

GREEN LAKE NEWS

Inviting all to experience the life-changing love of Jesus through vibrant settings in community and creation. 9916 Lake Avenue South • Spicer, Minnesota 56288 • 320-796-2181 • Spring 2024 Northern Lights at Camp House - Photo by Holly Stillwell The Unforced Rhythms of Grace

"Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me - watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly." - Matthew 11:28-30, The Message

Ordinary Time is more than a program. It is a way of living—to stop and reconnect with God through routine, conversation, and creativity. Faith journeys are personal, and yet impacted deeply by community. Ordinary Time makes space for both in a setting that forces one to unplug, to be in the moment, to breathe.

The drive to Camp House is its own spiritual exercise, a labyrinth meditation. As you travel from interstate to state highways to county roads to gravel, you slowly leave behind the weight of life. Pulling into camp is like a deep breath,

God's presence in the routine of life and finding the holy in the ordinary. We truly can't wait to show you what we have been preparing! Celebrating Pr. Naomi Mahler's **Impact:** Advocate of the Year Award

people and activity, Camp House invites one to slow down.

stars, hoping the Northern Lights might appear.

home lighter, centered, changed.

At the 2023 Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Annual Meeting, Pr. Naomi Mahler was honored posthumously with the "Advocate of the Year" award. This award recognizes individuals who passionately and eloquently speak about GLLM, with the goal of engaging new audiences.

drawing in the beauty, the simplicity, and the quiet of the site. Even filled with

Strangers become like family and family becomes more connected as you eat,

worship, learn, and play together. When you need to "get away", you hike in the

woods, paddle on the water, or rest in a hammock. You begin to crave that early morning cup of coffee by the lake, or laying under the nighttime sky in awe of the

When the time comes to return home, you carry the reclaimed rhythm of your

faith journey with you, choosing differently those things you pick back up as you

retrace that labyrinth of roads from gravel to county to state to interstate. You go

We invite you to be part of our inaugural season of Ordinary Time, to re-discover

Pr. Naomi, who passed away in October of 2023, had a long and impactful connection with GLLM. It started in college when she worked on summer staff, continued through her involvement as a parish pastor, and was lived out in her call as the Executive Director of GLLM before moving on to other ministries. Past her own involvement, her husband (Todd Lynum) and daughters (Grace and Sophia Lynum) also worked at camp in various roles. A hallmark of her work at camp was her laser focus on what was most important, the hospitality that she shared with old and new friends of the ministry, and her passion for unpacking the Gospel in vibrant ways.

"Camp takes these young, talented, 'work in progress' adults [camp counselors] - provides safe places for them to learn and grow. Allows them to unpack their questions, and then fosters exponential growth of faith and character" shared Pastor Naomi during a visit with Executive Director Travis Aufderheide.

"The world needs camp! And if something can be done with my death to inspire involvement, I want to do it!" shared Pr. Naomi. Thus, the Pr. Naomi Mahler Endowment fund was created with the purpose of funding the hiring of summer staff at Green Lake Lutheran Ministries. Gifts were made by the family as well as from 209 donors / families in her memory.

Pr. Naomi Mahler's recognition as the "Advocate of the Year" serves as a testament to her profound dedication to GLLM's mission of inviting all to experience the life changing love of Jesus in vibrant settings in community and creation. And that commitment continues to inspire our work.

Folks interested in making a gift in memory of Pastor Naomi may do so at www.gllm.org/give-today or by simply noting it on the mailed check.



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Spicer, MN 56288 9916 Lake Ave. S. Green Lake Lutheran Ministries







www.gllm.org

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Green Lake Lutheran Ministries

Inviting all to experience the life-changing love of Jesus through vibrant settings in community and creation.

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Notes from the Executive Director

Travis Aufderheide | Executive Director

During the past year, camp staff have engaged in an ongoing conversation about "What is GLLM?" The term "outdoor ministry" is often used to describe us within the church community, and I must admit, it feels incomplete. Are we an outdoor summer camp? Yes...AND. Are we a retreat center? Yes...AND. Are we a mission trip organization? Yes...AND. This isn't the whole story.

