

# Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant

On Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, the Lutherlyn Family celebrated the life of Randy Gullickson with Randy's family and friends at First English Lutheran Church in Butler and then at the Lutherlyn Dining Hall. It was a time of sadness and mourning but also a beautiful celebration of Randy's life. Randy worked with his pastor to write his funeral and it was as "Randy" as it gets! The readings, message, and songs spoke so beautifully of a life lived to the fullest in service to God and others. Randy's footprints and fingerprints are all over Lutherlyn, and we are forever grateful for his visionary leadership and creativity.

# Obituary for Rev. Randal K. Gullickson June 9, 1951 - November 10, 2019

The Reverend Randal K. Gullickson died at home on Sunday, November 10, 2019, surrounded by his family and friends and embraced in their love. In the weeks before falling ill, Randy was traveling in Switzerland and France, riding trains through the Alps, visiting the Matterhorn, and living his maxim, *exprime diem*, squeezing every day to the very last drop.

Randy is survived by his beloved wife of 45 years, Tracy Baker Gullickson; his son, Jason (Jessica) Gullickson, and grandson, Malcolm, of Baden, PA; his daughter, Anna (Rob Morris) Gullickson of Butler, PA; and his brother, Jeff (Mary) Gullickson of Hubertus, WI. He was preceded in death by his parents, Russell and Arlene Gullickson, and the infant brother he never met, David.

He earned his bachelor's degree from Carthage College in Kenosha, WI, and his Master of Divinity from Luther-Northwestern Seminary in St. Paul, MN. After completing seminary, he served as Assistant Minister at Grace Lutheran Church in Kenosha, WI, and then as Executive Director of Luther Park Bible Camp in Danbury, WI. In 1985, Randy moved his family to Pennsylvania, where he fulfilled the role of Executive Director at Camp Lutherlyn in Prospect, PA, for 31 years until his retirement in 2016.

Over the years he served on many National Lutheran Outdoor Ministries committees, as president of the Association of Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Professionals, and on the Board of Directors of Lutheran Outdoor Ministries.

Randy taught us how to live, even as he showed us how to die – building bridges and tearing down walls

Randy had a deep and abiding love for God's creation, and he spent much of his time adventuring in the great outdoors. He made it his life's purpose to teach and challenge others to show God's love by making life-giving choices and living with open hands in God's grace. During his years at Lutherlyn, he changed the lives of thousands of campers and staff by listening, inspiring, and loving, with a passion for making the Gospel come alive.

He was known for his abilities to engineer, invent, build, and fix almost anything. He was an inspirational thinker who was called to create things that awaken spirit. He loved camping, canoeing, travel, music, wood and leatherworking, telling stories, writing poetry, crafting pottery, philosophizing, mastering just about any skill that caught his interest, and making jokes. Especially bad puns. His wit and sense of humor were gifts he freely gave to everyone he met, right up to the end.







IS A
GOD-GIVEN
PLACE
TO BE
ACCEPTED,
CHALLENGED,
AND SENT.

LUTHERLYN

To our wonderful Lutherlyn family,

Thank you so much for the prayers, condolences, and love shared with us in the wake of Randy's passing. We are also very appreciative of the lovely post funeral luncheon hosted by Lutherlyn staff and volunteers.

Thank you all for the many gifts given in his memory. You are truly amazing and we are so blessed to call you friends!

~The Family of Randy Gullickson





# LIFE-CHANGING ADVENTURES IN FAITH!

#### SEMINARY STUDENTS ON SUMMER STAFF

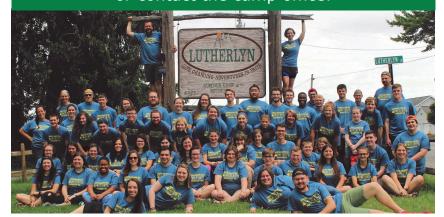
Lutherlyn was blessed with three seminary students on summer staff in 2019. It was a joy to have Ryan Fitch, Kelsey Kresse, and Roger Randolph with us for the summer!

Roger is from the Southwestern PA Synod and is currently in his first year at United Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia. He is preparing to be a military chaplain. Kelsey is from the Northwestern PA Synod and was a Lutherlyn camper and former summer staffer. Kelsey is a student at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and is currently serving as an intern with a congregation in Texas. Ryan was on summer staff at Camp Mount Luther for several years before joining us at Lutherlyn. Ryan is a student at United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg and is currently serving as an intern at Lutherlyn and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Chicora.

These seminary students led our Wednesday evening all-camp worship throughout the summer and we made a point of letting our campers know that they are all studying to be Lutheran pastors.

#### **SUMMER STAFF SEARCH**

If you or someone you know is interested in serving God, making a difference in the lives of campers, being part of a Christian community, and having a great time with lots of kids, please check out lutherlyn.com/summeremployment or contact the camp office!



# UNDER THE RADAR

We are thrilled to announce that Lutherlyn's summer campers met our goal of providing 26 bunk beds, complete with the bed frame, mattress, and bedding, for the Kenduiwo Orphanage in Kenya.

