



The Expedition

Your Source for Camp LuWiSoMo News

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2

The Expedition

SPRING 2006

amazinGrace

Acts 20:24

By Kurtis A. Buelmann - Executive Director

He must work together with his trusted companion. The race is on. From city to city, often crossing over national borders, they travel by foot, boat, or whatever other means of transportation will get them there. A task is given to them. He and his partner face many unexpected challenges and roadblocks, but they relentlessly press on toward the goal. Although this might sound like a television episode of “The



Amazing Race,” I am actually referring to Paul in his missionary journeys. Paul put it this way in Acts 20:24, “However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the **race** and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the Gospel of God’s **grace**.”

Paul was on an “Amazing Race,” and he faced many challenges along the way (see 2 Cor. 11:23-33). His “Amazing Race” is our “Amazing Race.” Although our life experiences may be different, we have been given the same task, to boldly tell others about the Gospel of God’s “Amazing Grace,” for it is the power of God unto salvation for everyone who believes! God freely gives us His “Amazing Grace” through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ! Under this summer’s theme



“AmazinGrace,” we will learn about God’s “Amazing Grace” and how to share it with others.

We are very thankful to John Karpinsky for sharing his amazing graphic design talents to develop our theme logo and summer brochure layout. We think they look absolutely amazing!

We are very excited about replacing all of the old youth cabins with new spacious Log Cabins this spring! Campers no longer need to worry about whether they will get to stay in a new Log Cabin or not. Each Log Cabin sleeps up to twelve people and includes a loft area. By building five new Log

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Thank You to All Who Helped Us Reach Our Goal for the Thrivent Challenge Grant!

As many of you know, this past year Camp LuWiSoMo partnered with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to attain a portion of an \$800,000 Challenge Grant through their GivingPlus program. Thrivent Financial challenged Camp LuWiSoMo to send in 107 participant applications which was approximately 40 more than the year before. We had our work cut out for us!

With your support and great response, we reached our goal with a total of 180 Thrivent Financial members.

This grant represents a **three-fold win** for Camp. **First**, Camp LuWiSoMo has increased our donor base and therefore, the dollars contributed by donors. **Second**, our supplement from the GivingPlus Program was higher, based on those increased contributions. And **finally**, we received bonus dollars of \$2,499.00 through the Challenge Grant.

Thank you to all who have helped us reach our goal. If you are a Thrivent member or an Associate member and you bless the mission and ministry at Camp

with a monetary donation, **please** take the time to complete a GivingPlus Application to help make your dollars go further.

If you have any questions regarding the GivingPlus program, please contact Doria Martin at the Camp office at doria@luwisomo.org or call (920) 622-3350 ext 223.

Thank you again for your time and effort to benefit the ministry at Camp LuWiSoMo!



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Email: camp@luwisomo.org

Website: www.luwisomo.org

Special points of interest:

- Volunteer Opportunities
- Meet the Braces
- “Feeding His Flock” Updates
- Thank You to Our Donors
- Silent Auction Items Needed

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Secretary

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Ken Kamenick
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Maintenance

Vicky Knapwurst
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Doria Martin
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From the Mailbox

Joyful Hearts is a special LuWiSoMo program for people with developmental disabilities. Amber Gartzke submitted these poems inspired by the campers of Joyful Hearts.

Heart! Will Never Forget Them!

By Amber M. Gartzke

Heart! We will never forget them!
You and I – forever!
You may never forget the warmth they gave you-
I will never forget their smiles!

When all is done, rest
That you may be refreshed!
Wait! Laugh and smile
They will never forget!

I Hear Their Laughter

By Amber M. Gartzke

I hear their laughter, their very fears I see,
These are my campers; each one has a very special place in
my heart,
They made me cry, they made me laugh,
Their faith is like diamonds, compared to ours.

They live their lives like you never knew there was
something wrong,
They love spending every little bit of time with you,
They love to play and run,
Some love the water; others just like the boats,
There are some that just like you to sit and talk all day long.

Some can't talk and you lose your patience easily,
But with God all things are possible,
They see your every movement and your every action.
They do not judge, they are there to love like you have
never been loved before.

By the end of the week these wonderful people will
change your life,
You will be able to see that change,
Just look at me and how much I have changed through the
years.
My life will never be the same.



