

Name: Norman Barge

How have you been involved with Lutheran Island Camp? Staff, Volunteer, Camper

Please share with us one or more of your favorite memories at Lutheran Island Camp. The memory of evening devotions at the point with singing, praying, and sharing. That with the 3 birch crosses, the quiet lake behind the crosses with a full moon rising directly behind the crosses, made for a most memorable experience.

Also, the many gatherings of the Minnesota North District ACT in its glory days of the 1970s. Gatherings of leadership teens and college students, the District ACT conventions of 200 to 300 teens and young adults, who were brought closer to their Lord Jesus via fellowship and the means of Grace, Word and Sacrament.

Tell us how God has worked through camp in your life.

Pastor Beck said it well decades ago when he said "I just love to get my confirmation class out to LIC where the Holy Spirit can work on them full time".

God works through His Word and people to draw us closer to Jesus. I saw this vividly during a week of CYD (Christ's Young Disciples) training led by Pastor Herman Hoffman and myself. Those 25 teens grew spiritually that week.

Camp sponsored and was headquarters for both Plain People and Just Jesus Outreach teams that visited congregations teaching and leading youth to a more vibrant youth ministry.

Please feel free to share a personal update with other alumni in the space below.

Retirement is great because your time is your own. The Lord brought my wife through a massive heart attack in 2009 to a state of good health. We are blessed to live in this great nation where health care is excellent.

Our 5 children are all married to their first spouse. We have 7 grand children, the first one of which married recently.

The Mission statement of LIC says it all and says it well. The purpose of LIC is ministry Outreach for the Lord Jesus.

In Mark 6:31 Jesus says to His disciples and to us, "Come apart by yourselves, to a quiet place, and get some rest".

To me "There is no place closer to heaven, on earth, than Lutheran Island Camp".

What year(s), if any, were you on the LIC staff?

If you served on staff, what position(s) did you hold?

Chairman of the Minnesota North District Youth Committee for 7 years and as such attended many meetings/gatherings at LIC.

I was privileged to serve 2 terms on the Board of Directors of LIC during which time the Lord blessed Camp with over 1/2 million dollars in donations. Those donations made it possible to refurbish nearly all cabins (and the chapel) with new roofs, windows, siding, heaters, water heaters, and patios. The ERC was air-conditioned and painted. Martha, Mary the Retreat House and the Chapel all became year around facilities. We have a new store and canteen plus many plans are in the making for new facilities.

What year(s) were you a volunteer at LIC?

1960 to 2010

What year(s) were you a camper at LIC?

1960s, 1970s, 2000

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Do you have any special requests or instructions for us?

Lutheran Island Camp has been greatly blessed with and by the efforts of Director Earlandson, by Bill, Marvin, Mary, Deb and a host of others. We need to remember to thank the Lord for them and pray for their continued ministry at LIC.