



December 2016

Dear Friends....What a year!

Summer is gone and the snow of winter is coming. With the change in seasons our thoughts of LRC also change. We start thinking more about the business side of LRC rather than the physical undertaking of it. In the spring and summer we stay very busy with the operation and building of the facility. We had many great individuals spend endless hours laboring at the camp and are so thankful for the workers God sends!

There were a lot of projects completed this summer. We added four new family cabins and they were a huge hit! There is still a little more work to finish them up but, we did have people occupy three of them during LBF camp. We will have them 100% completed before LBF this coming year. I want to send out a huge "thank you" to those who made these cabins possible! We also poured a lot of concrete at LRC this past summer. The floor to the chapel's addition was poured, and we put in a basketball court for the kids! There were many people who made these two projects possible and we thank you also!

Along with the larger building projects, there were numerous repairs and improvements made to the existing buildings and grounds. Many of the buildings are getting to be over 30 years old and are in need of improvements. The interior of the old farm house got a much needed face lift and is now used as a historical rental and also houses staff during the LBF camp.

Looking ahead to 2017, we will aim for it to be "The Year of Completion!" This coming year we want to finish up projects before we move forward with anything new. So we continue to seek your support and prayers to make LRC a safer and better place to learn about the Love of God.

There have been great strides made to improve the governing of LRC. This October the Zion congregation approved an Executive Committee to run the day-to-day operations of LRC. This committee has the ability to run and improve LRC as an independent part of Zion. There are now five positions on the Executive Committee. They are as follows; Director (Jesse Aho) Treasurer & Secretary (Cheryl Hendrickson) and three Committee Members which include Dan Foote, Arlene Silkowski and David Jukuri. There will be the ability to add more committee members in the future and they do not have to be from Zion. We want others involved too. We seek members who have dedicated a minimum of 40 hours a year working at or for LRC. This will insure that committee members have a realistic understanding of the needs at LRC.

We also are thrilled to announce that LRC has a new website. Visit www.lahtiretreatcenter.com. The new website includes many new features, one of which is a calendar of the camp's availability, on-line deposits, donations and a user-friendly format. Be sure to check it out!

We are thankful for ALL who support LRC. Whether it is by donations, labor or prayers, it is extremely appreciated! As much as it takes a tremendous amount of work to run LRC, it is even a bigger blessing to all who experience its beauty and special outreach!

God's peace,
Pastor Jesse Aho