Sue Kantz, from "In the Light Ministry" (and former Lutherlyn summer staffer), was able to go to the Kenduiwo Orphanage while the bunk beds were being installed. Here is Sue's message to Lutherlyn:

I am writing to update you on my trip to Kenya and the delivery of the bunk beds to Kenduiwo Orphanage. We were able to have 26 bunk beds made in Nairobi and shipped to Bomet along with 60 new mattresses with blankets, bed covers, sheets and pillows. All transported in two buses and they arrived three days before I did. I have never seen the children so happy. I visited for three days and they told me how great it was to sleep "one and one" (meaning one bed to one child); they told me how warm they were at night and how grateful they are for the support that Lutherlyn has given them. They were so moved when I told them that much of the money donated was from other children whose hearts were moved by God to help them. No words can truly describe what a blessing this has been so I will let the picture tell the rest of the story.

I will also add that God's blessings were far reaching in this project. I can't list them all but an example is that the original order of sheets and pillow cases was not correct. So when we realized the issue we asked a local vendor in the slums of Kenghemi to make the pillows. This business order not only saved her business from closing, it also allowed the owner to pay her rent and feed her children; at the time she did not think it was possible.

Thank you to the many Lutherlyn campers, staff, parents and family campers who have contributed to this great blessing.

> Love and blessings, In The Light Ministry

# **SPREAD THE WORD!**

Please invite friends, neighbors, grandchildren kids from your congregation, and friends of your children to register for summer camp! A personal invitation from someone who knows and loves camp is the most effective way to get new campers to Lutherlyn!



## SUMMER BIBLE STUDY THEME

Our Summer Bible Study and worship theme for 2019 was "Transformed Community". The theme verse was Romans 12:2 — "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect."

We spent the week learning about the ways that the love and grace of God can transform community through inclusion, justice, compassion, forgiveness, and generosity. Our Sunday evening worship focused on understanding the verse from Romans (with the help of a real-life Siri). Wednesday all-camp worship was about community. Campers were challenged to consider all of the communities that they are a part of and what it is that they can do to share the love and grace of God in those communities. Friday closing worship was about taking everything that we learned during the week and using it to let the light of Christ shine in the world (because after all, none of us actually glows in the dark so "let your light shine" must mean that we must do something to shine that light).

Our theme for the summer of 2020 is "Living in God's Time" and the theme verse is Ecclesiastes 3:1— "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."



# \$100 off for FIRST-TIME campers!

This coupon code entitles FIRST-TIME Lutherlyn campers to \$100 off of the registration fee for Summer 2020. This applies to Lutherlyn's residential week-long programs. Half week programs (Young Folks & Sampler) get \$50 off for FIRST-TIME campers.

Does not apply to Family Camp, Confirmation Camp, Day Camps, or Small Fry Days. Must be a FIRST-TIME summer camper. No additional discounts may be combined with this offer. Enter coupon code: NLTR20.

> Register at WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM/SUMMER. Registration opens February 1





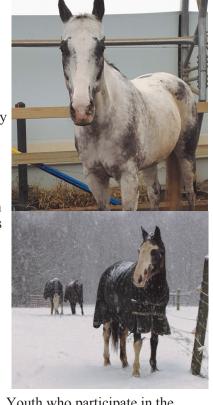
#### **LUTHERLYN EQUESTRIAN CENTER**

This year our program continued to grow, and we reached more than 70 students with Equestrian Services! With growth comes change; many of our favorites are starting to age, and the time has come to start adding new lesson horses into the program. We have been blessed this year with three new horses that now call Lutherlyn home.

Silver Britches was donated to our program in early January. He is probably the cutest horse I have ever met. Silver is a 19-year-old Quarter Horse cross. He has spent the majority of his life as a child's show horse. He began his second career as a lesson horse about three years ago and has taught many young riders how to walk, trot, canter and jump. He is easy going and very trustworthy. He loves being outside in the pasture with his buddies.

In early spring we took a horse named Freeport in for trial. Freeport (known around the barn as Romeo) was a retired show hunter. He competed in three foot hunters and was even on TV! Romeo is such a Romeo. He is sweet and everyone who works with him just adores his loving personality. He soon became a barn favorite. Romeo is an 11-year-old Thoroughbred cross. He is a great all-around horse and loves to work with the more advanced students.

Our most recent addition is Artifact Hunter, fondly known as Reggie. Reggie is a 13-year-old Registered Appaloosa gelding. Reggie has been trained in western pleasure, hunt seat pleasure, and showmanship. He makes a great addition because he adds some diversity to the herd. Showmanship is a great skill for students to learn, and many of our horses are not as well trained in that as Reggie is. He makes a great mount for the students who participate in our 4-H program.



