

THE LINK

YOUR CONNECTION TO WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

WINTER 2018 | Vol LXXVII No. 1, February 2018



Camp Changes Everything!

Lutheridge, Lutherock and Luther Springs program staff recently celebrated reunions with 2017 summer staff. These reunions are a wonderful and inspiring time to reconnect with friends and to remember the powerful ways God blessed us and the campers whom we were privileged to serve. While attending their reunion, Lutheridge counselors shared some of the reasons camp is so valuable to kids.

Zach Edmondson

All Saints Lutheran Church, Huntsville, AL



"Camp is fun for kids because it's a judgement-free place where they can run around and get closer to God. They also can make lifelong friends in just a week."

Olivia Slagle

Grace Lutheran Church, Hendersonville, NC
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Chapel Hill, NC

"Camp gives kids the chance to learn more about God's never-ending love for them while living in community in the midst of God's creation. Camp also helps kids learn important lessons in leadership, independence, friendship, and loving others."



Blake Porter

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Hickory NC



"There is nothing wrong with taking a break and spending time with friends and family in fellowship. Not everything has to be work or school."

Faith Blume

St. Matthew's Lutheran, Salisbury, NC

"Camp serves as an opportunity to religiously and personally concentrate on one's relationship with Christ while constructing a genuine foundation with a loving, supportive, and blessed faith community while having fun!"



Maura Fergus

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, St. Simons Island, GA

"Camp is truly a place apart where anyone can grow spiritually. Camp is a family of people who love and support you in your faith walk."



We live in a broken world that is often difficult to understand. At our camps, campers learn how God's grace changes everything for us, the world, and how we live in community with one another. Kids experience what it feels like to be accepted and make true friends. Their eyes are opened to how much God loves them by playing outdoors in His creation. Kids who come to our camps are loved and supported by amazing, gifted, God-loving, counselors who become each camper's friend, care-giver and role model. Yes, camp changes everything!

You are invited to join other campers at a **NovusWay Camp** this summer – Lutheridge, Lutherock, Luther Springs and Luther Ranch. Check out a full array of programs at www.NovusWay.org or call 828-684-2361. A list of camp programs are listed on pages 4 and 5 of this issue.

Keith and Lori Johnson Youth Outreach Endowment



Over 100 friends from across the southeastern U.S. gathered in Lineberger Hall at Lutheridge, on Friday, November 3, 2017, to thank Keith and Lori Johnson for his 24 years of service as Executive Director of Lutheridge+Lutherock Ministries and NovusWay Ministries. He officially retired at the end of 2017. The event was organized by the Board of Trustees and included former and current board members, donors, executive staff and other friends of the ministry.

Board president, Larry Moeller, Knoxville, TN, announced that over \$100,000 had been committed by board, staff and donors to create the "Keith and Lori Johnson Youth Outreach Endowment." It pushed NovusWay's scholarship endowments to over \$1 million to ensure that all are welcomed at NovusWay sites and programs regardless of their ability to pay. In accepting the gift Keith said, *"one of my proudest accomplishments over the years has been to create a culture where all are welcomed regardless of the ability to pay with special attention to cross-cultural campers, and we're honored that an endowment in our name will help to accomplish that objective."*

If you would like information on how you can make a gift to the endowment, contact Keith Trout at kt trout@NovusWay.org or call 864-313-1453.

Keith and Lori Johnson Youth Outreach Endowment Donors

The following donors made a gift or pledge to the Keith and Lori Johnson Youth Scholarship Endowment Fund in 2017:

Anonymous

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth J. Anderson

Mr. and Mrs. Don Armagost

The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. James S. Aull

Mrs. Marcia Ballentine

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bedenbaugh

The Rev. Joseph L. Bolick and

The Rev. Sarah E. Lang

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bridgers

Gronlund Sayther Brunkow

The Revs. Tim and Mary Canniff-Kuhn

Dr. and Mrs. Walter A. Carpenter

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Chapman

The Rev. and Mrs. Marion W. Clark

The Rev. Pamela and Mr. Larry Cook

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Didicher

The Rev. and Mrs. Jack Diehl III

Dr. and Mrs. Everett Flanigan

Doctor Family Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Gehl

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The Rev. and Mrs. Michael J. Glymph

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The Rev. Morgan Gordy

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The Rev. and Mrs. David M. Hood

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Hyde

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Mr. and Mrs. Todd Johnson

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Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lundell

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Mr. and Mrs. Andrew N. Massey

The Rev. and Mrs. Bill B. Mims Jr.

