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News Briefs

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

www.LRCChome.com

You may register for any of our summer camp programs online. For more summer camp information see pages 4 and 5.

PAY IN INSTALLMENTS FOR CAMP!

Once you register for camp online you may access your online account as often as you'd like to make payments towards summer camp. You pick how much and when. This is a great way to pay for camp!

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF:

- Your address changes
 - You are receiving multiple copies.
- THANK YOU!

ATTENTION GOLFERS!

There is an upcoming golf tournament on April 24 for you to be a part of! Please see page 7 for details, times, costs and registration information.

THANKYOU, THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS!

LRCC benefit's in many ways each year from Thrivent. In 2008, LRCC received \$8,605 from matching gifts and \$4,714 from Branch matching gifts for a total of \$13,319. If you know a Thrivent representative please tell them thank you for this support. And THANK YOU to all of you who make sure to get your donations matched for us...it's a great way to make your gift go further!

If you are a Thrivent member, your next gift can be matched simply by letting us know or including the Giving Plus form with your donation. This form can be found on our website under "Your support," on the Thrivent Financial website. Or if you prefer, call us and we will mail you a form. Thrivent will match each eligible member's gift \$1 for each \$2 donated, up to \$600 per year.

Our Mission...

LRCC provides sanctuaries in time and space where Christ can be encountered, faith renewed, and the joy of community discovered.

We offer Lutheran Christian Camping and retreat programs for all ages at our two main sites, El Camino Pines and YOLIJWA/Luther Glen, as well as off-site high adventure opportunities. Our ministry spans Southern California—from the mountains to the ocean, the deserts to the beaches and the wilderness to the cities.



One of the 2009 Winter Retreats at El Camino Pines



CAMP: Reflections from a Summer Camp Counselor

by Melody Howie

I have been going to El Camino Pines every year of my entire life for Family Camp every Memorial Day Weekend. I am now attending California Lutheran University and in my sophomore year. I decided to work last summer at camp because I love camp and my faith. When I drove up to Yoliijiwa for staff training last June, I was scared and did not want to even get out of my car. I sat for a few minutes and just wondered why am I here? And then I reminded myself to have faith and just open the door. When I opened my door, my camp faith journey began.

One step at a time, one prayer at a time, one person at a time, and the summer began and ended. Staff training was the most amazing experience of my entire life. When you put sixty or so college age students in the same place for two weeks several things happen: drama, relationships, friendships, emotional breakdowns, but most of all a complete support system that goes well beyond camp. Young college students who have faith in God share a strong connection that I have never realized. Friendships grew at an alarming rate and I was completely shocked at how fast I fell in love with all the staff.

When the campers arrived, it was beyond what I ever imagined. The first week my heart raced. I had so much energy and I was nervous because I really wanted each camper to have a Christian, life-changing experience. Parents were entrusting me with their most precious gifts from God—their children. I slowly came into my own through the week and began to grow in confidence. Who would have ever thought that at beach camp I would be able to feel confident when dealing with campers almost the same age as myself? I felt strong and confident like I could take on the whole world, if God was with me. (continued on page 2)

HUGE Success!! – LRCC Fall Phonathon

Last Fall LRCC held its first ever phonathon. California Lutheran University hosted 20 volunteers (staff, parents of campers, campers, and even grandparents of campers!) over three evenings of calling. Those volunteers called hundred's of LRCC donors, supporters and friends. It was a fun event and a huge success. Over \$63,000 was pledged and as of April 2, 2009, just under \$60,000 has been collected. Our callers loved hearing the stories of what camp has meant to you and your family, how camp has changed your life and most of all connecting with you. If you weren't contacted in this round, hopefully next time our callers will reach you. LRCC is grateful for your generosity and we are grateful to partner with you in this ministry.

Welcome Michelle!



Michelle Meulemans
Program Director,
El Camino Pines

We are happy to announce Michelle Meulemans as the new Program Director at El Camino Pines.

This is Michelle's second year working for LRCC but she has recently been promoted to Program Director. She was born and raised in a small town in WI, and is a HUGE Green Bay Packers fan. Michelle is very passionate about a lot of things. She particularly enjoys musical theater, the outdoors, hanging out with kids, and having a good laugh. Michelle puts her trust in God and where God leads her. She is very excited to be here with LRCC and join you in this ministry. She can be reached at Michelle@LRCChome.com or (661) 245-3519.



We love our Volunteers:

Thanks to the many of you who helped with our Winter Retreats. We love having you be a part of the camp community and your presence here adds to the ministry and program.

Yolijwa Winter Retreat Volunteers:
Esteban Flores, Jeff Saltonstall, Kayla Potts, Ian Abramson, Jason Johnsen

El Camino Pines Winter Retreats Volunteers:

Aaron Tidwell
Dave and Sandi Engh
Caitlin Wright
Susan Sinsheimer
Julia Onouye
Evan Engh
Eric Howard
Nadine Lombardi
Joe McGriff
Meredith Gardner
Sam Campeau
Sherilyn Gambaro
Ariana Stevenson
Corinne Stevenson
Katie Stevenson
Melanie Cornejo
Lourdes
Mychaela Baker
Alli Schneider
Erik Nelsen
Marzia Alegria
Matt Lee
Kyle Harmon
Lindsey Gerber

What's Happening

Anthony's Corner... Holy and Magical!!!



Our staff loves to give me a hard time about all of my "cheesy" sayings about camp. I have been called the "King of Cheese" more times than I care to admit. Honestly, however, since starting in Youth and Outdoor Ministry in 1986, I have been blessed to witness countless lives changed at camp. So, if I am "cheesy" when I get a little choked up as I share these stories, letters, and sayings about camp... then I will proudly own my cheesiness!

