



# LuWiSoMo News

Fall 2021

## BY FAITH

### By Faith

Our 2022 ministry theme comes from Hebrews 11:1, *"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."*

Faith in God and the promise of what is to come calls us to action. Hebrews 11 shares examples of those who've come before us and lived out their faith. In exploring these and other faith stories, we want to ask ourselves: how is God calling us to do likewise, to put our faith in action, and to live each day for Him **By Faith!**

### 2022 Summer Camp Registration Open

All Summer Camps are planned for 2022 and registration is now open! See the website for camp dates, details, and registration forms – sign up now for first choice of dates. Contact us if your situation needs some financial support.

**Camp is a great Christmas gift!**

### New High School Camp

We've redesigned a new camp week specifically for high school students. Current 8<sup>th</sup> grade students can choose this new High School Camp or the Grades 5-8 Youth Camp week. This camp is also a great option for those who missed their last years of youth camp due to COVID.

### High School Students Serve As CITs

Counselors In Training (CITs) are high school students who spend two or more weeks volunteering at summer camp, serving alongside summer camp counselors and staff. Experience the joys and hard work of camp ministry, while developing leadership skills and growing in faith. If this sounds like an opportunity for you, or for someone you know, see our website for details or contact us.

### Attention Nurses

Each week of summer camp we need a volunteer nurse or nursing student to help serve with distribution of meds and as our Health Supervisor. Your meals, and housing for you and your family, are provided. Enjoy time at camp and sharing your gifts! If this sounds like something that interests you or someone you know, please consider being a blessing in this way. Contact us to learn more and schedule your week(s). Thank you!

### Your Help Needed

COVID financial challenges continued in 2021 with many retreats cancelled or rescheduled and very limited summer camps. This meant little operating income again, yet basic expenses continued.

Your gifts and some grants have supported the ministry during this time. Thank you to each of you who've stood in the gap with your gifts. Please know they are truly making the difference!

Right now, like so many others, we continue to need your financial support as we work through these times and strive to return to "normal" ministry operations and plans for future growth. Please keep praying for God's ministry at LuWiSoMo and thank you in advance for your gifts! Here are some ways to help right now:

### Triple Challenge 2021

Make a "Triple Challenge" gift. Thanks to two anonymous donors, your gift **now through January 15<sup>th</sup> is Tripled!** Details on the website.

### Amazon Shoppers

If you shop Amazon, sign in via [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and under "Your Account" choose option to make LuWiSoMo your charitable organization. There is no cost / ordering difference except signing in using [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) instead of amazon.com, but when you do and select LuWiSoMo, we receive funds from Amazon. Thanks to all who're doing this – it really adds up!

### Thrivent Choice

Reminder to Thrivent members, you can designate your Thrivent Choice dollars to LuWiSoMo. Thanks to all who've been doing this! Your dollars add up and make a big impact for God's ministry at LuWiSoMo!

### Your Gifts At Work



As COVID continued this year, we continued using this time to work on improving our facilities and property to make them better than ever for when we return to full operation and to serve God for generations to come.

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# Your Gifts At Work

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With all the changes over the last decade, many of the needed infrastructure upgrades and property and facility work were unable to be addressed. However, that has changed, and your gifts are what is driving that progress. We still have a way to go, but as your gifts are received, we're putting them right to work.

These are some highlights of what's been completed this year and what's in the works. See last Fall's newsletter, on the website, for projects completed in 2020.

Know that while these investments are necessary and some are big, we're pacing them as gifts are received to ensure maintaining financial health and proper reserves.

## **Campground**

Grounds work and improvements continued, playground equipment was repaired, and new swings added. New exterior windows and sealed doors are in process for the older Pine Shower House, and a "master plan" including site upgrades, group site areas, picnic shelters and other improvements are in the works.

## **Chapel & New "Gathering Area"**

The Shepherd's House is gone and demo of the old dining hall is up next - making way for a "Chapel Courtyard" and "Gathering Area". A large, graveled parking area behind the Chapel was added to serve the Chapel, Gathering Area, and Waterfront. Additional parking along the service road in front of the old dining hall and Shepherd's House is planned, along with Picnic Shelter improvements.

## **Retreat Center**

The new water treatment & plumbing equipment is being installed. Meeting Room renovations continue, including new exterior windows, LED lighting, LVP flooring, paint, and furnishings. The old fire alarm system was replaced. Internet / WiFi upgraded. New LED lighting for the rooms and hall is being installed, and door hardware replaced. Room window replacement is planned. The lower level is being converted back to a guest game/activity space. The new exterior windows are already installed. A future outdoor patio area off this lower level is planned.

## **Waterfront**

We've worked with authorities to expand the swimming and beach area and fill in the low area behind the beach with some of this becoming more beach area. A new, larger, relocated boat house is planned along with a few designated "drop off / pick-up" parking spots, sand volleyball court, and picnic area. The goal is a beautiful, natural, functional waterfront area large enough for all guests and activities, including full camp campfires and worship under a large cross.

## **Youth & Family Cabins**

All cabins have new porches, new sealed fiberglass doors and door hardware. New windows, doors, ventilation system, septic system, and interior improvements are in process for the Shower House. LED lighting and exterior cleaning, sealing, and staining are planned for all cabins and the shower house, along with adding designated parking and some landscaping.

## **Other**

The Maintenance Building LeanTo was cleaned out and organized for storing split wood, boats, and our tractor, with a bay set up for wood splitting. Cameras have been added throughout the property for safety and security. A campaign is being launched to replace the rotting wood picnic tables with aluminum tables (200 tables). Also in the works is a full master "campus" development plan to address future needs and guide development, including interconnecting walking trails throughout the property, a new, relocated maintenance facility, addition of an activity center/gym, and more family-style housing.

# Book Your Retreat

Winter and Spring are great times for Retreats (youth or adult group getaways and faith building, confirmation, outdoor education, leadership, men or women's groups, families, etc.). And it's not too soon to book for Summer and next Fall. Enjoy the blessings of time together in God's beautiful creation of LuWiSoMo! We have lodging, great food, beautiful facilities and can help you lead or plan activities. Contact us for details or to arrange a tour. Let LuWiSoMo be a blessing to your group!



# Church & School Visits

Would your congregation like someone from LuWiSoMo to visit and share about LuWiSoMo on a Sunday morning as part of your worship and education time? Would a visit to your school help students get excited about attending Summer Camp? We'd love to come and share! Contact us to start a conversation on how we can best serve you.

# Questions / Stay Connected

If you have a question, want to know more about what's happening or share a thought, we're always excited to hear from you! Feel free to contact me directly via the "Contact" page on the website or give us a call.

Are you receiving LuWiSoMo emails? If not, or to be sure we have your current contact info, email us your info and we'll make sure you're on the email news list.

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