The Rev. Drs. L. William and Jane P. Mitcham

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Moeller

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Mynhier

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Reilly

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The Rev. and Mrs. Darrel Peterson

The Rev. and Mrs. Don Poole Jr.

Mr. Ron Prater and Mrs. Arolue Flemmen Prater

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Rentz

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schabacker

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

Dr. and Mrs. Neal L. Shealy

The Rev. and Mrs. Dale A. Sillik

The Rev. Christine Stoxen

Mr. and Mrs. David Troutman

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin S. Wicker

The Rev. and Mrs. Gregory Williams

Mr. and Mrs. Lucas Zubrod



Libby Bedenbaugh

has retired after over 13 years on staff with NovusWay Ministries. The Board of Trustees, staff, volunteers, and donors from across the ministry have enjoyed her thoughtful and distinctive servant-like leadership. Please join us in wishing Libby the many blessings and delights of retirement.



Where is God Taking Us?

I have been on the job now for only four weeks – four very full, inspiring, and encouraging weeks. Having been met with a genuine warmth, kindness, and enthusiasm from the wonderful family of staff members, volunteers, and other vested partners

within this ministry, I find that my heart is both full and grateful.

Grateful that God, and the Search Committee and Board, have called me here to serve at such a time as this. Grateful that my skill-set and experience base seem to be a strong fit for the ministry's needs at this unique time in its organizational lifecycle. Grateful for all those who have gone before us in this ministry to impact countless lives through their hard work, dedication, and Christian love and service. Grateful that we have great people and properties and programs and stories that will continue inspiring, empowering, and transforming all who come here.

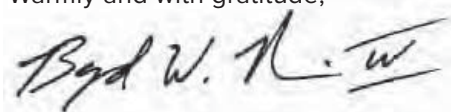
The staff and supporters of Lutheridge, Lutherock, Luther Springs, and Lutheranch (the ministries of NovusWay) are travelling down a new road in a new way. Where is God taking us? How will He use us to continue carrying out His ministry? How will we honor and build upon the best of this ministry and its rich history and dedicated people to produce another great season of service?

With that, I pause to thank Keith Johnson for the numerous interactions we had in the weeks and months leading up to our transition. He was always gracious and helpful, and his including me in the all-staff retreat this past November demonstrated the character, dedication, humility, and care for this ministry that seem to be the hallmark of his 24 years of service. That gesture spoke volumes to the staff and to me - that he wanted them informed and comfortable before he departed and that he wanted his successor as up to speed as possible upon entry for the good of the team, the ministry, and other stakeholders. Keith, it's amazing what the ministry has accomplished under your leadership this past quarter century. Thank you for everything!

We are off to a strong start in this new season. Building upon nearly 160 years of ministry service – 70 years at Lutheridge, 60 years at Lutherock, 27 years at Luther Springs, and 1 year at Lutheranch – we are poised to leverage these combined histories, resources, and powerful ministry programs into an even greater impact going forward. Many thousands of loyal, faithful donors, staff, counselors, and friends have made this possible, and I know we are all very excited about what lies ahead!

I will look forward to walking this path with each of you, listening, learning, and discerning together what God is doing in the ministry at this key time. It is my strong desire and prayer that our service together will be an instrument for transformative growth and change, both in the organization and in the lives of each person serving in, or served by, this wonderful ministry.

Warmly and with gratitude,



Boyd W. Harris IV
Executive Director-CEO

NovusWay Staff Update

Please welcome our talented new staff!

