

February 2, 2010

Greetings in Christ!

A new month! One in which we will begin the journey to the cross and the empty tomb. May God bless your journey with conviction, confession, forgiveness, and a new resolve to share the Gospel of Christ, to **Make A World For Christ!**

Make A World For Christ- our joint appeal with the Minnesota North District continues to gain momentum. Pastor Karl Weber has completed the initial draft of the Bible Studies that will be used this fall. As a staff, we were privileged to walk through them with him over the last several months. Congregation visits are being made during these few months. Some major gift visits have started and most of the boards and staff have already made commitments to the appeal.

I love a camper appeal has already started generating gifts. We've received several gifts from on-line donors as well as several that have been mailed in. Our goal this year is to raise \$30,000 for camperships. You can get more information from our website.

Board of directors *planning retreat* was held last weekend. It was led by Kurt Daudt, member of Zion in Crown. Kurt's experience as a County Commissioner was a great help to leading the board and staff through some great discussions. Some initial plans were laid out, but the group decided that they wanted to have another session to look at some of the larger issues we are blessed with.

Facebook: Lutheran Island Camp now has an official page on Facebook. We hope to be able to start sharing some of our programs, special notices, events, and discussions on Facebook over time. We've just started, so please be patient. There are several facebook pages out there that have LIC information but this is the official one which will be carrying official announcements from camp. Follow this link:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Lutheran-Island-Camp/282753607043>

Registrations have started to come in over the last couple of weeks. As of February 1, we have about **twice as many registrations** as we did last year. Thanks for getting them in. We still have plenty of room in all events, but it helps us to plan when you register early. Our Horse Outreach Program camps are always popular as are our Splash camps and Fishing Camps.

Jamborees: It's time to plan you Registration Jamboree. We'd like to have one of our staff join you for a Sunday (or other day) to help families register their children. Give us a call to set one up.

Chapel gifts continue to come in. We've been busy getting additional bids and information on various projects for the chapel. We still need about \$3,000 to finish off the paneling in the chapel, about \$22,000 for the new bathrooms, about \$8,000 to get the heating system started, and about \$5,000 for framing and work on the new canteen.

Our **Log cabin** and **Retreat House** are available for family and group self-directed retreats. We still have about 5 weeks in the log cabin available and 5 in the Retreat House. You can check out our website for dates and prices. There is also some availability in May and September. Follow this link:

http://islandcamp.org/content_146.php

Registrations revenue for January this year compared to last year is 68% higher with a 48% increase in adult registrations through January and a 111% increase in youth registrations. We will try to keep you updated on this as we continue into the year.

Men's retreat registrations continue to come in on a daily basis. We are approaching 60 registrations. We normally have about 80-90.

We've started to receive **Women's Retreat** registrations as well. This would be a great event for mothers and daughters or for a group of ladies from your congregation. Scheduled for April 16-18.

Polar Plunge is filling quickly. Many people will be jumping as a benefit for Mary Swyter, staff member who was severely injured in November last year.

Trailblazer Winter Adventure – there is still plenty of room for your group or for individuals. We will likely be running a bus or van up from the St. Cloud and or Willmar area.

Question and Answer:

Question: How is the ice fishing on East Battle Lake?

Answer: It has been a slow year, but we can direct you to some area hotspots if you come up for the Father/son ice fishing weekend.

Lutheran Island Camp and Retreat Center
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www.christserveranch.org.

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