

## Mission Statement of Camp Lutherhoma

*Camp Lutherhoma is to nurture discipleship in Jesus Christ, in outdoor settings, which excites believers to share the love of Christ to the world.*

*“Lutherhoma’s impact on my life has been significant; it reinforced the Word of God taught to me in elementary school and played a central role in my decision to become a professional church worker.”  
Rachel Schroeder, former camper, now attending Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska*

## History of Camp Lutherhoma

1933-2007

(Excerpts from 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Booklet printed in 1994)

The first Oklahoma Lutheran camp was the Summer Conference Camp of the Oklahoma District Walther League held at ‘Heart-O-the-Hills near Welling, OK Aug. 5-11, 1928. Rev. Louis M. Theimer served as dean of this camp and of many others until his death in 1936. The first permanent campsite was purchased in 1933. The Oklahoma District purchased 30 acres at Standing Rock along the Illinois River, and the property with its three cabins and residence was called Camp Lutherhoma (Red Lutheran). At this site was Lutherhoma Day School that reached a peak enrollment of 52. Rev. Walther Haefker served as pastor of Lutherhoma starting in 1937-44 and then returned to Lutherhoma as pastor and business manager from 1947-1957. In 1950 the camp was forced to purchase a new site 30 miles up river as Tenkiller Dam was built along the Illinois River. The new property had been purchased in 1948 for about \$27,000, and a number of the buildings from the Standing Rock site were moved in 1950 to the new property. Not one summer was skipped for campers to come and enjoy Lutherhoma. The first family camp was held in 1954, and has been a favorite program ever since. Theimer Hall was built in 1961. As Walther League changed in 1968 ownership was transferred to the Ok Dist-LCMS. In 1976 the first part-time person was hired. David Schroeder led camp while also being campus ministry director at OSU. In 1989 the Oklahoma District called John Busch to be the full time director. “Lutherhoma is more than a place, it is a ministry, an on-going ministry, where people matter more than buildings, and God guides and leads all in Christian community.” (John Busch)

## Improvements Through the Years

*Things must keep changing to better ministry to all who visit Lutherhoma*

Over the past 18 years we have...

1. Painted every building
2. Re-shingled every building
3. Replaced almost every piece of plumbing
4. Changed the “house” into the office
5. Added 2 new bathhouses
6. Built 2 huge decks and 2 gazebos
7. Replaced the ‘canteen’ shed with a 2 story camp store and meeting room
8. Purchased 180 new mattresses
9. Obtained through donations a new tractor, 3 trucks and a riding mower.
10. Developed one of the best Challenge Course programs in the state
11. Put air conditioning in the main kitchen
12. Rebuilt the Bar-B-Que by the dining hall
13. Added 2 “teepees” for campers to sleep in
14. Installed a new fence around the pool
15. Purchased a double wide trailer house for the caretaker’s family
16. Built a pole barn garage for storage and maintenance
17. Developed a mountain bike program, complete with 14 quality bikes.
18. Purchased publicity equipment, such as computers, still and video cameras, projectors, DVD duplicator and DVD printer
19. Remodeled all the cabins
20. Installed benches around several campfire rings.
21. Many more things that would take up too much space in this newsletter!

# News and Notes

*Information To Help You With Our Capital Campaign,  
“His Promise, His Hope, His Future”*

## Dear Friends

*From John Busch, Director*

*“What an exciting time at Camp Lutherhoma. The whole purpose of having a place like Camp Lutherhoma is to have people come here, get away from the rest of life, get closer to God and His Creation, and feel better equipped to return to our homes to be witnesses to the world about the hope we have in Jesus Christ. I feel we are about to begin a chapter in our history that will be a blessing for thousands of campers well into the future.*

*“Its my privilege to have you walk with me, side by side, as we explore the bright future. Even though our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary is coming soon in 2009, it feels like we have just begun. So, please come with us as we begin this exciting chapter, join us in making a legacy for all future summer and retreat campers.”*

