Lutherhaven. They come from many different states and various schools and backgrounds to be an integral part of our team, and we couldn't get through summer without them.

To help people show their appreciation for this unique group of people, the "Adopt the summer staff" program was formed to be a blessing as each week the summer staff is able to be uplifted and supported in many ways. Whether it is through baked goods, letters of encouragement, devotions, or fresh fruit, your gifts, whether small or big, go a long way in boosting the spirits and energy levels of the summer staff members. We are still looking for individuals, families, and church groups to select a day (or two, or more) that they would commit to



Spencer gives a few chord pointers on the guitar.

demonstrating their support to the 28 summer staff members in some special way. If you are interested in adopting the staff for a day or have questions about it, call or email Celine at 260.636.7101 or camp@lutherhaven.org. She will help you select a day and give you more details on how to be a part of this valuable program.

Wish List

- Archery bows and arrows
- Area rugs for Treetop
- Broomball equipment
- Brooms
- Bunk Beds/Mattresses
- New Cabin helpers
- Camperships for 2012
- Camping stoves
- Canoes/paddles
- Construction paper
- Couches & lounge chairs
- Disposable small cups
- Driveway/Parking
- surfacing
- Embroidery floss
- Garbage cans - plastic
- Hammer drill
- Latex balloons
- Leaf mulcher
- Nice serving dishes
- Outdoor rocking/Adirondack chairs
- Paddle boat parts
- Paintbrushes & rollers
- Photo display case
- Playground balls
- Rakes
- Rit liquid dye
- Recycling can-crushers
- Thank You!
- Sand for the beach
- Service projects
- Snow cone machine
- Snow shovels
- Tempera paint
- Top soil
- Trimming shears (electric)
- Thank You!
- Vacuums (upright)
- White T-shirts for tie dye

To donate an item from the list or to find out more information, please contact the Camp office.

“I Do Not Like Polar Bear”

Every morning of each summer that I was a camp counselor began with the dreaded dip in the lake. I don't mean I actually went to Polar Bear. It was just there, waiting for me. Each week, I dreaded getting girls who wanted to earn their Polar Bear cards, some masochistic lot who thought the shock of cold water before 7 a.m. was some kind of fun.

It would happen occasionally. And early in the week, I could depend on my bright-eyed campers to drag me out of my lovely, comfortable bed and push me, half-blind and mumbling incoherently, down to the waterfront. By the end of the week, however, we all agreed that mornings were terrible and should be avoided at all costs. But we all prodded each other awake, muttered encouraging words, and tromped down as one sleepy, befuddled unit. We would dive in together and run out, finally awake and excited for the day. Or, excited to get back to the cabin and into dry clothes.

Now that a few years have passed, I can finally realize the beauty of those mornings. What my campers realized, but I had missed.

In life, we get very wrapped up in making our lives comfortable, easy. Instead of getting together with friends, we keep in touch over Facebook or text message. We go from our air-conditioned school or work to our air-conditioned cars to our air-conditioned home. Instead of living our adventures, we watch them from a couch.

Camp, like Polar Bear, jolts you awake.

At camp, you have to live with eight strangers, crammed into a



cabin the size of your living room. But instead of turning into a turf war, it becomes a chance to share a piece of yourself with someone else. By the end of the week, they are your family.

At camp, you learn to shoot a bow or ride a horse for the first time. Sore fingers or behinds become badges of honor, a mark of something you've overcome. Each new challenge is met with more and more confidence.

At camp, you have to put your trust in your counselor, who randomly bursts into song, has an encyclopedic knowledge of tie-dying strategies and has some weird aversion to Polar Bear. But she shows you that instead of being satisfied with just fitting in, it's better if you can find out a little more about yourself.

So even though it's tough to leave our comfort zone, we owe it to ourselves to climb out of bed and head toward that cold water. Because the person who climbs out of the lake is never quite the same person who jumped in.