Former staff member and current seminarian Kjersten Priddy (KJ), wrote to me...

"Camp was the first place I really felt loved, the first place I really knew for a fact I was a child of God. That first summer was pure magic. I was told over and over again that I was beautiful, amazing, talented, loved in God's eyes. I made friends that summer who loved me for who (whom) God had created me to be, with all my faults and shortcomings... Camp also challenged me. Those same people who loved me so unconditionally were not going to let me settle for less than I could be. It was at camp that God first placed the call to ordained ministry on my heart, and camp was also the place where that feeling of call was constantly affirmed."

During staff training each summer, I share with the staff that I know camp is a "Holy and Magical" space for our campers. As I quoted KJ above... camp is magical for our staff, too. I know of no other place like camp. Many people think that camp is just singing songs around campfires, staying in cabins, playing games, and eating s'mores. All of those fun things are part of the "camp experience," but the Holy and Magical happens in between. God shows up in even what seems mundane. It happens in daily Bible study and worship; during quiet chats under the shade of a tree on a hot sunny day; hanging out by the pool sharing stories; while gathered around a meal; in the nightly cabin devotions reflecting on the day... We take particular care training our staff to recognize the "teachable moment" when faith is explored at anytime during the campers' day. Camp is Holy and Magical, for many reasons, but I think it is because of the safe, fun, and wholesome setting that our staff is able to witness to and nurture our campers so uniquely.

Camp is for youth and families alike. We offer a time and a space apart for all who thirst for the "Holy and Magical." Family camps, church retreats, women's and men's group are just a few of our programs that nurture the whole family of God... whatever the age. If you have not been to camp recently, please come for a visit. Check out our web site, www.LRCCHome.com, and explore the opportunities for all ages. Hope to see you soon!

Peace!

Anthony Briggs, Executive Director for LRCC
Anthony@LRCCHome.com

"Being a camp counselor at LRCC is amazing and every college student should experience the growth of faith that comes with the camp counselor experience."

(continued from page 1)

Even though I had hard challenges as a camp counselor and felt pretty stressed sometimes, camp was really worth it. Even though I missed everything at home and I cried for everything in life, I knew that God was with me and wanted me there to share my faith with the campers and the camp counselors. Being a camp counselor at LRCC is amazing and every college student should experience the growth of faith that comes with the camp counselor experience.

Now back at California Lutheran University, I understand why people return to camp. While in training to become a Peer Advisor at CLU (a mentor to the incoming class) I had a realization. I missed camp. I missed the staff. I missed the campers. I missed the organized chaos. And, I missed the closeness to God that you feel while talking about your faith at camp. But then something cheered me up. A friend from camp talked to me and told me that he was feeling the same thing. If God was with me, I knew I could handle all that college had to offer. And my heart fell in love with camp all over again.

News and notes from El Camino Pines...

Where have all the bears gone? Since the Day fire two years ago, the Los Padres Nat'l Forest (our home) has seen a dramatic influx of bears. Mostly, we see them rummaging through the dumpsters... occasionally, one will break into the food storage building and eat all the chocolate and apples. But this time of year, our big brown friends are hibernating. The deer, likewise, have gone down the hill. The mountain is dormant, the air is cold and crisp, and trees are conserving their energy before an amazing display in spring. The seasons change, but it is impossible to forget that through every season, God is revealed in creation. And I am reminded to extend an invitation to you, come and visit this beautiful place. We are your Bible camp. Breathe the clean air, drink the mountain water, take a walk with your God... hibernate a little, but please stay out of the dumpsters.

Our volunteers make the Winter Retreats hum! Every year, more and more of our summer staff return in the winter to volunteer at our Winter Retreats. They stack firewood, dump trash cans, lead Bible Studies, wash dishes and whatever else we ask them to do. Alli, Myckala, Erik and Nadine drove in from Arizona, Meredith came down from San Francisco and Caitlin made numerous trips from San Luis Obispo...we even got a visit from a bunch of our CLU students! And many more friends have helped us out. We couldn't serve our campers and guests without our generous volunteers... God bless you!

Save the Date: El Camino Pines marks 50 years of Christian ministry this November with the "Festival of the Pines," a day long celebration at camp on Saturday, November 7th. If you have not been to camp for a while, and even if you have, join us for a day of remembering, singing old camp songs, great food, outdoor worship and a look at the next 50 years!

Extreme Makeover...Camp Edition! A new annual workday at El Camino Pines kicks off this year with a huge event...on Saturday, May 9th, (the day before Mother's Day) we are going to attempt to paint all eleven cabins in one day! Why not organize a few volunteers to come up and put the finishing touches on a cabin or two. If you are interested in being part of this colorful event, contact Pastor Glen at (661) 245-3519.

So Long, Farewell... Longtime staff member, Marzia Alegria has accepted a leadership position at Angelica Lutheran Church, and has left our community. At Marzia's last retreat, 50 elementary school children and staff encircled Marzia to say a prayer of blessing upon her future. Marzia joins the ever growing list of former camp staff who are faithfully serving the church down the hill and around the country.

A new dish machine... We are spending less time doing dishes and more time with the campers! Thanks to several families at Ascension Lutheran

-Thousand Oaks, we were able to completely update our dish room, making us faster, more sanitary and even more fun. Imagine, camp staff happily requesting to be assigned dish duty for 100 guests...it's happening. And what will we do with all the extra time?

New Chairs in the Dining Hall... and again, we thank Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran in West Hills for taking on the project of replacing all our dining hall chairs. The project is complete, the chairs are here, and we love, love, love them! Thanks, SOV, for your generous response. Your gift will last a generation!



