

"The relationships I made here have lasted me a lifetime. I have never found a community so immersed and inspired by God."
- "DRENCH," SUMMER STAFFER



Fall 2024



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LAKEVIEW
MINISTRIES

Dear Lakeview Family,

Many of you will remember this verse from Exodus as the theme of our “A Place For You” campaign, launched in 2019. To me, this verse really embodies the story of Lakeview. Over the course of many years, God has been building this place up and making it what it is today: “A Place For You”.

And while our path has moved us on from that campaign to something new (more about that on the next page), camp is still a place where people of all ages can be themselves, with no masks or fronts. Everyone is free to be who God made them to be and to see where he is leading them.

In this loving and grace-filled environment, people are able to hear the still, small voice of God much more readily. They are willing to reveal more of themselves to others, and in so doing, build relationships that last a lifetime.

Truly, camp is so much more than one week of the summer, as unforgettable as that is. It is a place where God reveals himself and shapes his people, forging connection and change that extend far beyond their time at camp. It’s a place where we come alongside families and help them raise their children in the faith.

In that sense, camp is really the story of people investing in other people, and God investing in us all through his son, Jesus Christ. As you read through the stories in these pages from this past summer at camp and learn more about our upcoming capital campaign, I invite you to join us in prayer.

Pray that all those who experienced camp this summer will continue to be shaped and changed by their time here. Pray that God will help make ready the future investments needed for this place. And pray that He will continue to lead us forward, so that camp remains a place where God reveals himself to his people.

Let’s keep the Lakeview legacy vibrant for all the future campers yet to come!

In Christ’s love,
David Vandercar, Executive Director

“SEE I AM SENDING AN ANGEL
BEFORE YOU TO THE PLACE I
HAVE MADE READY FOR YOU.”
— EXODUS 23:20

CAMPAIGN WRAP UP

As we prepare to launch a new capital campaign, a common question we’re hearing is, “What happened to the “A Place For You” campaign?” Great question!

The “A Place For You” campaign launched in the summer of 2019 with a focus on expanding and enriching camp for future generations. It got off to a strong start, but then COVID-19 hit in the spring of 2020, and our focus had to shift from growing camp to simply surviving the uncertainty brought on by a global pandemic.

Through the grace of God and the faithfulness of Lakeview’s supporters, we were able to make it through the pandemic without significant impact to the well-being of the ministry. But the pandemic did significantly disrupt many of the intended plans of the “A Place For You” campaign.

Following the pandemic, we spent time shoring up our ministry to be in a place where we could once again dream about the future. As those conversations resumed, we discussed whether or not simply to relaunch the A Place For You campaign.

But much has changed in the last five years. New needs have risen up. Old projects have been completed. Different opportunities have presented themselves. So we decided a new campaign makes the most sense to provide for Lakeview’s current needs and future vision.

As we get ready to launch this new campaign, we wanted to take time to celebrate all we were able to accomplish through the “A Place For You” campaign and thank everyone who so generously gave!



BY THE NUMBERS

Donations received: \$1.4 million

Projects completed:

- Constructing Outback Village Cluster
- Installing gates at entrances to Camp Lakeview and Lakeview Villages
- Retrofitting and renovating a former staff house into our new Welcome Center at the entrance to camp
- Acquiring additional property and staff housing
- Retiring all current debt
- Installing a sewer connection at Lakeview Springs
- Creating a master site plan for Lakeview Springs
- Beginning lodge renovations and improving site infrastructure at Lakeview Springs

We are so grateful for what this campaign accomplished. Each of these projects moved this ministry forward in a significant way. Thank you to all who gave to the “A Place For You” campaign. You have truly made a difference for future generations of camp!



LOOKING FORWARD: SUMMER FORUMS RECAP

We are so excited for all that God has in store for Lakeview Ministries! As we began planning for a new capital campaign, we decided to solicit the assistance of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF). LCEF has been working with us to plan and organize the campaign.

Their first suggestion was to go through a process that they call the "Ministry Readiness Study." We conducted this study this summer by offering local forums, personal interviews, and an online survey. These tools allowed everyone with a connection to Lakeview to have a voice in Lakeview's future. Thank you to everyone who participated in this process!

During this ministry readiness process, we were able to present direction for Lakeview's future, along with preliminary plans for the new campaign, all from the perspective of the Lakeview staff and board. You were gracious to listen to what we have in mind for the path forward. We appreciate all the valuable feedback you provided. It will assist the leadership at camp in determining the will of God moving forward.

