



## Celebrate 75 Years of Ministry!

We hope you enjoy this newsletter! For anniversary editions, we ask friends of Lutherlyn to write most of the articles, reflecting on their experience at camp. For every article here, there are thousands of other campers, staff, and guests who have had similar experiences at Lutherlyn.



**Please join us in 2023 to celebrate Lutherlyn's 75th Anniversary:**

**APRIL 2 - SHAULIS SOCIETY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

The Shaulis Society is donors who have a lifetime giving of \$10,000 or more.

**MAY 13 - CAMPBLAST & 75TH BIRTHDAY PARTY**

Totally free day at camp with activities, lunch, worship, campfire, and a birthday celebration.

**JUNE 10 - ALL STAFF REUNION**

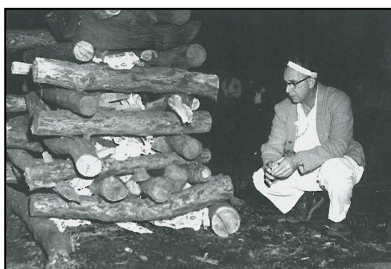
Everyone who has ever served on staff at Lutherlyn is invited.

**JUNE 11 - TRINITY PINES CLUB BIRTHDAY PARTY**

Everyone who donates \$200 or more annually is invited to the Trinity Pines celebration.

**SUMMER CAMP - EVERYONE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY**

We will have an "Everyone's Birthday Party" every Wednesday of summer camp.



"Kneel always when you light a fire...."



Rev. Steininger & Rev. Shaulis



Art by Betty Sue Shaulis for an early brochure.

Please visit [www.lutherlyn.com](http://www.lutherlyn.com) to see details about upcoming events and Lutherlyn's history.

### 75 YEARS AT LUTHERLYN

Since 1948, at 15 years old, I have been influenced by this wonderful place. From its very beginning, Lutherlyn has been working and helping in so many capacities. I remember learning every year to do something different, try something new, and be a part of camp life. My parents, Rev. Samuel and Gracia Shaulis, were my inspiration; they loved helping, giving, teaching, and leading Christian lives always. They never stopped, all the years of their lives. Using family as their compass, they developed the churches they served. Through their service and love for Lutherlyn, they passed their affection and energy onto their family. All three of my siblings and I were involved every summer for years at Lutherlyn. My brother, Sam, became a Lutheran minister and my sister, Dorothy, married a Lutheran minister. Then we worked at Lutherlyn for many summers. What an amazing place to be family!

I have worked in many capacities at Lutherlyn. I typed letters and helped with the outreach of Lutherlyn for my Dad and camp. In 1949, I was a first year camper, after that first week, I would help in the kitchen, craft shop, the dining hall, and anywhere else I could. My brother and sister did the same. We were a family working together all summer long, filled with so much love and energy for this camp. I lived at camp every summer from 1949 to 1960. When I had my daughter, I still worked all summer as a lifeguard. Then our son came along and we would still spend our summers at Lutherlyn.

I did a lot of different things at Lutherlyn, to name a few, as Waterfront Director I taught campers to swim and I even started the buddy system for the lake. In the kitchen and dining hall, I waited on campers, cooked, cleaned, and set tables. I led the music and singing in the dining hall and for assemblies and vespers. In crafts, I created leather belts, bracelets, lanyards, I started ceramics at camp, managing the kiln, and clay projects. I was a counselor, teacher, and Associate Director for girls camps. I even had the chance to drive the Station Wagon. I guess you could say I learned along the way to help in any way I could.

My husband Jack worked at Lutherlyn the winter and spring of 1956 planting the pine trees at Chapel Hill that became so tall! He did odd jobs for my Dad while a student teacher in Butler. We met in school and worked at Lutherlyn the summer of 1956 when we got engaged on the Camp Director's porch in July and celebrated with the recreation couple Rev. Dave and Betty Lou Finney. They worked at camp for many summers, too. Jack and I were married December 8, 1956 at Evans City Lutheran Church and our reception was at Hunker Hall with over 100 guests. We left in the snow for our honeymoon that night. Jack and I continued to work at Lutherlyn and we taught many young people over those years.

I love this place because it is my home and has been for so many years. Our three children have all attended camp, and even our grandson has come to camp (all the way from Michigan). He has loved it as much as Jack and I have, especially Rocketry Camp.

Our family will always support Lutherlyn, because it is a loving place where we have history. So many of our lifetime-lasting friendships have come from meeting people there such as the Shivelys, Bosts, Freeds, Warners, Millers, Finneys, Franks, and Tresers. I could go on and on.

Lutherlyn is just special. Camp is so special, isn't it?

