

October 2017

Dear Friends,

As the activities of 2017 begin to wind down at Lahti Retreat Center (LRC), we reflect on what a busy summer we have had. We anticipated a slower summer than 2016, but the open dates filled up and camps, family reunions and gatherings were off and running! This was a blessing, no doubt, but it did make it more challenging to complete work while the camp was occupied.

All in all, we got a huge amount of work done this year even with the "business" of the camp. LRC was blessed once again with a small army of workers. The new Chapel addition is now rough framed with doors and windows. The Staff House has received many updates including painting, new windows, a new spot for the coffee shop, a new kitchen in the lower level and septic upgrades. There has been a great amount of work done to the overall grounds and the kitchen in the Chapel building has been remodeled to improve serving larger groups of people.

At the beginning of the year we called 2017 "The Year of Completion." Though we have completed many projects, we will continue with this theme throughout 2018. Keeping this in mind, it is our goal to complete the Chapel addition in the upcoming year. In order to do that we still need heating, electrical, insulation, drywall and wood paneling for the interior. The exterior needs a new roof on the old Chapel, siding on the new Chapel addition and construction of a concrete patio on the water side of the addition. Your continued support of this project would be appreciated!

We have also taken the time and opportunity to fine tune the LRC machine. We have established an LRC Executive Board to assist in the business of the camp and vision for the future. This Board is not an advisory board but an operations board to oversee the running of LRC. This board is made up of five dedicated individuals that physically work on the grounds of LRC and deal with its operation. Our goal was to add two more individuals that have a "Heart for LRC." To be on the board an individual must have worked at or for LRC a minimum of 40 hours a year but do not need to be members of the Zion congregation. We are very excited to announce we have two new members on the LRC Executive Board. Both men have shown a great love and drive for LRC and have provided their countless talents there. By their abilities and valuable time, they both have brought great Honor and Glory to God our Father through their service at LRC. We are very honored to welcome Noel Walters of the Plymouth Congregation and Joe Pelkola of the Eastwood Negaunee congregation. They have been a great blessing to LRC! Thank you, Joe and Noel, for your service. May God continue to utilize your abilities for His Camp. (Note - the entire board listing can be found on the other side of this letter.)

We also want to thank ALL who have worked many hours at LRC this summer! A great crew from Negaunee came for four days. We also had many other come to paint and improve the grounds. THANK YOU! Heading into 2018 we ask for your continued support. The board wants everyone to be part of LRC. We often have stated, "this is your camp," and though this is true we need to remember....**This is God's Camp and we are Stewards of it.** I have thought about this many times this year after reading Alfred Lahti's Memoir. The Lahtis gave this property to the Lord to be used for His Honor and Glory. I pray we all remember this when working, staying or serving at LRC. May we as a group "Do all things as to the Lord."

Thank you and thanks be to God,

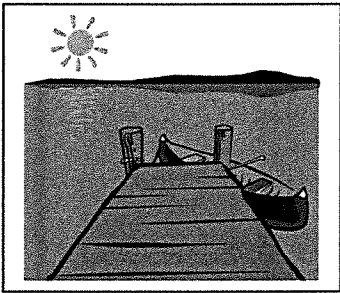
Pastor Jesse Aho
LRC Director

**Zion Lutheran Church
400 Ingot Street
Hancock, MI 49930**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



You gotta see it!!

LAHTI RETREAT CENTER:
Nearly 100 acres of land on the shores of Lake Superior gifted to Zion Lutheran Church by Alfred & Estelle Lahti for the purpose of being a place where youth and their families can grow in their faith in Jesus Christ.

LRC CONTACT INFO:
www.lahtiretreatcenter.com
Rental: Call (906) 482-1945
Or email zionsec@pasty.net
[Facebook.com/camplahti](https://www.facebook.com/camplahti)
Camp phone (summer only)
(906) 296-0643



On-going Projects

Complete Chapel addition
Painting & Staining
Make outdoor games
Build hard-surface walkways
 between dorms & bathhouse
Build large sign over entrance
Design new entrance gate system
Re-clear trees on trail
Lay trail markers
Landscaping & mowing

Needs & Requests

13 gallon trash cans (6)
New swings (5-6)
Volleyballs, basketballs, softballs
Paint brushes, rollers, pans
Cleaning products (Windex, Clorox
wipes, all-purpose cleaning spray)
Monthly contributors
Prayers

LRC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Pastor Jesse Aho

Dan Foote

Cheryl Hendrickson

David Jukuri

Joe Pelkola

Arlene Silkowski

Noel Walters