Pastor Glen and Lauri Egertson,
Camp Directors at El Camino Pines
Glen@LRCCHome.com
Lauri@LRCCHome.com

Host Your own Retreat

We provide wonderful accommodations, friendly staff and fantastic food – you provide the programming!

We have 2 different sites, each with different options to suit your needs.



El Camino Pines

El Camino Pines is located halfway between Bakersfield and LA in the Los Padres National Forest on the slopes of Mt. Pinos. It has 10 heated cabins with a total capacity of 130. Two large meeting rooms (each with its own fireplace), a chapel, pool, volleyball court, archery, low ropes course, campfire ring, rock wall climb, and hiking trails are available.

Standard Retreat Package

(2 nights/4-5 meals)
\$116 - \$121 per person;
lodging in cabins.



YOLIJWA & Luther Glen Conference Center

YOLIJWA stands for Youth Living Jesus Way. YOLIJWA and Luther Glen Conference Center are surrounded by the San Bernardino mountains in the apple growing community of Oak Glen. YOLIJWA has a total capacity of 96 in 6 cabins and Luther Glen Conference Center with a capacity of 38 in 16 hotel-style rooms with private bathrooms.

Meeting rooms for groups up to 200 people, labyrinth, pool, basketball, volleyball court, archery and hiking trails are available.

YOLIJWA

Standard Retreat Package

Two night weekend plus 4-5 meals:
\$116 - \$121; lodging in cabins.

24 hours plus three meals (one night lodging): \$77 - \$82; lodging in cabins.

Luther Glen Confer. Center

Standard Retreat Package

Two night weekend plus 4-5 meals:
\$161-168; includes bed linens & towels.

24 hours plus three meals (one night lodging): \$98 - \$103; includes bed linens and towels.

To book your retreat, you may either call the camps directly or go to our website under "Resources/Forms" and fill out a Retreat Reservation Request form and an LRCC Staff member will be in touch with you.

Camp Sunday at Your Church

Camp and congregation go together. We are stewards of your camps and we enjoy the opportunity to come to your church to thank you, our partners in ministry. We would love to be invited to visit your congregation on a Sunday morning. We can give a temple talk with PowerPoint, plan Sunday School, deliver a Children's Sermon or lead the entire service. Pastor Glen Egertson will be happy to fill your pulpit whether your pastor is in town or out of town. Anytime we get to talk about how God is living and moving at camp, we jump at the chance! Give either of our camps a call to schedule a visit, winter, spring, summer and fall!

Want to work at camp?

Paid positions include Summer Camp Counselors, Outdoor School Instructors, kitchen staff, support staff and maintenance staff. For applications or more information on jobs or to volunteer, check out our website www.LRCCHome.com under "Employment".

Camp Pastors, Youth Workers, Nurses & Lifeguards are invited to volunteer for a week during the summer. Volunteers participate fully in camp, and your kids come to camp free! Contact camp early if you are interested.



Esteban, Jason, and Ian

Outdoor School at El Camino Pines

ECP Outdoor School is a three-, four-, or five-day residential program that emphasizes environmental education and community-building experiences to elementary and middle school students. Our courses cover several disciplines in the areas of natural, physical, and social sciences. Over 1,400 students annually enjoy learning in a beautiful outdoor setting while growing together in community. For more information on Outdoor School, please contact El Camino Pines.

Retreats

Adult Retreats

Finish Your Project Weekend

May 1-3, 2009

Cost: \$106

We know why your project isn't finished... it's very difficult to put together the time and space while eliminating the distractions! Let's make a deal! You bring your unfinished project to camp (scrapbook, quilt, crafts, whatever). Bring your tools, your friends and your sleeping bag... We will provide you with a space to work, a healthy buffet that's always available, a few experts to help you with fresh ideas to make your project look great. And there's hardly any schedule... you can work all night and sleep until whenever.

Men's Advance 2009

at El Camino Pines

September 25-27, 2009

(Deadline to register: September 15)

Cost: \$ TBD

Join the guys from ELCA congregations in Southern California for El Camino Pines annual Men's Advance. Why a Men's Advance? Because men don't *retreat*, they **advance!**

We begin with a work party at camp and a mini-golf tourney in Pine Mountain Club. The formal program begins Friday evening and runs through Sunday lunch. You'll be challenged by great speakers, stirring worship, amazing fellowship, lots of time for rest and recreation, and the best camp food in the world. Don't forget your earplugs unless you enjoy a chorus of snoring!

Each year, a different congregation hosts the event and leads the program. This year Trinity Lutheran in Pasadena will be our host. If your congregation is looking to start or revitalize your ministry with men, this is a great place to start. Price and program to be announced. To register contact El Camino Pines. For more information contact Pastor Glen at El Camino Pines.



Full time youth workers away at camp.

Youth Worker Retreat at El Camino Pines

December 3-5, 2009

Cost: \$ 75

Register online in the Fall.



Family campers from Memorial Day 2008 weekend at ECP.

Family Retreats

You can enjoy camp as a family, too! This is a great way to get your children familiar with the camp setting before sending them to summer camp. At Family Retreats, there is something for everybody at every age!

Family Camp Memorial Day

at El Camino Pines

May 23-25, 2009

Cost: \$99 adults - 12 and over
\$85 children - 4-11 yrs. old
3 and under free
Family maximum \$325

A great weekend for all ages! Tons of fun activities, with traditional camp favorites and some surprises as well. Come with your whole family, or come alone and meet some new friends! Our speaker is Linda Staats from the Home Grown Faith. Our theme is *Love to Serve*. Children will have their own activities led by the friendly El Camino Pines staff. We start Saturday, May 23rd with lunch at noon and end with worship and lunch on Monday, May 25th. Register online. This event fills up super quick so don't miss out!