*Betty Sue (Shaulis) Lehew  
First Year Lutherlyn Camper*

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



# Summer Camp

## LIFE-CHANGING ADVENTURES IN FAITH

The amount of memories that I have of Lutherlyn is insane! Each one with a smile on my face and a friend by my side (most times MANY friends). One of my favorite memories, though, is having a campfire at Miller Lake. The lake was quiet and calm, the smell of the campfire swirled up into the air, the wind softly blew through the hugging trees around us, and the sky of many colors slowly grew dimmer as the evening turned to night. Time fell still. The fire lit up everyone's bright happy faces. Every last camper was singing to the strumming guitars and smiling with their arms around each other. The fire crackled, yet the voices of campers was all you could hear. Across the lake, listening from a distance, stood an old wooden cross, tall, mighty, and strong. Just being in that moment made my life feel complete. It made me feel whole. Going to camp was, and still is, the absolute 101% best decision that I have made in my entire life. Camp Lutherlyn is my home, my safe place, my refuge. It is a place where I can let my soul out to breathe. Lutherlyn isn't just another camp. It's a place where you can go to be accepted. It's a place where friends really do become your family. It's a place where you can be yourself, challenge yourself, and grow. But most importantly, Lutherlyn is the place where I know love will always live in the light forever.

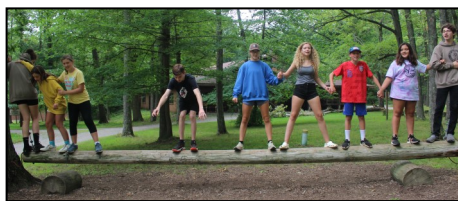
When I was just a little girl, I began attending Lutherlyn's summer program as a junior camper. Every year I would go with my best friend, and together we would make unforgettable memories and have the best time growing with each other, but also growing with God. As such a young girl, I never quite understood what that meant, but as the years went on, I began to realize what those many summers have given to me. Before I began going to Lutherlyn each summer, I didn't really know who God was. I would attend church and Bible School every Sunday and sit through the sermon and try to pay attention, but none of it made sense to me. They were saying there was a man that died for me on a cross and would answer my prayers, but how come I could never see or hear him? As I continued to attend Lutherlyn each summer, I began seeing and learning where God was in the world. Through our daily worships and reflections that often-included lots of fun singing and campfires, I realized that God is in all things good. God is in the person that holds the door for you, God is in the sun peeking through the clouds to give us a warm day, God is in the blessings we take for granted like waking up and having a place to call home. When I realized this, is when my relationship began to grow. Because of Lutherlyn, I can talk to God every day like God is my best friend. I want to learn more, and I want to continue to strengthen my relationship with God. Not only did this summer camp help me build my most important relationship, but it helped me build others too. I got the opportunity to make lifelong friendships that have lasted to this day, and I am forever grateful for this. I hope that one day everyone has the opportunity to find their relationship with God, because it's the best thing that has ever happened to me.

*Sullivan  
Age 16*

*Delilah  
Age 18*



Mess-Up/Dress-Up



Swinging Log Group Challenge Activity

## FAMILY CAMP



My husband and I have been going to Lutherlyn since we were kids. We first met at camp when we were Junior High campers. We still go back to Lutherlyn and now we get to take our family too. We have experienced camp in all the different ways you can attend Lutherlyn; as a camper, on staff, and back to camper. We have been going to Family Camp for four summers, and it is always

one of the highlights of our year. Many of our best memories are tied to camp - friends, games, songs, and prayers. Having the opportunity to attend camp and being able to extend that opportunity to others is something that our family is extremely thankful for. Lutherlyn is the place where we were able to grow our faith in an intentional community and now get to watch our kids do the same. Even though Lutherlyn is always physically changing (who remembers the Multi-line?), the feeling you get when you pull into the driveway never goes away. We have loved being part of the Lutherlyn-family for over 20 years and are looking forward to many more years to come!

*Shelby*

*Former camper, summer staff, volunteer, and current family camper*



High Ropes Course



Craft Cabin



The jump pillow is a camper favorite!



Model Rocketry—Juniors

## SUMMER STAFF REFLECTION

Some of the earliest memories I have from camp are of times as a camper, looking up to the summer staff during opening worship. I knew then, I wanted to be one of them singing the staff song to my own campers one day. Many years later, I was able to do just that and it has been one of the best decisions of my life! My 6 summers spent at camp allowed me to grow and learn in so many different ways. I not only strengthened my faith, but also found a true passion of mine. My passion is working with kids in meaningful ways.

I write this now as a teacher for at-risk high school youth in Cleveland and I can say I would not be here today without camp. I feel my success in this job has a great deal to do with my time on staff. I was able to develop leadership skills by having the opportunity to lead camp activities, campfires, and eventually entire units. Furthermore, my time with the campers ignited my passion for working with children and helping them grow into young adults. I think one of the best parts from my time on staff goes deeper than my job today. This being the connections and relationships I made during my time on staff. Some of my closest friends today are those connections I made during my summers working at Camp Lutherlyn. Overall, my summer months spent on staff are moments that will remain with me forever and supported my development into who I am today.

*Patrick*

*Former Lutherlyn Lifeguard, Counselor, and Unit Leader*



## CAMP SUMMER STAFF... THE BEST JOB EVER!

We need incredible leaders to serve on summer staff. If you know anyone who would make a great staff member at Lutherlyn, please ask them to check out:

[www.lutherlyn.com/summeremployment](http://www.lutherlyn.com/summeremployment)

Applications are being accepted NOW for the 2023 Summer Staff.



