

CAMP
Arcadia
ON LAKE MICHIGAN

PO Box 229
Arcadia, MI
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2011 RETREAT SPACE AVAILABLE

Golf & the Gospel: June 4-10

8th & 9th Grade Retreat: June 12-18

Family Weeks:

August 13-20 & August 20-26

(Save money, kids < 14 years discounted)

Lutherhostel (for adults age 40+):

August 27-September 2

Labor Day Family Weekend:

September 2-5

Women's Retreats:

September 16-18 or September 23-25

Couples' Weekend Getaway:

September 30-October 2

Revive Weekend: October 7-9

More information on camp-arcadia.com



THE ARCADIAN

SPRING 2011 ISSUE



This photo by Camp Arcadia camper Gary Landhauser was captured at sunset.

The Lutheran Camp Association (LCA) is a group of about 1,000 families, women, and men who own and operate Camp Arcadia. This group of committed Arcadians support Camp's ministry, and mission to provide a setting for Christian families and individuals to vacation with God, and to foster the renewal of the whole person—spirit, mind, and body—amid the beauty of God's creation and in fellowship with other Christians.





BALANCING ACT

Executive Director Chip May

This past fall my family and I jumped head first into the 21st century. In one week we received our first home computer, wireless internet, and a smart phone. My home went from feeling like Little House on the Prairie to an internet café. I had the world at my fingertips. I could answer emails at all hours, stay connected to work and friends 24/7 and be more productive.

I found myself checking my phone or computer for messages during meals or while playing with the kids. It was great to be connected, but after a while I started to notice that I had a hard time being “present” with my wife and children. I was distracted. I was there, but my thoughts were elsewhere. My desire to be relevant and successful at work had rendered me a hollow presence at home. My life was out of balance.

We all struggle at times with feeling out of balance. We all wish we had more time to spend with loved ones—sharing meals, playing, listening, relaxing, learning and worshipping together. At Camp Arcadia we strive to put our whole persons back into balance. Families who come to Camp Arcadia often find that it resets and restores balance by bringing priorities back into order.

One Arcadia family said, “Camp Arcadia is a place where families come together, seek refuge, find love and remember Christ so they can be wrapped in peace. Arcadia seems to be the place that draws out the best of us—the glimpses of heaven where Jesus shows us our full potential.”

Chief Weiherman, long-time Camp Arcadia director (1923-1963), would often draw a daisy on the chalkboard and talk about how all the facets of life should spring from the same golden center—our life in God through Christ. Long-time Dean Richard Caemmerer explained it this way, “God is not a dimension of existence for a perfunctory hour of worship in church, but that we live in and from and for Him all the time, also in toil and fun, alone and in the crowd.”

Author Henri Nouwen talks about spiritual discipline as the “concentrated effort to create the space and time where God can become our master and where we can respond freely to God’s guidance. Thus, discipline is the creation of boundaries that keep time and space open for God.” The simple pace at Arcadia allows us to make time for God in the midst of shared meals, walks along the beach, breathtaking sunsets and after-dinner volleyball. Without the discipline that Nouwen



describes, our lives can become so crowded that we sometimes forget that God is present. He is waiting for us, offering His free gift of grace and salvation, ready to heal our wounds.

I did put down my phone. I stopped checking messages. I stopped being so productive. I started to make some space and time where God could re-balance my life. The phone gets turned off when I am home and email is answered once the kids are in bed.

Come to Camp Arcadia where your balance will be restored. We have taken care of the work so you can find the time and space to enjoy God’s presence in your life. Frank Miller, former LCA president and Camp historian, said in his 1981 letter, “Styles may change, people may age and cultures may shift with alarming speed. But in this little corner of the world it is easier to sense the eternal. We feel the love of God in the friendship and love of those around us. We see it in the beauty and orderliness of the universe before our eyes. We sense it as the endless chain of human continuity encompasses the third and fourth generations of Arcadia families.”

Letter from the LCA President

Dear LCA Members,

My feelings about winter have finally crystallized. You can easily get snowed under with the holidays and all the festivities. January's thoughts can become frosted with short days and sunless skies, but it is a little easier to skate through February, and March is hopefully the last of this flaky season! And it's right about now when warmer temperatures lead us to pleasant thoughts of spring and summer. Summer conjures up visions of Camp Arcadia!

In spite of the economy, Camp Arcadia enjoyed a fabulous 2010 season and looks forward to 2011 with equally high hopes and expectations. One of the first additions you'll see is that Kyle DeWees started work in November as Camp's new full-time Program Director. Kyle brings lots of energy and new ideas to Camp and as his title suggests, will focus on everything program. We extend a hearty welcome to Kyle and his wife, Leah (nee Maier), who were married at Camp last fall and look forward to his contributions to our management staff.