This year we had the opportunity to start a youth outreach program in the town of Butler. Youth who participate in the Justice Works program began coming out to the barn. They are seeking volunteer opportunities to help build their resumes,

## WISH LIST

(see the full list at www.lutherlyn.com under the "support" menu)

# Site and Facility:

Golf Cart for Nurses (prefer electric) Shop Vac (around 15 gallons) 6-foot white plastic tables – Lifetime Electric Air Compressor brand (16) 50-foot outdoor extension cords (10) Multi-plug power strips (10) Flatware (knives, forks, spoons) New or gently used vacuum cleaners Reliable mini vans or SUVs with current inspection

Reliable 4 wheel drive pick-up truck with inspection

Truckloads of 2A limestone (for roads and paths) Gift Cards for Home Depot, Lowes,

and Walmart New work gloves (all sizes)

New or like-new washers and dryers Painter's Tape (blue) – 1- and 2- in. wide

Tarps (all sizes, no holes)

# Office:

Forever stamps Pens & pencils Dry erase markers and erasers Copy paper White cardstock Paperclips Masking tape Scissors Permanent markers New easels and paper pads

# Summer Program:

Pony and Seed beads Embroidery floss/Friendship bracelet string New washable markers New colored pencils Paint brushes Construction paper Colored tissue paper Glue sticks New fishing rods – kid friendly (10) New unscented jar candles

# **Equestrian Center:**

Rubber mats for stalls Water proof sheets (68", 70", 78") Water proof blankets (68", 70", 78") Fly spray & fly masks 18" Jumping saddle MSM joint supplement Horse multivitamin supplements Cat food Cat flea & tick treatment

# **Environmental Education:**

Kid- and adult-sized rain coats NEW 8x10 tarps, and larger Kid- and adult-sized winter gloves Vis-à-vis wet erase markers

## **Special Events that Benefit Camperships:**

Handmade bed-size quilts for Quilt Auctions and Sales Gift Baskets (contact the office for more specifics) Monetary Sponsorships

# **Volunteers:**

Skilled volunteers to hang drywall Skilled volunteers for demolition of Someone with video/editing skills to make promo video(s) Help to maintain flower beds and Amphitheater Assistants for therapeutic riding lessons Help clearing hiking and riding trails Event volunteers General maintenance help

General cleaning help General office help Nurses to help for a week in the summer or on Sundays in the summer during check-in



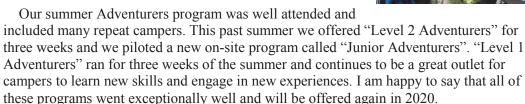
and some of the participants have even started riding lessons. We have enjoyed seeing the emotional growth these teens have made and the connection they have developed with the horses. This is a great program that we hope to continue in the coming years.

And as winter approaches we are looking forward to the snow! The horses love the snow, and it is better for their hooves than the mud. So let it snow baby!

> Carla Babcock **Equestrian Center Director**

# LUTHERLYN ADVENTURE PROGRAM

First and foremost, I want to thank all of the donors, participants, volunteers, and campers that took advantage of outdoor recreation and adventure programming at Lutherlyn in 2019. We had another wonderful year and look forward to providing more adventures that allow us to welcome all visitors for opportunities to challenge themselves and to grow



Our yearly programming was extended to many different groups. Throughout the course of the school year we hosted numerous team building field trips that helped students focus on the importance of cooperation, effective communication, trust, and respect. We also created opportunities for many other organized groups to challenge themselves on our High Ropes course. The diversity of groups that find their way to Lutherlyn is always one of the most exciting parts of the adventure program.

As we move forward into 2020 we will continue to make Lutherlyn's adventure program a place where all of our participants are able to step out of their comfort zones, challenge themselves in a safe and accepting environment, and leave with new confidence in themselves and others. As always if anyone has any interest in volunteering to help

> work on an adventure specific project. adventure@lutherlyn.com.

> > Adventure Program Director





# Gifts made between 1-1-2018 and 12-31-2018

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Lucie Brocious by William & Terrye Bullers Dr. Mark Carlsson by Rev. Andrew Carlsson

Sue Carothers by Kathy & Dale Ebner My step-dad, Adam Cinna

by Ryder Peet James, Ro & Matt Clarke by Curtis & Sally Frank Cullen & Brennan Cleary

by Michelle Cleary Eric, Owen, & JoJo Davis by Don & Pat Melpolder

Edmund T Dlutowski by Edmund Dlutowski

Dr. Charles & Janice Durmis and sons by Mary Durmis

Nolan Durst

by Leslye & Timothy Durst Levi Andrew Ebner by Joan Ferraro

Erica, Benjamin, & Elizabeth Flanders by George & Barbara Flanders

Pastor Bob Free

by Peter Nordby & Lisa Hildenbrand

**Todd Garcia-Bish** by Violet & Andrea Dunmyre Sarah & Joshua Gold

by Glen & Donna Gold Sara Goncz

by Rev. Susan Irons Meredith Harber by George Dempsie

by Sandra Harber Scott Hunter Best Family by Curtis & Sally Frank

John Jeffries

by Barbara Novak by Sue Carothers

Bishop Ralph Jones by Punxsutawney Area Lutheran Parish

L. Clair & Carroll Klingensmith by L. Clair & Carroll Klingensmith Pastor J Kenneth Laber

by St. Peters Lutheran Church, North East, PA Allen Langley by Heather & Chris Lucy