Family Retreat - "Living in Rhythm"

at El Camino Pines

November 13-15, 2009

Cost: \$150 adults
\$120 children - 4-18 yrs. old
2 nights lodging, 5 meals, and program costs (All adults who sign up by April 19, 2009 get to pay the child price - a \$30 discount.)

Families of all shapes and sizes are invited to retreat together and reflect on rhythms of work, study, rest, play, and pray. Pastors Tim & Chamie Delkeskamp, leaders of an ecumenical family ministry called Raising Micah, will lead daily rhythms of prayer as they experienced them in the monastic community in Taize, France. Families will also be invited to explore what it might mean to live deeply in the rhythms of the church year. The new church year actually begins November 29th, the first day of Advent, so this is a wonderful time to dream and pray and plan as a family for a new year. Each family will receive a calendar based on the rhythms of the church year and created by a photographer in Seattle, WA (check out www.storyformed.wordpress.com). The mission of Raising Micah is to raise children who will do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God... we believe that one of the ways that this can come alive is by living in sacred rhythm. For more information or to sign up, please email raisingmicah@mac.com or call Raising Micah at (805) 300-3456.



Summer Camp

General Information

We look forward to having your child be with us this summer for camp. We are hiring a terrific summer staff to compliment our year round staff. They have a passion for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with youth.

All program and registration questions should be directed to the site specific camp. For questions on Beach Camp, contact the staff at Yolijsa. For Day Camp, or white water rafting trips contact the staff at El Camino Pines.

Grade Levels: A camper's grade level for summer camp is the grade he/she is currently in for the school year 2008-2009.



Our 2009 Summer Theme is Love to Serve.

"For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:46)

As disciples of Jesus, we engage in loving service to our neighbor, and our faith comes alive in new ways. Campers and staff will experience a week of conversation, activities, Bible studies and worship that will be centered around the theme, Love to Serve. Campers will learn that they are created, called and sent to serve others in the name of Jesus Christ.

"[Camp] in short, is the great people, it's the long laughs, it's the times that can help you get through those struggles, it's where you can be silly, and not worry about being judged, it's the memories you hold forever, and at the center of it all, is God."

– Ian Abramson, 2008 summer staff



Ring in another summer!

Registration Information

To Register, go to our website www.LRCChome.com and click on "Register for Camp." If you have registered online with LRCC before make sure to select "returning user" and access your online account. If you have forgotten your username (your email address) or password please contact the camp directly. We can easily reset that for you so you may access your account.

For all registrations: A \$100 non-refundable deposit is due when you register for summer camp. Please see the LRCC Refund Policy on our website. Immediately after you register you will get a confirmation email/ letter with your account information, confirmation of your event registration, balance owed and a receipt. Please keep this e-mail for your records.

You will have 3 options during the payment process.

1. Pay the \$100 non-refundable deposit only.
2. Pay in full.
3. Pay nothing now because your church is going to pay. If you select this option you'll need to have the church send the check to camp within one week of registering online otherwise you will lose your space.

If you are not comfortable or able to register online: Download the Summer Camp Registration Form, fill it out and send it to the camp your camper will attend. Please include a check for \$135 made out to "LRCC." This will cover the \$100 non-refundable deposit/payment and the \$35 internal registration fee. You will receive a confirmation of this registration in the mail. Your balance for camp can be paid in a check mailed to camp or by calling camp with your credit card information.

Pay in installments: Once you pay the \$100 deposit you may go back into your online account as often as you'd like to make payments (whatever the size) towards camp. The typical camp fee is \$340. If you spread that out it would be about \$30 per week for 8 weeks or \$20 per week for 3 months.

Sibling Discount: The first camper from a family pays full price. Each additional camper from the same family will receive a \$20 discount during checkout.

Camperships: We strongly believe that all children should be able to attend camp. Camperships are scholarships for campers in financial need. To apply, please visit our website and go to "Forms/Resources," download the current 2009 campership form, fill it out and send it directly to camp.

Payments online: You may pay online easily and securely! You may pay with a debit or credit card or eCheck. If you would like to use a check online, just choose eCheck and type in your check number.

Balance Due: The balance for summer camp is due no later than the Friday, two weeks prior to the date your

camper will be at camp. If there is a balance owed 2 weeks before camp you may lose your spot for camp as well as losing your non-refundable deposit.

Camp Fees: These include a Christ-centered program with Lutheran theology, age appropriate Bible studies, daily worship, crafts and games, nutritious and yummy meals, lodging and a caring, screened and well trained staff. This year we have a \$25 registration fee for all registrations. There is an internal registration fee of \$35 for those registrations sent into camp and not done online.

LRCC Refund Policy: There is a \$100 non-refundable deposit due when you register. Please see the LRCC web site for more details on our refund policy. It can be found under "Getting Ready."

Health Form: We are required to have a current health form on file every year that your child attends camp. This is a form that needs to be filled out and signed by a doctor. The camper needs to have had a physical within the past two years. Please allow time to get your child an appointment with their doctor for a physical, if this is not

current. You will get this health form attached to your confirmation email. Please fill it out and send it to camp directly.

Drop off at Camp is Sunday at 3 pm, no later than 4 pm.

Pick up at the end of the week (Wed. for Explorers) is no later than noon on Friday. There is a closing worship at 11:15 am with lunch following, which families are invited to attend.

Please contact camp for more information on these:

- Kids of ELCA rostered leaders get a free week of camp.
- If an ELCA rostered leader or a Nurse volunteers a week at camp, then all their kids come to camp for free and participate in the weekly program.

For Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) – For a complete list of frequently asked questions please see our website under "Getting Ready, FAQ."

"Camp is a place where I needed love and grace and acceptance. I found these things and so much more than I ever could have imagined."

