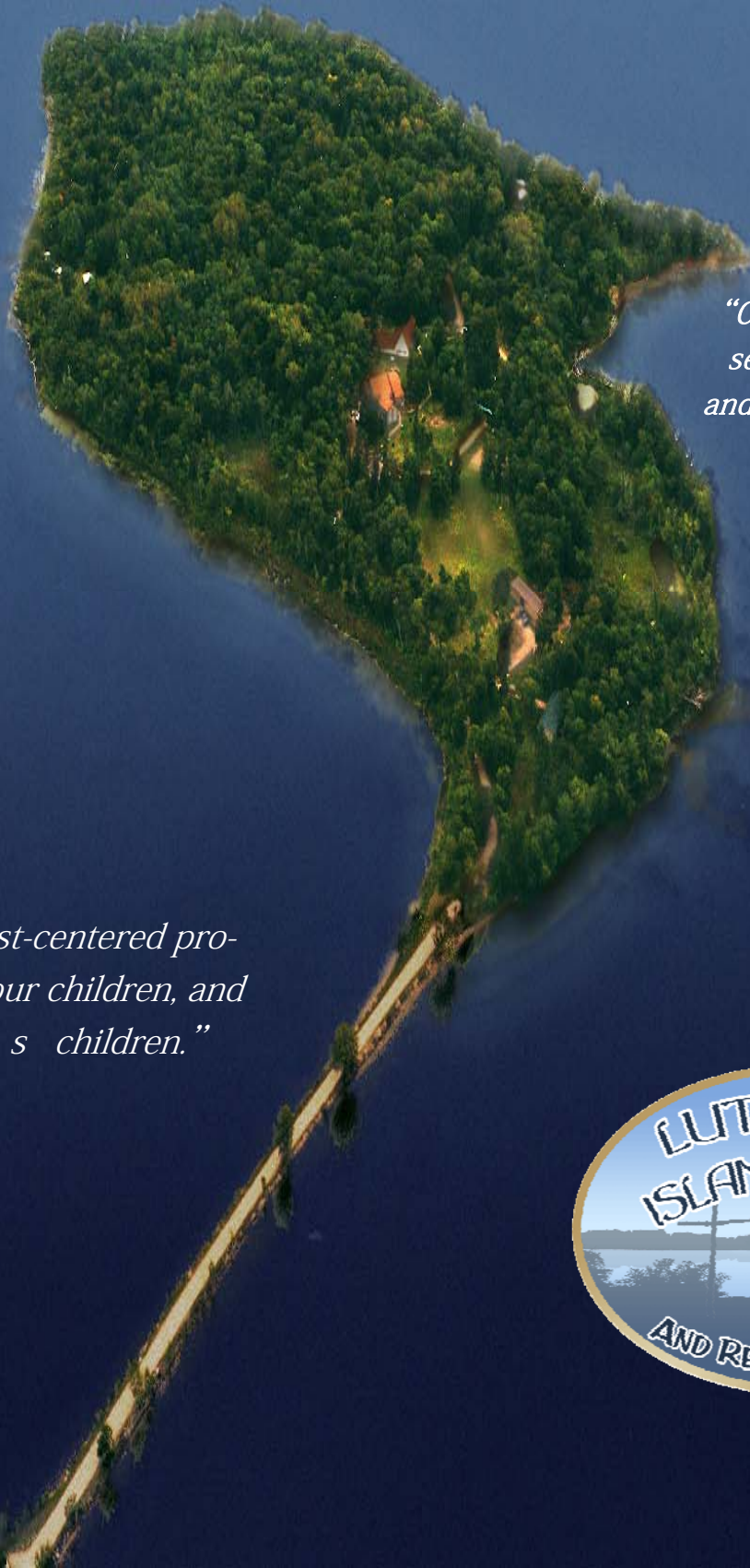


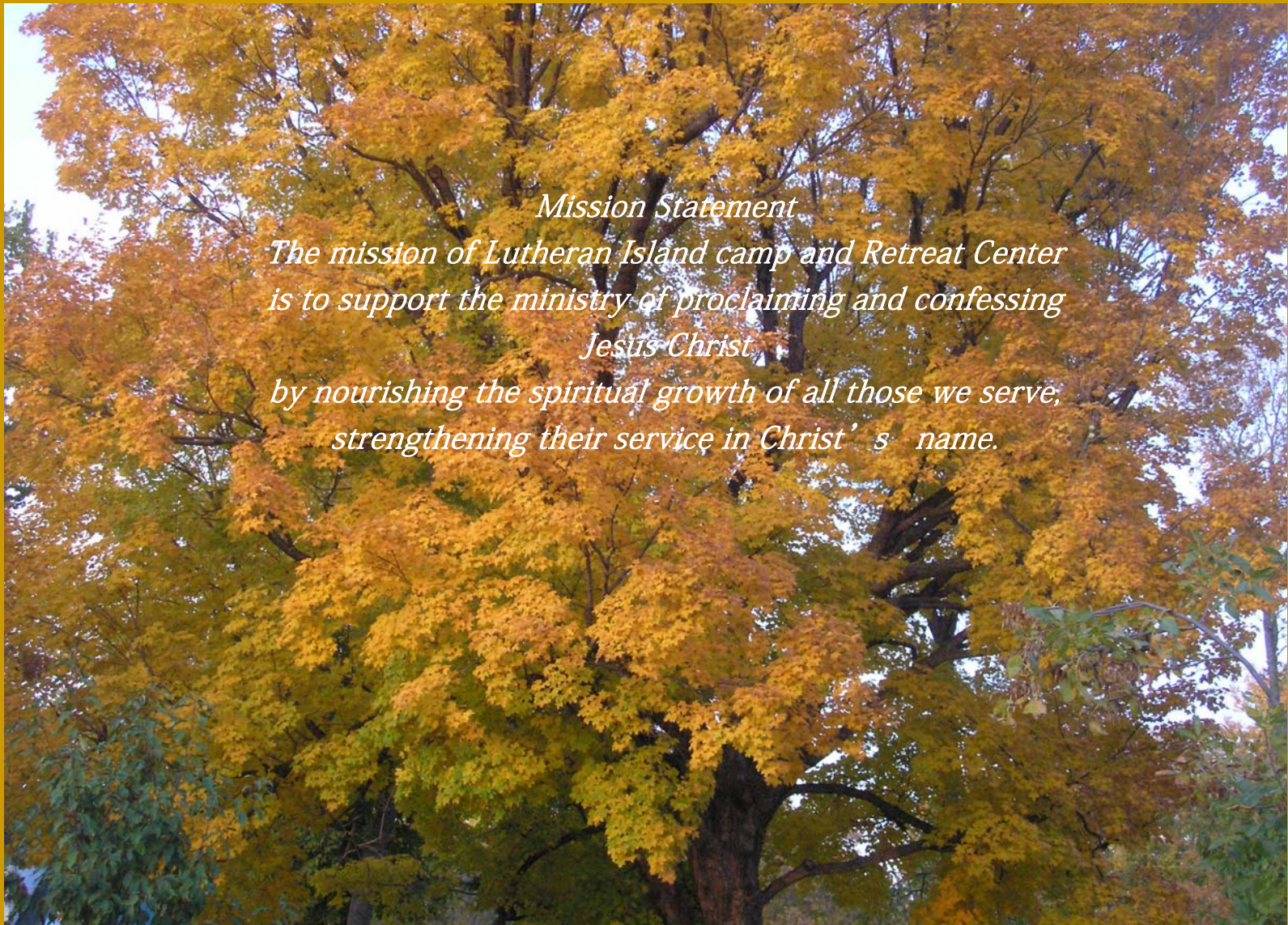
# Lutheran Island Camp



*“Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.” Mark 6:31*

*“Bringing Christ-centered programs to you, your children, and your children’s children.”*