Over the past few years, GLLM has made substantial investments in our ministries. We have formed numerous partnerships, restructured our site utilization, recruited specialized staff members dedicated to uncommon roles, constructed the Cottages and did a major capital investment at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp, took on a national ministry presence through the acquisition of Serve Boldly, among so many other significant investments. With all of these initiatives in motion, do you understand the "debate" surrounding the question "What is GLLM?"



Now, I won't hide from the fact that the above investments are inspiring for some but also concerning for folks who feel we are moving away from our once sole identity as a "Bible Camp." Let me be very clear—all of our investments have only enhanced our ability to serve children, youth, and families while growing summer camp ministry! Said differently, we can walk AND chew gum.

Rather than, "What is GLLM?" I think the question for us to consider is, "Who did God create us to be?" Now that is a fun conversation. My answer? God created us to be BOLD. Bold in our pursuit of faith and even bolder in our commitment to invite all individuals to experience the life-changing love of Jesus in vibrant settings in community and creation.

It is not a given that when an organization makes changes versus the status quo, that folks will buy in. And that makes your trust to do this transformative work such a blessing. I cannot wait to see what God creates us to be next!

T_AAL

If you would like to share your passion and feedback with Travis, you are encouraged to do so! Please contact our main office at 320-796-2181 to schedule a cup of coffee and conversation. Travis can also be contacted directly at taufderheide@gllm.org.



Welcome Matt, Director of Hospitality! Matt grew up in Indiana and started his passion for radical hospitality in 1997, working and playing in locations others went to for vacation. He obtained a bachelor of science in hotel management with emphasis in resorts from Purdue University. This journey has taken him to Alaska, Colorado, Wyoming, and the Gunflint Trail in northern MN. Matt began working in outdoor ministry at Briarwood in Texas (2008-2020) and at Koinonia in Upstate New York (2021-2023). Matt's other passions include spending time with his family, camping, any type of fishing, canoeing, gardening, and hiking.

To view job openings for full-time positions, visit GLLM.org/employment





STOCKS OR APPRECIATED ASSETS DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Donating stocks, bonds, or other appreciated securities to Green Lake Lutheran Ministries allows you to receive the same income tax savings that you would if you wrote us a check, while also eliminating capital gains taxes on the transfer.

Many people enjoy the convenience and tax efficiency of a donor-advised fund with a variety of institutions.

Recommend a gift to Green Lake Lutheran Ministries!

RETIREMENT ACCOUNT

Did you know people 70 ½ or older can give up to \$100,000 through their traditional or Roth IRA directly to a charity, without having to pay income tax on that money? Because Green Lake Lutheran Ministries is tax-exempt, every cent of your gift will help support the ministry happening at camp.

For more information, please contact Kirsten Palan, Associate Director of Development, at kpalan@gllm.org or 320-796-2181. Please consult your tax or financial advisor for best practices! Tax ID#: 41-0726172 Address: 9916 Lake Avenue S, Spicer, MN 56288



Join us for a GLLM Staff Alumni Gathering on Saturday, April 27 at Utepils Brewing, Minneapolis.

We will be gathering from 5:00-8:00 PM to reconnect with old friends, enjoy some snacks and beverages and share an update of what's happening at camp. More information to come - mark your calendars!

Ted Moen Seminary Scholarship

The GLLM Seminary Scholarship Fund is a scholarship resource for GLLM staff alumni in seminary. This scholarship was created with an initial gift from Ted Moen to insure that faithful and promising adults can accept the call to ministry and provide leadership for the ELCA. More information and application materials can be found at GLLM.org/alumni. Contact Travis Aufderheide, Executive Director, with questions at taufderheide@gllm.org!



God's diverse creation includes you. NO MATTER WHAT.

You are welcome at GLLM and we will work with you to create a safe and welcoming space for you and your loved ones.

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Mutual Growth: An Extra Hand for Congregations and Future Leaders

Lindsey Scheid | Associate Director

We could all use an extra hand sometimes, right? Especially if you work in a congregational setting, where the tasks seem ever-growing, there never seems to be enough time.

