

# THE POST

Spring 2023 | Volume 11 | Issue 2

## COMING SOON TO A CONCRETE SLAB NEAR YOU...

by Stephen Custer, Marketing Consultant, Summer Staff Alumni

In January 2024, the Willamette Valley experienced a challenging ice storm, leaving its mark on Camp Lutherwood Oregon. The ice got so thick that it actually brought down the huge tent that we've been using since the fire at the Lodge. This tent served as more than just a shelter. It was a gathering space, a place to walk the labyrinth, a dining hall, a venue for dance parties and variety shows, a place to share about nature, and a meeting place to build friendships.

With the tent now dismantled and removed, we find ourselves at a



crossroads. We've got this empty space just waiting to be filled with something amazing! With 12-18 months until construction on the Retreat Lodge begins, we have a unique chance to re-imagine how this space can serve our community.

The possibilities are endless. Imagine a court for pickleball players, a

space for basketball games under the Oregon sky, or a stage for music, arts, and theater presentations that showcase the talents of our campers. Perhaps it's all of the above, with room for crafts, outdoor school programs, and whatever else our creative minds can dream up.

As we prepare for the summer ahead, we're excited to explore all the ways we can play and connect with our campers. While we continue to work out the details, we promise that the result will be a super cool addition to camp. So when you arrive this summer, prepare to be surprised by the possibilities that await you on that concrete slab.

Together, let's embrace this opportunity for growth, innovation, and fun. The future of Camp Lutherwood Oregon is bright, and we can't wait to share it with you!

## TO THE MATTRESSES!

The spirit of Lutherwood hospitality is to provide all our guests with a comfortable place to sleep. It is time to "roll over" some of our old mattresses and make room for the new! Our goal this spring is to raise \$18,000 to purchase 75 new mattresses and covers. Give today through the QR code. Thank you for your support in offering a snooze-worthy space for everyone!



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## FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

As we welcome another spring to Camp Lutherwood Oregon, not only do we notice the new growth around the site, but in our year-round staff team too. Since the end of January, we have welcomed four new staff members: Elliott, Paul, Marco, and Zach along with Zach's family, wife Keanna and son Escher.

In a time of rising housing costs and lack of affordable housing in the Eugene area, on-site staff housing has become more and more important. With the growth of our

staff, offering safe and comfortable staff accommodations continues to be a significant need.

Thanks to our amazing weekly volunteers, our terrific Site Manager, Tom Brewer, and all the current staff, we, together, have transformed the housing at camp. These transformations should be almost completed by the time you read this! We are grateful for the support of the Central Lutheran Foundation in Eugene for contributing to a portion of the work completed.

The original house, known as the Cottage, was built in the 1930's and was desperate for many necessary upgrades. It is now absolutely beautiful and we are so happy that Zach and his family will enjoy the space.

Marco, Daisy, and Haley all live in the Site House which got a brand new coat of interior paint. Tom and Jamie (and sometimes I do too!) enjoy living at the newly remodeled home on the adjacent property to the east. We continue to call this the Gibson Property in memory of the past owner and dear friend of Lutherwood, Don Gibson, who lived there with his family in the 1990s and early 2000s.

We rejoice at the new possibilities to offer staff a place of welcome and a place to call home at camp. We are grateful to everyone who continues to support the ministry of hospitality at Camp Lutherwood Oregon.

Blessings to each of you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrea".

Andrea Scofield

## CELEBRATE 65 YEARS AND THE NEW RETREAT LODGE

*by Stephen Custer, Marketing Consultant, Summer Staff Alumni*

**Join us on July 20th for a joyous celebration at Camp Lutherwood Oregon!**

This special day marks our ministry's 65th anniversary, a milestone we are incredibly humbled and grateful to reach. It's a time for reflection, thankfulness, and looking towards the future.

As we gather together, we'll take a moment to remember the Lodge, which tragically burned down five years ago. Though we've faced challenges, our spirit remains strong, and we honor the countless

memories made in that unique and treasured place.

But it's also a day of new beginnings. We'll have a ceremonial groundbreaking for the Retreat Lodge, symbolizing our commitment to growth and renewal. It's an exciting step forward for our camp community!

Of course, no celebration is complete without good food and great company. We'll be firing up the BBQ for a delicious lunch, and the pool will be open for some refreshing summer fun. It's a perfect opportunity to share your favorite camp stories with others and

reminisce about the memories that have shaped us.