# Lutherlyn Environmental Education

## FIELD TRIP TO LUTHERLYN

The Lutherlyn Field Trip was great! We learned many new things. In the morning we learned about Lutherlyn's history. We saw settlements of the people who lived on the land long before this place was even here. We got to see an archeological dig site and some of the artifacts and trinkets there. The harmonica part was very interesting. Then we went onto a different path. The instructor taught us how to make a lean-to out of different sized sticks and brightly colored fallen leaves.

Then we had lunch. There were hot dogs, chip bags, carrots, and s'mores. Then we went into the nature center and saw all kinds of birds, mammals, bugs, and much more!!!

The afternoon part of the field trip was so much fun! We walked a small trail and discovered that God had created so many microscopic and large animals and their diets with a food web. Next, we got to search for animals and plants in the giant pond. We found damselfly nymphs, tadpoles, river spiders, and water bugs as examples of God's fascinating insects. We found duckweed as one of God's plants.

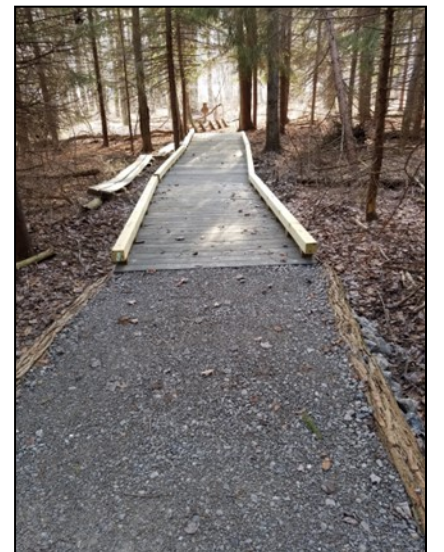
The trip was a good way to see God's creation and how God made all the animals and plants in their unique ways.

*Jude  
5th Grade  
St. Luke's Lutheran School*

## ACCESSIBLE TRAIL TO THE MARSH

The marsh at the top of Miller Lake is an educational destination for hundreds of students each year (over 600 students this fall alone). The trail to get there has been used since LEEP's inception in 1989. The large amount of foot traffic and the lack of drainage have made the trail a constant challenge to maintain. For many years, plank boardwalks were used to help students traverse the multitude of messy, muddy areas on the trail. Unfortunately, this type of trail is not accessible to those on crutches, in wheelchairs, or with balance issues.

To rectify this situation, Lutherlyn worked with Penn Trails LLC of Carlisle to plan and begin construction of a trail to the marsh that would be accessible to many more of our students and to more people in general. The first fifty feet of gravel and the first twelve-foot boardwalk were constructed in the fall of 2018. Since that time, 228 feet of gravel trail and 19 boardwalks have been built through generous contributions, and the work of volunteer groups and Thrivent Action Teams. The trail is now over 50% complete; we anticipate that the trail will reach the marsh by 2025.



## EAGLE SCOUT UPGRADES OUTDOOR CLASSROOM AREA

Adjacent to the marsh, at the top of Miller Lake has been an outdoor classroom area containing several benches. Alex Miller, from Boy Scout Troop 115 in Penn Hills, took on the task of upgrading the classroom area and making it more accessible for his Eagle Scout project. Alex worked hard organizing, designing, and executing his project. The result is a fabulous new area that will be attached to the universal access trail and provide a wonderful learning space for hundreds of students each year.

Thank you to Alex and Boy Scout Troop 115 for your hard work and this great addition to Lutherlyn!



Lutherlyn Saturday Safaris are a great way for all ages to spend some time learning about nature in the woods!

February 4 - Compasses and Orienteering

March 4 - Maple Sugaring

September 9 - Intro to Mushrooms and Edible Plants

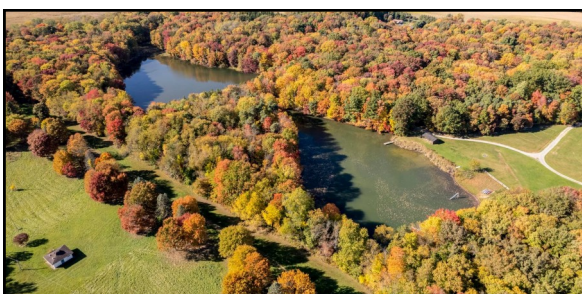
November 4 - Archaeology and the Venango Trail

\$10/person for a 2 1/2 hour program.

Details and online registration can be found at:  
[www.lutherlyn.com/safari](http://www.lutherlyn.com/safari)

## AN INTERESTING PERSPECTIVE:

Several friends of Lutherlyn flew over camp this year and shared their photos with us.





# Lutherlyn Equestrian Center

Greetings from the Lutherlyn Equestrian Center,



2022 was a year of change in our herd and great consistency in our staff and volunteers. We remain busy with a waiting list for year-round lessons and full summer horse camps. We currently have 21 horses living at the Lutherlyn Equestrian Center.