The Ministry Associate Co-op program is designed

to cater to the wider demands of congregations, serving as a vital link and mutual support between GLLM and its community. It lends a helping hand to congregations while simultaneously offering young adults a nurturing environment where they can practice a variety of essential experiences that span program planning and implementation, facilitation, and curriculum development.

GLLM actively seeks young adults contemplating a call to ministry work. Former Ministry Associate, Elizabeth Faircloth, shares, "My time as an MA gave me the opportunity to develop new skills and discern a long-term career in outdoor ministry... Being an MA helped me to grow in confidence and further develop my creative thinking and problem-solving skills."

Pastor Justin Ask of Vinje Lutheran shared how having a ministry associate for three years has consistently enhanced their ministry. "Each year has brought a different person with different gifts and passions. Every year they have enhanced the ministry we do with our children and youth."

The Ministry Associate Co-op Program represents GLLM's commitment to develop the next generation of ministry leaders and strengthen partnerships with local congregations. By nurturing the leaders, it strengthens GLLM's

mission of inviting all to experience the life-changing love of Jesus through vibrant community settings and creation.

Connect with Lindsey Scheid, who can provide more information about Ministry Associates at GLLM. Lindsey can be contacted directly at Ischeid@gllm.org.

Serve Boldly is here for you in 2024 with opportunities available for 6-12th grades in 7 locations across the **country!** Is your congregation's youth group signed up? Contact us today to discuss your options!

Standing on Holy Ground Pastor Brandy Gerjets | First Lutheran Church, Minot ND

After fundraising and planning, packing and preparing, it was finally time for our group of 6 youth and 2 adult leaders to leave home for Nashville, TN. We knew our time with Serve Boldly would be a week of meaningful and memorable learning and service among God's people in that place.

So as we gathered at the airport at 4:15am with bleary eyes and a carry-on each, with a team of TSA agents ready to usher us into the gate area, I turned to Exodus 3. We heard the story of Moses encountering God in a burning bush. In verse 5: "God said, 'Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."



We were about to remove our own shoes, as per government regulation. But this time we considered it to be more than that. Taking off our sandals wasn't just the usual inconvenience; it also served as a symbol of recognition of the holy ground on which we'd soon stand—just as Moses took off his shoes to stand barefoot before a burning bush in acknowledgment of God's holy presence.

Our destination of Nashville was also holy ground—not because that particular city is holier than any other, but because we knew God would already be there. And God's people were already at work participating in acts of divine mercy, love, and justice. We were blessed to be welcomed into that work. During our week, we became aware of the stories and struggles of brothers and sisters in Christ who live very different lives than we do. We learned more about God, ourselves, and the world. We experienced the profound significance of serving others in Jesus' name and living our faith by putting love into action.

If you're considering doing Serve Boldly, do it! And then take off your shoes, for you will be standing on holy ground.



NOW HIRING

SEASONAL & SUMMER STAFF



रु to apply!



SUMMER STAFF

Spend time immersed in a supportive, un-plugged and life-giving community all summer. We have a variety of positions to fill with awesome people each summer.



We are looking to fill a variety of seasonal cook, custodian, housekeeping, and maintenance positions across our sites.

SERVE BOLDLY STAFF

Connect with youth, congregations, non-profits, and community leaders in cities across the United States. Our 2024 partnering communities are: Duluth, MN; Madison, WI; Milwaukee, WI; Nashville, TN; Racine, WI; St Louis, MO.

MINISTRY ASSOCIATES

The MA Program runs late August to late May and provides an opportunity for young adults to experience a variety of aspects of youth and outdoor ministries in a faith-based setting.



For each SUMMER STAFF member you help recruit, you or your congregation will receive a \$1,000 referral bonus. Join us for a church retreat, youth retreat, rental weekend at camp, Serve Boldly credit or take it in cash - good for 1 year! bit.ly/GLLMrefer

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DISCOVER YOUR PERFECT SUMMER WITH GLLM!

Are you ready for an incredible summer adventure?