Rebekah Meyer is a writer and editor who spent four summers on staff at Camp Lutherhaven.

Wildlife Update



Camp's very own Osprey nest

Just a few months ago; the ground was frozen, the swamp was silent, and frost filled the air, but now, winter seems like something decades ago. Everywhere you look, life has sprung!

God has blessed camp with some amazing sights and sounds. It is inevitable that if you spend much time here, the sounds of frogs and crickets will jump out as you drive up to camp during the evening hours. Chipmunks, squirrels, and rabbits run rampant all over camp while deer have been spotted relaxing on the athletic field. If a person looks close enough, one would see that the beavers have been enjoying all the lush trees behind Tree Top Village which gives the impression that the beaver den expands

more and more every day! A flock of turkeys has ventured to our very own Daniel Retreat Center to see if they can take a weekend off and relax for a bit. Bird nests have popped up all over including in an open mail box. But the wildlife we haven't seen here before is none other than the mighty Osprey, a bird that is on the endangered species list of Indiana.

Two Osprey have been sighted nesting here on camp's grounds on top of a pole and platform erected years ago for that very purpose through the efforts of past camp staffer Don Schroeder! Word is that there are eggs very close to hatching on top, considering how much time they're spending on the nest. The Osprey, also known as the fish eagle, have a diet almost exclusively of fish.

God has given us so much to marvel in His Creation. We are able to look around and see that God has left His mark of beauty in this area. He has set this place apart. We are given the chance to come here and enjoy a summer of games, silly songs, friendship, recreation, and His Word, while at the same time, being a part of nature. God watches over all these animals but so much more, watches over us and cares for us! We are blessed.



Worship at Camp

Sundays are great days to be out at Camp. Start with an outdoor worship service in the open air Pavilion, bring a picnic lunch or eat a Sunday dinner in the Lodge, then head to the beach or woods for a couple hours of swimming, boating, hiking or just taking in the summer sunshine.

Each year, Lutherhaven holds summer worship services for campers that are coming or going, their families, the community, and anyone else who desires to join us for this 11 am outdoor worship. Remaining dates and guest speakers are as follows:

- July 8 Seminarian David Sutton
- July 15 Rev. David Strable
- July 22 Chicken Dinner Sunday – Rev. David Maki
- July 29 Rev. Tom Feiertag
- August 5 Rev. Chad E. Hoover



If you opt for the prepared Sunday Dinner, it is served in the air-conditioned Lodge dining room. Ages 13+: \$6.00/person, children ages 6-12: \$4.00/person, children 5 & under are free. We hope to see you this summer!

Stepping Stones of Faith

Continues to Make an Impact

For the past 11 years, Camp has been blessed by the introduction and growth of the Stepping Stones of Faith Confirmation Retreats. We have watched with high spirits as the program has continually grown year by year to a program that has now served almost 2,000 youth and adults from over 30 different congregations. The most exciting part, however, has been watching the faith of both the youth and the adults be impacted by these retreats. *“God has shown himself through a lot of people, and I think that He is shining through me too. God has also strengthened my faith,”* said one youth participant. Many others have come away with a renewed connection and commitment to God and the church.



Camp Lutherhaven is thankful for the many retreats that have provided a time and place for participants to grow in their faith in God and fellowship with one another. With such great success the program is expanding to High School age programs with a continued focus on nurturing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and their Lord and Savior, nurturing a lifelong commitment to daily prayer and personal devotions with God and his Word, and developing a close Christian community.

If your congregation is interested in attending one of these retreats or scheduling one of your own, contact the camp office.

Seeing God's Power

The landscape of Lutherhaven has changed due to the storms from this past winter. Many trees on Camp lost branches or were completely pulled up from out of the ground because of these wind storms. This includes, but is not limited to, one very large tree on our nature path near Treetop Village. This tree, which is probably close to six feet in diameter, was blown over into the swamp by the wind! The roots of this tree are massive, raising fifteen feet into the air as the tree lies on its side.