John & Betty Sue Lehew by John & Betty Sue Lehew June Charlotte Lobins by James & Rebecca Slade Kathy & Doc McKissick by Heidi Morris & John Schlotter

Katie McNeal for leading worship with us by Trinity Lutheran Church, Wexford Chris Morris

by Heidi Morris & John Schlotter Bob & Linda Morris by Heidi Morris & John Schlotter Macy & Riley Parise

by Kristin Parise
Andrew & Adam Pfister by Tim & Lisa Pfister Ethan Ritenour

by John & Louise Campbell Deb Roberts

by Ted & Theresa Schroeder Eli & Grace Roberts by Dick & Betty Roberts Holly Schubert

by SWPA WELCA Lydia & Ezekiel Steiner by Jonathan Steiner Carl & Judi Stoops

by Laurel Rae Maddie & Ian Trimble by Jan & Walt Treser

Paul Veltkamp by Heidi Morris Marian Walters by Cindy Karr

LuAnn Wheeler by Matt & Jennie Wheeler Renetta & Dave Winkler by Heidi Morris & John Schlotter

Our 40th Wedding Anniversary by Jim and Dottie Zaffuto

The marriage of Abigail & Colin Blackburn by Tammy Scanga
Pastor Ryan Kobert's Installation

by St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Sewickley 2019 Summer Staff

by Julie Kingery
Trinity's Sunday School Teachers by Trinity Lutheran Church, Ellwood City

Trinity Lutheran, Butler by Deborah Roginski Summer Camp Staff

by Kristen & Michael Dougherty Lori & Trisha by Fred & Ann Wineman

The glory of God by Emmanuel Heilman Lutheran Church

Our 62nd Anniversary by Carroll & Clair Klingensmith Family Campers by John & Jacque Holmberg

#### Memoriam Gifts from 11/01/2018 - 10/31/2019

Vern Adams by The Lasser Family Joyce Admomaitis by Shirl Brut

Matthew Quay Ammon by Joyce & Garv Kottner

by Kathy & Paul Gaberson William and Cora Baer

by Judi Seanor Anna Bainbridge by Scott Peters

Jean & Elmer Bentz by Mark & Kathy Armstrong by Kathy Armstrong

Homer & Dorothy Bollen by Joyce & Gary Kottner

My parents, Harry & Katherine Booth by Evelyn Booth Dick Cheers by Ann Rodgers

A. Dale & Jane B. Clarke by Curtis & Sally Frank

Barbara Lynn Claypoole by Robert Claypool Penny Davis

by Cheryl Becker-George

by Justine Brown by Susan Catanzarito by Barbara Hoffer

by Kathy Rogerson by Marilyn Rogerson by Nancy Slezak

by Helen Voegler by Jocelyn Sinopoli by Pat Bernoit

by Shirl Brut

Carol Ann Decker by Rev. Sigmund Decker William N. DiBenedetto Jr

by Natalie DiBenedetto

Mary & Ed Eller by Lynn Schrimper Stephanie Steininger Eslinger by Merab Drennen

Pastor Charles E Fair Rev. Paul E. Fauth

by C. Louise Fair by Deborah Sitter

Alice Filges by DeWayne Filges Wilma Follmer

by Carl Follmer Carol Folwell

by Kathleen Schubert Rev. Dr. James N. & Edith W. Frank

by Curtis & Sally Frank John, Sally, & Pat Freed by Jack & Judy Freed Suzan Rote Gergerich by Deborah Ross

Edwina Gesler by Rev. Dr. Al Gesler Jr

Ethel Mae Graff by Trinity Lutheran Church, Ellwood City

**Dora Graff** by Trinity Lutheran Church, Ellwood City Frank Graham

by John & Betty Sue Lehew **Daniel Headrick** 

by Nancy Headrick Scott Henjum

by Nancy & John Jeffries Sue Hindman

by John & Betty Sue Lehew Ruth Hanger Horchak by Marlin & Naomi Morris

Kelly Christen Jones by Gene & Karen Jones Jean Joyce by Dr. Philip Joyce

Arthur & Martha Klein by William & Karen Newson

Jeffrey Leslie by John & Sheryl Borden Martha Luppold

by Roger Luppold

Daniel C. Maguire, Jr. by Heidi Morris & John Schlotter by Carol Geyer

Elma Maier

by Cheryl Scheck

by Ted & Janet Kaltwasser

by St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Corry, PA by Susan Farrell by Bill & Elaine Fugate

by Irene Knight

by Harold & Doris Laderer by Signe Mitchell

by Marcia Ligas by Tom & Sandy Rossman

by William & Linda Zundel by John & Betty Sue Lehew by Janet Huggins by Heidi Morris & John Schlotter