Your Lutheran Camp Association (LCA) Board of Directors continues to focus on Camp's Strategic Plan. It provides detailed structure for both management staff and the Board through 2011, and solid organization for 2012 and 2013. Combined with our Policy Based Governance that the Board recently adopted, the Strategic Plan's continued outlook for three to five years ahead will give the staff both time and creativity to manage Camp's day to day operations with an eye to what is coming "down the road". As you recall, Policy Based Governance is a method by which the board does what it can do best—set the policies within which Camp should be run, and management does what it does best—operate Camp within the boundaries set by the Board. The Board will recommend some by-law changes this fall so that the by-laws and policies are in alignment.

We're excited, and we hope you are, too. See you at Camp!

Martha Dourson, LCA Board President



LCA Update

BEACH UPDATE

Last summer we had one of our biggest beaches in recent years. 7,500 cubic yards of sand were dredged from the Arcadia channel and deposited in front of the Camp and public beaches. The result was a huge beach! Concerning dredging for this summer, we await the federal budget to be completed to see if there will be federal funds to pay for the dredging of the channel. The outlook does not look good. If there are no federal funds, then private local funding might be an option. Camp Arcadia will stay in touch with local officials to see if our financial support is needed.

SANDGRABBER TO BE INSTALLED

This past fall we received the permit to install the trial beach erosion system—Sandgrabber. This spring Sandgrabber will be installed in front of the tennis court beach area. Periodic surveys of the beach will be conducted to determine if the system is successful. Look for it this summer.

GREEN ENERGY COMMITTEE

At their fall meeting, the LCA Board of Directors decided not to pursue the installation of a large wind turbine at this time. The financial commitment needed for the project was given as the main reason for not going forward. The Green Energy Committee is still looking into other ways for Camp Arcadia to lessen its carbon footprint.

ELECTION RESULTS

At the October 2010 LCA annual meeting the membership re-elected Martha Dourson of Cincinnati Ohio, current LCA president, and Tom Johnson of Naperville, Illinois for the LCA Board of Directors. Becky Zacharias (Beumer) of St. Louis was elected to her first term on the Board. Nathan Ruby of Dunlap, Illinois was re-elected to the Arcadia Foundation committee. The Board thanks Karen Spencer of Alexandria, Virginia, for her nine years of service to the LCA as a board member. See the minutes of the meeting at camp-arcadia.com/about and follow the link to Lutheran Camp Association.

CHAPEL ON THE BEACH

The Camp management staff is working with an architect to develop plans for the new Chapel on the Beach, located just south of the Camp turnaround. Look for plans for the Chapel on the Beach to be around this summer for you to review.

COTTAGE COLONY LOT FOR SALE

The sale price for this Arcadia Cottage Colony lot is \$160,000 or best offer. To learn more call Gordon Faust at (248) 646-1563.



New Retreats Planned for Fall 2011



Couples' Weekend Getaway

September 30–October 2, 2011

Come to Arcadia with your spouse to escape the hectic pace of everyday life. Pastors Scott Bruzek and Joshua Genig will lead the exploration of Marriage As Holy Ground. Often it seems there is a lot of talk about Christian marriage without any reference to Christ, especially the incarnate Christ, who gives Himself to us in Word and Sacrament. Jesus' first miracle happened at a wedding and His presence there changed everything. Today, Jesus matters for our marriages in just the same way. When He is present, He transforms our marriages into icons of the Gospel, and enables them to grow and flourish.

Visit camp-arcadia.com/couples

Revive Weekend

October 7-9, 2011

Revive your faith with a fall weekend at Camp Arcadia. Pastor Bill Yonker and Brian McKenna, long-time high school retreat leaders, will encourage and inspire you with stories of faith, while challenging you to live out your faith. See your teen week friends again or come to Camp for the first time—either way it will be a fun and faith-filled weekend at Camp. This weekend is for those who are high school seniors and college-aged at the time of the retreat.

Visit camp-arcadia/revive



2011 LCA ANNUAL MEETING

The Lutheran Camp Association plans to hold its annual meeting on Saturday, November 5, 2011, at 10:00 AM, in Benton Harbor, MI. The meeting location will be announced later this summer. Lunch will be provided. To register for the meeting, contact the office. The LCA annual meeting is when the LCA Board of Directors is elected and other important matters are voted upon. If you cannot attend the meeting, we ask that you vote by proxy. You can give your proxy to someone who will be attending the meeting or send it to the Camp office. LCA members will receive the agenda and voting information in early September.