Boyd W. (Bo) Harris IV, Executive Director. Bo has successfully led businesses and ministry organizations through times of transition, growth and change. He has held senior-level positions in both the public and nonprofit sectors. Bo served as president and CEO of a high-end furniture manufacturing company in the Boston area, and as COO of FOCUS, a national Christian youth ministry in New Canaan, CT. For the past seven years, he has been Executive Director-CEO of Asheville-based Helps Ministries. He brings a longstanding passion for Christ-centered education, camping, and retreats. Bo has continued to support community and nonprofit groups by offering pro-bono strategic planning workshops, together with consultation and coaching for corporate leaders and boards of directors.

Bo grew up in Durham, NC and attended preparatory school in Alexandria, VA. He completed undergraduate studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Together with wife Amy and three children, they live in Arden, NC where they are members of Calvary Episcopal Church.

*"I feel very privileged," said Harris, "and am happy to build upon the accomplishments that Keith Johnson – along with the leadership team and the entire NovusWay family - has made over this past quarter-century in fulfilling the mission: **providing places set apart to inspire and empower all in Christ's love**."*



Bo and his wife Amy Harris with daughters Mary-Margaret, Elizabeth and son Boyd.



Marlene Hoffman, Marketing and PR Manager. A native of Western North Carolina, Marlene joined NovusWay Ministries in October 2017. Marlene's experience includes marketing, client relations and business administration. At NovusWay, her focus will be on brand recognition, increasing awareness of the summer camp programs and retreat rentals at all four sites.

Marlene invites you visit our websites at NovusWay.org, Lutheridge.org, Lutherock.org, LutherSprings.org, and Lutheranch.org where you will find information about our upcoming programming, registration information and where you can make a donation. You can reach Marlene at mhoffman@NovusWay.org.



Sandra Holland, Development Associate has joined the NovusWay team as a part-time, deployed Development Associate and will continue serving as an ELCA Deacon at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Columbia. In addition to relating to donors in South Carolina, she will represent NovusWay at the synod assembly, fall convocation for leaders and assist with Gratitude Gatherings. Sandra can be reached

at sholland@NovusWay.org



Dale Nettnin, Development Associate Dale T. Nettnin has rejoined the NovusWay staff as a part-time deployed Development Associate. Nettnin's primary responsibility will be to visit donors and friends in Florida. He recently relocated to Lakeland, FL from Hickory, NC. Nettnin is a long-time and active Lutheran. He served as president of Lutheran Men in Mission in North Carolina and worked with Aid Association for Lutherans when he previously lived in Tampa. Dale can

be reached at dnettnin@NovusWay.org.

Your Gifts Change Everything... That's Why We Ask



Would you make a gift in 2018 to ensure that campers, counselors, and guests are offered a life-changing experience at Lutheridge, Lutherock, Lutheranch and Luther Springs?

Last year, your gifts to this ministry supported 450 campers with scholarships. A camper scholarship provides financial support for a child who would likely not be able to attend camp without financial support. Campers receive partial scholarships, based on a family’s ability to pay, or financial support from their church. The average cost of a scholarship is \$540. We expect to support a similar number of campers in 2018, and we’d like to do more. Scholarship gifts also help the ministry keep costs down for all campers.

Supervisory senior staff and college-aged camp counselors are the heart and soul of the camp experience. In advance of the summer camp season, senior staff and counselors are hired to provide Christian leadership for summer programs. We’ve learned, over the years, that a camper to counselor ratio of 7 to 1 is most effective for ensuring relationships are nurtured in a safe, interactive, faith-centered environment. We’ve also learned that college-aged counselors add to the camp experience in profound ways related to their meaningful interactive relationships with youth. Your gifts enable the ministry to hire senior staff and counselors.

Summer salary for a supervisory staff person, on average, costs the ministry \$4,100 including benefits; the counselors are hired at each site at a cost of about \$3,300 each, including benefits. While the numbers vary at each site, the ministry hires about 30 senior staff membes and 100 counselors combined.

As basic elements of safety and procedure, summer staff members receive support and training. Lifeguard and water safety training ensures that swimming pools and lakes are safe places; wilderness first aid training and ropes course training ensure that outdoor adventure programs are safe. While costs vary at each location, your gifts enable this ministry to provide critically important training at a total cost of about \$20,000.