They May Not Remember

By Amber M. Gartzke

I don't like it when people make fun of them,
I absolutely hate it when people point and stare at them.
I love them so much.
I miss them all year long,
Until the next summer when I get to see most of them
again.
They will always have a special place in my heart.
They have made a difference in my life.
I know that I would not be where I am in my faith right
now,
If it were not for them.

I do not understand how people can make fun of them.
They are just like you and me,
They are children of God.
And He made them the way He wanted.
They are special in my eyes and in God's eyes, too.
I love them just like I love any other person.
But maybe a little more.

They have changed the way I look at people.
They taught me not to judge.
But to love the people for who they are and the way God
made them.
They may forget me but I will never forget them.
They all have earned a special place in my heart.
But that they will never know.



Help Wanted: We Need You!

Spring Work Weekend, April 21st-23rd! Tom has many projects planned, and we need as many volunteers as possible. You will find the weekend to be a rewarding experience as you join with other Christians in fellowship, hard work, and worship.

Shower House Remodeling! Camp LuWiSoMo would like to remodel the youth shower house. Your local Thrivent chapter can help fund this. Call the camp office for more info.

Summer of 2006! Camp LuWiSoMo is still actively seeking an individual or couple to serve as Campground Hosts this summer from Memorial Day through Labor Day. You would be working

with Don and Sharon Herried from Tomah, who have served as hosts in the past. LuWiSoMo will provide you with a water/electric site and meals (when available) in return for your service. Duties include welcoming our guests, working in the Canteen, and keeping the bathrooms clean and stocked. If you are unable to serve for the entire summer season and would be interested in serving one or two months, or even specific weekends, please contact the camp office at (920) 622-3350.

We need you! Please prayerfully consider these opportunities to serve your Lord in the outdoors and join the LuWiSoMo family!

Meet the Gals Behind the Scenes

By Doria Martin, Development Assistant

Did you ever stop to wonder how all the little things get done behind the scenes at Camp or any other business operation? I'm going to introduce you to Shelley and Andrea Brace who have joined the LuWiSoMo staff this past year and do much of the "behind the scenes" work that make our Camp an inviting place to stay.

Shelley and her family recently moved to the Wild Rose area from Weyauwega where they have lived for the past five years. Shelley and her husband, Greg, have been married several years and have three children; Andrea 17, Keenan 12, and Colton 10. Shelley and her husband home school through Virtual Schooling via the internet with all the lessons set up for them. Andrea primarily works on her own, while Greg and Shelly oversee the boys and spend time each day in their home teaching. Greg also works from home as a real estate agent for Bayview Real Estate, and he and Shelley own an affiliated Marketing business as well.

Shelley began working at Camp LuWiSoMo in July of 2005 as one of our

housekeepers and also joined our kitchen staff as a cook shortly after. Because of family obligations and changes in her schedule, earlier this year she requested to give up the housekeeping area and strictly work as a cook. Her daughter, Andrea, has also helped in housekeeping and in the kitchen, but is also planning to work only in the kitchen as an assistant.

Shelley and her family attend Fellowship Baptist Church in Waupaca. They are very active in their church and spend time each Wednesday evening at "AWANA" which is for grades K-6 and is similar to a co-ed Boy or Girl Scout meeting, except with a Christian emphasis. The evening is spent in fellowship with story time, games, devotions, prayer, and awards for accomplishments.

I asked Shelley what her hobbies were, and I was surprised to find that her favorite hobby is napping! I love that! She enjoys spending time in the outdoors, taking walks, and biking with her family.

The most rewarding part of the job at Camp LuWiSoMo for Shelley is seeing and getting to know the campers while they are here. She likes to have an



Andrea & Shelley Brace

appreciation for people from all walks of life.

I would like to "thank" Shelley and Andrea for the time they have given in housekeeping to make Camp LuWiSoMo a clean and pleasant place to stay. At this time, I would also like to "thank" Terry Beder from Almond, who also worked in housekeeping over the past several months. Terry decided she was somewhat over-extended, as this was a part-time job in addition to her full time position in the Waupaca School system, besides taking care of a family.