Your Talents DO Make a Difference!

The talents that you share with Camp Arcadia each year are wonderful. Thank you for sharing! These wonderful gifts of prayers, volunteer hours and money have transformed the Camp in the last decade and put it on the stable footing that we all enjoy. These gifts have helped to renovate all of the buildings and recreational spaces, improved the program and have helped to keep guest rates affordable. Thank you for sharing.



Last year over \$50,000 was donated to Camp Arcadia to help fund a new entrance sign, a craft shop expansion to the basement for messy crafting, new Inn dressers and financial scholarships.



These dollars are very important as we work to improve Camp Arcadia and keep it affordable. This summer we have many projects planned, including: installing new Craft Shop windows, re-finishing the tennis courts, improving the nature program, installing a new kitchen oven, and providing financial scholarships for campers.

Camp Arcadia continues to thrive and meet its mission to renew guests in spirit, mind and body because of the support received from you. Thank you.

To give to Camp, please visit camp-arcadia.com or contact the camp office (231) 889-4361.



Take a Ride on History

During Camp's first summer, 1923, a Ford bus was purchased. It was most often driven by Chief or the staff to transport guests to and from train, boat and bus depots. It was also used to haul lumber and supplies during the time that the Camp buildings were constructed.

This Camp work horse will soon come back to life!

Your RKD Archives is partnering with Ford Model T expert and Arcadian Chris Wall (Grand Rapids, MI) to purchase and rebuild a reproduction of the old "Ford Bus." This reproduction will be a working piece of history to be used daily around Camp.



Help get the wheels rolling on this project by offering your financial or technical support. Email archives@camp-arcadia.com to learn more about how you can help.

MEANINGFUL WORK & RELATIONSHIPS



After her husband of 43 years passed away suddenly in 1998, Dorothy Zahora decided to attend a June 1999 retreat at Camp Arcadia. "In some ways" Dorothy says, "I felt that I needed to start my life over. As I worked through the void in my life after George's death, I wanted to meet new people who weren't connected to my life with him." While enjoying the retreat at Arcadia, she learned that Camp needed workers later that summer after the college-aged staff returned to school.

Dorothy has always done a great deal of cooking and loves to entertain friends at her home. With her desire to meet new friends, Dorothy soon signed up to return as a Fall Staff worker. To this date, she has not regretted that decision and now, twelve years later, is still looking forward to returning each year as a Fall Staff member.

She makes the trek each year from her home in Downers Grove, IL to Arcadia largely because of the people she meets. "I love spending time with my Arcadia friends and enjoy meeting all the new ones, too." She usually spends six to eight weeks working in the kitchen with Chef Kurt Harvey.

"Another reason I love doing this, is that by working hard behind the scenes I am able to help hundreds of others enjoy their Christian vacation." She knows that her efforts are meaningful because she can see guests spending quality, relaxing time together. "It wouldn't be possible for them to be so relaxed if I hadn't done all that hard work!"

Dorothy also works hard when she is not at Arcadia. At home, she serves as the bookkeeper for Immanuel Lutheran Church in Downers Grove, IL. "Sometimes it is a little difficult to juggle the demands of being the church bookkeeper with my work in Arcadia, but I find it very important to come back. While I'm still able, I cannot see myself going a year without this annual ritual."

While working at Arcadia, she has met many other people that have enriched her life. Tom and Amy Brown who live in Valparaiso, Indiana have worked as kitchen and office staff, too. "My wife and I have worked as Fall Staff for seven years." says Tom. "It is like being home again every year and working at the Camp is a blessing because we're helping others. The good friends we have made in those seven years are like family."

After working side-by-side with Dorothy, Tom encouraged her to use her culinary skills beyond Arcadia. He invited her to join him and a group of church friends to provide disaster relief in Biloxi, Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina. Dorothy, Tom and several others from Arcadia have journeyed to Biloxi several times since, but also make time each year to serve at Arcadia.

Between the lovely staff housing at Camp Arcadia, the many friends she meets and the meaningful, albeit hard, work Dorothy feels blessed to serve. "And it hasn't spoiled my interest in being a guest." This year, in addition to serving on Fall Staff, she plans to return as usual for the June Golf & the Gospel Retreat.

"...by working hard behind the scenes I am able to help hundreds of others enjoy their Christian vacation."

Are you interested in working on Fall Staff?
Needed: caretakers, housekeepers, and kitchen staff.
Contact chip@camp-arcadia.com.



Camp Arcadia's Visionary Leader, Frank Miller, Passes

The Camp Arcadia family mourns the loss of former Lutheran Camp Association President and long-time camper and cottager, Frank Miller. Frank passed away on July 3, 2010 at the age of 88.