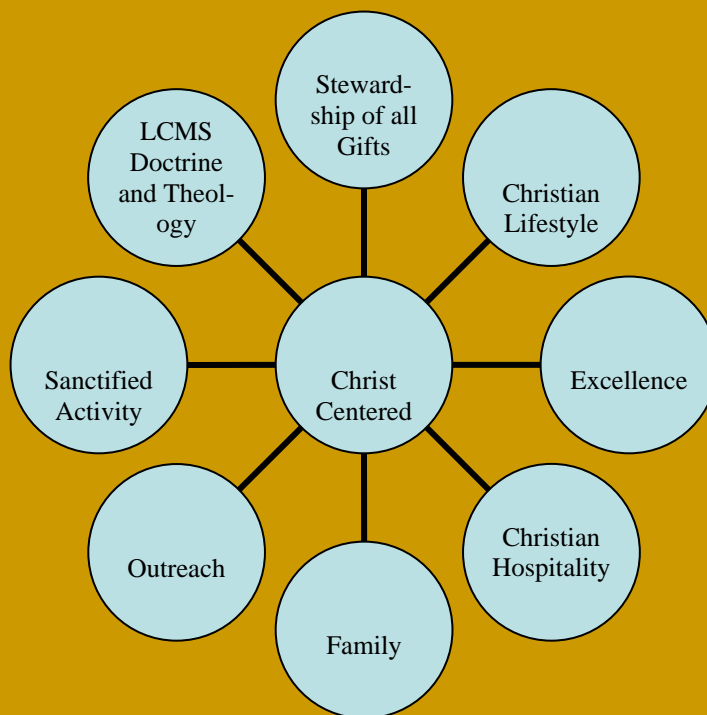


*Mission Statement*

*The mission of Lutheran Island camp and Retreat Center is to support the ministry of proclaiming and confessing Jesus Christ*

*by nourishing the spiritual growth of all those we serve, strengthening their service in Christ's name.*

*Our Values*



# *A History of Blessings, Hard Work, and God's Love*

For thousands of years the Plains Indians and Woodland Indians claimed a 67-acre Island in the middle of a beautiful lake in what would become west-central Minnesota. Many great battles were fought in the area, the last of which happened in 1795 when 30 out of a party of 50 Ojibway Indians were killed by a superior number of Sioux Indians, thus the name Battle Lake came into being.

In the late 1860's a returning Union soldier was deeded the island as a part of compensation for his service. Today the Island is the site of new battles and the home of new "soldiers of the cross".

In 1949, a local pastor, R.L. Bode, had the vision that "Bald Island", the name it had through the 1930's, would make a good children's camp.



***R. L. Bode had the initial vision for a children's camp.***

Along with several other pastors, he convinced the Park Region Pastor's Conference and later the Lakeland Conference to purchase the Island for \$15,500 in 1949. 1952 was the first year of camping. In those first years the camp operated for about 10 weeks each summer then closed down.

One of the first challenges that faced the founders of Lutheran Island Camp was how to get people safely on and off the island. A sandbar was present and the previous owners had built it up with some gravel and rocks in order to get cattle across. But high water and mud could make access a challenge



***The Causeway was the first challenge***

Today Lutheran Island Camp operates year round and provides programs and services to over 6,000 people every year. Lutheran Island Camp and Retreat Center is located on a secluded 67 acres surrounded by East Battle Lake in west-central Minnesota. The camp is about ten miles west of the city of Henning and ten miles east of the city of Battle Lake, Minnesota. The Island is approximately 45 miles north of Alexandria and 30 miles east of Fergus Falls, both of which are on I-94.



***Old army tent was first dining hall***

The property is owned by the Minnesota North District of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, with the camp operations incorporated separately and receiving its funding through camper registration fees plus tax-deductible contributions from individuals, families, groups, and congregations.

Throughout its history Lutheran Island Camp has provided resources to the congregations and families it serves. In the 1970's ministry teams traveled the upper Midwest sharing Bible studies, songs, and activities intended to strengthen the ministry of congregations. Today we do that through our Christ Serve Partnerships including Christ Serve Leadership Training, Christ Serve Servant events, and Christ Serve International.



***Chapel was build in 1953.***



***Plain People resource ministry team***



***The beach has always been popular.***

# Our Facilities-Your Adventure

## Meeting and Worship Facilities



No matter what kind of event you are planning, chances are you're going to need meeting space. No matter what kind of group you have, Lutheran Island Camp and Retreat Center has a space just right for you.

The camp's newly remodeled **Chapel** can seat over **125 people** in rows. The **Recreation Hall** can be set up for conference seating of

**200** at tables. Messiah Hall is a multi-purpose room in the Chapel and can seat up to 125 at tables. These buildings are all scheduled to be available year round by the fall of 2010.