**Evon Marrett** 

by Donald & Barbara Baker Kenneth & Mary May by Donald May

Mary May by Donald May

David Michael

by Fred & Marilyn Michael Grandpap George Miller by Janet Miller **Ernest Montgomery** 

by Howard & Mary Martin Wil Morrow

by Daniel & Susan Morrow Arthur R. Patterson by Roy Lloyd Helen Piacenza

by Helena & Clyde Baker Rev. Gordon Ray
by John & Anne Harmon

Elaine Roehling by Ed Roehling

Thomas W Rowe, Jr by Mollie Ann & Larry Hibbs Rev. Earl Runge

by Keith Runge Bill Schrimper by Lynn Schrimper

by Bill Schrimper Scholarship Fund Rev. Sam Shaulis

by Allison Sternat by John & Betty Sue Lehew by The Shaulis Family Rev. & Mrs. Samuel Shaulis

by John & Betty Sue Lehew Rev. Samuel & Janet Shaulis

by John & Betty Sue Lehew Our Son, Richard Slomer

by John & Dottie Slomer Carl Smail by Marilyn Smail

John K. Smith by Adam & Natalie Dzuricky **Deb Steiner** by Doris Herceg

Joyce Steiner by Jonathan Steiner by Daniel Richards by Christine Edenfield

by Linda & Kevin Mathias by Judith McCulloh by James Fruehstorfer by Judith Espey

by Kirby Brugh by Luann & Vincent Surace by LaVerne Mochnick

by Peter & Marian Sue Kovalchik by Faith & James Crooks by Pamela & Wayne Barton

by Michael & Tina O'Block by Sandra Miller by Marlene & Sam Barkerfelt

by Duane & Barbara DiPietro by Marshall & Dolores Guyon by Jean Heasley by Barb & Joe Myers by Karen Steeley by Mike & Susan Manovich by William Logan by Rebecca Rodock by Brush Creek Lutheran Church by Eileen M Larouere by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Strait by Mr. & Mrs. Tedd Webb Jr by Mr. & Mrs. Homer Lyons by R. Beryl Richardson by Marilyn J. Tallant by Mr. & Mrs. John W. Graft by Margaret Brown by Mr. & Mrs. Keith Milton by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hopkinson by Her Children by Harold & Melissa Suain

by Janet Burton

by Greg & Lori Calhoun

by James & Carol Bramlett by Dom & Ginny Ceresa by Sharon & David Hartis by Robert & Barbara Sisko by Bubba Hileman

by Petroski

Pastor & Mrs. William Steiner by Signe Erne Lois Steiner, our Aunt and Godmother

by Joel & Debi Alexis Rev. Dr. Russell F Steininger by Merab Drennen

Ruth Steininger by Merab Drennen Dorothy & Robert Sternat

by Allison Sternat Rev. & Mrs. Robert Sternat by John & Betty Sue Lehew

**Judith Stoops** by Laurel Rae My Mother, Karen M Tiader, with love

by William & Youxu Cai Tjader

Anna Trettel

by Traf-Sys by Mary Anne & William Harmon

by Dorothy Dillemuth

by Jon & Barbara Trettel by Cynthia & Joseph Burns

by Thomas & Mary Ellen Hummell by Rev. Dr. Roger & Catherine Fischer

Tom & Augusta Vezzetti

by Del & Alicia Brockett Helen J Walters by Lucille Allen Betty Jane Worthy

by Nancy Quinn by Sandra & William Seaton by The Carretta Family

by Kristine & James Wieter by Darlene Leshnock by Don & June Kudas

by Ronald & June Bacco **Dorothy Worthy** by Margaret Brown The Worthy Family

by Don & June Kudas Brian Yezek by Donald & Barbara Baker Olga Zinn

by The Lasser Family Our Parents by Elaine & Peter Egan **Loved Ones** by Kimberly & Andrew Moore

Our sincerest apologies if we omitted your name. Please notify Lutherlyn of any omissions or errors.

Lutherlyn promises to never turn a child away from summer camp for financial reasons

Lutherlyn can keep this promise thanks to the many individuals, families, congregations, foundations, and businesses who support camp with prayers, participation, volunteering, and financial gifts.

In addition to providing vitally important camperships, this support also plays a part in providing safe, engaging activities and spaces our campers and guests enjoy throughout the year.

Thank you to each and every donor and volunteer for being part of the community that makes Lutherlyn possible!

Save the Date: **The 2020 Trinity Pines** Club Banquet is on June 7, 2020.

(Anyone who participated in giving \$200 or more in 2019 will be invited to attend the Trinity Pines Club Banquet.)



#### **FATHERS & SONS RETREAT**

Lutherlyn's Fathers & Sons Retreat is for fathers and sons of all ages; for fathers who "borrow" sons and for sons who "borrow" fathers. Every man and boy is welcome to this retreat which provides group and personal activities to help build on relationships and make memories.

