



*Lutherdale is a faith community,
dedicated to building lives in Christ,
through the wonder of God's creation,
and the study of God's word.*

Lutherdale was founded back in 1944 when a group of faithful people sat on a log and prayed for God's help in starting a new camping ministry. For 69 years Lutherdale has been sharing God's love with thousands of guests each year. God continues to guide this ministry as it has grown over the years. We are grateful for all who support this ministry with prayers, participation in our programs, and financial gifts. Volunteers are especially appreciated for all the time and labor they put into getting things done. Investing in the life of a child bears fruit and brings many rewards. Together we are transforming lives and raising future leaders in our church.

I am pleased to report that 2012 was a strong year for ministry, mission, and service at Lutherdale. Summer camp participation was up, a very encouraging sign since the economic decline that started in 2008. Over 10,000 people took time away, to connect and center their faith lives at Lutherdale. The ministry continues to practice outstanding Christian Hospitality. More and more groups are discovering what a gem Lutherdale is as a place to camp, retreat, conference, and hold programs.

Interesting to note that our ministry now serves more adults than youth and we anticipate an even greater percentage of adults in the future. With that in mind our Board of Directors has been engaging in an envisioning process to lay out future plans for the ministry. Surveys and focus groups were held in 2012 and the results indicated two strong needs for improvement of property and facilities. To handle the increased adult ministry, Lutherdale needs to have a lodge that meets the needs of adults. There is also a strong need for a year-round Activities and Recreation Center. The Board has been working on an updated master plan, resulting in some exciting building concepts that will meet the ministry's needs. A Feasibility Study is underway, with hopes of initiating a capital campaign soon. Call our office you would like to receive a copy of the new master plan.

Another new and exciting change is happening in 2013. The Lutherdale Farm program is expanding beyond just farm animals into gardening and food production. We have put up a 40x26 foot hoop house and this spring we will be tilling up 3 acres of land to grow fresh organic vegetables. People who come to camp will be able to enjoy direct farm to table food when the garden is harvested and served in our dining hall. This will be a great learning tool for caring for creation with the benefit of healthy tasty food to enjoy.

"Is It Time Yet" is the 2013 summer camp theme based on 1Cor16:14, "Let all that you do be done in love." Campers will be exploring the 5 faith practices of ***reading the Bible, worship, prayer, hospitality, and service.*** Each day will be filled with fun and exploration, as together we build a solid experience in Christian community, caring, and love. Visit our website at www.lutherdale.org for detailed program offerings and to register on-line.

Outdoor ministry is one of the great mission partners serving the ELCA and your congregation. Come and experience the awe and beauty of God's creation and let time away nurture the soul.

Jeffrey A. Bluhm, Executive Director