

February 19, 2019

Greetings in Christ!

We had a really busy Presidents' Day weekend at Lutheran Island Camp and Christ Serve Ranch. It was a blessing to be able to serve so many wonderful people.

Our annual **Men of Christ Men's Retreat** was a resounding success! We had about 70 men including 7 sets of father/sons. A number of Pastor Jeff Hemmer was an excellent presenter. There were men from Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Eight pastors and a number of other church workers joined. The group also joined in singing, service projects, broomball, carpetball, and so much more. The evaluations were excellent and shared a few ways that next year will be even better.

Christ Serve Academy sponsored trip to the Sunken Cities exhibit at the Minneapolis Institute for the Arts. Fifteen people attended this special event. **Rev. Ron Hobbie of Ada** provided an enlightening lecture about the Exodus of the Israelite community and the Egyptian timeline. The group was then able to view the special traveling exhibit, "**Sunken Cities of Egypt**" where some of the evidence described by Hobbie could be seen in artifacts on display. There was additional time to explore the creativity of many artists throughout the museum and enjoy lunch from the Wedge Table. Upcoming **Christ Serve Academy** trips include a geological tour of Otter Tail County on April 20 and a trip to the Creation Conference in St. Louis June 12-16.

Summer 2019 Program Highlight:

Parent Child Trailblazer Camps

Dates and programs: These weekend events are for 6-11 year old youth and an adult. They are for those children who want to have a special experience with a parent, grandparent, uncle or other special adult in their lives. This year we are offering weekends that will have a special emphasis. Be sure to select the weekend that will provide the activities you would like to participate in.

Ages: 6-11 years old with an adult.

Dates and programs: Horseback Riding Weekends: #1 June 14-16; #2 August 9-11, #3 August 16-18. **Fishing Weekends:** #1 June 7-9, #2 July 19-21, #3 August 16-18. **Shooting Sports**

Weekends: #1 June 21-23, #2 July 26-28.

Costs: \$120 per person for Fishing; \$150 per person for Shooting Sports; \$200 per person for Horseback Riding

Deposit: \$50 for each person

Louis is headed to the NLOMA conference this week. This is the national LCMS camp conference.

Sunday and Monday we hosted an ELS President's Day weekend retreat. About 25 youth and adults enjoyed Lutheran Island Camp and all the snow we have.

Don't forget that the **Polar Plunge** is just a couple of weeks away. It is time to get signed up. Dr. James Lamb is the speaker this year. The ice is thick, the water cold. Sounds like a formula for a great weekend.

Question and Answer:

Question: Would you ever think of having the Men's Retreat at a different time?

Answer: When asked, most respondents thought this was the best time, however there is no reason why we can't have other Men's or Women's Retreats perhaps with different emphasis. What about one in May with a fishing emphasis? Or one in the fall as a kickoff for Dart ball season? Let us know what you think.

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