We are now in the process of compiling and analyzing all that information. We will use this information to hammer out the direction of the campaign, including specific projects, priorities, and the financial investment we will need to accomplish those goals. Be sure to join us at our annual Dinner Auction, where we'll share the big campaign reveal!



LOOK FOR MORE INFO ON THE BACK COVER OF THE NEWSLETTER!

SUMMER FORUM STATS

75

People attended the forums

28

Personal Interviews (individual or couples)

170

People completed the online surveys

MEET THE NEW CAMPAIGN TEAM!

We want as many people as possible to be involved as we design and launch our new capital campaign. Here is our initial team of people helping to make it happen!

If you'd like to take an active role in the campaign, talk to any of these individuals, or reach out to the camp office. There's a way to be involved for everyone!



CAMP FAMILY DIRECTOR
Lark Gurganious, New Palestine
New Palestine Zion Lutheran Church



COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR
John Paff, Ft. Wayne
Fort Wayne Marketing Founder



CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR
Tim Kurth, Indianapolis
Cornerstone Lutheran Church - Eagle Creek



CONGREGATIONAL DIRECTOR
Pastor Todd Riordan, Columbus
Retired Pastor serving Vacancy at Grace Lutheran Church



PRAYER TEAM DIRECTOR
Steven Vandergriff, Evansville
Evansville Immanuel Lutheran



BOARD REPRESENTATIVE
Brad Hussung, New Albany
Grace Lutheran Church



EVENTS TEAM DIRECTOR
Peggy Powers, Seymour
St. Paul Lutheran Church - Jonesville



FINANCIAL DIRECTOR
Kodi Clipp, Columbus
Faith Lutheran Church



SUMMER STAFF SNAPSHOTS

Looking at Camp Through the Eyes of Our 2024 Summer Staff

One thing we've noticed through our many years of leading summer camp here at Lakeview is the way that our summer staff learn and grow—sometimes more than the campers themselves! Even as Jesus is working and changing the lives of the campers, he's doing the same thing in the lives of our summer staff through their service for Him.

This year was no exception. Here's a brief glimpse into what our staff get to experience at camp and how this ministry changed them, too!



A Junior Staffer told me that her campfire message was inspired by a message I had given when she was a camper. She told me it really spoke to her and had carried with her as she grew in her faith and continued junior counseling. I couldn't even remember that campfire, but it was awesome to hear how the Holy Spirit worked through me at camp.

- "PACK"

[I've learned] prayers for camp make an impact. I've prayed with many homesick or hurt or sick campers, and it always has an impact. I prayed with one camper who was homesick and scared at night, and she talked about it the rest of the week. She kept asking me to thank God that he had made her feel so much better. Keep praying for camp!

- "SPLASH"

Seeing the impact camp has on campers is wild. The amount of campers who come back to camp and remember every aspect of their week last year is awesome. Kids love this place. They want to be here. The moments at campfire where all the campers are singing loudly together are moving.

- "BOOTS"

The fulfillment you get from witnessing to the campers is unlike any feeling in the world. I learn more from the campers than they do from me sometimes. God is great and His will be done!

- "CRUISE"



I came into this summer not knowing my place here or anywhere. I now know my place is with Him.

- "BONOBO"



One week, Pogo and I led a Sunday night campfire about having audacious, bold faith. The next day, while I was explaining the swim test, one of the girls was nervous to take it. She suggested we pray about it, just as we had learned the night before at campfire.

- "SUNNY"

1839 Youth Campers	548 Family Campers	114 Junior Staffers	50 Staffers	24 Summer Volunteers
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SOUTH CENTRAL LUTHERAN CAMP ASSOC.

13500 W. Lake Road,
Seymour, IN 47274

812-342-4815

www.lakeview.camp
office@lakeview.camp

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR “REVEALED” DINNER AUCTION!

Our annual Dinner Auction is right around the corner, and we can't wait to celebrate with you! Join us on Saturday, November 23, from 5 – 9 p.m. at Primo Banquet Hall, Indianapolis, for an evening you won't forget. The event features a delicious catered meal, complimentary beer and wine, along with homemade desserts through our much-anticipated “dessert dash.”

Not only is our Dinner Auction the single-largest fundraiser of the year; it's also a wonderful way to connect with camp families and celebrate all that God is doing through Lakeview Ministries. This year offers an added feature as we “reveal” our new campaign.

Want to learn more, register for a table (or two), or donate items for the auction? Visit lakeview.camp/auction for all that and more. See you in November!



[HTTPS://LAKEVIEW.CAMP/AUCTION](https://lakeview.camp/auction)