Above all, this day is about giving thanks for the ministry of Camp Lutherwood Oregon and the impact it has had on countless lives. As we look to the future, we're filled with hope and excitement for all that is yet to come. So mark your calendars and join us on July 20th for a day of celebration, community, and gratitude. Together, let's continue to build a bright future for Camp Lutherwood Oregon.

Watch for more details and registration coming soon. See you then!

# THE WOODS OF LUTHERWOOD

*by Marco Longoria, Coordinator of Outdoor Education, Recreation Programs and Partnerships*

Camp Lutherwood Oregon sits in a special place ecologically. Did you know that camp is located exactly between two of Oregon's nine ecoregions? According to the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District's website, an ecoregion is a large area defined by the range of species or environmental conditions present. Camp is located right between the Coast Range and the Willamette Valley where low coastal mountains ecoregions are nearby: the dry ridges



of the Klamath Mountains and the alpine peaks of the West Cascades. This unique location gives camp great environmental diversity for all campers and guests to explore.

With many different types of environments around camp, there

is the opportunity to see interactions in plants and animals that you might not be able to see in other parts of the state. Camp hosts a variety of plants ranging from large conifers like the Douglas Fir to small stream bushes like Osoberry. When it comes to animals, camp is home to squirrels, bats, beetles, among many others, and even the occasional camper!

Which ecoregion do you live in? What area of camp are you most curious about? We invite you to come and join the conversation with us while we experience the ecoregion of Lutherwood together.

## WELCOME ZACH POHL TO THE LUTHERWOOD FAMILY

*by Stephen Custer, Marketing Consultant, Summer Staff Alumni*

In March of 2020, the unexpected arrival of COVID-19 brought about significant changes for camp. Camp Lutherwood Oregon had to make some tough decisions, letting go of eight staff members by the end of the month. It was a trying time for all involved, as we navigated through uncharted waters. And to top it off, the summer of 2020 felt eerily quiet without our usual hustle and bustle due to COVID-19 restrictions.

In the midst of these challenges, we bid farewell to Charlotte Trent, our last full-time year-round Director of Programs, in March 2020. Since then, we've been without someone in that role full-time — until now.

We're thrilled to welcome Zach Pohl to Camp Lutherwood Oregon as our new Director of Programs and Guest Relations. Zach, along with

his wife Keanna and their 7-month-old son Escher, arrived on March 4th amidst a blanket of snow covering Lutherwood, a significant change in scenery and weather. Coming all the way from Texas, they're settling into the newly remodeled cottage on site.

Zach will be at the helm of all things related to programs, both year-round and summer. Additionally, he'll be leading the development of our guest relations process, as we aim to forge deeper partnerships with organizations that make Lutherwood their home.



This summer, we're excited to host Holt International for their adoptee camp and CampFire Wilani for their family camp weekend and one of their summer camp weeks. These partnerships not only enrich our programs, but also strengthen our community bonds.

Zach brings with him a wealth of talent and experience. As a skilled singer/songwriter and musician, he has released albums since 2013. You can even check out his music on Spotify! With his wife Keanna, they form "The Pohl Vault," where they share their music and visual art. We're excited to see how music and the arts at camp will take on a new look as they bring their gifts to Lutherwood.

Welcome, Zach, Keanna, and Escher! We're overjoyed to have you join our camp family, and we can't wait to see the incredible contributions you'll make to Camp Lutherwood Oregon.

# TOGETHER AT CAMP: A SNEAK PEAK AT THE SUMMER CURRICULUM

by Pastor Paul Strike, Congregation and  
Community Engagement Coordinator



When staff and campers arrive at Camp Lutherwood Oregon this summer, they will immerse themselves in the theme, **Together: Across the Divide!**, where creativity and collaboration will be part of everything we do. Campers will dive deep into their relationships with one another and wonder how their relationship with God shapes those relationships. Because of the amazing things God does for us, we can do amazing things with and for the people in our lives—from the smallest gesture to the biggest act of love we can imagine together!

The daily themes focus on ways we are all called to live together. On Monday, we are Creating Together. Because God creates good things (including us!), we can also create good things. Tuesday's theme, Welcoming Together, equips us to welcome one another just as Jesus welcomes all. On Wednesday, the theme of Growing Together will help us think about God's desire for our growth, especially in our relationships. On Thursday, we are sent out from Camp Lutherwood Shining Together, putting our gifts to use for the sake of the world. Our simple hope for our campers is that they will go home knowing that they can partner up to make this world—a world that God deeply loves — a better place.

Come experience Camp Lutherwood Oregon this summer...together!



## WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU AT CAMP!

There's opportunities for all ages at Lutherwood Oregon! Register today and join us for summer camp.