In the Education and Retreat Center (ERC), the **Fireside Room** has a cozy, relaxed atmosphere with comfortable couches and game tables. Also in the ERC is **Birr Hall** (a multi-purpose meeting room with seating for up to **50**) and a large **Dining Hall** for eating and meeting. For those who want to be outside, several campfire areas are available. The most popular is **The Point** (which has been renovated with extra seating); the largest is the **Outdoor Chapel** (with seating for up to 200); and the **Bluff** and the **Big Rock** provide space for smaller groups. Consider these special places for a church retreat, confirmation retreat, or what ever program you might have.



*Newly remodeled chapel is now available year round for meetings and activities.*

## Recreation Facilities



When the weather is warm the beach is the place to be! Our waterfront is a large, sandy beach, well maintained and safe for all ages. It includes a restricted area, water basketball and volleyball, a "Rock", a Rave Bouncer, and a swing and slide for the little ones. Canoes, kayaks and rowboats are provided at no additional cost to guests. Motorized fishing boats, including a



small pontoon, are available for a small extra fee. A baseball/ recreation field, sand volleyball courts, full size basketball court, archery, challenge course, and a Frisbee golf course are available for your enjoyment. Walking the wooded trails; relaxing in the shade; playing pool, air hockey or foosball in the Fireside Room are always enjoyable. We can also provide horseback riding, a horse drawn or tractor drawn wagon ride, and directions to many area golf courses, restaurants, and recreation areas and state parks.





*Broomball is a favorite winter activity.*

In the winter indoor facilities are available for basketball, volleyball and floor hockey, plus the game tables in the Fireside Room. The variety of outdoor activities includes cross-country skiing, ice fishing, broom ball on the lake, ice skating, and tubing. We also offer trips to nearby Thumper Pond Water Park at a nominal fee. (Not affiliated with Lutheran Island Camp).



### Housing

Lutheran Island Camp and Retreat Center has numerous facilities to offer for your year-round use. In the Retreat Season (October-April) we can handle up to 110 people. In the Summer (May-September) we can provide housing for 230 or more. The **Education Retreat Center** (ERC) was built in 1981 to provide the camp with its main year-round facility. The building includes dormitory style rooms with centralized showers and restrooms, a cafeteria/recreation area, meeting rooms, and the camp offices. This building has two meeting rooms: The **Fireside Room** and **Birr Hall**, accommodating 40 and 50 people respectively. The ERC has a maximum housing capacity of 72 people. Meals in the dining hall are offered cafeteria style.

The Island features two "villages" of modern cabins on opposite sides of the Island. **Sunrise Village** has six cabins, four sleeping 13, and two sleeping 18. The recently remodeled Mary Unit Lodge sleeps 8-10 and has a meeting space with a fireplace. **Sunset Village** has four cabins, each sleeping 13. All cabins include restrooms and showers. Noah Unit Lodge is recently remodeled and sleeps 8-10.



*Log Cabin is available year round for self-directed retreats.*

The **Tree House Village** built in 1997 is located in the woods at the center of the Island. The tree houses are approximately 12 feet above the ground, surrounding a campfire pit. Each tree house sleeps six. Also located at this village is a cupboard/kitchen area for holding pots and pans, etc. Available in season.

The **Log Cabin** renovated in the late spring of 2007 includes three bedrooms, newly remodeled kitchen and bathroom,

and a living room /dining room with a fireplace. Available year-round for self-directed retreats, Log Cabin rental in the summer includes a private dock with a canoe and 14-foot row boat. Check our website, call, or e-mail us for current rates and availability

The **Retreat House** is a modern building with 4 bedrooms that houses up to 16-20 people on two levels. It boasts a modern kitchen, large living room, bathrooms with tub or shower on both levels, and is located in the heart of the camp. Meal plans are also available. Check our website, call, or e-mail for current rates and availability.

