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Green Lake Lutheran Ministries 2018 Annual Report

Whether you measure our success by the vibrancy of our message, the increase to our overall numbers, or the sustainability of our finances, we had a FANTASTIC year. It is impossible to not be excited about what is happening at GLLM!

For our summer camps, the most significant growth was in our day camp ministry, elementary camping, and family camping. Over 2300 campers participated in our programs, or an increase of over 100 campers. Carrying out this ministry were 65 of the most talented young adults from around the world. Although most of our staff were from the upper Midwest, we were blessed to have staff members from across the US as well as South Africa, Spain, New Zealand, Brazil, and Malaysia.

Radical Hospitality has been at the focus of our retreat ministry in 2018. We have made it our mission to provide space away for groups of all sizes and focus, to share authentic time in community together. Through our programming and radical Christian hospitality, it is our goal that groups leave our sites both knowing Christ Jesus while also being more equipped to take on whatever it is that is next in their life. We have seen dramatic growth within this ministry. With numbers still yet to count, I don't have final numbers to share. I believe people will be blown away with our totals.

Our biggest challenges moving forward all revolve around similar topics. Sustainability, managing growth and program transition. Utilizing the lens of our strategic initiatives to guide our decision making, we are excited to take big steps forward in making sure that our ministry sites, buildings, and programs are positioned to serve campers and guests for years to come.

As I finish my first year as the Executive Director at Green Lake Lutheran Ministries, my heart is full. It has been a blessed year for so many reasons. The support I have received from our congregations has been an incredible blessing. Your notes of encouragement, prayers of support, and gestures of kindness have been sustaining as I learn a new role.

Thank you so much for partnering with GLLM this past year. The over 190 congregations who make up our organization sit as one of our greatest sources of strength. I thank you for what we accomplished together and 2018 and I'm eager to work with you again in 2019 as we take the next step forward!

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Travis Aufderheide".

Travis Aufderheide
Executive Director

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