

# THE LINK

YOUR CONNECTION TO WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

SPRING 2019 | Vol LXXXI No. 2, May 2019



## Camp Changes Everything: Even for a First-Time Camper

By Pastor Jennifer Shirmota Krushas  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, High Point, NC

**T**hat summer Sunday afternoon when I was signing Thurjang in with his counselor, I explained that he had never been to camp and was feeling pretty nervous. Thurjang is a great kid with a huge heart, but he sometimes has a hard time in large groups, and he doesn't always make friends quickly. His counselor assured me he'd look out for him.



When the week was over, I parked the church van near the cabin area, found his counselor and said, "I'm here

to pick up Thurjang." His counselor looked confused, and for a minute I thought I was in the wrong place. Then, he asked, "Oh, do you mean T.J.?" I said, "No, Thurjang." He called over to a group of kids near a cabin and said, "T.J., your pastor is here to get you!" Thurjang looked over and saw me, grabbed his things,

and started toward us.

As we loaded his things in the back of the van, I asked him if it was okay that they called him T.J. Having an uncommon



*T.J. is standing (second from right) with others from camp*

name sometimes means people give you a nickname because they are not willing to fit your name on their tongue. This remarkable son of Sudanese immigrants has to fit into other people's expectations often enough; I hoped camp was not one of those places. He looked at me and said, "I like T.J. a lot. I want to be T.J. at school and at church, too. People here are nice, and nobody makes fun of anybody."

The rest of the kids loaded up their things and hopped in the van, and as we drove away, I realized Thurjang had been given a new name. T.J. was a baptismal name for him. I suppose the kids in his cabin have no idea that their kindness, joy, laughter, vulnerability, and welcome were washing away a certain kind of loneliness and replacing it with a sense of belonging.

## Remembering Founders in the Faith

NovusWay Ministry recently lost two individuals who were pillars in the formation of camper's lives and in the founding of camp ministry.



*Romania "Mama" Cline*

Romania "Mama" Cline  
By The Rev. P. Shannon Mullen

**I**n March of this year, a generation of former Lutheridge staff members experienced the loss of a beloved member of the family, Romania Echerd Cline. Of course, most of

us didn't know her as Romania. Most of us knew her as **"Mama Cline."**

Mama Cline was a part of the Lutheridge family both as a member of staff and as a resident. She served on staff in various capacities from 1976 to 1992, including helping with childcare, overseeing general duty and weekend duty



*continued on page 2*

Fall Program information – See pages 5 & 6 inside or go online to [www.novusway.org](http://www.novusway.org) for summer camp and fall program information at all sites.



## Remembering Founders in the Faith continued from page 1

staff members, and as hostess of the Thornburg Hall. She lived in a home in the Lutheridge residential neighborhood from 1980 to 1993.

Serving during a time before Lutheridge had sufficient housekeeping staff to quickly turn over the lodging in Thornburg Hall and Kohnjoy Inn for new guests each week, Mama Cline played a strong role in the life of summer staff members, especially when they were assigned "weekend duty." She was an exacting taskmaster who lived by the motto *"Do it right, or do it again!"*

As Pastor Rhodes Woolly shared at the celebration of her 97-year life, held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Salisbury NC, *"this bossy, opinionated, teddy bear of a woman is someone we're going to miss terribly. We will miss that sparkle in her eyes as she laughed, told another story, or offered a brutally honest opinion."*

If this article does not sound as if it was written by a dispassionate reporter, it is because I too was one of Mama Cline's Lutheridge children. Her reaching the end of her long and faithful journey brought back memories and emotions from a time in my past that was deeply formative for my life. At the time of her death, I posted the following on Facebook...

I would like to invite those who worked with Mama Cline at Lutheridge - no, STRIKE that... those who worked FOR Mama Cline at Lutheridge to consider joining my family in making a donation to NovusWay to honor her legacy!

To me, Romania was sweet and strict, kind and demanding, stern and hilarious. She expected all us children to do our best for Lutheridge and she was proud of us and all that we accomplished.

Still today when I make up a bed, I fold the bedspread and pillows together in exactly the way she taught me to do it. And I think of her every time.

I give thanks to God that I was blessed to have Mama Cline as an influential part of my life. I give thanks that her legacy of faith and love and "doing it right the first time" lives on in her Lutheridge children.

Mama Cline's family has asked that those who want to make a gift to honor her memory consider NovusWay. They have designated that funds given be used for road repair and paving of Lutheridge camp roads. This is certainly an appropriate use of memorial funds. Mama Cline is also fondly remembered as the first person on camp to own a golf cart and she would not have approved of any potholes slowing her down!



**Rev. Paul Christ** passed away on April 1, 2019 while a resident of Hickory, North Carolina. Paul was on the site team that located the property for Luther Springs. He was on the committee that called Bob Kuehner, the founding director. In addition, he did some

work on the first staff training program. His daughter Jacque was a member of the first summer camp program of day camps in Florida, when Carl Kelly and Bob Kuehner transported the staff around the state. The first year of camping in Florida included not only day camps (including some time at Key West) but also some time at the Luther Springs site.

Paul enjoyed serving the Lord for nearly 50 years with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, having pastored churches in Belfair, WA; Yellowstone National Park; Grosse Pointe, MI; Bradenton, FL; Vero Beach, FL; Kure Beach, NC; and Hickory, NC; most recently at Messiah Lutheran, Hickory, NC. He was an assistant to the bishop in Detroit, MI, where he also served as camp director for three camps throughout the state, then camps in Felton, CA, and Kure Beach, NC.