If you, or your children, have had the camp experience you likely remember that nursing supplies are a summer camp need. From band-aids to epi-pens, we want every "skint" knee, every encounter with poison ivy, and every bee sting to be remembered as a well-treated event. Nursing supplies in 2018 will cost the ministry about \$6,000. Your gifts will help to guarantee that “emergencies” of all shapes and sizes are well-treated.

Camper experiences are different across all four sites. Many campers at Lutheridge go on an outing during their “camp experience” either to Pisgah National Forest or the Dupont State park. Lutherock campers visit Grandfather Mountain or Linville Caverns and Luther Springs campers visit Florida National Parks. Fees associated with taking campers to one of these national treasures typically cost the ministry about \$7,500 each summer. Outsourced transportation, for these outings, has proven to be safe and reliable, at a cost of about \$27,500 each summer.

An example of ways this ministry is serving the larger community, the Reach-Out Connect program brings cross-cultural campers to Lutheridge and Lutherock and includes transportation for the campers from the Atlanta area. The program, which depends on church and community partnerships, is exceeding expectations. These transportation costs average \$4,200 each summer. At Luther Springs cross-cultural campers are welcomed each year from the Rez House which serves children of migrant farm workers. Each camper receives a scholarship and transportation support.

Lastly, as you can imagine, there are a multitude of supplies needed to make the camp experience special. From crafts materials to fireworks and songbooks, the summer camp season is loaded with activities and fun. Costs for these supplies average about \$26,000 each summer. When you count the smiles and listen to the laughter, it seems like quite the bargain!

Your gifts to the annual fund in 2018 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 and any questions can be directed to Keith Trout at kt trout@novusway.org or by calling 828.684.5196. A donation envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Camp Sponsorship Opportunities

ALL CAMPS	AMOUNT	LUTHERIDGE continued	AMOUNT	LUTHER SPRINGS	AMOUNT
Counselor	\$ 3,300	Vehicle Rental (per Outing)	\$ 650	Craft Supplies	\$ 1,300
Sr. Leadership Staff Person	\$ 4,100	Cross-cultural Transportation	\$ 3,500	General Program Supplies	\$ 4,000
LUTHERIDGE		Wild Women Program	\$ 9,000	Nursing Supplies	\$ 1,000
Staff Training Bundle	\$ 6,500	Pool Operation	\$ 8,800	Staff Support and Training	\$ 5,800
Staff Support Bundle	\$ 4,500	Forestry and Grounds	\$ 7,000	Pool Operation	\$ 8,200
Arts and Crafts	\$ 7,500	Maintaining Fleet	\$12,000	Grounds	\$ 1,000
Health Care	\$ 5,000	LUTHEROCK	AMOUNT	Maintaining Fleet	\$ 4,000
Music Bundle	\$ 6,700	Ropes Course and Tower	\$ 3,500	LUTHERANCH	AMOUNT
Music Week – Clinicians (15)	\$ 2,500	Nursing Supplies	\$ 1,000	Support Camp – 1 week	\$ 5,500
Kidzcamp Supplies	\$ 1,000	Staff Support and Training	\$ 5,000	General Programming	\$ 1,200
4th of July Bundle	\$ 3,000	Laundry / Linen Expense	\$ 4,000	Crafts	\$ 150
Outdoor Education Equipment	\$ 2,000	General Program Supplies	\$ 1,500	Equipment	\$ 200
Recreation Bundle	\$ 2,500	Grounds	\$ 1,500	Nursing Supplies	\$ 100
Outing Sites/National Forest Use	\$ 5,000	Maintaining Fleet	\$ 4,000	Grounds	\$ 750
Radio Rental	\$ 2,000			Maintaining Fleet	\$ 500
Vehicle Rental for Outings (per week)	\$ 3,100				

SUMMER CAMPS

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



Situated on 160 acres in the mountains of Western North Carolina near Asheville, Lutheridge Camp & Conference Center is accredited by the American Camping Association (ACA) and features a lake, swimming pool, hiking trails, low ropes course, challenge tower, and indoor climbing wall. Caring, well-trained, college-age counselors—many of them Wilderness First Aid certified—ensure that all campers are safe, and a licensed EMT or Registered Nurse is on staff every week of camp. Activities include pool time and crafts, Bible study and creative worship, games, hikes, campfires, and skits.