### CAMP AGE GROUPS & SCHEDULE

Grades 1-2 | Mini Camp | July 7-9

Grades 3-4 | Elementary Camp |  
July 7-11 & Aug 4-8

Grades 5-6 | Upper Elementary  
Camp | June 23-27 & Aug 4-8

Grades 7-9 | Jr High Camp |  
July 7-11 & Aug 4-8

Grades 6-9 | Confirmation Camp |  
June 23-27

Grades 10-12 | High School Camp |  
June 23-27

All Ages | Friends & Family Camp |  
July 12-14 & July 19-22

Ages 18+ | Women's Weekend |  
July 26-28

Grades 5-12 | Compass | July 14-18  
*Compass is reserved for youth who  
need extra support in developing skills  
and building resilience for navigating  
adverse life events.*

**Grades based on the 2024-2025  
school year**

Use this QR Code to visit  
[lutherwoodoregon.org/camp](https://lutherwoodoregon.org/camp) for  
more information  
on individual camps  
and to register today.  
Get all the answers  
to your questions at  
[lutherwoodoregon.org/preparing](https://lutherwoodoregon.org/preparing)



# INTRODUCING ZUZANA FROM POLAND!

by Andrea Scofield, Executive Director

Camp Lutherwood Oregon will once again host an international camp staff member for summer of 2024 through the ELCA International Camp Counselor Program! In 2023, we hosted Markéta from the Czech Republic through this same program.

Zuzana from Poland will be arriving on May 24, 2024 to join the summer staff team. Zuzanna writes "I am interested in exploring new cultures and making new friends. I would also like to gain new experiences and knowledge while working with others". She is currently employed with an animal shelter in Poland where she helps take care of cats and dogs. This will be her first time in the United States.

There will be 19 days between when Zuzana arrives and the beginning of staff training on June 12th. During this time, Zuzanna will be available to visit other parts of Oregon before her duties at camp begin. We hope to introduce Zuzanna to many people and regions of Oregon so she can learn more about the culture and church here. If you are interested in hosting Zuzanna for a day (or several), please contact the camp office for more information at [office@lutherwoodoregon.org](mailto:office@lutherwoodoregon.org) or 541-998-6444.

Thanks for considering sharing your home and church with Zuzanna. We are very excited for you to meet her.

**Did you know...** our monthly supporters are critical to the daily work of Camp Lutherwood Oregon. With their generous on-going support, we can continue the work of making camp a delightful experience for our guests.

They are essential to this ministry.

Considering joining a mighty crew of monthly donors by setting up your gift online today!



# S'MORES SNICKERDOODLES

by Elliott Pust, Food Service Director

A Registration Day at camp (traditionally Sundays) isn't complete without a freshly-baked cookie and cold glass of lemonade. Try this take on a camp classic: S'mores snickerdoodles.

Be sure to tag us on social media to show off your batch!



1 cup unsalted butter (softened)	½ teaspoon baking soda
1 ½ cups sugar	1 teaspoon salt
2 large eggs	¼ cup chocolate chips
2 teaspoons vanilla	¼ cup mini marshmallows
2 ¾ cup flour	1 cup ground graham crackers
1 ½ teaspoon cream of tartar (for less tang, use 1 teaspoon)	

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
2. In a large mixing bowl, cream butter and sugar together for 4-5 minutes until light and fluffy. Scrape the sides of the bowl and add the eggs and vanilla. Cream for 1-2 minutes longer.
3. Stir in flour, cream of tartar, baking soda, and salt, just until combined.
4. Fold in chocolate chips and mini marshmallows.
5. Put ground graham crackers in a small bowl.
6. If time allows, wrap the dough and let it refrigerate for 20-30 minutes.
7. Roll into small balls until round and smooth. Drop into the ground graham crackers and coat well. Using a spoon, coat for a second time, ensuring the cookie balls are completely covered. (To make flatter snickerdoodles, press down in the center of the ball before placing in the oven. This helps to keep them from puffing up in the middle.)
8. Place on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Bake for 9-11 minutes. Let cool for several minutes on a baking sheet before removing from the pan.

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## **SPRING WORK DAY**

Join us Saturday, June 1st from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Spring Work Day! Bring your friends and family for a day of getting camp ready for the summer season. The Work Day is a great opportunity to introduce new campers to Lutherwood and get more familiar with camp. We will have projects for all ages and abilities, so feel free to bring the whole family! Lunch and snacks are provided. Register today!



Mark your calendars and

*Save the Date*  
for the **Fall Harvest Fundraiser**

• **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024** •

More details to follow