Rev. Paul Christ



Rev. Paul Christ (seated rt.) with Bob Kuehner (seated left), Don Pelt (standing left), and Carl Kelly (standing rt.) at the 25th Anniversary weekend at Luther Springs in 2015.

In the words of Sarah Anderson, Site Director at Luther Springs, *"After his visit on the Anniversary weekend we quickly became very good friends. He and his wife had visited a couple of times after that. He was such a witty man and his humor was the best. He in his own way was kind of like the founding father of Luther Springs - from the purchase of the property to the hiring of Bob Kuehner, his touch was everywhere. He will be missed by so many...myself included."*



## An Ongoing Legacy Gift for Luther Springs

The news came by phone call from a very excited "Miss Sarah" Anderson to Pastor Jan Setzler in February. *"I'm holding in my hands a check for \$100,000,"* she exclaimed!

It was a legacy gift from the Transition Team of Faith Lutheran Church, Old Timuquana Road, Jacksonville, Florida.

Faith Lutheran Church, Jacksonville closed in 2017. The congregation disbanded and a Transition Team was elected by the congregation to sell the property. A phone call from Mr. Fred Luethy, Treasurer of the congregation and Transition Team, to Pastor Setzler in early January brought news of the sale of the property. A series of conversations followed, exploring Luther Springs' ministry and the various opportunities to support. *"There was no indication of the size of the gift,"* Setzler recalls. *"Just that the property had been sold and the Transition Team was considering a gift to Luther Springs and it's ministry to children. We were all overjoyed at the size of the gift."*



The accompanying letter from Mr. Luethy on behalf of the team directed that \$50,000 of the gift be used for new construction. It's perfect timing! Construction costs for the new Atonement Chapel have increased about 5% a year since the campaign budget was prepared in 2014. Projected costs for the new chapel increased by \$100,000 over campaign projections. Faith's gift helps the ministry meet half the increased construction costs.

Faith directed the other \$50,000 be applied to camper scholarships. **Camper scholarships are always a great need, and annual fund gifts each year reduce the cost of every program for every participant.**

Additional contributions for scholarships are often needed because no one is ever turned away from any program offered across the ministry. To meet this need NovusWay distributes \$100,000-\$125,000 in scholarship support to nearly 500 participants of all ages each year.

To honor the memory of Faith's ministry, NovusWay used \$10,000 of the \$50,000 to create a permanent, endowed Faith Lutheran Church, Jacksonville camper scholarship. Faith's legacy provides scholarship support for a significant number of campers this year. The Faith Scholarship will send kids to camp year after year thereafter.

A community ministry, Inspire to Rise, bought Faith's property. Ms. Aida Seeraj, the ministry's Founder and Chief Executive Officer, says that this property will be The Community Center Project. From this facility the ministry will serve the nearly 62,000 people in the immediate area, 22% of whom fall below the federal poverty level.

If you or your congregation would like to help with annual fund gifts, contact The Rev. John (Jan) Setzler at 864-942-2974 or [jsetzler@novusway.org](mailto:jsetzler@novusway.org).



Rev. Jan Setzler



## Summer is Here! And We Need Your Help

Summer camp season is upon us! We are busy preparing for the nearly 3,000 campers and guests who will visit the four sites of NovusWay Ministries this

summer. We are also getting ready for the influx of nearly 140 summer staff members who will faithfully serve alongside our year-round staff.

In this Spring 2019 issue, we highlight many of the needs that we have at each of our sites to offer the best camp experience for our campers and guests this summer. Please see the adjoining article that lists our needs and prayerfully consider making a gift to ensure that our ministry can continue sharing the life-changing truth of Jesus Christ this summer.

Perhaps you would like to sponsor a counselor whose life will be changed and who, in turn, will change the lives of the young people entrusted to their care. Or, perhaps you can help us with camper scholarships, art supplies, climbing gear, training expenses, or even the fireworks for the Fourth of July.

As we prepare our sites for summer, we remind ourselves that these are not just buildings, ballfields, gaga ball courts, and zip lines. They are tools for ministry. It is through these places, and in these cabins, tents, hammocks, and chairs, that campers make new friends and form Christian community. It is in these outdoor chapels, high ropes courses, and canoes that campers experience new challenges that help them to grow and to see the world differently. It is in these buildings and on these grounds that counselors show care, mentor, and love these kids unconditionally. It is here, at Lutheridge, Lutherock, Luther Springs, and Lutheranch, where God speaks, and we take the time to listen.

And that's why we ask for your continued financial support. Your gifts fund God's ministry of touching and changing lives in these "places set apart." Please join us again in praying for and supporting this summer's ministry. We are truly grateful for your partnership in this important work God has given us to do!

Warmly and with gratitude,

Boyd W. Harris IV  
Executive Director-CEO

## Volunteer Week At Lutheranch



We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who came out to Lutheranch mid-April to participate in Volunteer Week. We had 18 volunteers participate throughout the week along with 4 staff members. Also, we thank Thrivent and those who acquired Thrivent gift cards to help fund our projects and meals for the volunteers. They truly made a difference!