The staff and volunteers at the Lutherlyn Equestrian Center are amazing; they put in so many hours and are invested in seeing the program be a place for everyone to feel welcomed and challenged. Each person looks after the horses as if they were their own to make sure they are healthy and happy. Their consistency and commitment to the program and our riders is what makes everything run smoothly. They are a true blessing to me and to Lutherlyn.

We had an unusual turn over in the herd this year. We were saddened by the passing of Misty and Pumpkin. Tea was sick for most of the year (she is doing much better now). Saison and Houston retired. This was a lot of change for us. It takes quite a while for a new horse to adapt to the herd. Behind the lesson scenes, a lot of work goes into each horse. Thankfully, we were blessed with some fantastic additions to our herd. They are all quite different and I think we are all going to enjoy the diversity that they bring to the program.

I want to thank everyone who donated to our fencing project. ZF Agricultural Construction replaced the fencing for the two large herd groups. In total, this is about half of our fencing. The new fencing has better visibility than the old – giving the horses a safer place to live. It looks amazing and requires significantly less daily maintenance, allowing the staff to focus more of our time on our students and the care of our herd. We are so thankful for this improvement to the Equestrian Center.

Happy Trails,  
*Carla Murphy*  
 Equestrian Center Director

## MEET THE NEW EQUESTRIAN CENTER RESIDENTS



Maddie

Hank

Buddy

Theo

Tinkerbelle

Lutherlyn Equestrian Center is so amazing! They have great instructors, awesome horses, and a wonderful place to ride. The riding instructors are amazing at their job. They take great care of the horses and the students.

All the horses at Lutherlyn are amazing, I trust them all. The horses all have awesome personalities. Lutherlyn is a wonderful place to ride. It has beautiful trails, a great riding arena, and a wonderful barn and paddock. I get to ride in a horse show twice each year. I love learning how to do shows and getting ribbons for becoming a better rider. This is why I think Lutherlyn Equestrian Center is an amazing place!



Grace  
 Age 11

# Building for the Future Campaign

## AN INVITATION...

“Can I stay another week?” one of our children asked us last summer, near the end of their last planned week at Lutherlyn. The feeling behind this question - of belonging, growth and love - is surely common among those of us who have experienced Lutherlyn’s ministry. Like many families in western Pennsylvania, the life of our family has been encircled and nurtured by Lutheran camping ministry. Having met while working on staff at a Lutheran camp in central PA, we have been united in our commitment to the ministry of Lutherlyn since settling in western Pennsylvania years ago. Through our childrens’ experiences as summer campers and staff members, and through our own experience together as a family, we understand how Lutherlyn’s intentional Christian community, united in its special spaces - the amphitheater, Chapel Hill, a campfire in the cold of winter - gather Christ’s people together in a way that inspires acceptance, love, and connection to God’s creation and each other. Preserving these spaces for generations to come is essential for Lutherlyn to continue its ministry, and for it to enable all of our children to “stay another week.” For this reason, we are honored to chair the **Building for the Future** campaign.

The campaign will support three projects: a new village of five cabins, renovation of the amphitheater, and repairs/upgrades to various other physical spaces on camp property. We invite you to learn more about the projects and other campaign details on the campaign website. In the coming weeks, please consider how you might contribute to this important campaign, and keep Lutherlyn’s staff and volunteers in your prayers as they work to share the good news of Lutherlyn’s ministry and the plans for the future.

*Ted and Theresa Schroeder*  
 Campaign Co-Chairs

[WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM/FUTURE](http://WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM/FUTURE)

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE



The **Building for the Future Campaign** is off to a great start! As of 1/1/2023, \$1.2 million of the \$2 million goal is pledged. Thank you so much to everyone who has pledged so far and to the volunteers who have helped with the campaign. In 2023, the campaign will be

conducted in the congregations of the NWPA and SWPA Synods of the ELCA (Lutherlyn’s partner synods and congregations) and with past Lutherlyn Staff.

We are pleased to announce that we already have the funds for the first project in the campaign. Renovation of the Amphitheater will start in August of 2023. We hope you will join us on August 6th for the final worship service in the current Amphitheater and the ground breaking for the renovation. We will have a re-dedication of the Steinger Memorial Amphitheater in May of 2024.

We will continue to share campaign details and updates on the website. There is also a link to the campaign video. Please consider making a pledge to help lead Lutherlyn into the next 75 years of ministry.



# Lutherlyn Retreats & Events

YOU ARE INVITED TO:

## LUTHERLYN'S 75TH BIRTHDAY PARTY AT CAMPBLAST!

Saturday, May 13

11:00am-4:30pm

NO REGISTRATION IS NEEDED. JUST SHOW UP WITH ALL YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY, NEIGHBORS, AND ANYONE ELSE LOOKING FOR A FUN, FREE DAY AT LUTHERLYN.

[WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM/CAMPBLAST](http://WWW.LUTHERLYN.COM/CAMPBLAST)

### ROCKETRY REUNION

On July 30th, 100 people gathered on "Rocket Hill" to celebrate 50+ years of Model Rocketry at Lutherlyn. It was a blast (pun intended). In addition to lots of fun, launches, and reminiscing; the "dream team" of Model Rocketry leaders were awarded Lutherlyn's Cornerstone Award. Thank you and congratulations to Dick "Rocket Man" Freed, Geir Hundal, and George Flanders.



### FORGED IN FIRE

Lutherlyn's Blacksmithing Forge has a fun connection to a national television competition. In 2017, Eric Finch took a blacksmithing class at Lutherlyn. That class was Eric's first experience with blacksmithing, where he realized that he loved it and wanted to learn more. Eric built a coal forge in his high school welding class and taught himself the skills to become a master craftsman. Eric won "Forged in Fire" (a blacksmithing competition on the History Channel) in 2022.

Flavius Brinsfield continues to teach blacksmithing classes at Lutherlyn. Visit [lutherlyn.com/forge](http://lutherlyn.com/forge) for details and to register.

### THE PLUNGE!

On the very rainy morning of Saturday, December 3rd, Lutherlyn hosted the 7th annual Plunge! fundraiser. Eleven "Plungers" worked hard in the weeks ahead of the event encouraging their friends, families, and other contacts to sponsor their icy adventure and they crushed it! This year's team of Plungers raised more than \$12,300 for Lutherlyn's Annual Fund, which provides camperships for campers who need financial assistance in order to attend summer camp.

The Plunge also includes an aspect of friendly competition for our Plungers, where the person who raises the highest dollar amount in sponsorships is awarded the prestigious title of King or Queen Plunger. For the third time, Lutherlyn's own Todd Garcia-Bish (Director of Lutherlyn's Environmental Education Program) secured the title of King Plunger and was deemed worthy to wear the inflatable crown for another year. Additionally, due to the amazing fundraising results from our team of Plungers we decided a 2<sup>nd</sup> place Plunger should be recognized this year. Sandy Heasley (in photo: 2<sup>nd</sup> from left) was dubbed the Princess Plunger and was given the Golden Plunger, an award worthy of even the fanciest of mantles.

Want to join this silly event next year? Please reach out to Andi in the Development Office at [andrea@lutherlyn.com](mailto:andrea@lutherlyn.com). You won't just make a splash; you'll be making a difference too!



# Amphitheater Update



Groundbreaking—1979



Worship—Mid 90s



Wedding—1995



Dedication—1980



Affirmation Worship—2000



Worship—Mid 80s



Baptism—2011



Affirmation Worship—2022

### AMPHITHEATER DETAILS

The Steinger Memorial Amphitheater is such a special place for so many people for many reasons. We couldn't even begin to guess how many candles have floated on the pond, how many hugs shared and tears shed, how many wedding guests, how many people laughed at Randy's communion instructions (there is always more bread), how many have felt God's presence in that sacred space.

The Amphitheater has been deteriorating over the years and has reached the point where it needs significant renovations to remain a safe space. While we have done regular upkeep, the structure is sinking into the hillside and needs a fresh start.

So, now that the funds are in-hand for this project, we collected bids and hired a contractor for a major renovation of the Amphitheater. Construction will start in August 2023. Don't worry, it will not look much different. The pond, alter, cross, and stone work will look very much the same. The stairs and benches will have a concrete foundation and drainage that will last for many years (no more lifting all of the bricks/stones every few years to add slag under them). We will share photos throughout construction and hope that you will join us for the ground breaking in 2023 and the re-dedication in 2024.



# What's New at Lutherlyn

## HOLY TRINITY, WHOLLY LOVE - SUMMER 2023 CURRICULUM PREVIEW

Wading into the mystery of the Holy Trinity can be a daunting endeavor. But that is precisely what we are going to do this summer. We enter together into the wonder and truth of the Trinity in order to know God more fully and know ourselves more wholly. So, how do we even begin? Where do we start our journey into our understanding of the Holy Trinity? We begin with the end: the book of Revelation, where God declares, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." With Revelation 22:13 as our guiding text, this curriculum explores the Holy Trinity through the whole scope of God's love expressed from start to finish. Each day at camp is framed by a question that will open us to an aspect of the Trinity. As we ponder each question, the scripture text for the day will guide us into God's story of love for all creation that claims us and nourishes us. The daily questions are:

Who is God the creator?      Who is Jesus?      Who is the Holy Spirit?      Who am I?      Who are we?

Together, as camper and staff, we will discover the holiness of the Trinity, who abides with us and for us, revealing our own belovedness as we are wholly - from beginning to end - loved by God.

### SHUFFLEBOARD

The new shuffleboard courts were dedicated at Family Camp in memory of Earl Geyer, a longtime Family Camper who was the Family Camp Shuffleboard Tournament winner in years past. The new shuffleboard courts are next to the jump pillow and pavilion.



### CHEWY SNICKERDOODLE BARS

The #1 question that Chef Lisa gets from campers and guests: Can I have the recipe for those amazing snickerdoodle bars???

The answer: YES!!

