

September 29, 2009

Greetings in Christ!

It is hard to believe that September has come and almost gone. It's been an extremely busy month at camp and October looks almost as busy. We thank all of you who have scheduled events at camp this fall. We pray that your time at camp has been a blessing.

***We need your help!!!*** We have just found out that Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will be ending the [GivingPlus](#) match program at the end of 2009. In addition, they may actually run out of funds before the end of the year. If you have **Thrivent products** and would like to support camp, please use the attached form and send your donation to camp as soon as possible. We typically receive about \$20,000 in match money so this is a very significant challenge for us.

This past weekend we were *so busy* that we had to schedule our Saturday noon meal at three different sites for the three different groups there. We were blessed with a good turnout for the [Church Workers' Wives Retreat](#) and they seemed to really enjoy themselves. Our [Autumn Adventure](#) was a great success with over 50 kids from Glencoe, Willmar, Becker, the Twin Cities, Breckenridge and elsewhere. The [Mary Kay Advance](#) was also a great blessing to camp. This is a prime example of a member of one of our congregations in the district who heads up the organization in this area. She brings all of these ladies to camp where they have an opportunity to prayer, sing, and worship with us. It is a tremendous witness to some who are unchurched as well as an opportunity for others to see the camp and what we do here. Several asked about scheduling events here as well as how their children and grandchildren can come to camp.

Today we are debuting the DVD for the [Make a World for Christ Appeal](#). It will be shown at the Pastors' Conference in St. Cloud. We will also have a draft version of our appeal brochure available for review and comment. God continues to bless us with hard working volunteers and professionals.

We want to remind folks of our upcoming [Reformation for Today](#) that will be held on October 18 at 3:00 pm. We are looking for to Brian Young sharing a presentation on Lutherans and the Creator. Brian will be hear at camp that weekend doing a workshop/retreat on "[Responding to Evolution](#)".

Don't forget that this Saturday is our annual Fall clean-up day. We'll have lots of things to do and hope that you'll be able to join us. Give us a call to let us know that you are coming.

We still have some openings for our [Joy of Marriage](#) retreat October 23-25. Bruce and Gwen Noennig of Moorhead will be leading the retreat. Give us a call to sign up.

We also want to remind you that we are looking for next year's Junior Counselors. We'd really like it if they attended one of the upcoming **Christ Serve Leadership Training** retreats. They are scheduled for October 14-18 and December 27-30.

*Pastors, we have scheduled **Dr. David Schmitt** of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis to be here at camp in January for a Lenten Series retreat. This should be an excellent program. His theme will be "Places of the Passion". You can find out more by going to the website and looking under our Retreats and Training section. We want to thank Pastor Matt Ruesch for his assistance in helping us set up the program.*

Ladies, if you are looking for when the **Women's Retreat** will be held, we do have a change to report to you. Instead of the first weekend in March, we have moved the **Women's Retreat to April 16-18**. We think the later date will make travel easier and may provide an opportunity for more to attend. We'll be announcing the program soon as well as the rest of our Spring line-up of events.

We have now posted most of the **Winter programs on our website**. Look for your favorite event and sign up soon. Some will have limited availability.

Question and Answer:

Question: Have you scheduled the Men's Retreat yet? How about the Polar Plunge?

Answer: Yes, both events are scheduled for February. The Men's Retreat will be February 19-21 and the Polar Plunge weekend will be February 26-28 with the plunge on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup>. Both events fill early.

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*"Building Christ-centered programs and facilities for you, your children, and your children's children."*

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