## Year Round Programs at Camp Lutherhoma

*Yes, we are open all year long!! Here are a few of the programs at camp!*

Challenge Course Retreats – 17 years, about 25/year  
Journey In January High School Retreat – 18 years  
Fruitful In February Retreat – 12 years  
Labor Day Family Camp – Since 1954  
Memorial Day Work Weekend – Since 1990  
District Junior High Retreat – 4 years  
Family Reunions  
Great Expectations Principal’s Academy  
Sports Team Retreats  
Men’s Retreats  
Women’s Retreats  
Serenity Recovery Retreats  
Outdoors Education Programs

## Campaign Committee and Board Members

*Fellow Servants who help set the direction of Camp Lutherhoma*

These people are volunteering their time and talents, along with their treasures, to fulfill the Campaign Goals:

Myron Harms – Campaign Chair  
Rev. Harold Klawitter – Honorary Chair  
Sandy Schmidt – Administrative Coordinator  
Paul & Debby Brauer – Major Donor Chairs  
Rob & Joanne McIntyre - Advance Gifts Chairs  
Ed & Karen Meyer – Congregational Phase Chairs  
Don & Paulette Owens –Friends and Family Chairs  
Mike Means – Corporate Phase Chair

Other Committee Members:

Marjorie Theimer  
Carl and Katie Schroeder  
Bill and Patti Ross  
Rev. Will Metz  
Brent and Suzet Roggow  
Eddie Morris  
Gary Schmidt

Many others have also volunteered their time, talents and treasures. Thanks to all!!!

## Full Time Staff

*Dedicated People who serve God by serving others*

John Busch – Director  
Kristy Haines – Program Director  
Daniel Overman – Caretaker  
Joan Busch – Summer Registrar

## Lutherhoma Web Page: Updated Each Day of the Summer

*In order to show parents, friends, and grandparents what is going on at camp, we update our web page each day during the summer to show pictures of the campers and staff. You can also register on-line and make donations on-line at [www.lutherhoma.com](http://www.lutherhoma.com)*

## What People Are Saying...

*“When my daughter changed all the blaring radio on display at Target to the Christian music station, I knew that the week she had just spent at Camp Lutherhoma changed her life.”*  
Zeal Beale, Mother of a camper/staff member

*“I gladly contribute to Camp Lutherhoma because it is a safe place to encounter the full measure (grace) of Christ.”* Phil Theimer, former counselor

*“Camp Lutherhoma has had a huge impact on our youngest daughter Melissa. She started going to camp in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and continued until she was in college, serving as counselor at last. It was here that she met her husband as well. Camp was where her faith was continually strengthened and life long friendships were formed.”* Don and Paulette Owens, committee and board members.

*“I was always anxious for summer to begin in order to go to a place where I felt at home and was welcomed by returning counselors, while bonding with the new ones. I have grown spiritually by their words and devotions. I am so grateful for them in my life.”* Tricia Alaback, former camper

*“Brent asked me to be his wife at camp! In the years since we have returned again and again. Our children have been campers and counselors. Our daughter and her husband were actually married in the chapel. Many memories slip away, but the memories of Camp Lutherhoma are ones that are remembered and cherished all of our lives.”*  
Suzet Roggow

## Summer and Retreat Stuff

### Summer participants through the years

*Summer Campers have enjoyed the Spiritual growth and outdoors fun since 1934. Statistics have been monitored closely since 1989.*

1989-152 campers, 6 weeks, 8 staff  
1995- 604 campers, 8 weeks, 20 staff  
2002- 675 campers, 8 weeks, 25 staff.  
2006- 544 campers, 8 weeks, 24 staff.

### Retreat participants through the years

*The number of retreats grew quickly during the 1990’s, but has seen a drop in recent years.*

1997- 78 total retreats, 42 challenge course retreats  
1999- 62 total, 32 challenge course retreats  
2003- 55 total, 23 challenge course retreats  
2006- 38 total, 21 challenge course retreats

*Even though the number of retreats has dropped, the average number of participants has increased.*

1997- 27.10 participants per retreat,  
2001- 30.7 participants per retreat  
2006- 36.2 participants per retreat.