Frank was instrumental as the LCA President during the inception of Camp's master plan Arcadia: Vision 2002, calling for investment in the future. Equally important was his contribution as the author of **Camp Arcadia - The First Sixty Years**, through which he chronicled Camp's history and defined the 'Spirit of Arcadia.'

Below is an excerpt from Frank's book where his words beautifully articulate what the Arcadia experience means.

"The original campers of 1923 are few in number today. The young and vigorous people in the early photos are shown laughing in the sunshine of their youth. Now their time is past and they are gone, along with their bobbed hair, their middie blouses and their knickers. But their energy and spirit and hope for the future fills the corridors of time. Generations have felt it and passed

it along. Styles may change, people may age and cultures may shift with alarming speed. But in this little corner of the world it is easier to sense the eternal. We feel the love of God in the friendship and love of those around us. We see it in the beauty and orderliness of the Universe before our eyes. We sense it as the endless chain of human continuity encompasses the third and fourth generations of Arcadia families.



Perhaps this tiny Camp has existed so many years and survived so many crises because we have found, within its boundaries, at least a portion of that for which we constantly search—peace of mind, goodness of heart, the meaning and direction of our life. Perhaps, indeed, that is the real Spirit of Arcadia."

We join his wife, Betty, and his family as they continue to mourn the loss of Frank. At the same time, we heartily thank God for the wonderful talents given to Frank.



Community News

BIRTHS:

Alexa Joy to Alexander and Kristin Whitfield on
March 5, 2011

MARRIAGES:

Leah Maier to Kyle DeWees October 2010
Chrysta Gotsch to Barrett Grebing October 2010
Valerie Mueller to Arnold Nino October 2010

DEATHS:

Luke Mussmann May 2010
Frank Miller July 2010
Ronald Saska July 2010
Evelyn Beiderweden August 2010
Tella Colburn August 2010
Marcella Obermann Schorr September 2010
Maggie Littman December 2010
Rick Kelley December 2010

"KYLE'S KORNER"

An update from Camp Arcadia's new Program Director Kyle DeWees

Some of my favorite memories of working on summer staff include my frequent appearance in costume (a cheerleading skirt, fatigues, etc.), leading my favorite kid's game of "Smash Ball" and my admittedly striking resemblance to Capt. Pepper during the boat regatta. However, my favorite memory of all was being offered a full time Program Director position. I am excited to be back serving at Camp Arcadia. It's truly a dream come true to return and I am grateful for the opportunity. But, you can rest assured that I am not spending time looking back, as much as I am looking forward. It is my hope that you enjoy the exciting new enhancements that I have been working on for the 2011 season. There are several new tournament offerings, nature program improvements, and even new meal prayers that will make all aspects of the programming an even better part of 'the camp we all love best!'



I am particularly excited about the new all-camp devotional that will take place each morning called Daybreak. We'll gather the whole RKD community (staff and guests), together in the Assembly to give thanks and start the day off on the right foot—with God. Daybreak will be a short devotional that will provide the opportunity for singing, a brief scripture reading and a message for reflection. This time will also provide the opportunity for any community announcements. On behalf of the entire management team, I hope that you will look forward to attending Daybreak at Camp Arcadia.

I hope to see many of you this summer when you return to Arcadia—it will be here before we know it. Get excited!



Thrivent Choice Dollars

Here is a quick update on Thrivent's new Choice Dollars program. Simply put, Choice Dollars is money for eligible Thrivent members to award to a Lutheran charity. If you designated Choice Dollars to us last year, thank you! We received \$3,000 from Thrivent during 2010 through this program. If you haven't had a chance to designate Choice Dollars yet, we hope you'll consider Camp Arcadia!

Many Choice Dollars go undesigned! If you are eligible for the program, take a few minutes to designate your dollars to the Lutheran non-profit of your choice. Please consider designating Camp Arcadia for your Choice Dollars!

- You can designate Choice Dollars several times each year.
- Thrivent significantly increased the amount of Choice Dollars you may designate, up to \$2,500 each year per eligible member.
- Learn more at thrivent.com/thriventchoice or by calling them at (800) 847-4836.



Photo by
Camp Arcadia camper Steven Probst



A Call for Volunteers: Opening the Camp

A very gratifying way to help Camp Arcadia and to experience its special community is by attending the Opening Volunteer Weekend, May 27-30. Shovels, rakes, paint brushes and buckets will be provided. Volunteers only need to bring their bedding, their eagerness for service and perhaps a bottle of ibuprofen. During this weekend, the first worship service of the year will be conducted and those present will have first dibs on new merchandise in the Trading Post. This is a no-cost weekend and space is limited. Please register in advance by calling the office.