– David Hawkins,
2008 Summer Staff

2009 Summer Schedule

2009 SUMMER	EL CAMINO PINES	YOLIJWA	DAY CAMPS/ OFF-SITE	BEACH CAMP	SIT PROGRAM
June 28 - July 3	Explorers mini week (Ends July 1, \$250) Pioneers, Discoverers	Confirmation Camp	3 Day Camps Booked		SIT Training
July 5-10	Pioneers and Discoverers	Explorers mini week (Ends July 8, \$250) Pioneers, Discoverers	Teen Adventure: New! Whitewater Rafting & Backpacking / 2 Day Camps Available	Discoverers at Pacific Beach	SIT Training
July 12-17	Confirmation Camp	Teen Camp	2 Day Camps Booked		SIT Training
July 19-24	Explorers mini week (Ends July 22, \$250) Pioneers, Discoverers	Explorers, Pioneers, Discoverers	2 Day Camps Available	Teen at Pacific Beach	SIT Training
July 26-31	Explorers, Pioneers, Discoverers	Deaf Camp	2 Day Camps Available	Teen at San Clemente	SIT Training
Aug. 2-7	New! Explorers, Pioneers, Art and Music Camp!		2 Day Camps Booked	Discoverers at San Clemente	SIT Training
Aug. 9-14	Teen Camp	Specialty Program	2 Day Camps Available	Discoverers at San Clemente	SIT at Teen Camp

Explorers

(campers currently in grades 1 – 3)

Cost: \$340, mini week is \$250

This is a two or three night camp experience for our youngest campers and is the perfect introduction to the summer camp experience. Explorers will grow in self confidence through this short stay away from home. Explorers join the entire camp community for worship, meals and campfires, but enjoy their own counselors, games and Bible stories. Explorers week of camp ends on Wednesday at Noon.

Pioneers

(campers currently in grades 3 - 5)

Cost: \$340

Our most popular program! Caring counselors make this a week of fun, friends, faith stories and so much more. A great place to make new friends, to learn about yourself and God's beautiful creation. This year we have a week of Beach Camp for campers going into 5th and 6th grade available (please see the schedule for dates).

Discoverers

(campers currently in grades 5 - 7)

Cost: \$ 340

Grow in faith and friendship with all the best that camp has to offer. Favorite camp activities include theme meals, overnight campout, all camp games, a late night swim, arts and crafts and campfires. This is a great age to dig deeper into questions of faith and life – just what camp is for!

Confirmation Camp

Cost: \$340

Christian community comes alive at camp! Pastors, youth workers, camp staff and Confirmands come together for a week of study and goofing around in the great outdoors. The most fun you'll ever have with your pastor – guaranteed! To attend this event you need to come with your church. Check with your pastor on how to register.

Beach Camp

(campers currently in grades 6 - 12)

Cost: \$375

Beach Camp is offered at two sites: Our Savior Lutheran Church, San Clemente, CA and Christ Lutheran, Pacific Beach, CA. We are grateful that these churches welcome us to their sites and share in the ministry that happens at beach camp.

The sun, the surf and the sand. You get it all at Beach Camp. Sleep at a local church, walk to the beach daily, hang out on the turf or in the surf and have all of the traditional camp stuff (campfires, worship, Bible Studies, silly songs and great camp food).

Teen Camp

(campers currently in grades 8 - 12)

Cost: \$375

No summer is complete without a week at camp in the mountains! Lively Bible studies, in depth discussions on life and faith, meaningful worship, the annual tug o' war over a mud pit, overnight hike, and so much more!

Whitewater Rafting/ Backpacking Adventure Week

(campers currently in grades 9 – 12)

July 5-10, Cost: \$400

Two great adventures in one week, for one low price! The week starts and ends at El Camino Pines and includes a two day, one night white water rafting trip and a three day, two night backpacking trip. Eat and sleep with your friends under the stars, sing and talk around the campfire, create memories that will shape you and stay with you for the rest of your life. You will need to have a backpack, sleeping bag, and walking shoes. We provide the rest. There is no eCamp for this trip.

Lantern Hill – Mexico Service Trip

Because continuous news stories have cast doubt on the safety of traveling in Mexico, LRCC has chosen to cancel the Lantern Hill – Mexico Service Trip this summer. We look forward to partnering with Lantern Hill in the future after conditions in Mexico have stabilized.



SIT – Staff In Training Program

(ages 16 and 17 years old),

No Cost.

Staff In Training is an exciting camp leadership program designed for 16 and 17 year olds who want to learn the ins and outs of working at camp. SIT's will learn how to work alongside counselors and cabin groups and how to lead camp activities like Bible study, worship, and all-camp games, as well as being trained in CPR, First Aid, and Lifeguarding skills. SIT's grow weekly in responsibility, have their own training schedule and devotions, learn how to share their faith, become leaders for their peers, and make friends they'll never forget! There will be travel for the SIT's between our sites, this will be provided by our camp staff. The final week is spent at Teen Camp at El Camino Pines as Peer Counselors. This program is free to high school youth and is by application and interview only. S.I.T.'s are not a paid staff position. Space is limited. Download a Staff In Training application online. Two references are needed as well.

The SIT program is from June 28 – August 14, 2009, and a commitment is required for the entire time. A two week window from July 19-31 will be allowed for participants attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.



2008 Vista Society Members

Thank you to everyone who supported the 2008 Annual Fund at all levels. Your gifts ensure that LRCC is kept affordable for all, provide campership assistance for those in need and help facilities stay safe and beautiful.

Our heartfelt thanks to the following friends of LRCC who became Vista Society members from a \$300 or more donation in 2008. If you find that your name has been omitted from this list, please contact us so that we can correct our error.