Directors, Pastor Mary Canniff-Kuhn and Pastor Tim Canniff-Kuhn

	Grades 1-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12	Adults + Family
WEEK 1 June 10-16		Pioneers Crazy Cool Campout (4-6)	Rock n Raft Nite Owl Explorers	Rock n Raft	
WEEK 2 June 17-23	First Camp	Pioneers Climb High (4-6)	Launch Explorers High in the Sky Cave n Wave	High in the Sky Cave n Wave	Family Float (Sun-Wed)
WEEK 3 June 24-30	First Camp	Pioneers	Nite Owl Explorers Canoe Camp Hammock Hangout	Wave Riders A.T. Trek	Grandparents Camp (Sun-Wed)
WEEK 4 July 1-7 4th of July Week	4th of July First Camp	4th of July Pioneers	4th of July Explorers High in the Sky A.T. Ramble	High School Nite Owls	4th of July Family Camp
WEEK 5 July 8-14 Music Week	Music Week First Camp	Music Week Pioneers Crazy Cool Campout (4-6)	Music Week Explorers Rock n Raft	High School Music Week Rock n Raft	Music Week Adults
WEEK 6 July 15-21		Pioneers Pony Express (4-6)	Kairos Camp Fire & Water Explorers Canoe Camp	Waveriders Hammock Hangout	Family Climb (Sun-Wed)
WEEK 7 July 22-28 Christmas Week	Christmas First Camp	Christmas Pioneers	Nite Elf Explorers Hammock Hangout Rock n Raft	Asheville Adventures A.T. Trek	Christmas Family Camp Christmas Summershine
WEEK 8 July 29-Aug 4	First Camp (Sun-Wed) Kinder Camp (day camp, ages 4-7)	Pioneers Crazy Cool Campout (4-6)	High in the Sky Cave n Wave Fire & Water Explorers Launch Explorers	High in the Sky Cave n Wave	Hilltop Summershine Grandparents Camp (Sun-Wed)



Perched on 753 acres atop mile-high Sugar Mountain near Boone, North Carolina, Lutherock offers high adventure programming for all ages with a focus on caring for creation. All programs include daily Bible study, creative worship, games, adventure activities, and campfire programs (complete with skits and s'mores). Counselors are well-trained college-age young adults, and all Lutherock staff are CPR and Wilderness First Aid certified. Lutherock is accredited by the American Camping Association (ACA).

Directors, Jacob and Kara Ridenhour

	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12	Adults + Family
WEEK 1 June 10-16	Open for Custom Groups or Mission Work For more info call 828-467-1333 or email kridenhour@lutherock.org			
WEEK 2 June 17-23	Mountaintop Pioneers	Cycle n Zip Whitewater / Backpack	Whitewater Backpack	
WEEK 3 June 24-30	Pathfinders	Nocturnal Adventures / Whitewater Expeditions		
WEEK 4 July 1-7	Ropes n Rocks	Canopy Adventures / Blue Ridge Expeditions		
WEEK 5 July 8-14	Pathfinders	Nocturnal Adventures / Whitewater Backpack	Whitewater Expeditions	
WEEK 6 July 15-21	Pathfinders	Cycle n Zip	Cycle n Zip	
WEEK 7 July 22-28	Ropes n Rocks	Whitewater Expeditions	Appalachian Adventures	Grandkids n Me (Sun- Wed)
WEEK 8 July 29-Aug 4	Mountaintop Pioneers	Blue Ridge Expeditions	Appalachian Adventures	



Scenically set on 350 acres on the shore of Lake Vause, east of Gainesville, Florida, Luther Springs is a place where campers of all ages enjoy growing in faith while immersed in the beauty of God's creation. All counselors are well-trained, loving, and caring young adults, and all are CPR and First Aid Certified. Every program at Luther Springs includes daily Bible study, creative worship, games, crafts, and campfire programs, with fun skits and s'mores.