Please remember, the next time you visit Camp LuWiSoMo, stop and appreciate all the hard work these people do "behind the scenes" to make your stay more enjoyable.

Stampers Make Their Mark!

By Linda Breight

What a joy it was on November 11-13! Seven women of various ages gathered in the Krueger Center for the Women's Stamping Retreat. Some were so eager to be there that they arrived an hour early!

Once the boxes, crates, and bags were carried in, we settled down to business. Several of us had been to the same retreat the previous year, so the reunion was exciting. We were of the same mind - to create using our talents and join in fellowship in a peaceful setting. We loved sharing ideas, supplies, and of course, CHOCOLATE!

Lori Vertal, Close to My Heart



Consultant, shared some exciting new ideas. We became masters at pop-up cards, surprise cards, and a waterfall card. Lori is such a warm person and we appreciated her expertise.

We also took time to share our faith. I led the ladies in devotions focusing on the ways God sent us His "greeting cards." We reflected on Scripture as His ultimate card for our everyday use, Abraham's call, and ways we can share God's love with others.

We stayed up late, got up early, laughed, and enjoyed the beautiful time at Camp.

I love Camp LuWiSoMo. It is where I met my husband 20 years ago. Now it is a joy to share this experience with women, doing what I love, in a setting I love. I pray others can join us at future Women's Retreats.

"Feeding His Flock" Capital Campaign Underway

By Joan Voigt, Campaign Coordinator

Camp LuWiSoMo has been blessed with the enthusiastic and dedicated leadership of Co-Chairs, Art Dee and Carl Brakebush in this campaign.

Art has been on the Camp Board since the 340-acre Round Lake property was just a dream of the Lutheran Laymen's League. Art had the opportunity to see the development of the outdoor ministry program for the South Wisconsin District from the beginnings in 1961.

Carl has been involved with the camp since high school when his family provided chickens for the family day picnic. Carl also serves on the Camp Board.

Art and Carl have been involved with the development of the camp through the remodeling of the Chapel, the groundbreaking of the Krueger Retreat Center and improvements to tree houses, cabins, and expansion at the family campground.

Special Thanks to Matt Riley!

Matt Riley, a student at UW-Whitewater has shared his talents in video production to create our campaign video. Matt shares many LuWiSoMo experiences and opportunities with you. Matt spent numerous hours in filming, developing, and many more hours revising the campaign video to present a heartfelt perspective of the Lord's outdoor ministry at Camp LuWiSoMo.

As of February 1, 2006, we have received 47 pledges with a total of \$410,000 toward the \$2.5 million campaign goal!



Art Dee



Carl Brakebush



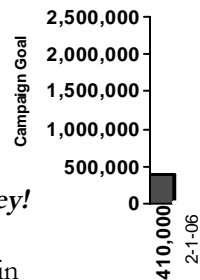
The "Feeding His Flock" Capital Campaign has implemented the next steps toward the Congregational Phase of the campaign to build a new dining and meeting hall and four youth log cabins.

Thank you to the fourteen Regional Coordinators who have joined the campaign to serve as leader of congregational involvement in their region of the South Wisconsin District.

Campaign development sessions were held for Regional Coordinators on January 21 in Madison and Waukesha. Carl Brakebush, Congregational Chair Rev. O'Connor, and Executive Director Kurtis Bueltmann, introduced the "Feeding His Flock" Campaign with the campaign video and provided information and materials to equip Regional

Coordinators with the tools to present the campaign to potential circuit coordinators.

Campaign Pledges



Welcome Regional Coordinators! Deb & Rick Oblamski, Central East Region (Circuit 1-3), **Rev. Ziemann**, Northeast Region (Circuits 8-10), **Rev. Wurm and Eric Nimmer**, Northeast Region (Circuits 11-14), **Rev. Mueller**, West Region (Circuits 15-17), **Rev. Bright**, West Region (Circuits 18-19), **Don & Sharon Herried** and **Dan Luck**, West Region (Circuits 20-21), **John Dahm**, Southeast Region (Circuits 22-23), **Rev. Wagner and Ed Kaufenberg**, Southeast Region (Circuits 24-25), and **Rev. Poppe**, Southeast Region (Circuits 26-27).

