



Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, Indiana-Kentucky

One Camp at three sites:



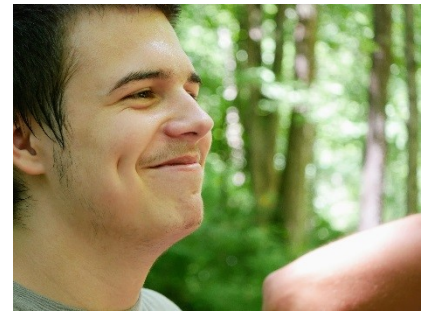
## 2020 Year-End Update

Greetings LOMIK Family, Friends, and Supporters,

Like everyone, the ministry at LOMIK has been greatly impacted as we navigate through COVID-19. It is important for us at this year's end to reflect on all that God has continued to do with us during 2020. While much has changed in the last year, the power of our camps remain steady and strong as we form faith and develop leaders through making available opportunities to be engaged by the God of all creation, in creation. God is good.

### LOOKING BACK OVER THIS YEAR

This past spring, after a great deal of prayer and discussion, we announced that traditional summer camp would be suspended this year due to COVID-19. We knew this would be a major emotional and financial loss but felt that it was the right thing to do out of care and concern for the safety of our camp families and staff. As the season progressed, we were able to offer small group opportunities/activities based on 1) limiting the number of participants and 2) not mixing people from different geographical areas. Here is some of what went on this summer:



Things looked a bit different this year... the ministry continues... looking forward to many more years to come!

#### 2020 Summer Numbers:

Small group getaway retreats: over 30 (involving over 300 individuals)

Volunteer/Service: 55 people (representing over 1,000 hours of service)

Many Day visitors for hiking, fishing, picnics

Numerous personal and family retreat rentals, and overnight/weekend camping

**"When everything else was turned upside down, our ministry was less wide, but it was deeper. Camp has always been a refuge where people can retreat to find God and experience genuine community, and that's what it was this summer."** - Staff

**"The climate of 2020 had people thirsting for the certainty of a love and reality that is greater than ourselves and all the things that we had thought were certain. 2020 was when people most needed God's love, and I am thankful we were able to still shine Christ's light."** - Staff

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

LOMIK's summer camp program provides about 50% of our annual revenue. The balance comes from fundraising, rental of our facilities, retreat groups and operation of a camp store. Together with the board, staff, and our larger ministry family, we continue to navigate through an estimated \$240,000 loss in revenue for 2020. Through the combination of small group retreats and campground usage, a Payroll Protection Program loan, expense cuts, the generosity of our camp family, and a generous Fundraising Challenge Match from The Lutheran Foundation, we are ending the year in a stronger position than many other camps.

#### **NOW is your chance to partner with us for the summer of 2021!!**

Thanks to The Lutheran Foundation's Fundraising Challenge Match, all gifts received by Dec 31, 2020 will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000 for each of the northern camps. Gifts to Lutheran Hills are also appreciated, but are not eligible for the regional grant match. You have given more than \$70,000 so far since July towards our goal of \$100,000. Help us meet that challenge by year end. Donate online at <https://lomik.campintouch.com/ui/forms/donor/Form> or mail your check direct to the office LOMIK 5215 N 450 W, Angola, IN 46703.

**Thank you for your generosity and sharing your gifts with LOMIK camps.**

**2020 On-Site Projects:**

In spite of the unusual summer, there was still a lot happening at camp. Staff and volunteers were busy at all three sites, working on some of the following projects:

- Lutheran Hills-new prayer trail started, lake trail re-routed, firewood cut and stacked
- Lutherwald-cabin porch renovations in progress, landscaping around Kempski & Hanes, firewood cut and stacked
- Lake Luther-landscaping, downed trees removed and firewood cut and stacked

**Alumni Update:** We see Alumni as any person who has been to camp, worked at camp, been to a retreat at camp, participated in Luther Road, volunteered, sent kids or grandkids to camp or just LOVES camp! We have begun creating an alumni community to better communicate and share the blessings of camp. Folks can now register as alumni on our website (LOMIK.org). We would love to hear how camp has impacted your life...ways to share coming soon.

Camp Lutherwald

is...singing...fellowship...happiness...sharing...laughter...tears...joy...friendship...hope...serenity...trust...caring...smiles...peace...faith...special...growth...love...A verb, not a noun. (Kathy Wiesen 8/83)

**TOGETHER, GOD MAKES GREAT THINGS HAPPEN AT CAMP**



**LOOKING AHEAD**

**Next Summer:** As we look forward to the summer of 2021, we are hopeful. We are in the process of making plans to once again offer onsite, in-person camps. Some details will depend upon the pandemic circumstances as we get closer to summer. New procedures and practices will be in place to deliver the same kind of faith building relationships and divine encounters as always in a healthy, safe environment. Our summer schedule will be available online very soon.

**Registration:** Next summer’s camp registration will continue the roll-out of our new software. Forms can all be done online with greater ease. Once done, camper information can simply be updated instead of re-entered each time. Of course, paper forms will still be available on the website and accepted through the mail.

**Retreats:** We are also working on expanding offerings for retreat groups and congregations throughout the year so that folks can share in the wonder and glory of camp all year long.

**Campfire Circle:** In the interest of good stewardship our list of donors will be posted to our website after year end.

We continue to be grateful for all the campers, participants, congregations, donors, and guests who visit our sites and support this ministry we all share.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Steve Flynn  
Executive Director

Dr. Jeff Groeling  
President, Board of Directors

OUR MISSION: Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Indiana-Kentucky (LOMIK) welcomes all and provides Christ-centered programs for building faith and life-long relationships in a safe, caring, and fun environment.

OUR Values: Faith-Family & Community-Service-Integrity.