Why is nature important? Why is introducing kids to its amazement so critical? In Romans 1:20, Paul writes, *"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse."*

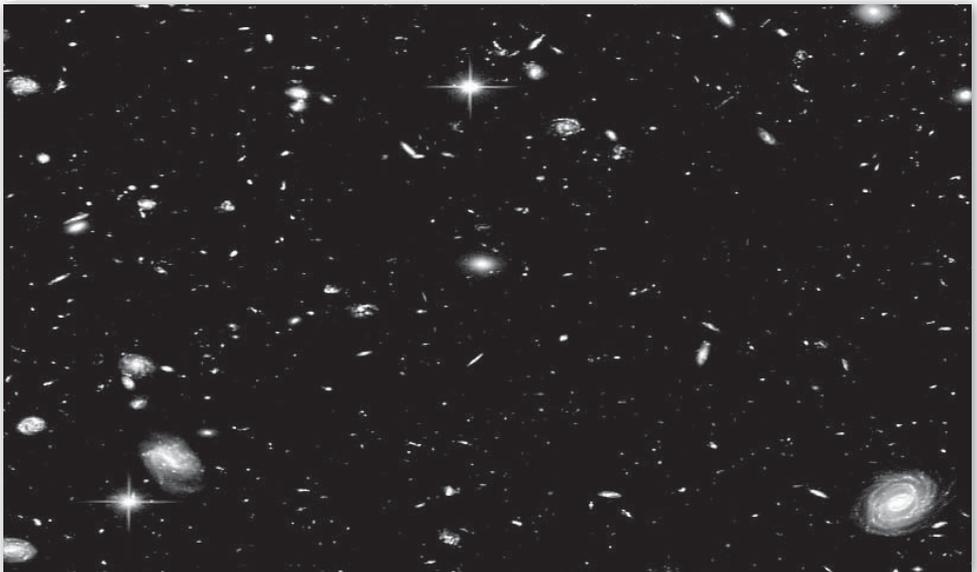
We see God through what He has made. More than that, we can begin to understand the omniscience and

omnipotence of God—through what we can see. Creation points us to the Creator. Seeing the universe around us both big and small shows us things outside ourselves that are complex, mysterious, and powerful.

Since 1969, Lutherhaven has been a place for schools to experience day or overnight trips to study and learn from God's creation. Camp staff can help you teach lessons that supplement your own program or can provide ready made outdoor education experiences for your group. Some of the lessons we offer include orienteering, challenge course initiatives, archery, boating, fire building and astronomy, along with many other topics.

Contact the Camp office at 260.636.7101 or email camp@lutherhaven.org on how you can set up an outdoor education program for your students.

We can't wait to see you!



Hubble's deepest view into space still reveals endless galaxies along with billions of stars - feeling small yet!



Junior High Youth Rally

Mark your calendars, junior high youth and youth leaders, for September 15-16, 2012! Camp Lutherhaven will once again be the site of the Indiana District LC-MS Northern Junior High Youth Rally. Program cost is \$45 per participant before July 31st! (\$50 between Aug. 1 - Aug. 31 and \$55 after Aug. 31st) And it includes:

- All Rally programming
- Lodging
- Meals
- 2012 Theme T-Shirt
- And more!

This rally is open to Indiana youth entering 7th and 8th grade and will be an intense 24-hour event that includes making new friends, incredible Bible study times, music, games, outdoor activities, campfire devotions, worship time, and inspiring speaker Brandon Grelle - all in the setting of God's great outdoors!

If you are interested in attending, talk to your church leaders to make sure your youth don't miss out. For more information contact Celine Newman at 260.636.7101 or go to: www.in.lcms.org.

Have A Voice/Lend An Ear

Have you ever wanted to be more involved at Camp Lutherhaven? Would you like to know more about what is going on and share your own ideas?

