



## Lutherdale Report to the Northern Illinois Synod

**"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."  
Ecclesiastes 3:1**

2022 was a season of transition at Lutherdale. We thanked Jeff Bluhm for his 25 years of faithful service in November with a retirement party and the dedication of the new Hope Courtyard build in his honor. We also wished David Box farewell and Godspeed as he moved from his position at Lutherdale to serving in a congregation this fall. We welcomed new Executive Director, Rev Tracy Polzin and new program director, Grace Crevier.

Programmed retreats returned to Lutherdale this fall after a nearly 3 year pause because of the pandemic and it has been wonderful to see Lutherdale filled with the energy and joy these bring to camp. We have also seen an increase in our hosted retreat ministry as well. We were thrilled to welcome the Northern Illinois synod professional leaders retreat this fall. Our Hope Center continues to expand its usage, with nearly every weekend booked for much of the year.

We believe that every camper that steps onto Lutherdale's site deserves to be welcomed, accepted, known, celebrated, and loved as a Child of God. We are working hard to find ways to make sure our programs and facilities are designed to help us to live that motto out. We have an inclusivity task force that will be analyzing ways we can make Lutherdale a safe place for all in all different ways.

We are continuing to build our programming for adults and families. Plans are underway for a travel day trip and an onsite day program for each month from May- December. We have expanded our summer offering for families to include both a 24 hour weekend program and a half-week program. Next year's retreat schedule will also include offerings for both groups.



This summer, we will explore the wonder of God's love for us as we explore the Trinity- the three in one God. We will get to know God more fully and ourselves more wholly. Please hold us in prayer as we search for the final summer staff members and make preparations for our 79th season of ministry.

We give thanks for your partnership in ministry! Lutherdale exists because a group of faithful leaders cast a vision for a place for people to come together to grow in faith and in community. We could not live this mission out without your prayers and support. Please let us know if there are ways we can support you in your ministry! While much has changed in this season, the same Spirit that founded Lutherdale remains today. We hope you will come to experience it this year!

**"Lutherdale is a faith community, dedicated to building lives in Christ, through the wonder of God's creation and the study of God's word."**

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