

LCFS Spring Symposium

On May 9th, Lutheran Child and Family Services and the Spiritual Engagement, Education and Development (SEED) program threw open our chapel doors for the 11th symposium program for area clergy, church professionals and lay people. This symposium featured Dr. Peter Thuesen of Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). Dr. Thuesen is a Professor of Religious Studies and Director of Humanities Research in the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture.



Dr. Thuesen presented on the topic of “The Bible in America: Does it Still Matter?”. In good Lutheran fashion, Thuesen gave the audience 12 theses (several short of 95) as to why the Bible does, in fact, still matter in America. Apart from being a cultural foundation of Western Civilization, the Bible continues to inform American culture, and remains a mainstay on American bookshelves. Armed with statistical data, profound insights into biblical literature, and (our guilty pleasure) anecdotal evidence, Dr. Thuesen painted a vivid picture of the Bible’s significance today. He did his homework on our audience; their enjoyment of his lecture showed. Many attendees expressed appreciation at his humor and love of the Bible.

Along the way, Dr. Thuesen and our Spiritual Life Leader, Brady Gurganious, discovered that they grew up less than half a mile from each other in Hickory, North Carolina, and attended the same high school a few years apart.

The SEED program at LCFS serves the spiritual needs of our residents and staff. Brady holds Chapel Services each Wednesday, and visits churches and other community groups to connect others with our work with the children in our care. The symposium series aims to invite the community into our setting and hold stimulating conversations to enhance the ministry of the church and deepen the faith and understanding of those in attendance. Through this process, we create meaningful relationships to benefit the residents and staff.

Making Lutherwood Beautiful!



As part of our three year Capital Campaign, the Lutherwood Courtyard, where our residents play outside, is getting some major updates!



Construction crews recently finished another outdoor basketball court, a new sandbox, and a play area with three large stones and rubber mulch, perfect obstacles for a good game of tag. Inside, the Lutherwood gym floor got a much needed resurfacing, and a brilliant new paint job!



Coming soon to a State Fair Near You!

This year, the Indiana State Fair’s theme is “Heroes in the Heartland.” We thought this would be a great opportunity to honor and showcase the “Heroes” that represent LCFS in our community every day.



To show our appreciation, LCFS volunteers will be given a ticket to attend the fair. We are also extending this opportunity to show our appreciation for our employees! LCFS Executive Director Sven Schumacher will also host an event for the

Lutherwood Society at the Normandy Barn. Join us at the fair on August 7th! On that day, Foundation staff will man a booth during the fair to spread the word about our programs and mission. Be sure to find our booth and say, “Hi!”. We are excited to be a part of this great Hoosier tradition!

What is Lutherwood Society?

The Lutherwood Society is a circle of faithful donors who have committed to serve as a consistent, stabilizing force for the services and programs of LCFS through ongoing philanthropic support. Its purpose is to insure our ability to respond to the growing needs of our community with appropriate services and facilities, providing for a fiscally sound future for the organization. Many of our programs, like IMPACT and Trinity House, are entirely unique and provide services crucial to improving the lives of children in our community; without these, many of the children in our care would have to seek treatment in programs unsuited to their needs.

The Lutherwood Society members are invited to occasional events such as concerts, museum tours, intimate house parties and other events. If you desire to leave a legacy of love and hope for the next generation, if you wish to strengthen programs essential to healing the most vulnerable members of our society, we invite you to join us in the fight for the future. Please direct Lutherwood Society membership questions to Susan Ryan: sryan@lutheranfamily.org or Phil May: pmay@lutheranfamily.org

35th Annual Lutherwood Golf Outing



From left to right: Rachel Fisher, Sven Schumacher and Pastor Brian Derrer pose for a picture before the shotgun start.

On June 18th, during one of the rainiest weeks anyone here can remember, the clouds parted around Plum Creek Golf Club just long enough to squeeze in the 35th annual Lutherwood golf outing. Many of our friends from local churches and businesses joined us for a day of relaxing and friendly competition. Brandon Hustler, of King of Glory Lutheran Church, scraped out a win in the putting contest, and the foursome from Trinity Lutheran Church took home the Church Foursome Trophy, bringing their winning streak to four years in a row. They have tied the previous record set by King of Glory from 2006-2009. The winning corporate group, was PNC Bank, captained by our friend Jason Vohs.



The Trinity Indy Team

Our thanks go to our lovely golfers and our generous sponsors, including Blue and Co., Cohron Homes, Comfort Systems USA, Community Health Network and Quality Interiors. Your support makes our mission possible!

Mark your calendars for June 16th, 2020 to take the day off for the 36th Annual Lutherwood Golf Outing! Can your foursome best the Trinity Indy team?



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Our Mission:
Engaging and Empowering Children and Families with Love, Compassion, Faith and Support

THE VOICE

Lutheran Child and Family Services

1525 N. Ritter Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46219



The Voice is published three times a year to share information about our ministries and programs with our supporters who make our work possible and impossibly enjoyable. Questions or comments? Email develop@lutheranfamily.org, or call (317) 359.5467

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School's Out for the Summer!

Summer is finally here! At Lutherwood, the last day of school is always an exciting affair and a good excuse for a party in the courtyard. The end of school signals a break from classes and the beginning of fun summer activities, from waterpark visits to state fair trips. This summer, we have many activities planned. Our friend, jazz violinist Cathy Morris, has already dropped by with armfuls of instruments, to share her gift with the residents. Our thanks to The Lilly Endowment, which makes such summertime fun possible by funding our summer programming!

Over the summer, Lutherwood Academy, the fully accredited IPS school on our campus, will be the beneficiary of a makeover. Throughout the Capital Campaign, the Johnson Building, which houses the school, cafeteria and gymnasium, has been the subject of much work. Most recently, new carpet has been laid in the classrooms and the cafeteria floors have been resurfaced. Currently, we are seeking to replace the old classroom furniture, currently a collection of mismatched desks, tables and chairs we have used in the past.

But there is more to celebrate! At the Trinity House, three of the young men have graduated from high school. This is an important milestone in every young person's life, but for our Trinity House boys, it really is a big accomplishment. For these young men who are getting ready to age out of the foster care system, a high school diploma is a lifeline and a necessary tool for continued independence and support in the future. When the boys arrived here at Lutherwood, graduation was the last thing on their minds. "When I got to Lutherwood, I didn't think I was cut out for more school," said one of our graduates, "I'm excited to figure out my next steps." Over the summer, Trinity House staff will be working with the boys to find jobs and secondary-education opportunities.



Lutherwood teachers pose for a picture during a rare moment of rest!



We are grateful for the support of these charitable organizations in 2019!
Central Indiana Community Foundation
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