

1944 to 2014

Celebrating 70 Years of Ministry

LUTHERDALE MINISTRIES

Growing Stronger in New Ways

As Lutherdale celebrates its 70th year of ministry, it's good to look back from where we came and look forward to where we are going. Clearing the land and setting up surplus army tents was the start. Kids came to explore the fields, swim in the lake, make new friends, grow in faith and enjoy being outdoors in the sacred spaces of Lutherdale. More and more kids came and a plan was put together to build cabins, a chapel, and a dining hall to handle the increased demands of more and more campers. Baby boomers exploded onto the scene and the demand grew even more. Lutherdale turned a new page and started operating as a year-round ministry. There were some hard times along the way but the mission of "Building lives in Christ" was always the focus and it kept the camp moving in the right direction.~~~~~So 70 years later, where does the ministry of Lutherdale stand? Strong and still focused on our mission and serving the Lutheran Church of today, tomorrow, and the future. But times have changed and the large numbers of kids who came to camp are shrinking, while the number of adults using Lutherdale continues to grow. In 2013 Lutherdale served over 11,000 guests and it may come as a surprise that 6,400 were adults and 4,700 were youth. This trend is expected to continue and with it comes a new challenge for Lutherdale. How do we provide a supportive ministry for the growing number of adult guests and how do we meet their needs? Improved facilities will be a key ingredient. A new lodge that will have 20 motel style adult friendly rooms with private baths is part of the plan. Programs will be developed to minister to the "Third Chapter of Life" or retired adults.

~~~~~Collaborating with other groups to make their summer camp programs a success is another way Lutherdale is growing. We host summer camp for the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee, and several Royal Family Kids Camps for foster children. This summer we are hosting a medical camp for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. Our hosted ministry continues to grow serving more groups with Christian hospitality.~~~~~Lutherdale is also reaching out to the community to be an active resource for others. We are the host site for the Cancer Assault Challenge, a fund raiser for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Elkhorn High School Cross Country meets are held at Lutherdale.

More community opportunities are on the horizon too.

In celebration of our 70 years of ministry, the many changes and growth that Lutherdale has experienced, the camp has embarked on developing a new re-energized logo and image that will be revealed later this year. Lutherdale is growing in different ways. Growing stronger to continue

our mission of serving the

Lutheran church of today, tomorrow and the future...

**"Building lives in Christ"**

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*From the Executive Director.....*  
**Jeff Bluhm, [execdir@lutherdale.org](mailto:execdir@lutherdale.org)**