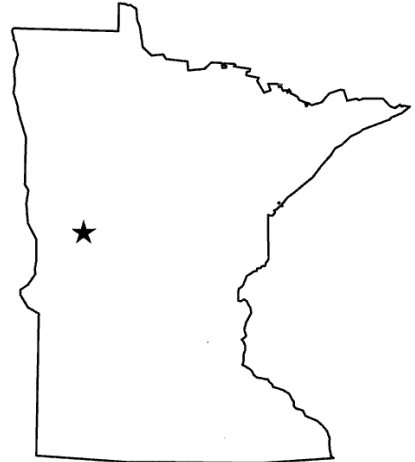
The newest addition to the Sunrise Village is the **Marta Cabin**. This fully winterized cabin sleeps 16, includes a double bathroom and a fully equipped kitchen. Available September through May, we can pair this with **Mary** (the Unit Lodge) for a meeting room with a fireplace. This is great for small-group retreats!



*The Retreat House can hold up to 18 and has a modern kitchen, bathrooms, and living rooms.*

### Location

Lutheran Island Camp is located at Henning in West Central Minnesota just 30 minutes east of Interstate 94 and 5 minutes off of Minnesota Highway 210. The 67 acre Island is situated in the middle of the 1,949 acre East Battle Lake, considered one of the premier fishing and recreation lakes in Minnesota. We are within 60 miles of over 1,000 lakes and only an 1 ½ hours from Itasca Park, the headwaters of the Mississippi River.



For our out of state guests, here are some other reference points:

- 1.5 hours from Fargo-Moorhead and Hector International airport
- 3 hours from the Minneapolis-St. Paul area
- 2 hours from St. Cloud, Minnesota
- 3.5 hours from Duluth, Minnesota
- 3 hours from the Mall of America
- 10 minutes from Glendalough State Park
- 1.5 hours from Brainerd International Speedway
- 2-5 miles from excellent snowmobile trails

### Travel Arrangements

**By Auto:** Directions will be sent. We also provide directions on our website.

**By Air:** Most people fly into Minneapolis-St. Paul or Fargo. Some flights are also available through Brainerd and St. Cloud. We may be able to arrange transport from the airport to camp.

**By Boat:** only if you live on the lake. While we are an actual Island, there is a road that comes across to the Island.

**By Bus:** We can provide bus transportation for groups within 100 miles of the camp. We ask for reimbursement for our fuel costs. We have two buses. One handles 14 passengers, the other up to 70.

### New and Renovated Facilities



*The Chapel renovation was a \$100,000 project to reside, insulate, heat, and finish the interior of the Chapel and Recreation Hall. A new camp store and canteen were also built.*

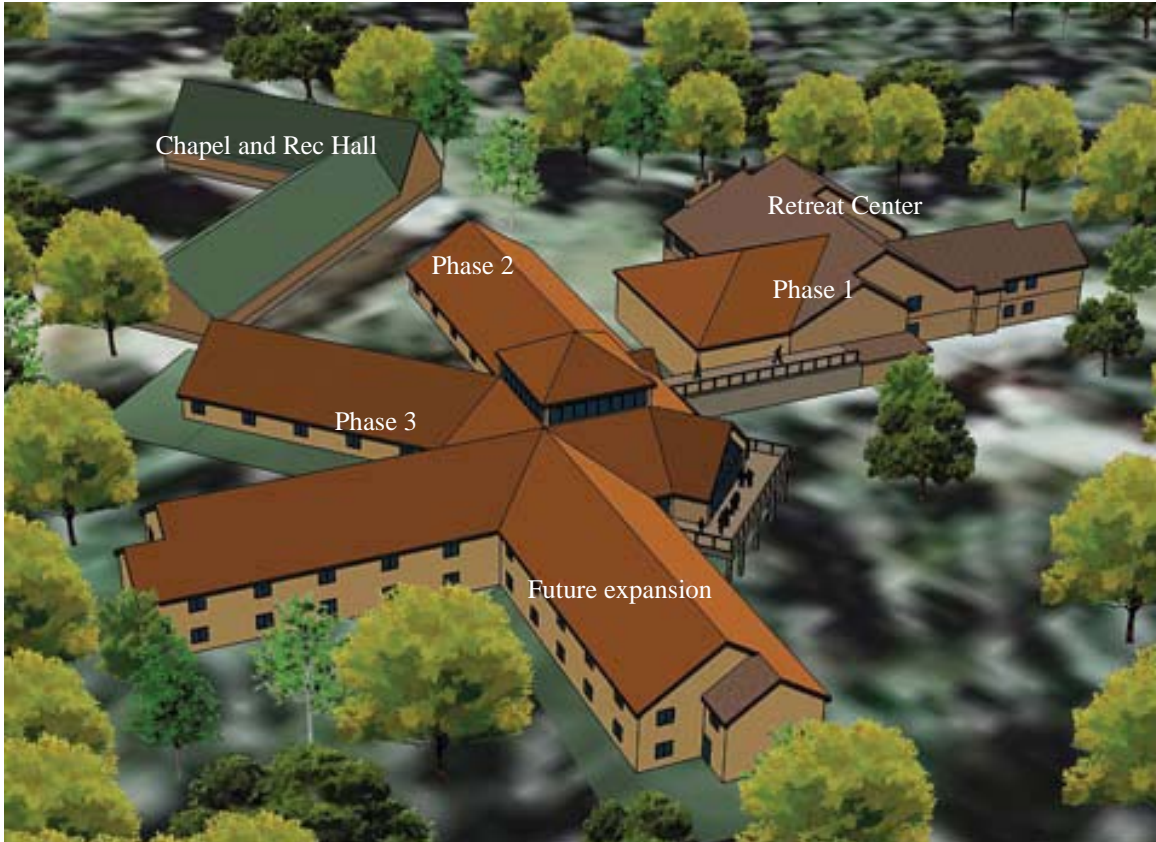
equipment will be installed and bathrooms and showers will be added. A new entryway will be built.