(continued on page 8)

## Staffing Updates



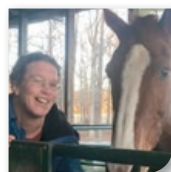
**Chandler Carriker**, NovusWay VP of Program and Engagement

I'm going to go out on a limb here and confess something: I love camp! I might be new here at NovusWay, but I think it's a safe space to share that opinion. I am rejoining the mission of these sacred spaces as VP for Program and Engagement since I was last on summer staff in 2005. My vision of what camp means in God's mission for the sake of the world has grown and changed in all of the wonderful places I've served. I'm excited to bring these stories with me.

Serving at the Lutheran seminaries in Gettysburg and Philadelphia, I consistently heard stories about seminarians who experienced God's call for them at a Lutheran camp. Places apart gave them the opportunity to listen and put gifts into action. Through a program called Theological Education with Youth we invited youth to these places of higher theological education and saw the spirit of camp come together with the deep dive into the mysteries of our faith. It was a vision of camp as a place that not only lit the fire, but equipped people with the skills needed to follow Jesus into the world.

Serving at Lutheran World Relief, I saw how the generosity of Lutherans spread across God's world to make a difference in the lives of the global poor. For so many of my friends who brought incredible skills to this work, they had an experience at camp which called them to this work. As I traveled the world, in communities from Nicaragua to India, I had experiences of hospitality and care for God's good creation which echoed what I experienced at camp. It was a vision of camp as a place rooted in creation and calling us to care for those in need.

Now, as I join you and this awesome team at NovusWay, these visions of camp come with me. I'm excited to learn about your vision for camp in your life, in your family's life, and in your congregation's life. For, as the apostles experienced on Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit is at work, the young will see visions and the old will see dreams. From leadership training at Luther Springs, to horses at Lutheranch, to spelunking at Lutherock, to a congregational retreat at Lutheridge, how is God filling you with new visions and dreams of what camp can be for your life of discipleship?



**Gretchen Ahrens**, Lutheranch Program Director, Equine and Summer Camp

Gretchen Ahrens has been involved in outdoor ministries for over 15 years. She has served on staff at Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries (Ashland, NE) and at the Calvin Center in Hampton,

GA. Her roles have varied from Summer Program Director to Equestrian Director to Special Needs Coordinator. She is familiar with all elements of camp from the waterfront to ropes course. She is a PATH (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship) International Advanced Instructor, a Special Olympics Coach and an American Association for Horsemanship Safety Full Instructor. In her free time, Gretchen loves riding her two horses (Nate and Tootsie), reading, traveling to Puerto Rico, and attempting new campfire cooking challenges.



**Jen Bacher**, Lutherock Program Coordinator

We are excited to announce that Jen Bacher will be joining the Lutherock staff in May for a 12-month internship to complete her candidacy requirements for rostered ministry in the ELCA. Jen will be responsible for leading summer camp and developing non-summer

programming, in addition to providing hospitality to guests and assisting with other onsite activities at Lutherock.

Jen is a long-time lover of outdoor ministry and attended her first week of summer camp at Lutherock over 20 years ago. She has since spent 5 summers on staff at Lutherock with numerous retreats, reunions, and just-for-fun visits in-between. It was Jen's time at camp which helped her to discern her call to ministry, and she is currently completing her final semester of study at Luther Seminary in Saint Paul, Minnesota, where she will receive a Master's degree in Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. Jen also serves as one of the seminary's Artists-in-Residence.

One of Jen's passions in life is to "help things grow." She loves tending to young leaders, sowing seeds of faith in young people, and caring for plants and animals as well. Along with her camp experience, Jen hopes to bring to NovusWay and Lutherock her creative talents, love for God's creation, and Christ's message of peace and welcome to all who will visit camp in the coming year.



# Your Gifts Change Everything...

Your gifts to the annual fund in 2019 will make the camp experience possible for campers, counselors, and guests. Your gift can be designated to help meet needs at a specific location or used for a specific purpose. A list is provided here for your consideration. Any questions can be directed to Keith Trout at [kttrout@novusway.org](mailto:kttrout@novusway.org) or by calling 864-313-1453. A donation envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Others give by volunteering their time by working on volunteer projects . An example is Norman Hilmer of Conover, North Carolina, who has been volunteering his time at Lutheridge doing electrical work. He has been working in the Pioneer B apartment and rewiring the wagon wheel lights in Efird Hall. Al Mullens of Lincolnton, North Carolina has led members of the Western North Carolina Builders group to Lutheridge to work on the PB Cabins. A heartfelt thank you goes out to all who came out to the Lutheranch volunteer week. The group from Grace Lutheran Church, Carrollton, GA have been loyal Lutheranch volunteers and financial supporters for many years. Thanks to all of you volunteers for your hard work! Contact Craig Rieger at [crieger@novusway.org](mailto:crieger@novusway.org) or Kevin Clifton [kclifton@novusway.org](mailto:kclifton@novusway.org) (Lutheridge) if you would like to know about projects that your volunteer group can help with at each of our sites.