We are grateful to the 54 congregations who share their financial blessings with us, along with the ELCA Southwest CA and Pacifica Synods for the grant money with which they gift LRCC.

Gold Circle

(\$1,000 or more annually)

Erik and Cynthia Alexander
Westlake Village, CA

Dorothy Bowen
Long Beach, CA

Anthony Briggs
Oak Glen, CA

Rev. Glen & Lauri Egertson
Frazier Park, CA

Rev. John and Marsha Embree
Anaheim Hills, CA

Janice and Nicholas Garriss
Woodland Hills, CA

Rev. Dan and Karlyn Gibson
Los Angeles, CA

Lawrence and Astrid Hammett
Santa Barbara, CA

Shawn and Susan Howie
Irvine, CA

Erik and Lori Lundring
Simi Valley, CA

Karsten and Kirsten Lundring
Thousand Oaks, CA

Sue Oliver
La Crescenta, CA

Catherine Minter
Calabasas, CA

Warren and Jeanette Parr
Rowland Heights, CA

Tom and Denise Pulte
Redondo Beach, CA

Kevin and Holly Saltonstall
Oak Glen, CA

Mike and Chris Saltonstall
Temple City, CA

Lyle and Lois Schroeder
Anaheim, CA

Terry and Kathleen Schroeder
Yorba Linda, CA

John Richard Smith
Newbury Park, CA

Sherith and Scott Squires
Simi Valley, CA

Jim and Suzanne Swigart
San Diego, CA

Jean Tuohino
Downey, CA

Kris Turk and Connie Wolfe
Huntington Beach, CA

Timothy and Stefanie Wennes
Thousand Oaks, CA

Elizabeth Wolfe
Ventura, CA

Silver Circle

(\$500 - \$999 annually)

Rich Ajer and Margy Schmitt
Spring Valley, CA

Carianne Bagne
Fullerton, CA

Jennifer and Jeff Brown
Newbury Park, CA

Ronald and Janet Clark
Westminster, CA

Brian and Danielle Fairlee
Woodland Hills, CA

Gina & David Hagen
West Hills, CA

Ella & Pete Loschky
Murrieta, CA

Lynn McCarter
Santee, CA

Jem Mendoza
Thousand Oaks, CA

Monica Navarro
Hidden Hills, CA

Rev. Carl and Susan Nielsen
Santa Maria, CA

Daryl and Jacqueline Nolen
Santa Rosa Valley, CA

Katherine Pulte
Redondo Beach, CA

Megan Pulte
Redondo Beach, CA

Elizabeth and Mark Rickertson
North Hollywood, CA

Ken and Carla Roupe
Canoga Park, CA

Richard Sayther
Burnsville, MN

John and Joann Schmidt
Torrance, CA

Jack Schmidt
Torrance, CA

William and Lori Splinter
Palmdale, CA

Rev. Howard and Mary Wennes
Thousand Oaks, CA

Steve and Rev. Susan Wolfe-Devol
Burbank, CA



Richard Minter Memorial Scholarship Endowment Fund

has been established in loving memory of Richard Minter, dedicated and beloved husband, father and doctor. Richard's family knows the difficulty children face in the loss of a parent and wanted to make it easier for those children to attend camp. This scholarship is available to youngsters that have lost a parent within the last five years. The scholarship is available for all camps offered by LRCC. An application is available online and a pastor recommendation is required. We at LRCC extend our heartfelt thanks to the Minter family for this gift and the opportunity it provides to young people during this difficult time in their lives.

Bronze Circle

(\$300 - \$499 annually)