*Retreat groups have had the option of having camp do their food service or they can do their own. We have seen a significant shift in our groups over the past few years in regards to food service.*

2001- 1462 retreat participants no food service.  
2006- 672 retreat participants no food service.  
2001- 408 retreat participants camp food service.  
2006- 702 retreat participants camp food service.

*When we provide food service, retreats average more participants, they stay longer, and fewer retreats want to do their own food service.*

27.74 participants/retreat no food service  
40.83 participants/retreat camp food service  
2.73 units/part. (length of stay) no food service  
3.92 units/part. (length of stay) camp food service  
2001- 52, 2006- 25 retreats no food service  
2001- 12, 2006- 13 retreats camp food service

## Your Gifts Matter

### Many Methods-One Goal

*“I have been blessed in my life to experience many wonderful people and places around the world. But none have been more formative and life-shaping for me than the way God works through His Word and His people on the banks of the Illinois River at Camp Lutherhoma.”* Rev. Paul Roggow

## Gift Levels

### A Sample Schedule for a 3 Year Pledge

Annually	Quarterly	Monthly	Weekly	Total Gift
\$100,000	\$25,000	\$8,333	\$1,923	\$300,000
\$33,333	\$8,333	\$2,778	\$641	\$100,000
\$16,667	\$4,167	\$1,389	\$321	\$50,000
\$8,333	\$2,083	\$694	\$160	\$25,000
\$5,000	\$1,250	\$417	\$96	\$15,000
\$3,333	\$833	\$278	\$64	\$10,000
\$1,667	\$417	\$139	\$32	\$5,000
\$833	\$208	\$69	\$16	\$2,500
\$333	\$83	\$28	\$6	\$1,000
\$167	\$42	\$14	\$3	\$500

## Income Tax

### Provisions and Methods

Your charitable gifts can be used as a tax deduction according to federal and state laws. An individual may deduct up to 50% of his or her adjusted gross income for gifts of cash. Camp Lutherhoma will provide you with a thank you letter upon receipt of every donation, and an end of the year statement for you to use with your tax returns.

## Thrivent Financial For Lutherans GivingPlus Matching Gift Program

*Any member can get their gift matched up to a certain level.*

In this packet is a GivingPlus Program form. If you own a Thrivent Financial for Lutherans product they will match \$600 of your donation each year with an additional \$300. We have partially filled in the form to make it easy for you to participate. If you have any questions, call Thrivent Financial For Lutherans at 800-847-4836, option 3, or send an e-mail to [GivingPlus@thrivent.com](mailto:GivingPlus@thrivent.com)

## Methods of Giving

### Thirteen ways of making a gift

Contact your attorney, broker or financial planner for assistance with the proper handling of any of these methods. You can also contact Brent England, treasurer, Ok Dist-LCMS (918) 272-2117 or Johnny Barfield, Lutheran Church Extension Fund and Oklahoma District Foundation Chair (888)852-3264.

1. Cash
2. Appreciated Securities or Investments
3. Real Estate
4. Personal Residence or Farm
5. Charitable Gift Annuity
6. Charitable Remainder Trust
7. Appreciated Asset or Deferred Gift
8. IRA or Retirement Benefits
9. Life Insurance Policy
10. Art, Antiques or other Tangible Asset
11. Bequest through a Will or Estate Plan

## Giving Tree Description

### Our Current Annual Giving Program

Our annual budget relies on donations to our general fund in the amount of \$73,000 per year. Many people are part of our Annual Giving Program. Please help keep our operating income at its current rate. If you are already giving to our Giving Tree Program please do not stop supporting camp in this way while you increase your giving as part of the Capital Campaign. If you are not currently an annual giver to our general fund, please consider contributing in this way, also.

Giving Tree Level	Annual Amount
Walnut	\$10,000 and above
Redbud	\$5,000-\$9,999
Dogwood	\$1,000-\$4,999
White Oak	\$500-\$999
American Elm	\$100-\$499