A list of items that are currently in need at each camp are listed below:

**Lutheridge:**

- Golf carts
- Wheelchair (gently used)

**Lutheranch:**

- Wheelchair (gently used)
- AED machine (\$1,200)
- English or Western Saddles\*
- Bits, bridles and reins\*
- English or Western saddle pads\*
- Halters and leadropes\*
- Water buckets and feed pans\*
- Water troughs for the pastures\*
- Rodent proof bins for storing feed\*
- Water hoses\*
- ASTM/SEI Riding helmets\*
- Gently used truck and horse trailer \*

**Lutherock:**

- SUV or Mini-van
- Chainsaw
- Weedeater

**Luther Springs:**

- AED Machine (\$1,200)
- Wheelchair (gently used)



**\*Lutheranch** is starting up their equine program and could use donations of the above items (new or gently used). At this time they are not ready to accept donations of horses. If you would like to donate the cost of a horse in the future, approximate cost is \$3,000. To purchase NEW supplies for the program, contact Mags Mobile Tack at 770-825-2203 or access this Amazon wish list link: <https://amzn.to/2Hakov6>.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Members

You may want to help our camps by donating an in-kind gift based on current needs. For example, a group from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Columbia, South Carolina was recently at Lutheridge for a church event. They requested a grill from guest services staff and finding our grill to be “well used,” they were kind enough to take it upon themselves to purchase a new grill for the camp! Thank you to those church members who saw a need and took steps to fill that need. This type of giving enhances the ministry as well as monetary donations.

## Other Camp Sponsorship Opportunities

ALL CAMPS	AMOUNT	LUTHERIDGE continued	AMOUNT	LUTHEROCK continued	AMOUNT
Counselor	\$ 3,350	Outing Sites/National Forest Use	\$ 2,100	Backpacks	\$ 1,000
Sr. Leadership Staff Person	\$ 4,150	Vehicle Rental for Outings (per week)	\$ 3,100	Climbing Gear	\$ 2,000
LUTHERIDGE CAMP SPONSORSHIPS		Vehicle Rental (per outing)	\$ 650	Wilderness First Aid	\$ 2,500
Lifeguard training	\$ 2,000	Bus Rental	\$ 3,200	Staff Shirts	\$ 700
Wilderness 1st Aid	\$ 1,700	Music Week – organ rental	\$ 1,200	LUTHERANCH	
Ropes Course Training	\$ 2,500	Music Week – music purchase	\$ 3,000	Supplies & Seating for New Craft Barn	\$ 600
Craft Supplies	\$ 4,250	Music Week – Clinicians (15)	\$ 1,500	Equipment	\$ 200
Mid-Summer Pause Costs	\$ 2,000	Pool Operation (one week)	\$ 1,100	Nursing Supplies	\$ 200
Kidzcamp Supplies	\$ 1,000	Fireworks	\$ 1,500	Forestry and Grounds	\$ 750
Patches	\$ 1,500	LUTHEROCK	AMOUNT	Maintaining Fleet	\$ 500
Mid-Summer Pause	\$ 2,000	Ropes Course, Tower inspection & repairs	\$ 4,000	Environmental Education Supplies	\$ 400
Fireworks	\$ 2,000	Ropes Course and Tower training	\$ 5,000	Outdoor Cooking Equipment	\$ 300
Recreation Supplies	\$ 1,250	Rock climbing inspection	\$ 1,000	General Programming	\$ 1,200
Songbooks	\$ 500	Rock climbing training	\$ 1,500	Support Camp – 1 week	\$ 5,500
Radio Rental	\$ 2,000	Recreation supplies	\$ 750	LUTHER SPRINGS	
Summer Program Supplies	\$ 4,500	Songbooks	\$ 500	Craft Supplies	\$ 1,300
Staff Shirts	\$ 2,500	Mid-summer Pause	\$ 750	General Program Supplies (one week)	\$ 500
Nursing Supplies	\$ 2,500	Staff Support and Training	\$ 5,000	Nursing Supplies	\$ 1,000
Outdoor Education Equipment	\$ 2,000	Laundry / Linen Expense	\$ 4,000	Staff Support and Training	\$ 5,800
		General Program Supplies	\$ 750	Pool Operation (one week)	\$ 1,000
		Maintaining Fleet	\$ 4,000	Forestry and Grounds	\$ 1,000
		Nursing Supplies	\$ 1,000	Maintaining Fleet	\$ 5,000



**REGISTRATION IS OPEN AT  
WWW.NOVUSWAY.ORG OR CALL 828-684-2361**

## FAITH ALIVE

Confirmation Retreats

Lord's Prayer or Apostles' Creed: Sept 27-29, 2019

New Testament Overview – Nov 15-17, 2019

Holy Baptism or Holy Communion – Feb 7-9, 2020

Ten Commandments or Luther/Reformation – April 24-26, 2020

\$194 Youth/ \$97 Adult

**Register 30 days prior and receive \$30 off**



Seven retreats over four weekends. Lutheridge staff provide supervision and creative, active lessons, relating the small catechism to today's youth. Lessons are geared to middle school, but 5<sup>th</sup> grade and high school are welcome. Songs, games, crafts, campfire – all create lasting memories. This is fun and faith at its best! Adults are welcome but not required to

attend. For each weekend where two tracks are offered – choose only one.

## Congregational Vitality Retreat

Aug 23-25, 2019 and Jan 17-19, 2020

\$340.000 Single Room / \$240 double room

Serving on Congregational Council is an honor and a calling – and it CAN deepen faith and build community. But council meetings often get bogged down in minutia and confusion, instead of visioning God's future and taking steps to get there. This guided retreat for congregational councils will make a difference. Rev. Mike Ward, CFRE will offer a combination of group presentations and individual council time designed to enliven faith sharing and focus energy. Space is limited to 6 councils.