Look no further than Green Lake Lutheran Ministries! Our programs offer something for everyone, from exciting outdoor activities to opportunities for spiritual growth and community-building. Get info at gllm.org/summer



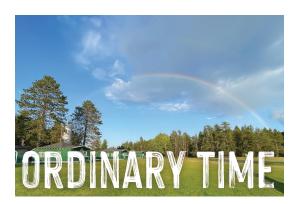
We have an exciting lineup of engaging activities, immersive learning, and non-stop fun, all designed to make this summer truly memorable!

Onsite Day Camp and overnight programs for youth completing grades K-12 held at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp!



Family Camps at Green Lake Bible Camp offer opportunities to grow in faith together in a relaxing and fun environment. Opportunities for families of all shapes and sizes and make-ups.

Connect, relax, and create cherished family memories together!



We invite you to experience a faith-centered rhythm at Camp House this summer! Encounter opportunities for learning, creating, playing, and being. You pick when to come and how

You pick when to come and how long you stay. Camp House will be on Ordinary Time from June 15-July 12, 2024.



Experience the joys of camp with Camp Joy, specially designed for adults with disabilities!

Enjoy days full of camp activities and exciting group events, and return home each evening refreshed and anticipating another exhilarating day at Green Lake Bible Camp.



Bring the fun of camp to your church. Our Day Camp teams travel each week and provide a unique experience to campers in Pre-K through 6th grades!

Your congregation provides the location, shares the opportunity with youth and provides volunteers to support the program!



Providing youth the opportunity to accompany and serve their neighbor while deepening an understanding of God's presence in their lives.

Serving in communities of Duluth, MN, Madison, WI, Milwaukee, WI, Nashville, TN, Racine, WI, and St Louis, MO in 2024 and looking forward to Johnsown, PA, Omaha, NE, and San Diego, CA in 2025!



SSS REGISTER NOW

Scholarships Available! We understand that the cost of camp can be a barrier for some families, which is why we offer scholarships to help make camp more accessible.

Get information on all summer offerings at GLLM.org/Summer

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RENTAL SPACES

Plan your next get-away at camp! Learn more about our retreat and rental spaces at www.gllm.org/retreat-rental-spaces or contact us at 320-796-2181 or retreat@gllm.org.



Chrysalis House • Green Lake Bible Camp

Year-round retreat center located on Green Lake. Features 15 motel-style rooms and 8 student dorm rooms (6 sets of bunk beds each). Main building has a spacious dining room, a flexible great room able to accommodate 200, and 4 meeting/breakout rooms. Idea: Plan a council retreat or a small group meeting during the spring months. Upgraded Crescent Lounge with the technology to join the retreat remotely too.



Medayto Lodge • Green Lake Bible Camp

6 bedroom, 3 bath lakefront home on Green Lake accommodates up to 22. Features a full kitchen and dining room, large living room with a gas fireplace and lake view, and a four-season sunroom for meals, large deck, and private dock. *Idea: Plan time to relax on beautiful Green Lake amidst the summer heat or take a paddle in one of our canoes.*



The Village • Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp

Sitting on a hill over Lake Andrew, includes a central lodge building, a kitchen and a dining room, and two smaller meeting spaces. Motel style cabins with private bathrooms sit behind the lodge, each with two queens and one single over queen bunk bed. *Idea: Host a family reunion, congregational getaway or corporate retreat. Spend time on the lake and share stories together.*



The Cottages • Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp

3 year-round cabins on Lake Andrew. Can be booked individually or in multiples. Each cabin includes 3 bedrooms (sleeps 6-11), 2 bathrooms, large screened in gathering spaces, a dining room and full kitchen - plus a camper with electrical hook- up! Idea: Gather your loved ones for a summer getaway with friends or family. Embrace the lake life to the fullest with your own private beach and canoe/paddle board access. Roast s'mores at the cottage community fire pit under a star filled sky.