Our traditional Fathers and Sons favorites (Worship, Gaga Challenge, Junkyard Wars, and Blessing Service) now have a winter twist – sledding, tree tapping, ice fishing, and a Tailgate Party with Superbowl 43 (2009)! It will be a weekend of fun, faith, and relationship building.

Join us on February 14-16 for a great weekend! Register at ww.lutherlyn.com.





# JUMP INTO FUN CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thanks to generous donations (including a few gifts made from "allowance money"), Lutherlyn is going to install a Jump Pillow and two shuffleboard courts! If the weather cooperates, these fun new additions will be in place for our 2020 summer camp season!

We are still fund raising to replace the basketball court and the outdoor gaga pit. We would also like to add a picnic shelter near the jump pillow and replace all of the picnic tables around camp. Donations are being accepted for "Jump Into Fun" so we can make these necessary improvements to the sports fields.

# 2020 Calendar

### **January**

14-19—Quilting/Crafting Retreat 24-26—Winter Retreat (4-12 grade)

#### **February**

1—Saturday Safari—Winter Trees 14-16—Fathers & Sons Retreat

# March

7—Saturday Safari—Maple Sugaring 17-22—Quilting/Crafting Retreat

#### **April**

24-26—YouthFest (Jr. High & Sr. High) 25—Work Day

#### <u>May</u>

- 9—Fun Run
- 9—CAMP BLAST!!!
- 31—Summer Staff Training Begins

#### **June**

1-12—Summer Staff Training 7—Trinity Pines Club Banquet 14—SUMMER CAMP BEGINS!

# <u>July</u>

1-31—SUMMER CAMP CONTINUES! 25—50 Year Rocketry Celebration &

Launch
31—Last Day of Summer Camp

# **August**

21-23—Grown-Up Camp

# **September**

9-13—Quilting/Crafting Retreat 12—Saturday Safari—Amphibian Hunt

# <u>October</u>

25—Family Halloween Fun Day

# **November**

7—Saturday Safari—Survival Skills 17-22—Quilting/Crafting Retreat

# **December**

- 4-6—Advent Retreat
- 5—The Plunge
- 5—Advent Dinner & Worship (for all)

Visit www.lutherlyn.com/2020 for complete schedules, details, and registration information.

# Want to bring your own group to camp?

Lutherlyn hosts retreat groups of all types throughout the year (with the exception of during summer camp). Please give us a call to talk about all of the ways that you and your group can use camp's facilities.

# STAFFING CHANGES

#### GOODBYE RANGER CHRIS

We are sad to say goodbye to Chris Piatt. Chris has served as the "Camp Ranger" for several years; working in food service, maintenance, environmental education, and wherever needed. Chris has been a blessing to Lutherlyn, the full-time staff, the summer staff, and (most importantly) our campers and guests. Thank you Chris!

#### WELCOME BILL

We are happy to welcome Bill Sweeney to the full-time Lutherlyn staff. Bill will be serving as our Program Assistant ("Ranger"). Bill was a Lutherlyn camper for many years and has served on the summer staff for the past five summers. Welcome back Bill!

# WELCOME MARCI

Marci joined the Lutherlyn staff in April as the Housekeeper. Marci does a great job at cleaning and serves with a joyful attitude. Welcome to Lutherlyn Marci!



# LUTHERLYN MODEL ROCKETRY 50" ANNIVERSARY

2020 is the 50<sup>th</sup> summer of model rocketry at Lutherlyn! Please join us for a reunion and celebration! All are welcome.

# Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – 3:00-8:00pm

Rustic Retreat Campground at Lutherlyn (also known as "Rocket Hill")
FREE (engines, shirts, and patches will be available for purchase)
Lutherlyn will provide hot dogs/buns, s'mores, and water.
Bring your own rockets, blanket, chair, canopy, picnic.

# Tentative Schedule:

3:00 – Welcome

3:15 – General launch starts; sign up for competition launches

4:45 - Group Photo

5:00 - Tour of main camp, hot dog cookout, continue launching

6:00 – Competition Launch (spot landing)

General launch when competition is over

7:30 - Rocketry Campfire

Anyone under age 18 must have an adult present. No alcohol and no pets.

Tent Camping is available on Saturday evening at Rustic.

PLEASE SHARE WITH PAST ROCKETRY CAMPERS AND STAFF.

R.S.V.P. required by July 10<sup>th</sup> www.lutherlyn.com/rocketryreunion or 724-865-2161







#### NEW EQUIPMENT CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF MAPLE SUGARING

For the last 25 years, Lutherlyn's environmental education staff has spent February and March teaching about maple sugaring. It has been a wonderful way to teach people about trees, history, and the effects of pollution.

Over the past 25 years, more than 10,000 people have learned how to identify trees in the winter. They have also been able to tap trees and collect maple sap on their way to the Sugar Shack. Once inside the Sugar Shack, they have learned about the simple and elegant process of evaporating watery sap into golden brown syrup.

Unfortunately, our 40 year-old evaporator pans started to develop leaks. Thankfully, a generous donation has enabled us to order new syrup pans for the 2020 season, as well as make other improvements to the Sugar Shack. Thanks to these wonderful donors, we will be making maple syrup well into the future.