## 50Forward Canoe Trip

Sept 12-15, 2019 (Thurs evening – Sunday morning)

\$250 per person

Pastor Tim Canniff-Kuhn will lead adults 50+ on a paddle down the French Broad River. This flat section of the river winds through Asheville, including beautiful Biltmore Estate,

with no rapids and few obstacles. Spend two nights at Lutheridge and one night camping by the river – including a celebration meal. No experience needed. Most equipment provided. This will be an adventure to remember.

## Quilt Retreat

Sept 26-29, 2019

\$267 on site/\$207 Commuter

Join Mitzie Schafer for a weekend of stitching fun. Bring your own project and "quilt 'til you wilt"! Enjoy devotions, a lecture on Quilt Yoga, a Trunk Show, Show & Tell plus delicious meals, a lovely setting and Mitzie's help with all your projects. (Find out more about Mitzie at [www.jitterywings.com](http://www.jitterywings.com)) Field trips to fabric stores and the Asheville Quilt Show are also an option. Bring friends and make new ones.



## 50Forward Living Well: Face to Face

Oct 18-20, 2019

\$230 per person

Gather with others in the late career/early retirement years to find inspiration for Living Well. Keynote Speaker Susan Pinker (The Village Effect) will explore face to face interaction as essential for health and longevity. Workshops – including Ballroom Dancing and Community for Introverts - will

offer help to expand rather than lose community at this stage of life. Creative worship and lively entertainment from the "Sound Investment" band bring fun and faith together. Enjoy an amazing weekend of good food and friends in the beauty of fall colors in the mountains. See [50Forwardlife.org](http://50Forwardlife.org) for schedule and presenters.



## Harvest Festival Weekend

Oct. 25 - 27, 2019

\$79 Youth | \$99 Adult



Come enjoy the sites, sounds, and flavors of fall in the mountains! This weekend will be full of fun for everyone; bring your family or bring your youth group. Families will be housed in the Crow's Nest, youth groups housed in camper cabins. Enjoy all the festivities of our harvest festival on Saturday followed by our Harvest banquet; a wonderful homemade dinner with all the flavors of fall in the south. End the day with a lively campfire and gourmet smore's bar!



## Harvest Festival Day Trip

Oct. 26, 2019

\$15.00 admission |

\$5.00 meal ticket |

Group Discounts for 10+

A day full of Fall fun, one price admission covers all day activities. Enjoy activities such as, hayrides, pumpkin painting, ropes course, zip lining, apple picking and apple cider pressing, bounce house, sack races, face painting and much more! This is a great outing for your family or a church group. Festivities start at 10am and end at 5pm. You can purchase a meal ticket for lunch and snacks or you can bring your own picnic to enjoy on the grounds.



## The Rock 5K Trail Race

Oct 26, 2019

\$25.00

The 5k Trail Race is a fundraising event to help raise money for camper scholarships. Get a t-shirt for entering! Race starts at 10:30 am and will be timed.



## Family ADVENT-URE

Dec 6 - 8, 2019

\$70.00 Youth | \$110.00 Adult

Bring your family and join us on an ADVENT-URE this Christmas season! Disconnect from the hustle and bustle of the holiday season and spend a fun weekend with us at Lutherock. Create lasting memories of Christmas carols sung around a crackling fireplace with a warm cup of cocoa. Spend time stringing popcorn and making ornaments to decorate our Christmas tree. Enjoy activities such as an onsite scavenger hunt to find foliage to make a family Advent wreath, bake and decorate Christmas cookies, build ginger bread houses, participate in a special project for a nearby children's home and enjoy a family Bible study led by Pastor Will Rose and Cindy Morton Rose. There will also be the opportunity for you to go to a nearby Christmas tree farm to cut down your own Christmas tree for an additional cost.





**TO REGISTER CALL 828-684-2361  
OR WWW.NOVUSWAY.ORG**

## God's Work Our Hands - Volunteer Event

September 14, 2019 | FREE EVENT



Youth groups, men's groups, women's groups, congregations, families, individuals! Projects may include clearing trails, chopping wood, painting, cleaning, sorting and organizing or a special building project. Our main day of service will be Saturday, with lunch provided.

Overnight accommodations are based on availability. Space is limited! Contact Sue Mendenhall at (727) 415-9887 to let her know you will be attending. There is a small fee for overnight accommodations.

## Practice Discipleship Retreat

September 26-29, 2019

Come to rest, re-energize, and reconnect with God and His action in our lives! Thursday evening, we will gather for a time of networking and hospitality. Friday will have two all day intensive care courses: Church Safety & Home Grown Faith. Sat/Sun, we will offer workshops geared to equip you in your ministry to children and youth. Register for just one day or all four! To register, go to [www.FBSynod.com/Youth](http://www.FBSynod.com/Youth) or contact Sue Mendenhall at (727) 415-9887.

## Trailblazers

November 8-10, 2019

\$133 Youth | \$97 Adult

**\$30 off youth rate when registered 30 days prior**

Theme: Bible Exploration! How do we read the Bible? How do we look up a Bible verse? Why is there an Old Testament and a New Testament?



We will explore our Bibles, play games, canoe, do archery, swim, make crafts and enjoy campfires! Students will stay in cabins with counselors and can come on their own or with a church group. Adult leaders and/or parent chaperones are welcome to join us and stay in the Kuehner Center which has motel style rooms.