- 2 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. cream of tartar
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 ½ cups sugar
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 1 cup butter
- 2 eggs
- 1 tbl. vanilla extract

For the topping:  
3 tbl. sugar  
2 tsp. cinnamon

Preheat oven to 350°. Grease 9" x 13" baking pan.

Whisk together flour, baking powder, cream of tartar and salt. In mixer bowl, beat butter until creamy. Blend in sugar, brown sugar and beat on high until light and fluffy, for about 3 minutes. Mix in eggs one at a time. Add vanilla and blend until smooth.

Mix in flour mixture until well combined. Spread evenly in prepared 9x13 cake pan. In a small bowl mix together sugar and cinnamon. Sprinkle over the batter. Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

### WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!



**Kara Russo** joined our full-time staff in August of 2022 as the Office Manager & Registrar. Kara was a camper and served on Summer Staff as a counselor and Day Camp Director.



**Jay Vinroe** joined the full-time staff in August of 2022. Jay is a great addition to the maintenance staff, helping to care for Lutherlyn's 660 acres, 90+ buildings, and 17 miles of trails.

### 2023 RETREATS & EVENTS

#### January

- 10-15 Quilting/Crafting Retreat
- 20-22 Winter Youth Retreat

#### February

- 1 Registration opens for Summer Camp 2023!
- 4 Compass & Orienteering Saturday Safari
- 17-19 Fathers and Sons Retreat
- 24-26 Grown-Up Winter Retreat

#### March

- 4 Maple Sugaring Saturday Safari
- 14-19 Quilting/Crafting Retreat
- 18 Blacksmithing Class

#### April

- 2 Shaulis Society 75th Anniversary Banquet
- 12 NWPA & SWPA Synod Rostered Leaders Day of Rest & Renewal
- 29 Spring Work Day
- 29 Blacksmithing Class

#### May

- 13 CAMPBLAST & 75th Birthday Party
- 13 Blacksmithing Class

#### June

- 4 Summer Staff Training Begins
- 10 75th Anniversary All-Staff Reunion
- 11 Trinity Pines Club Reception
- 18 Summer Camp Begins

#### July

- 1-31 Summer Camp

#### August

- 4 Last day of Summer Camp
- 6 Amphitheater Renovation Ground Breaking Worship
- 25-27 Grown-Up Camp

#### September

- 5-10 Quilting/Crafting Retreat
- 9 Mushrooms & Edible Plants Saturday Safari
- 9 Blacksmithing Class

#### October

- 14, 15 Woodland Quilters Quilt Show
- 14 Blacksmithing Class
- 22 Family Halloween Fun Day
- 25 NWPA & SWPA Synod Rostered Leaders Day of Rest & Renewal

#### November

- 4 Archaeology & Venango Trail Saturday Safari
- 14-19 Quilting/Crafting Retreat
- 18 Blacksmithing Class

#### December

- 1-3 Advent Retreat
- 2 The Plunge!
- 4 Advent Worship

Visit [lutherlyn.com/2023](http://lutherlyn.com/2023) for complete schedules, details, and registration.

### 2023 SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

<b>Week 1</b> June 18-23	Classic (JH & SH) Confirmation Camp (NWPA Synod) Life in the Wild (Jr. & JH) Staff In Training (SH) Horse Camp (Jr.) Adventurers (JH & SH)
<b>Week 2</b> June 25-30	Classic (Jr. & JH) Confirmation Camp (SWPA Synod) Horse Camp (JH) Adventurers (JH & SH) Young Folks (Sun-Wed) Grown Up & Me (Th & Fri) Small Fry Days (Th & Fri)
<b>Week 3</b> July 2-7	Family Camp On-Site Day Camp (1st-5th grade)
<b>Week 4</b> July 9-14	Arts & Musical (Jr. & JH) Classic (Jr. JH & SH) Horse Camp (Jr.) Adventurers (JH & SH)
<b>Week 5</b> July 16-21	Classic (Jr. & JH) Adventurers PLUS (SH) Advanced Horse Camp (JH & SH) Young Folks (Sun-Wed) Grown Up & Me (Th & Fri) Small Fry Days (Th & Fri)
<b>Week 6</b> July 23-28	Classic (Jr. & JH) Horse Camp (Jr.) Rocketry (JH & SH) Venture (SH) Junior Adventurers (Jr.)
<b>Week 7</b> July 30-Aug. 4	Classic (Jr. & JH) Night Owls (JH & SH) Rocketry (Jr.) Adventurers (JH & SH) Horse Camp (JH)

Young Folks - campers enter grades 2-3  
Junior (Jr.) - campers enter grades 4-6  
Junior High (JH) - campers enter grades 7-9  
Senior High (SH) - campers enter grades 10-12 or a 2023 graduate



# Special Highlights

## LUTHERLYN WISH LIST

### Site and Facility:

- Golf Cart for Nurses (prefer electric)
- 6' white plastic tables - Lifetime brand (16) \*
- 50' outdoor extension cords (10) \*
- Multi-plug power strips (10) \*
- Reliable minivans or SUVs with current inspection
- Reliable 4 wheel drive pickup truck with inspection
- Truckloads of 2A limestone (for roads and paths)
- Gift cards for Home Depot, Lowes, and Walmart
- New or like-new washers and dryers
- Painter's tape (blue) – 1" and 2" wide \*
- Tarps (all sizes, no holes) \*