Director, Sue Mendenhall

	Grades 1-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12
PRE-CAMP WEEK June 3-8	Open for Custom Groups or Mission Work For more info call 727-415-9887 or email suem@fbsynod.org			
WEEK 1 June 10-15	Mini Camp Full Week Mini Camp Half Week (Sun-Tues)	Discoverers	Mavericks Horse Explorers	Leadership Lab: Basic & Adv
WEEK 2 June 17-22	Mini Camp Full Week Mini Camp Half Week (Sun-Tues)	Discoverers	Ropes & Zips	Ropes & Zips
WEEK 3 June 24-29			Missouri Synod Servant Week	
WEEK 4 July 1-6			South FL Hurricane Recovery Week	South FL Hurricane Recovery Week
WEEK 5 July 8-13			South FL Hurricane Recovery Week Camp Gators	South FL Hurricane Recovery Week Camp Gators
WEEK 6 July 15-20	Mini Camp Full Week Mini Camp Half Week (Sun-Tues)	Discoverers	Journey of Faith Confirmation	South FL Hurricane Recovery Week
WEEK 7 July 22-27	Mini Camp Full Week Mini Camp Half Week (Sun-Tues)	Discoverers	Horseback Explorers Adv	Horseback Explorers Adv



Kick back and enjoy nature at our newest camp and retreat center, a 519-acre oasis of rolling meadows, forests, lakes, and a trout stream, located just west of Atlanta, Georgia. This is our second summer in the new retreat center, so we hope you help us celebrate by sending someone special to camp! Summer counselors come from Luther Springs to lead summer camp week at Luther Ranch.

Director, Sue Mendenhall

	Grades 1-2	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 9-12	Adults + Family
July 15-20	Groundbreakers	Groundbreakers	Confirmation Ranchers		

Regular camp activities at all sites include a daily Bible lesson, creative outdoor worship, campfire fun, water activities, crafts, games, skits and more.



2018 NON SUMMER PROGRAMS

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



March 2-3, 2018 / 8:00 PM-8:00 AM Decatha-Lockin at Faith Sarasota

Youth, get ready for this all night, insanely fun, fundraiser! Volleyball, basketball, relay races, brain teasers, Biblical challenges and much more! Youth groups, practice your team building skills! Please bring 1-2 chaperones per team. This fundraising event will raise money for camp scholarships. Groups are asked to bring snacks/drinks to share. Pizza provided



March 2-4, 2018 • March 9-11, 2018 March 16-18, 2018 Wild Women Weekends

Adult women of all ages will gain fresh vision and strength in the beauty of the mountains. Bring a group to deepen fellowship with women you know, or come alone to find kindred spirits among women from across the southeast. Bible study and creative worship – plus laughter and fun – make for a wonderful retreat. Become a Wild Women at Lutheridge!



March 2-4, 2018 Womens Wellness Weekend

Come and let us take care of you. We will focus on taking care of ourselves physically, spiritually, and mentally. Enjoy fellowship, Bible study, and wellness opportunities like Yoga, Aroma Touch Therapy, Hiking, DIY Bath Salts, Essential Oils 101, and time with your sisters in Christ!



March 5-9, 2018 Quilting Retreat

Spend a week with other quilters in a relaxed atmosphere. Teachers will assist with projects, as well as answer questions regarding different techniques. Quilters may work on provided projects for gift ideas & to benefit non-profits, as well as their own projects. There will be a day trip to a local quilt shop and the opportunity to share some of your own creations!



April 5-8, 2018 Create In Me

Immerse yourself in the world of art and faith: music, paint, movement, fabric, drums, paper, clay, and more! Inspiring Bible study and creative worship are highlights of this retreat. Learn from artists excited to share their skills with you. No experience needed! Try something new surrounded by supportive community.



April 6-8, 2018 River Rat Ramble

Are you a River Rat? Are you ready to spend a full day canoeing down the river with breaks to play and picnic? Join us for a weekend of canoeing, games, fellowship, and worship at Luther Springs! Students will stay in Morgan Village cabins with Luther Springs counselors and adult leaders will stay in Kuehner Center motel style rooms. Groups may also tent camp (adults and youth together).