### **DIGGING FOR ANSWERS**



We were wrapping things up, sifting through the last bucket full of soil. Most of the other 27 Saturday Safari attendees had finished screening their soil and had packed up their buckets and trowels. We had spent all morning digging at the archaeology site, learning about the early pioneer history of western Pennsylvania.

Zachary (10) and I were pulling rusty nails and bits of porcelain out of the screen when Bethany (7) picked something out of the screen asking, "What's this?" It was coin- a half-penny, actually- and it was Canadian. Further investigation turned up a date: 1842.

Although the purpose of our archaeology site is to learn more about the past, we often end up with more questions than answers. Now we were wondering, "Why

would the Heckert family (living here from the 1830s to the 1870s) have a Canadian coin?" We happened to share that question with the archaeologist who helped us set up the site 20 years ago, Ed Dlutowski. Ed theorized that the Heckerts may have been a stop on the Underground Railroad!

We knew from other research that the Heckerts were Lutheran (they helped found Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Prospect), but we did not know if they were abolitionists. We turned to our friend (and former Lutherlyn counselor), Dr. Gil Waldkoenig, at United Lutheran Seminary. Gil informed us that "when [Pr. William] Passavant led the founding of the Pittsburgh Synod in 1845, he put an anti-slavery position in its constitution. It was one of only three synods to officially oppose slavery." Passavant grew up in the same congregation, St. Paul's Lutheran in Zelienople, where Michael and Juliana Heckert were married in 1834.

We may never know for sure if the Heckerts were part of the Underground Railroad, but finding this artifact has opened our eyes to a time in history and our Lutheran heritage that we know little about. This year we celebrate 20 years of Lutherlyn's archaeology program. During that time we have asked countless questions. Unearthing this intriguing artifact is a good reminder that real knowledge is gained in looking for answers, not always in finding them.

Todd Garcia-Bish Director of Environmental Education



#### AMERICAN CHESTNUTS AT LUTHERLYN

2019 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> year of American chestnut trees growing at Lutherlyn.

In the fall of 1999, Lutherlyn became a part of the effort to restore the American chestnut tree. Almost all American chestnut trees died during the chestnut blight of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. But some individual trees survived, and a handful of organizations have been trying to propagate offspring from those trees that will also be resistant to the blight.

The American Chestnut Cooperators Foundation is one of these organizations, which breeds 100% American chestnut trees from survivor trees, and relies on co-operating landowners to plant and grow the next generations. A grove of these trees were planted at Terra Dei homestead in 1999. From those trees and others added in 2001, today there are 10 surviving American chestnut trees at Terra Dei. The largest of these trees, growing just below Chapel Hill, is over 30 feet tall and measures about 30 inches around. Five of them produce an abundance of nuts every year.



Several of these trees have gnarly cankers from the chestnut blight. The goal is not to prevent the trees from getting the blight (that is inescapable), but to have trees that are capable of resisting the blight when they do get it. So far, only one tree (which was smaller and under the shade of other trees) has died from the blight cankers. Time will tell if the others have enough resistance to continue to survive the blight. So far, signs look good and we hope they do!

In 2015 we started planting nuts from this generation of trees on another part of the Lutherlyn property, the former Hilliard farm -- off Dick Road and just a short distance uphill from Chapel Rock. There are currently nine healthy seedling trees surviving there, with five more nuts planted in 2019. In this 20<sup>th</sup> year of growing American chestnuts at Lutherlyn, 19 trees survive with more nuts being produced and planted every year. Helping bring back these majestic trees is one of the ways we care for God's creation.



# LUTHERLYN AS FIELD STATION

For over 40 years, schools have used Lutherlyn as a place to teach environmental concepts. For 30 years, that has mostly been through the Lutherlyn Environmental Education Program, which currently serves over 6,000 students annually. However, some schools prefer to use Lutherlyn's site for totally school directed instruction. These schools use Lutherlyn as an outdoor learning environment for student exploration. Students still receive instruction from their classroom teachers but in the immersive environment of camp. When one school comes to Lutherlyn in October, students spend large amounts of time collecting data on

stream flow, the lotic environment, and macroinvertebrates. They also create natural artwork in the style of Andy Goldsworthy and delve into geology and soil science. If you know of a school that would like to use Lutherlyn's amazing site for learning experiences, please contact LEEP at leep@lutherlyn.com or 724-865-9079





# The Director's Notebook ......

It has been a great year and I am so thankful for the Lutherlyn Family (YOU) that continues to make Lutherlyn a God-given place to be accepted, challenged, and sent out into the world to make a difference. I have several BIG things that I am excited to share with you.