The next project will be a new Adult and Family Retreat Center that will house up to 40 or more in private and semi-private rooms. It will have lake facing rooms, more storage

Lutheran Island Camp is in the midst of a multi-year effort to upgrade its facilities. The Chapel is the first project taken on. We are near completion on that project. The next project will be a \$900,000 renovation of the existing Education and Retreat Center that will include a new kitchen and a significantly larger dining hall. In addition, the exterior will be done in log siding, new air handling



*An artistic rendition of the renovated Education and Retreat Center*



*The new Adult and Family Retreat Center will be constructed in phases as the funds become available. Private and semi-private rooms will provide comfort for adults of all ages as well as for families. It will also serve as the primary facility for our senior hostel programs, our extended creation-science programs, and for an expanded couples programming.*

and meeting rooms, and a large commons area.

We are also in the process of purchasing some additional land upon which we will establish our Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center. This property will also host an RV and camping area and will provide trails for our Horse Outreach



*The property to be purchased is 3 miles from Lutheran Island Camp. It is a 275 acre property with 7-8 biomes.*

Program as well as for hiking and cross country skiing.

*The Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center is slated to be located at Christ Serve Ranch. Photos below were taken there.*



## Programs

For 60 years Lutheran Island Camp has been well known for its excellent youth programs. Over 60,000 youth have experienced the wonders of God's creation and His wonderful love as manifest through His Word. Bible study and worship provide the core elements of all that we do. We also provide excellent camp activities, recreation, crafts, music, and fellowship for youth. A week at camp can make a lasting impact on a child. We are pleased to know that God has used Lutheran Island Camp to encourage hundreds if not thousands of youth to enter into professional church work.

Our programs fall into several key areas:

### Youth Programs



*Kids love coming to camp and making friends.*

Our youth programs are for youth 8 and older. Events last anywhere from 2 days to 5 day camps. We also have Explorer Camps for youth who want to come to camp for the day and spend the night at home. Youth programs include Bible study, worship, recreation, waterfront activities, crafts, and many more traditional camp offerings. Youth can experience archery, sports, horseback riding, campfires, outdoor cooking, and much more.

Retreat Season youth programs include Confirmation Retreats, the Polar Plunge Weekend, Teen Trek Extravaganza, Autumn Adventure, Winter Adventure as well as retreats designed with and for youth groups.



*One of 50 or more who take the plunge each February.*

### Off-site Programs

We can bring our excellent youth programs and activities to your community. Off-site Day Camps are scheduled in several communities throughout Minnesota each year. In addition, our staff can come to your congregation to help with a VBS program, a lock-in, or other youth activities.

