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Experiencing Lutherdale is always an adventure. Young people have known this since the beginning in 1944. Every summer, for more than 70 years, hundreds of children and youth have enjoyed the fun, learning and growing that is Lutherdale's tradition. And for the last forty years the camp has been open year round for retreats, primarily with young people.

Now the time has come to expand this adventure for adults and families. While ministry with young people will continue to be a top priority, more and more adults have been looking to Lutherdale for meaningful faith-based experiences. Many of them attended camp when they were children and look for the opportunity to once again join in a life-changing adventure.

Lutherdale is keenly aware of the growing number of adults and families within congregations and communities who are looking for exactly what Lutherdale can offer them. People are living longer, seeking new experiences, desirous of being in settings where they can grow in their spiritual journey.

[50 Forward...New Programs To Expand Adult Ministry](#)

Adult program and ministry opportunities continue to grow and expand. Since 2011 Lutherdale has been serving more adults than youth each year. The need is clear and 2017 brings a new and exciting division of ministry with and for adults called **50 Forward**.

Plans are in place for a kickoff event on September 12. Lutherdale is offering a one day conference geared for adults. The event is called "**The Promise and Peril of Elderhood**" with Professor Rollie Martinson from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. During the course of the conference, through the lens of faith, participants will not only come to a better understanding of aging, but develop their own "pathway" of quality life during their senior years.

Starting the day after the conference Sept. 13-15, is a retreat specifically geared for adults. It is called "**Harvest Your Life's Wisdom, A 3rd Chapter of Life Retreat for those age 50 and older**". The presenter is Paul Campbell, former Executive Director of Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center in Carefree, AZ. Topics include: wisdom seeds; experiences that have shaped who you are; how to harvest your wisdom; being an elder sage.

Our **Travel Ministry** program for senior adults has grown and expanded as well. There are a variety of 10 trips being offered throughout the year including 5 day trip options and 5 destination trips. Of special note this year is a Washington DC Honor Trip for Veterans and Spouses in October.

Visit our website for detailed information on these exciting adult program offerings.

[Share the Adventure Appeal Update](#)

Key to the expansion of adult ministry is building an adult-friendly Lodge. To gather the funds required to build the Lodge the Board of Directors has launched the "Share The Adventure" capital appeal. The goal for Phase One of this appeal is \$2.9 Million. Generous pledges and gifts in the amount of \$1.5 Million have already been received, leaving \$1.4 Million still to be raised. To see the future building concept, go to the **Campaign** tab on our website and click on **The Plan**.

[Effective Camp Research Project...Summer Camp Fun!](#)

Lutherdale has been part of a special research project the last two years to study the impact that a summer camp experience has in a child's life. Jacob Sorenson, PhD is the lead researcher on the project. He reports that participants experience real and identifiable changes that were interpreted in overwhelmingly positive terms...the positive impact of camp results from a dynamic interplay of five characteristics of the camp model: 1. Camp is Relational, 2. Camp is Participatory, 3. Camp is Different from Home, 4. Camp is a Safe Space, and 5. Camp is Faith-Centered. Dr. Sorenson states that "**Youth who attend camp are 3 times more likely to remain religious 5 years later than those who do not attend.**" Registration for summer camp is open and registrations are coming in daily. CHOOSE THE WEEK and CHOOSE THE ADVENTURE! Options include: Sports Week, Living Waters Confirmation Programs, USA Week, Water Week, Space Week, Holiday Week, Disney Week, and Super Hero Week. Register early for the best discounts. Visit www.lutherdale.org for full details of all the fun summer programs being offered for youth. Experience the life changing adventure of Lutherdale this summer.

One of the best things about Lutherdale is that we do ministry together with you. Lutherdale boldly provides a ministry of hospitality to all. Thank you for your partnership.