Lando and Jessica Anderson
Harrisburg, CA

Thomas and Bernita Anderson
Thousand Oaks, CA

Gerald and Brenda Bean
Redlands, CA

Philip A. Beasom
Los Angeles, CA

Marie Brauer
Reseda, CA

Erick and Deanna Christensen
Kerrville, TX

Rev. Timothy and Rev. Chamie Delkeskamp
Thousand Oaks, CA

Jill Garrett
Thousand Oaks, CA

James and Susan Helgager
West Hills, CA

Judi Heylek
Fullerton, CA

Elizabeth Hood
Thousand Oaks, CA

Belinda Karge
El Cajon, CA

Paul and Donna Kasper
Torrance, CA

Doug and Molly Knutson-Keller
San Diego, CA

Lisa and Robert Lambert
Westlake Village, CA

Rachel and Brian Lindgren
Thousand Oaks, CA

Larry Ludwig
Yucaipa, CA

Peter and Dolores Martinez
Anaheim, CA

Scott and Lauri McClary
Simi Valley, CA

Charles and Fran Mork
Thousand Oaks, CA

Ted and Jody Mortarotti
Van Nuys, CA

Ken and Nancy O'Neal
Arcadia, CA

Jose and Joanna Padilla
Manhattan Beach, CA

Richard and Margaret Palmer
San Diego, CA

Rev. Todd and Rev. Stacy Payne
West Hills, CA

Evelyn Price
Stanton, CA

Nada and Nelius Ronning
Sierra Madre, CA

Richard and Joan Schill
Indian Trail, NC

Philipp and Mary Stephanus
Manhattan Beach, CA

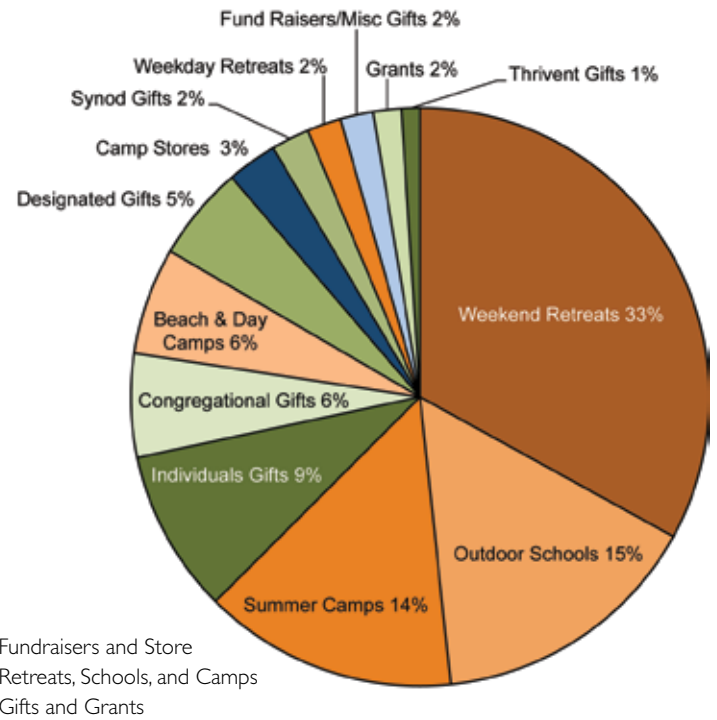
Rev. Gary and Corrine Stevenson
Simi Valley, CA

Douglas and Karen Tapking
Thousand Oaks, CA

Rick and Carol Thomas
Hermosa Beach, CA

Rev. Bryan Woken
West Hills, CA

2008 Income Graph



As shown in this pie chart, 70% of our income is derived from camp fees. These fees cover approximately 50% of the cost of camp and LRCC subsidizes the other half. We rely on the generosity of individuals, churches, synods and others to help cover these costs. Our goal is to keep camp affordable. In order to sustain this goal, donations must increase so that contributions are equivalent to the income generated from camp fees.

Reflections from a Summer Camp Counselor



Camp, a word so familiar to me, yet it was completely redefined last summer. Last summer was my first year working on LRCC staff, but my fourth summer on a camp staff. I came to California with some heavy ambitions and some fears. I was nervous about fitting in at a new place, I was struggling with my relationship to my biological family, and I was trying to live out who I wanted to be for Christ.

So I arrived with my suitcase, guitar, and a heart ready to live out the new lifelong goal: to fully embody Christ in everything that I do. Full of fear and anxiety, I jumped right on into the new community that was forming day by day; that was the best leap of faith that I have ever made.

With my new knowledge from the school year about who I was, who God was, and how others fit into my life, I was raring to go and be a servant for Christ. I took each moment as it came and lived it to its fullest. I experienced love, happiness, and most importantly pure joy, joy directly from God, not tampered or false in any means. I seized opportunities to teach, listen, share my faith, and to repair the broken family relationships in my life.

One night campers and staff participated in prayer stations. I found myself drawn to the table where each person was invited to write a letter to someone who deserved a thank you or a kind word. I immediately sat down and began writing a heartfelt letter to my parents. I wrote about our disagreements in high school, my joys and struggles the first year at college, how thankful I was for them in my life, and I ask for their forgiveness for all I had not done. The next day, I sent it in the mail.

Two weeks later, I received a letter back. Ever since that day, my mom and I have developed a much stronger relationship that is full of honesty, trust, and love. I take joy in the privilege to call her now and to hear her voice on the phone. Never in my mind would I have guessed how God would remold me over the summer.

I praise and thank God for the endless opportunities this summer-chances to be in a beautiful and supportive community, to be a leader and a follower, to see and develop my family both in the body of Christ and related. LRCC has given me a future, a place to be, a place to belong, and a place to always call home.

*God's Peace Always and in All Ways,
Jessica - 2008 Summer Staff*

SPECIAL EVENTS



Annual Golf Tournament to benefit LRCC

The Inland Empire Annual Best Ball Golf Tournament in support of LRCC will be held **Friday, April 24th at The Links at Summerly in Lake Elsinore** (www.linksatsummerly.com). Registration begins at 11am and the shot gun start will be at 1pm. The registration fee is \$125 and only \$100 for those who register by April 10th. The registration fee includes green fees, practice balls, cart, dinner banquet, and prizes. Deadline to register is April 20th.

To register: Online safely and securely at www.LRCCHome.com or contact Desta Goehner at 818.243.8700 or Desta@LRCCHome.com

**Festival of the Pines at El Camino Pines
Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009, 10:00am - 4:00pm
El Camino Pines - 50th Anniversary Celebration**

It's our 50th birthday party and it's going to be big. The festivities include worship in the forest, carnival games, past camp staff sharing their stories, lots of hiking options, a great buffet lunch, arts and crafts, a quilt auction, and as many previous camp staff as we can locate. 50 years of ministry...we're on top of the hill, not over it!



**Applefest at Yolijwa
Saturday, October 3, 2009**

Cost: \$10 for lunch

Join us for Applefest 2009! Since 1957, Yojijwa has been a sacred place for Youth Living Jesus' Way. Many adults have shared in the experience as well at retreats and summer camp over the years. Help us keep this tradition alive by joining us for our annual Applefest on Saturday, October 3.

Applefest is a day full of fun, fellowship, and worship in the heart of apple country in Oak Glen. Festivities begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude after the quilt auction and pool party for the kids in the afternoon. Come for the day or call camp to reserve a room in Luther Glen Conference Center or a cabin on Friday night.

- Want to help out this year?** Here's some ways you can contribute:
- Join the team** – We need people to serve on the Applefest Committee – we'll meet this summer to start planning to make this year better than ever!
 - Quilts for campers** – Each year at Applefest, we conclude the afternoon with a quilt auction. The quilts donated by congregations and individuals provide weeks of camp for campers needing financial assistance. Share your talents by creating a beautiful quilt for our quilt auction. As you create your unique quilts, please pray for our campers and our overall ministry.
 - Share with donations** – We are looking for donations of gift baskets, and opportunity drawing prizes.
 - Help us advertise** – Get the word out to your men's, women's and family groups at church and bring a van full of people this October!