Chapel Rentals 2 beautiful chapels available to host weddings, baptisms, funerals, gatherings, worships and more! Both sites have rich histories and are ready to provide a memorable space for your event. The Green Lake Stave Chapel is available year-round accommodating up to 250 guests and The Marble Church at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp is available May - Sept for up to 150 guests. Call us to book a tour and learn about these historic spaces!



Please join us May 18 at 6:30pm for a special worship event at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp to share our gratitude for your support and gifts in the past year. We are also excited to share the newly renovated Village at Shores of St. Andrew with you and hope you'll join us for a special commissioning service. We are excited to see you, enjoy an evening at camp with dessert and say thank you. Please RSVP to Kirsten no later than May 10 at kpalan@gllm.org or 320-796-2181.



More events may be added in celebration of our 40th Quilt Auction! For most current information and schedules, visit GLLM.org/quilt-auction!

EVERYONE DESERVES THE CHANCE TO GROW AT CAMP.



Please consider sponsoring a camper, impacting their life in amazing and unimaginable ways.

Make your gift to the **GLLM Scholarship Fund** online or by call 320-796-2181.

You Always Have A Place Here

Kirsten Palan, Associate Director of Development

As children count down the last remaining days of school and look ahead to what summer will bring, many are thinking about when they will get to come back to camp. Campers quickly feel at home during their time on site, like they have "found their place." The sense of belonging and feeling free to be who they are is powerful. Revisiting memories of their favorite counselor from last summer, warm sunshine, the sandy beach, and the fun campfire worships can make it feel like a long wait until they can come back. They can't wait to be back, and we can't wait until they are back either!

We rejoice every time a registration comes in, for new or returning campers alike. We also know that this can be a financially hard decision for some parents. Sending a child to camp can be expensive. At Green Lake Lutheran Ministries, we strive to make summer camp as affordable as possible, and we firmly believe that everyone who wants to experience a week at camp should be able to. To help make sure that financial barriers do not keep campers from participating, Green Lake Lutheran Ministries has an established scholarship fund. We joyfully accept donations to this fund - and we need your help.

Your gift to the scholarship fund is so much more than a charitable donation. It's a promise to a young person that they will be welcome back at camp, and invited back into a space where they can learn and grow in their faith. It's a promise to them that if they want to come and spend a week in "their place", they can. Because don't we all deserve to have that place we can land when we need it?

You always have a place here.

PROGRAMMED RETREATS

Register today at GLLM.org!

Spring Fever (for Grades 2-6)

April 20, 2024 at Green Lake Bible Camp

Are you getting the itch for summer? This is the retreat for you! Come join us in a day full of Bible Studies, games, arts and crafts, worships and more. This retreat is great for new campers who want to give camp a try before doing a full week. Sign up today and get ready for some fun! Fee: \$40

Camp House Opening Weekend This weekend is FREE! May 17-19, 2024 • Camp House

You are invited to be the first guests at Camp House for our 2024 season! Join us as we throw open the windows, sweep out the cobwebs, and get the site ready for another season of programming. Tasks will include cleaning, setting up program areas, and some minor building maintenance. Meals will be provided. There are projects for all ages, so bring your family, friends, or youth group and help us welcome summer! Register by Tuesday, May 7.

Spirit Ride & Stride: An Ordinary Time Weekend August 15-19, 2024 • Camp House

Reconnect with your faith routines as summer comes to an end and we prepare for the busyness of fall. Camp House staff invite you to a time of rest and renewal, with opportunities for worship, conversation, a warm sauna and a refreshing swim, great food, and fellowship in the lodge. Stay at camp, or venture out each day to explore all that the Arrowhead of Minnesota has to offer. Fee: \$95 adult/night, \$65 youth/night

Look ahead and mark your calendars!

Registration for the below retreats opens May 1.