### Leadership Programs

In 2007 we developed a leadership program for youth called Christ Serve Leadership Training. This exceptional program provides youth with key leadership skills they need to be church, school, and community leaders. Training areas include communication skills, problem solving, group dynamics, strategic planning, and service learning. Youth are encouraged to develop both long and short term service projects.

We also provide leadership and planning retreats for congregation and organization leaders. Lutheran Island Camp staff can provide the leadership or we also offer leadership programs utilizing the services of the Ambassadors of Reconciliation staff.



### Servant Programs

Each year teen servants from around the country come to Lutheran Island Camp to perform Christ Serve service projects at camp and off camp. In recent years, teams have gone to Inger, MN to work with Native Americans, to Iowa and North Dakota to work with flood victims, to Wadena, MN to work with tornado victims, and have visited numerous nursing homes and congregations, helping provide service work to them.

We are now working to develop international servant events. Our Christ Serve International programs will provide opportunities for youth to travel to such areas as Africa, India, Germany, and Canada.

### Adventure Camps

Join us for one of our great adventure camps this summer. Whether it is learning to perform, riding horse, traveling to Wyoming, going on a shopping trip, going to the BWCA, or catching fish, Lutheran Island Camp is the place for your next great adventure. Adventure Camps include:

- |                   |                      |                               |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Horse Camps       | Crow Wing River Trip | Otter Tail Adventure          |
| Big Fish Camps    | Performing Arts Camp | Teen Trek BWCA                |
| Guys Being Guys   | Girls Week Out       | Autumn Adventure              |
| Western Adventure | Wyoming Horse Trip   | Adult and Family Horse Camps. |

### Family Programs

Families have always been important to Lutheran Island Camp. Some of our Family Week Campers have been coming to camp for 55 or more years. Today we have 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> generation family campers. Our families come from around the world. They are teachers, politicians, physicians, accountants, farmers, pastors, and retired. In addition to two family weeks each summer, Lutheran Island Camp offers many programs for families. Included are our family weekends, Holiday family weekends, Little Lambs and Sheep camps, and our couples retreats and Joy of Marriage retreats.



*The Gumm Family has been coming to camp for many years. Today the daughters carry on the tradition started by Milt and Carolyn.*

We can also provide excellent self-directed family programs for those who would like to cook their own meals and provide their own programming.

Family reunions have become very popular at Lutheran Island Camp. Some families come annually others arrive every 5 years. Some extend their reunions for an entire week while others make it a weekend or even just a day. We're happy to work with you to make your family reunion one filled with memories not just work.





### Creation-Science Programs

Lutheran Island Camp is establishing a Creation-Science Environmental Learning Center. We offer creation-science programs for all ages. Our Young Scientist program provides youth 10-15 years of age an opportunity to experience true science from a Christian perspective. We study God's Word and look at the science that is reflected in it. Our Creation Safari camps are for youth 8-12 years of age and provide hands on experiences for youth as they traipse through the woods looking for animals and plants, study the skies for star formations, and review God's Word about the creation He has given us.

Adults and youth experience our creation-science programs through such programs as Responding to Evolution, Teaching Your Family About Creation, and Arts and Photography of Creation.

More creation-science programs are being developed by a team of pastors, teachers, and parents who want to educate our members to respond boldly and respectfully with the truth of God's Word.



### Workshops and Training

Lutheran Island Camp partners with district, synodical, and independent agencies to provide quality retreats, workshops, and training for individuals, congregations, and families. We partner with the Ambassadors of Reconciliation to provide Church Reconciler Training and workshops for Elders and Church leaders.