## Faith Journey Confirmation

October 18-20, 2019 – Old Testament

January 17-19, 2020 – New Testament

March 20-22, 2020 - Stewardship

\$147 Youth | \$97 Adult

**\$30 off youth rate when registered 30 days prior**

Bring your confirmation class to Luther Springs and let us do the teaching. Whether you bring youth to an occasional retreat to enhance what they are already learning or if you send youth to each of our retreats to cover



all their confirmation learning time, come join us on the journey! Luther Springs' counselors will guide campers through the weekend including worship, Bible study, campfires, games, canoeing, archery, swimming, hiking and more! Individual campers welcome as well as church groups.



## Camp Rewind

Sept. 20 - 22, 2019

\$299 Single

\$249 Double

(introductory Rate)

Adult Summer Camp

Weekend



Recapture the joy of summer camp at Camp Rewind. Put on your high-top sneakers and favorite retro T-shirt for a weekend full of fun, camp themed activities for adults; everything from playing outdoor games and creating your own Arts & Crafts project, to singing songs and telling stories

around the evening campfire. Bring a friend or make some new friends as we laugh, play, worship and build community, summer camp style.

## God Spa for Women

Oct. 18 - 20, 2019

\$199 Double | \$249 Single

Come join us for our annual women's retreat at Lutheranch. The weekend will include opportunities for prayer and meditation, Bible study, worship, spa activities, crafts, fellowship and relaxation.

## Family Faith Alive

Nov. 8 - 10, 2019

\$199.00 per person

(introductory rate)

Middle and high school aged youth, along with their parents/guardians are invited to come to Lutheranch for a weekend of Bible study, spiritual conversation, worship, games and outdoor activities.

Separate tracks will be offered for youth and adults to give each group time for their own discussion and fellowship, with some joint sessions and activities. Come alone or with a group. All are invited to grow and share their faith in Christ.



## Christmas on the Ranch

Dec. 6 - 8, 2019

\$279 Adult Single Room | \$229 Double

\$169 Youth staying with family



Merry Christmas! Let us help you get into the holiday spirit this Advent season by joining us at Lutheranch for a festive, family focused weekend retreat. Activities will include making Christmas tree ornaments and homemade holiday cards, singing Christmas carols, attending an Advent worship service, going for a walk in the winter woods, gazing at the Christmas stars, and drinking hot cocoa by the campfire. Participate in as many or as few activities as you please. All ages are welcome.

**\*New this year:**

**Deposits will be required for all programs.**



# Magnitude Of Gratitude

## RidgeRock Builders • Ranch Builders • Friends of Luther Springs

The following donors have attained their gift levels from January 1 to March 31, 2019. Please note that the list does not include contributions to Standing on the Promise, Complete the Dream or Mission Possible Campaigns.

### Ridge Rock Builders

#### Keystone (\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Mr. Steven D. Heinemann

#### NovusWay Champion

##### (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Burton

#### Cornerstone (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Mr. and Mrs. Robin Bryan

Dr. and Mrs. Walter A. Carpenter

#### Master Builder (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Mr. Robert and Eleanor Clune -Estate Of

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd W. Harris IV

The Rev. Klaus O. R. Koch and

Mrs. Leona Feldhausen

Ms. Linda E. Lael

Mrs. Peggy K. Mann

Dr. and Mrs. Heinz Riehl

Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Thornburg

The Rev. Mike and Hannah Ward

#### Builder (\$500 to \$999)

Anonymous

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Bartholomew

Mr. and Mrs. James R. Beam

Ms. Nancy C. Bremmer

The Revs. Tim and Mary Canniff-Kuhn

Ms. Cheryl B. Carpenter

Mr. Donald A. Caughman

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Geier

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Hollenbach

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas V. Matthews

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Mims

The Rev. P. Shannon Mullen

and Ms. Kami Kinard

Mr. and Mrs. Mark C. Ritchie

Mr. and Mrs. Joel H. Searfoss

Mr. and Mrs. Lance A. Sellers

The Rev. and Mrs. Dale A. Sillik

The Rev. and Mrs. G. David Swygert

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Thomason

Rev. and Mrs. William Trexler

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Turner-Barrett

Dr. James P. and Dr. Karen Wold

### Ranch Builders

#### Keystone (\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Dr. James McKanna

#### NovusWay Champion

##### (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Dathe

Drs. Fred and Karin B. Rock

#### Master Builder (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Giordano

Mr. and Mrs. Ivar Iverson

#### Builder (\$500 to \$999)

The Rev. and Mrs. Darrel Peterson

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Vesper

### Friends of Luther Springs

#### Keystone (\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Best

Mr. Robert and Eleanor Clune

-Estate

### NovusWay Champion

#### (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Mr. and Mrs. John Bentz

#### Master Builder (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Mr. and Mrs. Don Armagost

The Rev. and Mrs. Danith Kilts

The Rev. Rick Malivuk and

The Rev. Z. Ann Schmidt

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Rentz

### Friends of Luther Springs

#### (\$500 to \$999)

Mr. and Mrs. Moncelle L. Berg Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. James Kunzman

The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. John L. Setzler



# Memorial Gifts

The following memorial gifts to the annual fund were received between January 1 and March 31, 2019. The lists are constructed in alphabetical order by the last name of the person honored. Memorial gifts to campaigns will be listed in special publications at the conclusion of each campaign.

#### Donald Allman

Mrs. Barbara Allman

#### Robert Baldwin

Mr. and Mrs. Moncelle L. Berg Jr.