April 10-12, 2018 Respite in the Wilderness

A gift from NovusWay to the rostered ministers and church professionals of the Florida-Bahamas Synod. Enjoy a retreat of rest and renewal through prayer and study as we close out the busy season of Lent and celebrate the beginning of the season Easter.



April 13-15, 2018 Grands Camp

GRANDPARENTS & GRANDKIDS, join us for a GRAND WEEKEND enjoying a time of spiritual growth and fun. Each day includes regular camp activities, cookie baking, worship, Bible study, exploring creativity, sharing stories, growing together in Christ and family free time. Children may stay with grandparent(s) in motel-style room or in a cabin with a Luther Springs counselor. Leaders: Rev. Dick Hafer, Margo Walbolt, Steve Helm and Luther Springs staff



April 18-20, 2018 True to Myself

1st of a four part retreat series sponsored by Portico Benefit Services. While everything seems to be changing within and around us, we seek to determine our true nature. In this retreat, we will explore our whole unbroken selves amidst our life stories, which we offer up freely and joyfully to the world..Designed for rostered leaders, but open to anyone in the midst of a life transition. Come away to Lutheranch to listen, discern, and connect with God and others in transition.. The retreat offers the rhythm of liturgy that includes music, scripture, poetry, and time for individual and small group reflection within a sacred, safe space. Participants are invited to pause, listen and gain clarity.



Faith Alive 10 Commandments Reformation - April 20-22, 2018

Lord's Prayer & Apostles' Creed:
Sept 28-30, 2018
Old Testament - Nov 2-4, 2018
Holy Baptism & Holy Communion -
Feb 1-3, 2019

Four weekends – seven retreats covering each part of the small catechism + Luther/Reformation History. Experiential learning leaves lasting lessons and builds relationships. Creative worship, crafts, songs, games and a campfire create an experience long remembered. Lutheridge staff provide supervision for campers, sharing their faithful witness. Come alone or with a group. Lessons are geared to middle school, but 5th graders and high school youth are welcome. Adults are encouraged, but not required to attend with their youth. Pastors Mary and Tim Canniff-Kuhn provide leadership for all retreats with involvement from other teachers.



April 26-29, 2018 50 Forward Backpack Trip

An adventure designed for those 50+. Includes 2 days of hiking on beautiful trails and 2 nights camping – plus 1 overnight at camp. Here's a chance to enjoy nature at its finest with folks your own age. Beginners welcome. Finish the expedition with a celebration meal. Plus a toast and a soak in natural hot springs. See 50forwardlife.com for packing list and description of the trail.

PROGRAM IS FULL



April 27-29, 2018 God Spa

Soak in the beautiful scenery and solitude of Luther Springs, relaxing your mind, body, and spirit. Activities may include: faith filled conversation, devotions, music, journaling, guided meditation, relaxing, and spa-type activities such as facials, manicures, pedicures and massages.



April 27-29, 2018 Fishers of Men

Come to the mountains to enjoy the wonder of fly fishing. This men's retreat offers an opportunity to be in a place where God can teach about our faith through the mountain waters. There is time for learning knots, entomology, and casting practice before heading out together on Saturday. Through devotions and worship, we will prepare for time of reflection and prayer; enhancing the experience beyond just catch and release. An NC fishing license is required and can be purchased at www.ncwildlife.org.



Saturday, April 28, 2018 The Rock 5k

Join us for this fun and challenging 5k course all over Lutherock's mountain. All net proceeds go towards Camp Lutherock's summer camper scholarship fund. Packet pick-up will be on race day only from 8-9am!



May 4-6, 2018 September 7-9, 2018 April 26-28, 2019 God's Work Our Hands Weekend

There is always something to be done at Lutherock! All are welcome: youth groups, men's groups, women's groups, congregations, families and individuals! Projects could include trail maintenance, splitting and stacking firewood, blowing leaves, pressure washing, putting up and taking down platform tents and more. Contact Jacob Ridenhour with questions: jridenhour@lutherock.com. Meals provided (Saturday Breakfast-Sunday Breakfast). Housed in cabins or Founders Lodge. If these dates don't work for you but you want to volunteer please be in touch with Jacob!