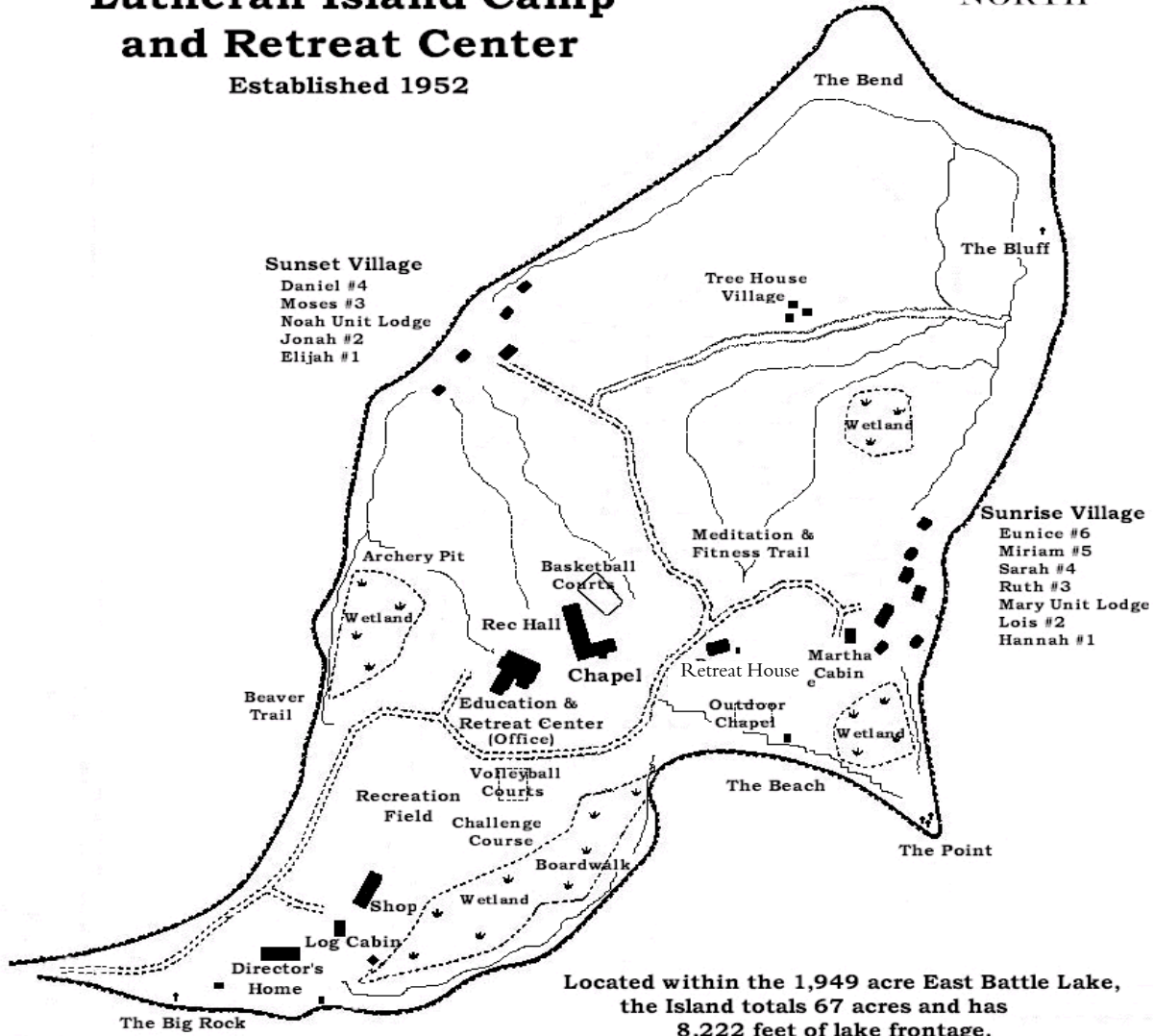
We sponsor an annual Men's Retreat and a Women's Retreat. Lutheran Island Camp is the site for VBS and Sunday School teacher workshops. We also are headquarters for the LWML and LLL to host their retreats and conventions. And, each year several congregations join us for planning retreats, workshops, and outings.

### Retreat Planning Ala Carte

Lutheran Island Camp can work with your group to provide all or some of the services you need for a successful retreat. Contact us for a list of meal options, activities, and facilities that you might want to select to make your retreat a success.

# Lutheran Island Camp and Retreat Center

Established 1952



Located within the 1,949 acre East Battle Lake, the Island totals 67 acres and has 8,222 feet of lake frontage.



*Join us at the Island and make your own memories. God bless  
you and those whom you love!*

**Contact Information**

Lutheran Island Camp  
45011 230th St  
Henning, MN 56551  
218-583-2905  
218-583-2906  
[info@islandcamp.org](mailto:info@islandcamp.org)  
[www.islandcamp.org](http://www.islandcamp.org)  
[www.christserveranch.org](http://www.christserveranch.org)