### Summer Program:

- New washable markers \*
- New colored pencils
- Paint brushes \*
- Colored tissue paper \*
- Glue sticks \*
- New unscented jar candles

### Equestrian Center:

- Electric air compressor
- Waterproof sheets (68", 70", 78")
- Waterproof blankets (68", 70", 78")
- MSM joint supplement
- Horse multivitamin supplements
- Wet cat food
- Cat flea & tick treatment

### Food Service:

- 70 qt. Cooler \*

### Environmental Education:

- Kid and adult-sized rain coats

### Volunteers:

- Willing to help cut and split firewood
- Help regularly maintain plant beds around the dining hall porch
- Help to maintain flower beds around camp and the Amphitheater
- 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

### Office:

- Forever stamps
- Dry erase erasers \*
- Copy paper
- White cardstock \*
- Masking tape \*
- Blue painters tape
- Scissors \*
- Permanent markers
- New easels and paper pads

Items marked with \* can be found on our Amazon Wish List.

## LEMONADE ON THE LAWN

During the afternoon of June 12<sup>th</sup> Lutherlyn hosted a thank you event for members of the Trinity Pines Club who made gifts of \$200 or more in the previous year. Lemonade and cookies made for sweet conversations before everyone took their seats for a brief program. The President of Lutherlyn's Board of Directors (Rev. Sandra Jones), Executive Director (Deacon Deb Roberts), and Development Director (Andi Dunmyre), each shared updates about different programs and projects happening at camp. Additionally, Lutherlyn's Assistant Director (Rev. Ryan Fitch), shared a synopsis of the summer's Bible Study theme and then led us all in blessing the hygiene kits that would be assembled by our campers as our Under the Radar project. We also included everyone's favorite portion of our annual appreciation event – the Lutherlyn Summer Staff! The staff shared their enthusiasm for camp by performing some of their favorite camp songs.



## UNDER THE RADAR—SUMMER OFFERING PROJECT

Thanks to a grant from the SWPA Synod's Ethel L. Verney Fund, and the generosity of our summer campers and their families, more than 800 hygiene kits and \$3,000 were distributed throughout Western PA in August. 500 kits were delivered to Light of Life Rescue Mission in Pittsburgh and 300 kits were given to churches throughout Erie. These kits were given to those experiencing homelessness. Throughout the summer, campers gave their time to assemble the hygiene kits. Many campers also supported the project by making donations from their camp store accounts. Please join us in thanking the Ethel L. Verney Fund and 2022's summer campers for making a difference for our neighbors in need!



## THRIVENT

Are you a Thrivent policy holder? You can support Lutherlyn as a Thrivent client at no additional cost to you:

### Designate your Choice Dollars:

Last year, nearly two hundred Thrivent members designated some, or all, of their Choice Dollars to Lutherlyn resulting in more than \$22,000 in funding, which helped provide camperships for campers who needed help paying the camp fee.

Not all Thrivent accounts/policies are part of the Choice Dollar program. Choice Dollars must be designated each year before March 31. To designate Choice Dollars, or to find out if your Thrivent membership qualifies call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted.

### Lead a Thrivent Action Team:

Gather a team and Thrivent will provide the resources you need to get started (including up to \$250 in seed money). Past Action Teams have completed a huge variety of projects at camp, from buying containers and organizing camper craft supplies, to helping assemble a section of the boardwalk for the Universal Access Trail, to building a new mounting block for the Equestrian Center, and more.

To plan an Action Team project, please call Andi in the Development Office to discuss the projects from camp's to-do list that may be best for your group.

To learn more about how to leverage your Thrivent relationship for the organizations you love (like Lutherlyn!) visit [thrivent.com/generosity](http://thrivent.com/generosity).



## SPRING WORK DAY

Please consider joining us on April 29th for the Spring Work Day.

There are projects for all ages and skill levels to help get camp ready for CampBlast and summer.

We need your help to get camp ready!

## VOLUNTEER NURSES

Each summer we rely on the help of many volunteer camp nurses. We have 2 nurses on-site for each week of summer camp, plus an additional 2-3 nurses each Sunday to help with check-in.

If you or someone you know might be willing to volunteer as a camp nurse, please contact Lutherlyn. Nurses receive a free week of camp for their children/grandchildren.

## SAVE THE DATE:

The 2023 Trinity Pines Club Program is on June 11, 2023

(Anyone who donated \$200 or more in 2022 will be invited to attend the Trinity Pines Club event.)



# Director's Notes

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

It is an exciting time in the life of Lutherlyn! It is such an honor to serve as Lutherlyn's Executive Director; especially as we celebrate 75 years of ministry, live into a five-year strategic plan, and conduct a campaign to enhance Lutherlyn's future. Thank you for being a part of the Lutherlyn family with me. One of the things that I most look forward to in 2023 is all of the ways that we will celebrate Lutherlyn's 75th anniversary together. I am excited to see friends from Lutherlyn's past and hear stories of life-changing adventures in faith at Lutherlyn over the past 75 years, while also celebrating this milestone with a whole new summer of campers who will be here for Lutherlyn's 100th, 125th, and 150th anniversaries!