May 11-13, 2018 August 24-26, 2018 Whitewater Weekend

Come remember your baptism as a youth group in this water-filled weekend! The weekend will include baptism-themed Bible study and games, a full day of whitewater rafting down the Upper Nolichucky River, campfire and more! Lutherock staff will handle white water rafting reservations, meals, Bible study time and all evening programming. Chaperones are responsible for overnight supervision and transportation. You must be at least 10 years old to raft the Upper Nolichucky!





Magnitude Of Gratitude

RidgeRock Builders • Ranch Builders • Friends of Luther Springs

Builders/Friends contribute \$500 or more annually. **Master Builders** give \$1000 - \$2499, **Cornerstones** contribute \$2500 - \$4999, **NovusWay Champions** provide support of \$5000 - \$9999, and **Keystones** make annual gifts of \$10000 - \$24999. **Foundation Builder/Founders Circle** donors contribute \$25000 or more annually. The following donors have attained their gift levels from September 16 to December 31, 2017. Please note that the list does not include those who were listed in previous LINK newsletters, nor does it include those who contributed to Standing on the Promise, Complete the Dream or Mission Possible Campaigns.

Ridge Rock Builders

NovusWay Champions

Anonymous
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Burton
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The following memorial gifts to the annual fund were received between September 16 and December 31, 2017. The lists are constructed in alphabetical order by the last name of the person memorialized. Memorial gifts to campaigns will be listed in special publications at the conclusion of each campaign.

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The following honor gifts to the annual fund were received between September 16 and December 31, 2017. The lists are constructed in alphabetical order by the last name of the person memorialized. Honor gifts to campaigns will be listed in special publications at the conclusion of each campaign.

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McKanna-Sandrock Retreat at Lutheranch



August 5, 2017 was an important day in the history of NovusWay Ministries and the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as it marked the dedication of the beautiful new McKanna-Sandrock Retreat Center in Tallapoosa, Georgia.



McKanna-Sandrock Family Reunion at Lutheranch

NovusWay Minsitries conducted capital campaigns generating over \$8.9 million in a span of about 10 years to purchase the 519-acre property near Tallapoosa Georgia and build the 40-room conference and retreat center. The establishment of the new state-of-the-art center responds to a critical need to meet the growing demand for youth and adult outdoor Christian ministry opportunities in the Southeast.

A \$2.2M gift from Dr.'s James McKanna and Vivien Casagrande helped to meet critical campaign goals and Board-directed benchmarks that allowed construction to begin.

Dr. McKanna is grateful for his Lutheran heritage that goes back to the Wilhelm-Loehe-Missioanire-Schule in Neuendettelsau on the Sandrock side of the family. In fact, several of his ancestors emigrated from Germany in the 1850's as missionary pastors to North America, including a great-great grandfather Georg Grossman who founded Wartburg College and Wartburg Seminary in Iowa. Pastor Sigmund H. Sandrock, Jim's grandfather who is memorialized in the McKanna-Sandrock Retreat Center naming, served numerous congregations in Iowa before "retiring" as a founding administrator of the

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The family's camping ministry evolved in the 1960's at Long Lake Lutheran Camp in northern Wisconsin, where Jim's mother Margaret Sandrock-McKanna served as camp nurse, and uncle, Pastor Sigmund G. Sandrock, served as director. Jim himself was a camper at Long Lake Lutheran Camp.

Adding additional witness to the importance of the dedication weekend, the McKanna-Sandrock Retreat Center welcomed its first official adult retreat as more than 40 members of the McKanna and Sandrock families, traveling from California, Oregon, Washington, Minnesota, Tennessee and Holland, held a family reunion and worshiped together.

If you'd like to talk about making a gift to support Lutheranch, please contact Keith Trout at 864.313.1453 or kt trout@NovusWay.org . If you would like to inquire about having a retreat at Lutheranch, contact RetreatRentals@NovusWay.org or call 828-243-8762.

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