Our biggest news is that, as of November 6<sup>th</sup>, Lutherlyn is officially DEBT FREE! Over the past three years many generous donors have

contributed to the "Preserving the Future" campaign. Over \$40,000 annually is now part of Lutherlyn's operating budget, instead of making loan and interest payments. For 2020, much of the money that was making loan payments will be used for some much needed repairs around camp. Cabin Scots Pine is getting a foundation put under it and will be renovated. The Craft Cabin will get a new roof and some repairs to the side walls. Terra Dei Homestead will get a garage for the mower and gardening tools. Our list of projects is long but we will keep working hard to care for Lutherlyn's property and facilities.

Thanks to the "Jump into Fun" campaign, we are working on some FUN new additions and renovations for our campers to enjoy. Over the next two years we will replace the old volleyball, tennis, and basketball courts in the main field with a jump pillow, picnic shelter, new basketball court, and shuffleboard. We will also replace the original Gaga Ball court and get new picnic tables.

The Lutherlyn Board of Directors just completed a strategic plan. The plan can be found on the website. This strategic plan will guide our decisions and planning over the next three to five years. The strategic plan addresses the needs of the physical property as well as program and staffing needs and is rooted in Lutherlyn's core purpose and mission.

Throughout the strategic planning process, it became clear that we have some major projects that need to be done for us to best serve our campers.

We are in the planning process for a capital campaign that we hope will start in January of 2021. Some of the projects that may be included in the campaign include replacing the Shaulis Village cabins (the only remaining cinder block cabins), making significant repairs to the Amphitheater, renovation the old "upper shower house" into a meeting space, constructing a 10-20 stall bathroom building, and repairs/renovations/improvements to the current buildings. I will have much more information about this over the next year!

The last thing that I want to share is just how thankful I am, personally and professionally, for the life of Randy Gullickson. Randy was a mentor and a great friend to me. As a camper, the Bible Studies and worships that Randy wrote challenged me to think about my faith outside of Sunday morning worship and consider my calling as a child of God to love and care for my neighbor (as well as teaching me a much broader definition of "neighbor"). When I joined the summer staff, Randy taught me about God, faith, leadership, my own gifts, problem solving, teamwork, being life-giving, living with open hands, discernment, and SO MUCH MORE. As I started to feel a sense of calling to outdoor ministry, Randy went out of his way to recognize my gifts, teach me about this profession, and encourage me in my faith and personal development. We worked together for 23 years (over half of my life) and I am grateful for the time that we spent together and the impact that he had on my life and the lives of so many others. Randy didn't just do this for me; he did it for thousands of campers and staff over his 30+ years at Lutherlyn. I am honored to carry on many of the traditions and standards that Randy set for ministry at Lutherlyn and forever thankful for his leadership and friendship.

I am also thankful for you — the Lutherlyn Family. What an incredible blessing it is to serve you as Lutherlyn's director. Thank you for your continued involvement and support in this ministry and community that we all share. I hope to see you at camp sometime soon!



# **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

As stewards of God's creation we realize that we are commanded to care for and sustain the earth. We also realize that at times we fail to understand our impact upon the created world around us. For this reason Lutherlyn places a high priority on the careful management and restoration of the land with which we have been blessed. Education of campers and staff is seen as an important part of sharing God's vision for the world.

# REACH

REACH is a referral program for potential summer campers that need more than just financial assistance. A REACH Campership covers 100% of the summer camp fee, a camp store account, and any items that are needed for a week of camp that the camper does not have (sleeping bag, swim suit, etc.). The goal of REACH is to eliminate obstacles that would prevent a camper from having a life-changing adventure in faith at Lutherlyn. Lutherlyn was the recipient of an Ethel Verney Mission Endowment Grant from the SWPA Synod in 2019 to cover 10 REACH campers. Our goal over the next five years is to grow the REACH program to at least 100 campers each summer. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Do you know a potential camper that would benefit from the REACH initiative? Please contact the camp office so we can help make a week at summer camp a reality for that potential camper. Do you have connections with a business/individual/foundation that may be willing to sponsor a camper (or more) through the REACH initiative? Please make that introduction for us so we have the funds for more REACH campers. Are you interested in sponsoring a REACH camper? A REACH sponsorship is \$800/camper and you can designate a financial gift as a REACH sponsorship. We continue to honor our promise that no child is turned away from life-changing adventures in faith at Lutherlyn because of finances!



# **CAMPBLAST!**

# Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 11am-4:30pm

Join us for a day of FUN that highlights all that Lutherlyn has to offer. Horseback riding, campfire, crafts, gaga ball, archery, zipline, bouldering room, hikes, nature activities, canoeing, hay rides, games, sports, archaeology, kayaking, biking, tours, great food, and MORE! The best part....

EVERYTHING IS FREE! SPREAD THE WORD!

Visit www.lutherlyn.com/campblast for more details.

Lutherlyn sends out a monthly e-newsletter through Constant Contact. If you would like to receive a monthly update from camp, please visit www.lutherlyn.com/newsletter and sign up!



Lutherlyn has over 4,500 "likes" on Facebook! Check out Lutherlyn on Facebook for "What is it Wednesday," "Throwback Thursday," news, photos from events, and the most current events and updates at camp!