I had the pleasure of spending several hours with Betty Sue Lehev in October as she shared photos, stories, and memories with me. It is so special to listen to someone who was here when Lutherlyn started, share the ways that her experience at Lutherlyn has shaped her life. It was particularly significant to me because it is so similar to the way that Lutherlyn has impacted my life, even though I arrived at Lutherlyn 40+ years later. I am so thankful for friends, like Betty Sue, who share their stories with us.

It has also been meaningful to hear stories from friends of camp as we prepare for a major renovation of the Steininger Memorial Amphitheater. The Building for the Future Campaign has given me the opportunity to talk with so many of you about your time at camp. As you have shared your stories with me, I also remember sitting on the floor of the Amphitheater with each of my counselors on Friday nights for Affirmation Worship (Hi Duck, Jen, Lori, Carol, Stacy, & Gina). Jeff and I got married in the Amphitheater, Grace was baptized in the Amphitheater, I have watched both of my kids float candles on the pond with their counselors. There are so many of you with similar stories. It is exciting to prepare that space for future campers and friends of camp.

If you have not heard from us about the campaign yet, please know that we will reach out to you sometime in the next 12-18 months about participating in the Building for the Future Campaign. If you are a former summer staffer; the All-Staff Reunion will kick-off the staff alumni phase of the campaign with some fun competitions between the decades of former staff.

Lutherlyn's 5 core areas of ministry (Summer Camp, Retreat/Events, Environmental Education, Equestrian Program, and Adventure Program) continue to be our focus as we prepare for the future. Each program has its own joys and challenges that we are addressing to continue to be good stewards of Lutherlyn's resources. Summer Camp was wonderful and our camper numbers have returned to "pre-pandemic" level, however a shortage of summer staff forced us to cancel day camps and reduce on-site capacity in 2022. Retreat groups have returned and we have a greater number of groups coming for retreats/events, however, many of those groups have fewer participants than they have in the past. We could use your help with recruiting summer staff, encouraging new campers to come to summer camp, and bringing new retreat groups to Lutherlyn. We have a marketing plan in place for each of these needs also, but word of mouth from people who already know and trust Lutherlyn is still the best way to spread the word.

I have one final request for you: please come to camp sometime in 2023. The staff, Board of Directors, and I are hopeful that the 75th Anniversary will serve as an open invitation for Lutherlyn's friends to come back to camp, reminisce, and help us kick-off the next 75 years of ministry. In addition to all of the ways that we are celebrating Lutherlyn's anniversary, there is also a wide variety of retreats, events, and programs that you are invited to participate in.

Again, thank you so much for being a part of the Lutherlyn family. Receiving this newsletter in the mail means that you have, in some way, been a part of Lutherlyn's 75 year history. I am so thankful for each of you and I look forward to many more years of ministry at Lutherlyn with you. We will continue to work together to be a God-given place to be accepted, challenged, and sent out into the world to make a difference!

Your Partner in Ministry,

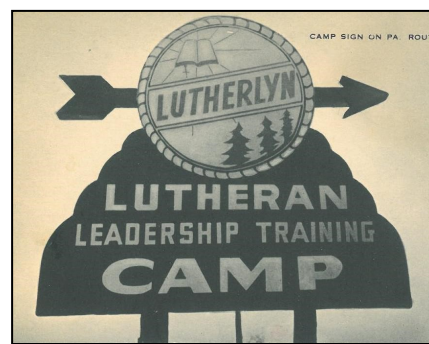
P.S. If you are not able to join us for an anniversary celebration this year, I would still love to hear your stories about Lutherlyn. Feel free to e-mail [deb@lutherlyn.com](mailto:deb@lutherlyn.com) or call 724-865-2161 to share your stories with me.

## \$100 OFF FOR FIRST TIME CAMPERS

Use coupon code **FIRST** when registering to receive \$100 off the registration fee for Summer Camp. This applies to Lutherlyn's residential week-long programs. Young Folks half-week program is \$50 off for FIRST-TIME campers with the same code.

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.



Original Entrance Sign



Chapel Hill Cross—1951



Rev. Steininger, Rev. Shaulis, Rev. Daugherty, Dr. Rice

### 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.

### MISSION STATEMENT

Lutherlyn extends the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ, by inviting all people to engage the Word of God, one another, and themselves in an intentional, challenging, exciting, and fun outdoor Christian community centered in the grace of God and the goodness of earth and life.



Lutherlyn has a social media presence on Facebook and Instagram. Check out "Camp Lutherlyn" for regular updates from Lutherlyn.



Lutherlyn sends out a monthly e-newsletter. If you would like to receive a monthly update from camp, please visit [www.lutherlyn.com/newsletter](http://www.lutherlyn.com/newsletter) to sign up!