Regional Coordinators are beginning a search for representatives of each circuit in the next few weeks. Please

prayerfully consider how you may serve the Lord in this campaign to enable growth in LuWiSoMo's year-round, outdoor ministry with the gifts He has provided you.

If you are in Circuit 4-7 and would like to serve as Regional Coordinator in this campaign, please contact the Camp office (920) 622-3350, Pastor O'Connor (262) 844-4728 or Carl Brakebush (800) 933-2121 ext 1201.

Special thanks to all donors and pledges received for the "Feeding His Flock" Capital Campaign!

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A Special Word of Thanks!

The ministry of Camp LuWiSoMo is what it is today because it has a group of supporters that are prayerful, generous, and committed to bringing the Gospel of Christ to all ages. The Staff and Board of Directors at Camp LuWiSoMo would like to thank all who help us continue our mission in ministry by touching the lives of children, youth, and adults through our summer and year-round programs. If anyone is missed on our donor list, we would like to extend our apologies and ask that you please notify the camp office so we may correct our mistake. Many also give beyond our ability to record by donating items and volunteering their time. Thank you all and God's blessings throughout the year!

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Immanuel Lutheran Church, Mt Morris
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Mr & Mrs Ross Prange
Ms Ellen Quigley
Rev & Mrs David Radtke & Family
Mr & Mrs Robert Ranum
Ms Inez Rautio
Mr & Mrs Ronald Redig
Ms Betty Renner
Ms Susanne Rettig
Ms Jeanne Ricci
Mr & Mrs John Richter
Mr Charles Rieck
Mr Matt Riley
Mr & Mrs John Roarick
Mr & Mrs Jerry Roesch
Ms Liz Roesch
Mr Andrew Roettgen
Rev & Mrs Kenneth Roever
Mr & Mrs Ron Rohde
Mr & Mrs Lee Roloff & Family
Mr & Mrs Leonard Roloff
Mrs Sharon Rossebo
Mr & Mrs Rick Ryddner & Family
Mr & Mrs James Ryerson & Family
Ms Bonnie Sanders
Adam Sattler
Tim Sattler
Ms Judy Schessler
Ms Amy Schiefelbein

Ms Judi Schiller
Mr & Mrs Herbert Schmalz
Ms Ardis Schmidt
Mr & Mrs Richard Schmidt
Bernie Schmitz
Ms Leigh Schneider
Mr & Mrs Herman Scholz & Family
Mr & Mrs Gordon Schramm
Ms Lois Schroeder & Family
Mr Ted Schroeder
Mr Tim Schroeder
Ms Michelle Schuh
Ann Schwebach
Mr Bill Seiffer
Ms Lisa Senkbeil
Mr & Mrs Tony Sepolpo
Dr Peter Sheild
Mr & Mrs Mel Silverbrandt & Family
Ms Lynn Sixta
Ms Debi Smith
Mr & Mrs Frederick Smith
Mr Russell Smith
Mr & Mrs Larry Sohn
Mrs Marion Souzek
Mr & Mrs Roger Souzek
Ms Jamie Stache & Family
Mr Calvin Steinweg
Ms Tari Stetler
Mr & Mrs Randy Stini & Family

Ms Theresa Stout
Ms Jeanne Strandberg
Mr & Mrs Neal Strehlow
Mr & Mrs Roger Strenger
Ms Marilyn Strickert
Mr & Mrs Charles Stumpf
Cyan Swank
Danan Tangwall
Ms Debi Tauschek
Ms Anita Teller
Mr Nick Teller
Ms Dan Tesch
Ms Cheryl Thalacker
Amy Thode
Mr & Mrs Steven Thomas & Family
Terry Thompson
Rev David Totsky
Ms Jackie Trettin
Dave & Carol Uden
Mr Marvin VanDeHey
Ms Julie Vandenberg
Ms Betsy Van Etten
Mr & Mrs Donald Viehl
Mr & Mrs Richard Voigt
Mr & Mrs Thomas Voigt & Family
Mr & Mrs Vernon Voigt & Family
Dale, Lynn & Kelly Wachholz
Mr & Mrs Pat Wallschlager
Ms Vicki Waltermann