#### Sandra Bouvette

Mrs. Muriel Johnson

#### Dorothy Carpenter

The Revs. Tim and Mary Canniff-Kuhn

Dr. and Mrs. Walter A. Carpenter

Mr. Fred G. Friedrichs and Family

Mrs. Patsy Gilliam

Ms. Jeanne P. Merritt

The Rev. and Mrs. William Trexler

#### Romania "Mama" Cline

Ms. Cheryl Bradshaw

Mrs. Elizabeth C. Carswell

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Cline

Mr. and Mrs. T. Kelly Everhart

Mr. and Mrs. Larry G. Fink

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Garcia

Mr. Mike A. Goynes and

The Rev. Rachel Connelly

Mr. and Mrs. Leland W. Gwin

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hegele

Mr. David Hix

Ms. Lynn Huffman

Dr. and Mrs. Michael K. Kestner

Ms. Marsha C. Kinley

The Rev. P. Shannon Mullen and

Ms. Kami Kinard

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas. J. O'Brien

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence L. Pugh

The Rev. John Putnam

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Ridenhour

Mrs. Beatrice P. Sherrill

The Rev. and Mrs. William Trexler

Ms. Carol Tringali

The Rev. Dr. K. Michael and

Dr. Lynette Varn

Mrs. Judith R. Woolly and Family

Mr. and Mrs. J. Mark Yount

#### Keith Coble

The Rev. Glynn S. Bell

#### The Rev. and Mrs. E.K. Counts

Ms. E. Ruth Counts

#### Lois Kibler

Billy and Libby Bedenbaugh

#### P. Marshall and Thelma Kinley

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Woods Jr.

#### Ann Koch

The Rev. Klaus O.R. Koch

#### Elise Bedenbaugh Martin

Billy and Libby Bedenbaugh

#### Butch Matthews

Robyn and Dewey Matthews

#### Tim Richardson

Ms. Nancy Walkup

#### Nancy Richbourg

Ms. Martha E. Sink

**NOTE:** Our apologies to William and Shirley Arroyo. Their gift in memory of **Karl F. and Anne R. Suhr** should have appeared in the memorial section of the Fall 2018 LINK newsletter.

# Zip the Rock II: The Results Are In



Pastor Frank and Martina Wagner (far right) are sharing a pizza with Pastor Fritz Wiese and members of Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran in Peachtree City, Georgia, as part of the Wagner's recent bike journey.

On March 26th, Pastor Frank Wagner and his wife, Martina, completed the 900-mile 'Zip the Rock II' bike ride that started in Juno Beach, Florida and ended in North Carolina. This incredibly successful event included overnight stays and visits with nine churches. Zip the Rock II helped to raise the final \$40,000 of the \$120,000 needed for a new zipline at Lutherock.

Pastor Wagner explained how the idea has come full circle: "Three years ago a group of people committed to youth and Camp Lutherock met with two goals in mind, to form faith in youth through outdoor ministry and to increase participation at Camp Lutherock. From those conversations Zip The Rock was born. With the completion of this second ride, it gives Martina and me great joy to see both goals being reached. God gets all the praise! We can't wait to see the youth zip lining across the Saddle."

The construction of the zipline and the training of staff are both scheduled to occur before the start of summer camp 2019 and will provide hundreds of youth and adults a truly unique experience.



# Honor Gifts

The following honor gifts to the annual fund were received between January 1 and March 31, 2019. The lists are constructed in alphabetical order by the last name of the person honored. Honor gifts to campaigns will be listed in special publications at the conclusion of each campaign.

<b>Deena Bedenbaugh</b> Billy and Libby Bedenbaugh	<b>Mark and Gwen Glaeser</b> Mrs. Donna Hanna	<b>NovusWay Home Office Volunteers</b> The Rev. Lawrence and Margo Rabon
<b>Libby Bedenbaugh</b> Dale and Becky Maxwell	<b>The Rev. Dr. Richard Graf</b> Mr. and Mrs. Scott Thomason	<b>Jacob and Kara Ridenhour</b> The Revs Tim and Mary Canniff-Kuhn
<b>Lynne and David Bernthal</b> Mrs. Donna Hanna	<b>Martha Haigler</b> Brigadier General Janice M. Haigler	<b>Aaron Silco</b> Mr. Tom Silco and Ms. Doris Hammer
<b>The Revs. Tim and Mary Canniff-Kuhn</b> Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Geier	<b>The Rev. Sara Ilderton</b> Ms. Mary Alice Rutherford	<b>Trip Sorenson</b> Mrs. Judith R. Woolly and Family
<b>Dwayne, Catherine and Jacob Fink</b> The Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth W. Fink	<b>Keith Johnson</b> Dale and Becky Maxwell	<b>Kayla Taylor</b> Mrs. Nancy Taylor
<b>The Rev. Eric Fink and Kris Fink</b> The Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth W. Fink	<b>Libby McLean</b> Mrs. Betty J. Benardo	<b>Laura Bedenbaugh Vannoy</b> Billy and Libby Bedenbaugh
<b>Larry and Carleen Fink</b> The Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth W. Fink	<b>Dr. Margaret Mohrmann and Dr. Deborah Healey</b> Mrs. Donna Hanna	<b>The Birth of Everett Bruce Williams</b> Ms. Ann W. Elliott
<b>The Rev. and Mrs. W. Eric Friedrichs</b> Mr. and Mrs. Robert Moses	<b>The Rev. Ray and Mrs. Ann Mohrmann</b> Mrs. Donna Hanna	<b>Susie Wold</b> Dr. James P. and Dr. Karen Wold