Fall Frenzy for Youth

Sept 28, 2024

Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp

Confirmation Retreat

October 4-5, 2024

Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp

Grandparent/Grandchild Retreat

Nov 2-3, 2024 Shores of St. Andrew

Creative Souls Retreat

Nov 15-17, 2024 Green Lake Bible Camp Page 6 **GREEN LAKE NEWS**

The following gifts were made in memory of loved ones and friends, or in honor and celebration of special people and moments in life. In Memory... Ine Jollowing gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gijts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gifts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gifts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gifts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gifts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gifts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gifts were indue in memory of loved ones and fine following gifts were gifts and fine following gifts and fine

Richard Aakre by David & LaDean Roxberg Mario Aiello by Michael & Kara Nilius Myrle Allen by Roger & Joyce Schaffran Mark Altermatt by Wallace & Janice Arends Blanche Anderson by LaMae Dahms, David & LaDean Roxberg, Pete Wells

Herman Anderson by Wilmar & Faith Tietz Lyndon Anderson by Neil & Deb

Christensen, Ruth Fredrickson, Carter & Louise Stenberg

Stanley Askeland by Wilmar & Faith Tietz Mary Austvold by Janae Rambow Delphine Bakke by Joan Beseman Elwood Bakke by Joan Beseman Lois Beckendorf by Clark & Lois Christiansen, Cornie & Jolene Groen Merlyn Beekman by Elaine Meyer Dennis Boll by Lynne Boll Shirley Brandt by Dave & Phyllis Stageberg Eileen Bratsch by Cornie & Jolene Groen Carnie Breberg by John & Connie Scheevel Marge Bucklin by Jan Moritz Doug Bultman by Donald & Caryl Haug

Gerry Buse by Wilmar & Faith Tietz Carol Jean Carlson by Arlys Lindgren Everett Carlson by Jeff & Jodi Grams Marjorie Carlson by Jeff & Jodi Grams Mary Christensen by Roger & Alice Stehn Edith Cole Tumm by Karen Olberg George Couleur by Bob & Jeanne Whitney Brenda Cummins by John & Connie Scheevel, Katie Scheevel

Ryan Busch by Gregg & Kathy Ulland-

Harrison Dahl by Dean & Sue Westre William Dahl by Dean & Sue Westre Myra Dallmann by Barry & Helen Georgius, Allen & Donna Zollner

Elaine deCathelineau by Donald & Caryl Haug

Jane Dickman by Dean & Sue Westre Jim Dokken by Roger & Alice Stehn Arlene Ekren by Dianna Erickson, Sonya Erickson

Pat Elton by Dianna Erickson, Sonya Erickson

Richard Engstrom by Norman & Janet Westby

Brenda Erickson by Allen & Mary Peris Sharon Fagen by Jackie Ast Morris Evenson by Roger & Alice Stehn

Donald Fenske by Michael & Leah Kadelbach, Jan Moritz

Dr. John Gilbertson by Andrew & Jean Berg, Dean & Myra Quale Carol Grams by Jeff & Jodi Grams

Karen Grams by Cornie & Jolene Groen, Chuck & Joanne Haen, Nancy Holt, Norman & Janet Westby

Vicki Groenewold by Allen & Donna Zollner Barbara Kaiser Gunderson by Richard Gunderson

Daryl Haase by Allen & Donna Zollner David Halvorson by Marna J. Halvorson Donald Handel by Dave & Phyllis Stageberg Kermit Hansen by Roger & Joyce Schaffran Bonnie Haug by Troy & Heather Duininck, Ed & Kay Rauk, Lance & Karen Smith

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Andrea Koenig by Dave & Corinne Hable David Korsmo by Emily Dawes Marilyn Kratz by LaMae Dahms, Pete Wells Mary Ann Krueger by David & LaDean Roxberg

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Randy Lange by Lorraine Hintze Dean Larsen by Michael Reszler Hank Larsen by Don & Jan Petrick Deloris Larson by Dean & Karen Burau Leroy Larson by Dean & Karen Burau Ann Lasley by LaMae Dahms, Pete Wells Pastor Al Lewis by Dan & Sandra Licklider Kyle Licklider by Dan & Sandra Licklider Megan Licklider Twernbold by Dan & Sandra Licklider

Stanley Lilleberg by Dean & Sue Hemingway-Westre

Jim Loehr by Wanda Malone, Roger & Alice

David Loftness by Dave & Corinne Hable Barbara Loppnow by Wallace & Janice Arends

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