Ms Joan Warwick
Mr & Mrs Jonathan Watson
Ms Shannon Watson
Ms Lori Watt
Mr Haven Weckwerth
Dr Karen Wedde
Mr Edward Weide
Jeffrey & Donna Weide
Ms Jill Weide
Ms Penny Weide
Mr Ken Weidt
Ms Brianne Weiss
Ms Barbara Wendt
Mr & Mrs Duane Wenig
Mr & Mrs Clarence Werginz
Mr Norman Wheeler
Ms Sandra Whiteside
Mr & Mrs John Wickenburg
Mr & Mrs Roger Wilke
Rev John Willie
Ms Vicki Winnes
Mr Gary Wohfeil
Ms Joyce Wolf
Mr Matthew Wurm
Mr Robert Wurm
Mr Burrell Wyle
Mr James Zastrow & Family
Mr & Mrs Darren Zetek
Mr & Mrs Scott Ziorgen & Family

Silent Auction Reminder

Have you decided what you will be donating for our Silent Auction during our **Family Weekend Celebration August 11-13, 2006?**

I hope you ladies are thinking of quilting or afghan ideas. Fellows, how about a woodworking project? We had some beautiful items donated last year. Let's see if we can do the same again this year!

Please contact Doria at the Camp office at (920) 622-3350 ext. 223 or by

email at doria@luwisomo.org by **April 1st** and let her know what

you intend to donate so we can post a list of items in our next newsletter. The items can be brought to camp anytime between now and Family Weekend.

Thank you again to all of you who donated items last year. Your generosity was greatly appreciated!



LuWiSoMo Seeks a Business Operations Director

LuWiSoMo has created a new position of Business Operations Director to oversee facilities, finances, and some of the office management. If you or somebody you know would be interested in serving in this position, please contact the LuWiSoMo office at (920) 622-3350 for more information.

AmazingGrace cont . . .

Cabins this spring, LuWiSoMo will have a total of eight Log Cabins on Main Camp. The South Wisconsin District Lutheran Women's Missionary League is providing a grant for one of these cabins.



Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has provided additional funds through a Care in Regions grant, supplementing money raised during last year's Family Weekend

Celebration. We greatly appreciate these generous contributions. The remaining funds will come from the "Feeding His Flock" capital campaign.

Be sure to check out all the new summer programs, including a Hunters Safety Camp, a Babysitters Camp, and an EZ Defense Camp. We are bringing back some favorites such as Bike Camp and Guitar Camp. Some popular weeks have been

made even better, such as Owl Camp, Rocketry Camp, and A Horse A Piece (formerly called Horsemanship). We are also excited to offer B.A.S.I.C. for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, as well as a Sign Language Camp. We've even lowered our prices to make it more affordable because it is important to us for everyone to have the opportunity to experience God's Amazing Grace at LuWiSoMo.

I hope to see you this summer as we live the "Amazing Race" and proclaim God's "Amazing Grace."

Camp LuWiSoMo

South Wisconsin District of the LC-MS
W5421 Aspen Rd
Wild Rose WI 54984-9177

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Relax at the "Young at Heart" Seniors Retreat

Check us out on the
web at
www.luwisomo.org

Upcoming Events at Camp LuWiSoMo

For more information and registration forms, please visit us on the web at www.luwisomo.org

Youth Confirmation Retreats

March 3-5, 2006
March 10-12, 2006
March 31-Apr 2, 2006
April 7-9, 2006 NEW!

Pancake Dinner

April 23, 2006
Time: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Cost: Freewill Offering



"Young at Heart" Seniors Retreat

April 24-27, 2006

"Last year for our "Young at Heart" Retreat, we looked at that great "Faith" chapter in the book of Hebrews. We had wonderful discussions about how through our faith we can find rest. We can only find "rest" through faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. Everyone participated in the discussions, and we all learned or were reminded of God's love for us. I look forward to this year's retreat and growing closer to our Lord together." - Pastor Link

Adult Horsin' Around Retreat - NEW!

May 5-7, 2006

Fishing Retreat

May 5-7, 2006

Summer Programs for Youth, Families, and Developmentally Disabled

June 4-August 11, 2006

Spring Work Weekend

April 21-23, 2006
Cost: FREE

LuWiSoMo Society Dinner

April 29, 2006

45th Annual Family Weekend Celebration

August 11-13, 2006