Consider being a Congregational Representative from your congregation or an individual member of the Lutheran Camp Association. Congregational Representatives are a critical link between congregations

and Camp Lutherhaven, enabling both ministries to more effectively minister as partners to their shared community of believers.

To become an individual member, you need only to be a financial supporter or volunteer.

To find out more about either Congregational Representatives or individual membership, please contact Tim Jank at the Camp office.

Send **FREE** Money to Lutherhaven!

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Yes, you read that right! Are you a member of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans? If so, you've probably already heard about the new Thrivent Choice program which replaced its "Giving Plus" matching program. What you may not have heard is that Camp Lutherhaven is designated as a recipient charity for this program.



Thrivent Choice is your opportunity to direct some of Thrivent's charitable dollars to places like Camp Lutherhaven. With the new Thrivent Choice Dollars program, Thrivent policy and account holders will be able to direct, in many cases, a gift of between \$25 to \$500 to the Lutheran charity or charities of their choice. This will be based on the value and types of accounts, policies, etc., that they hold with Thrivent. (No gift to the charity

from the individual policyholder is necessary.)

It's easy to do! To find out more, go to their website at www.thrivent.com/choice or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and state "Thrivent Choice".

Thanks for designating Camp Lutherhaven as your Thrivent Choice! Thousands of dollars have already been sent to Camp using this Thrivent program. **We treasure your support** that reaches out with the love of Christ in the unique setting of Camp!

You can also make a direct donation to Lutherhaven by sending a contribution in the enclosed envelope or by going to our web page and making a donation with your credit card.

You can also help out Camp in other ways using your time and talent. You can find more details on our web site at www.lutherhaven.org.



Built by volunteers and paid for through supporters, this three cabin facility is being used for the first time in 2012. Four similar units are planned with your help to serve the next generation of campers.

New Cabins Are Being Used!

More On The Way



The first phase of the “Built On The Rock” Cabin campaign is complete! Campers are enjoying the increased space, wood siding interior, porches, ceiling fans, new bunks/mattresses, and more.

Scores of donors and thousands of hours went into the construction of Camp’s first new triplex as many volunteers lended a hand to finish up the cabins in May. Jim Berning spearheaded the construction which is now serving the next generation of campers.

Camp’s focus is now on the future as there are four more triplexes to construct in total. This means many more dollars and more hours from the help of supporters. **Your help is needed** as beginning in August, two triplexes totaling six more cabin units will need to be built before the sum-

mer of 2013. The campaign goal is \$455,000 of which \$105,000 has already been raised. Lutherhaven is very excited as The Lutheran Foundation has awarded Camp a generous matching grant cutting the amount to raise in half!

To donate, just mail your check in the enclosed envelope designated to the new cabins. You can also go online to make a donation.

To help with the new construction, contact the camp office and we’ll make sure you’ll get put on the email list which informs volunteers which days are available to work on the new cabins throughout the year. No special skills are necessary. We invite you to become part of the legacy here at Lutherhaven as we partner together to offer a Christian camp experience for thousands of campers in the decades to come.

If you have any questions, please contact Director Tim Jank at 260.636.7101 or find out more at www.lutherhaven.org/cabin



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Check us out on Facebook



Upcoming Programs

Summer/Fall/Winter 2012

JULY

22 Chicken Dinner
& Worship

AUGUST

10 Last day of
summer camp
31-2 Stepping Stones of
Faith, Youth Retreat

SEPTEMBER

15-16 Jr. High Youth Rally
16 Annual Meeting, 2pm
21-23 Stepping Stones of
Faith, Youth Retreat

OCTOBER

5-7 Stepping Stones of
Faith, Youth Retreat
12-14 Stepping Stones of
Faith, Youth Retreat
12-13 Fall Work Weekend

NOVEMBER

16-18 Stepping Stones of
Faith, Youth Retreat



Find out the latest on the new cabins - It's all inside