For more information please contact Kevin and Holly Saltonstall, Camp Directors, Yojijwa, (909) 797-9183 or Yolijwa@LRCCHome.com

Seminary Scholarship for Past Staff

LRCC has received a generous commitment from a friend of LRCC. This donor will provide scholarship money to past LRCC staffers who are in Lutheran Seminaries. They are eligible for up to \$1,000 per year that they worked for LRCC. To receive this scholarship, former staffers need to write a 500 word essay (annually) on how their experience at LRCC affected their call to ministry, mission, or leadership. Each person must submit two letters of reference and proof from the Seminary that they are enrolled. The LRCC Executive Director will approve each applicant. We are excited about this new gift to encourage our staff to go into ministry.

Congratulations to our past recipients:
John Cummings, PLTS; Nicki Curtis, Luther; Scott Fiedler, Luther;
Jason Johnsen, Fuller*; Paul Schick, Wartburg (*non-Lutheran seminary)

If you are interested in contributing to this fund please contact Desta Goehner at (818) 243-8700 or Desta@LRCCHome.com

Winter Retreats



Hot cocoa! Crackling fires! Snowball fights! Hikes and sledding! These are the things that make Winter Retreats so much fun at both Yojijwa and El Camino Pines! We have had a great season of winter retreats at both our camps.

Our theme this year was "GODwinks" which featured the words from 2 Chronicles 16:9 - "The LORD searches all the earth for people who have given themselves completely to him. He wants to make them strong." The theme represented the idea that God is constantly dropping us hints that he loves and cares for us, which we referred to as "GODwinks," and God is always working on strengthening our relationship with him.

At Yojijwa, we focused the theme on building relationships with God, and had a sequence of skits featuring "Captain Swarly" – a pirate who learns that God loves him, how to love God back, how to pray, and how to live the way God wants him to. At Yojijwa's Middle School and Elementary School retreats, we didn't have any snow. But that freed us up to do more traditional camp things like hikes, Capture the Flag, and other activities. At our High School retreat over Presidents Day weekend, we had more snow than Oak Glen has seen in 30 years! The whole camp was covered with snow about two feet thick, and the kids were sledding and building snow-creations, and having a great time. It was held at Luther Glen, which gave the teens a more cozy environment. All three were amazing and gave us great opportunities to see old faces and meet new friends!

At El Camino Pines, we talked about GODwinks through four different workshops: GODwinks through Miracles, GODwinks through Jour-

neys, GODwinks through Struggles, and GODwinks through Community. The students and adults got to choose which ones they wanted to go to. We also had an adventure theme through several characters that were present in skits and activities throughout the weekend. They were Cal/California Jones and his two trusty sidekicks Darla Mae and Hobbes. There was also an evil villain Dr. Schnookevol. Saturday we had an All Camp Adventure where the students were trying to help Cal, Darla, and Hobbes to find the missing Sacred Eye of Providence which Dr. Schnookevol had stolen. The adventure took place outside all over camp. These retreats have been a really fun way to explore how God is always at work in our lives in many different ways.

Thanks a million to all the summer staff who came up and volunteered. We really appreciate the volunteers who help us strengthen our year-round ministries. We couldn't do it without you! Thank you also to the Salem Lutheran youth band, Between Colors, who led all the worships at Yojijwa's winter retreats. And thanks to the churches who attend our retreats. We hope that our ministry strengthens the faith of your youth and your chaperones, and gives everyone a new perspective on how God is working in their life.



Kevin and Holly,
Camp Directors at Yojijwa
Yolijwa@LRCCHome.com

"I could have fun anywhere over summer, playing games at home with friends I already had, but at camp I could embrace a piece of me that isn't as easy to nurture throughout the year." – Ian Abramson, 2008 Summer staff



SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Contact Us

All program and registration questions should be directed to the site specific camp.

EL CAMINO PINES

Camp Directors:
Pastor Glen and Lauri Egertson
Glen@LRCCHome.com and Lauri@LRCCHome.com

Program Director:
Michelle Meulemans,
Michelle@LRCCHome.com

11900 Frontier Road
Frazier Park, CA 93225
Phone (661) 245-3519
Fax (661) 245-2047

YOLIJWA/LUTHER GLEN

Camp Directors:
Kevin and Holly Saltonstall
YOLIJWA@LRCCHome.com

39136 Harris Road
Oak Glen, CA 92399
Phone (909) 797-9183
Fax (909) 797-9184

ADMINISTRATION

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Associate Director:
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Chief Financial Officer:
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Jan@LRCCHome.com

Financial Assistant:
Heidi Smith
Heidi@LRCCHome.com

Executive Assistant:
Desta Goehner,
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Vice-President and Chair of the Vista Society:
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CONNECTIONS

Summer is Here!



Summer Camp Theme: Love to Serve

At your local Lutheran Bible camps this summer, our theme is "Love to Serve." As counselors and camp leaders, our service is to focus the attention of our campers, in games and in study, on the example of Jesus, the One who so completely modeled love, in both word and in action. Jesus said, "I am among you as one who serves" (Luke 22:27). As his disciples, we follow our Savior's lead. As we engage in loving service to our neighbor, our faith comes alive in new ways. When learning and serving are done within a Christian context, where mutual love and openness to the Spirit's movements prevail, then the words of 1 John 3:18 take on new dimensions of meaning: "Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." We love to serve when we remember that Jesus served us in love!

REGISTER NOW FOR SUMMER CAMP!