# Board of Trustees - Faithful Servants

The NovusWay Board of Trustees is faithfully served by volunteer Board Members and the Bishops of the Florida-Bahamas Synod, North Carolina Synod, South Carolina Synod and Southeastern Synod. The most recent meeting of the Board was held March 15 and 16 at Lutheranch. A reception was held to honor and thank Bishop Julian Gordy who was attending his final NovusWay Board meeting. We also owe a huge debt of gratitude to two other wonderful Board members, who are also rotating off the Board in June after serving two terms (6 years): Todd Johnson of Apollo Beach, Florida and Susan Lee, Treasurer, of Concord, North Carolina. Thank you to these individuals for their faithful service! They were each presented with a framed print of the four camp sites that comprise NovusWay. The print was created by Joanna Britt who is an artist and a former board member.



Bishop Julian Gordy



Susan Lee



Todd Johnson



Nadine Lloyd at work in the Home Office



Don Poole

## Volunteer Corner

Did you know that the dedicated individuals who volunteer in the NovusWay home office in Arden, North Carolina have all been doing so for at least five years? They help in many ways: answering the telephone, doing computer research and tasks, assembling mailings to donors, sorting and filing, recycling/shredding documents no longer needed and even decorating our office for the holidays! They typically spend 4 or more hours per week with us and are an important part of our ministry team. Please help us congratulate and thank these individuals for their hard work and support:

Nadine Lloyd	16 years
Pastor Don Poole	16 years
Terry Clever	9 years
Tina Kestner	6 years
Mike Kestner	6 years
Gwynne Bedenbaugh	5 years
Doris Fogg	5 years

## Volunteer Week



article is continued from page 3

Many projects were completed including the following: Clearing and marking of a loop trail around Stender Lake, hay was spread on the new Printz Family athletic field (over 3 acres), Holy Trinity House back porch, stairs and railing were cleaned and painted, the barn porch (to be used for equine program) was cleaned, painted and screened and they also built a new canoe/kayak rack and storage cabinet by Stender Lake

Not only did the group accomplish a lot, they had a fun time getting to know one another and trying new things. It's amazing what a group of people can do when they work together.





# 40 Youth Scholarships for Summer 2019



Each year several churches in the greater Knoxville area partner to host *Come to the Water*, an event that raises funds to send middle schoolers to a week-long summer camp at Camp Lutheridge in the mountains of Western North Carolina. For summer 2019, *Come to the Water* will allow 40 middle school youth to attend camp with the only cost to the student being a modest contribution to help cover transportation.

This scholarship effort is intended for youth who would benefit from a camp experience, who may have a specific need, and who would not otherwise be able to attend. Students must have completed 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade in Spring 2019. Campers enjoy a variety of activities which may include river tubing, low ropes course, crazy costume dance, games, swimming, crafts, hiking, cooking and singing around the campfire, sharing stories, and growing in faith with creative Bible study and worship!

This year's camp week is Nite Owls to take place June 23-29 at Lutheridge. Among other regular camp activities, specific Nite Owls activities include night swims in the modern pool, night hikes in the Pisgah National Forest, Glow-in-the-Dark crafts, sleeping in till late morning, and breakfast at noon! Campers will be housed in cabins.

## Lutheridge Impacts the Community

In response to Hurricane Florence, Lutheridge joined with the American Red Cross to become an

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emergency evacuation site. This spring we have expanded that partnership and on Thursday, May 2, Lutheridge hosted its first annual blood drive. Each person who donated could save up to three lives!

Our desire is to live out NovusWay's current theme of "Camp (This) Changes Everything". These donations help secure the critical and lifesaving blood supply in our community. What a great way to pay it forward and make an impact on people in our community and across the country!



American Red Cross



## THE LINK

The LINK is published 3 times per year by NovusWay Ministries. Standard postage paid at Arden, NC. Postmaster: Please send address changes to: The LINK, 28 Spruce Drive, Arden, NC 28704.

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#### South Carolina Synod

The Rev. Susan J. Crowell, Kristen Clanton Williams

#### Southeastern Synod

The Rev. Dale A. Sillik, Mary K. Peterson

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Dr. Everett Flanigan,  
Susan Lee, Keith Gehl,  
Larry Moeller, Joel D. Rentz

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Debbie Lundell, Special Events Coordinator  
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The Rev. Mary Canniff-Kuhn, Lutheridge Program Co-Director  
The Rev. Tim Canniff-Kuhn, Lutheridge Program Co-Director  
Sue Mendenhall, Luther Springs Program Director

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Craig Rieger, VP of Sites and Facilities; Interim Lutherock Director  
Christina Yarnold, Lutheranch Director  
Margo Rabon, LINK Editor

NovusWay is owned and operated by the Florida-Bahamas, NC, SC, and Southeastern synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and serves all ages from the SE USA. Its camp and conference facilities are Lutheridge, 160 acres in Arden, NC, known for its summer camp and year-round ministry programs; Lutherock, 762 acres on Sugar Mt., near Newland, NC, known for its rugged, outdoor adventure ministry; Lutheranch, 519 pristine acres in Tallapoosa, GA and Luther Springs' 350 acres on the shores of Lake Vause in Hawthorne, Florida.