Leave a Legacy at Camp Arcadia Through The Arcadia Foundation

Have you remembered Camp in your estate plans? Donations of cash, stock, or even real estate to the Arcadia Foundation will help ensure that Camp Arcadia continues to renew future generations of Arcadians. Below are some examples of how the Foundation has supported the ministry of Camp:

- Endowment of the Summer Speaker Series, which allows Camp to bring in some of the most dynamic and respected speakers in the country while keeping family rates affordable.
- Funding for the staff internship program. Past interns have managed projects such as building the low ropes course, improving Camp's emergency action plan, and creating a coordinated Bible study theme for the morning youth programs.
 - Scholarship funding for teen weeks through the Lisa Gatz Scholarship Endowment.



Please remember the Arcadia Foundation in your estate planning. For further information, please contact Executive Director Chip May.

By the Numbers: A 20-Year Review

The Camp Arcadia staff compiles statistical information each year including retreat attendance. Below is a quick snapshot of how attendance has changed over the past 20 years. As you can see, several retreats have grown and some have not. The Board of Directors and the management staff use this information as one of many tools to help chart the course for Camp's future.

Retreat Type	Year		
	2010	2000	1990
Family Weeks	1642	1238	990
Teen Weeks	279	213	248
Lutherhostel	85	189	109
Labor Day Weekend	156	81	50
LLL Men's Retreat	188	181	212
Women's Weekends	302	144	n/a
Other Fall Retreats	560	175	103
Total Attendance	3212	2221	1712



8th & 9th Grade Teen Retreat

A Defining Point in Faith Journey

The 8th & 9th Grade Teen Retreat (June 12-18) has been a tradition at Camp Arcadia for decades and is a critical part of our mission. Very often, it is a defining point in a young camper's faith journey.

Do you know someone the right age who has not yet registered for this retreat? Read the comments below from former teen week campers, and consider how you might help someone on their faith journey by encouraging them to attend the 8th & 9th Grade Retreat this year.

"Memories from that week...can still bring chills and tears to me when I think back... I still have contact with friends I met 25+ years ago. Such an important age, and such a powerful place...I can hardly wait to send my daughter for her first experience 'alone' this June for [this retreat]!" -Heather Gottschalk Swinsick

"The experience of [Teen] Retreats is such a powerful and lasting one. Being uplifted in the Spirit, being in such a beautiful place, expressing your faith with so many that share the bond of being redeemed by Christ's sacrifice, make those weeks an unforgettable and life-altering moment in one's life." -Erik Smith



"It was a very strong, spiritual experience that I still remember to this day. It was very important to my growth and experience as a Christian woman to share my faith with so many other kids my age. I look forward to sending my daughter!" -Heather Morrival Yodts

Get more information at camp-arcadia.com/teen or by calling the office.

Janice & Jodi

This past fall Janice McCranner, long-time Ark program director, mourned the passing of her dog - Jodi "the puppy-girl" at age 13. For years Jodi had been helping Miss Janice in the Ark as a much-loved member of Camp Arcadia's Forest animals. Recent Ark kid, Rachel Moorman commented on Jodi's passing, "Jodi was a good friend to Miss Janice as well as all the Ark kids. Miss Janice would tell a story about how Jodi knew every RKD animal and where they lived. Each animal was a special friend to Jodi. Jodi always made the kids very happy." In fact, every Friday the Ark kids would venture into the forest to find Jodi there welcoming them.

Squeaky Pete the Mouse, a loyal friend to Jodi, claims that "Jodi was the glue that kept all the animals together."

Rocky the Raccoon, says he can't believe that Jodi is gone. He can't remember a time when Jodi wasn't making the Ark kids feel at home in the forest. Benjamin the Bear, after hearing the news, went into a deep hibernation; he could not be reached for comment. Samantha the Skunk said, "Jodi was the one animal I could count on to not make me feel bad about my smell."

Program director Kyle DeWees added, "Animals are part of God's wonderful creation and Jodi showed us how God can use animals to show us His love."



Riley Jass, Janice McCranner and Jodi

Executive Director, Chip May, remarked on Jodi's passing, "Jodi loved children and the children loved Jodi. When I told my daughters about Jodi's passing, they both broke down crying. She was the first dog they really got to know. They would even keep a bag of treats at our house for when Jodi would visit. We are all really going

to miss Jodi."

Janice, who is looking forward to a new puppy this spring said, "Though no dog can replace Jodi, I do look forward to introducing the new puppy to the Forest of Camp Arcadia and to the Ark kids this summer."



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