

NEWS

CALENDAR

For more information & events, go to www.lomnetwork.org.

February 19-21, 2018: Welcomed and Included

February 20-23, 2018: ACA National Conference

February 25-March 3, 2018:

Compass Points

February 28-March 3, 2018: ALDE Conference

March 12-14, 2018 Region 3 Share-A-Thon

March 15, 2018: Staff Recruiting Event

March 19-22, 2018:

East Midwest Bible Study Rewrites

April 23-26, 2018:
LOM Executive Directors
Gathering

SOCIAL MEDIA

Did you miss these at facebook.com/lomnetwork

- LOM partners with Youth Gathering
- LTE Committee meets
- Latest podcast
- Region 5 Gathering

New LOM Bookkeeper for 2018

Kris Hinkeldey began as the new LOM Bookkeeper at the beginning of this year. She will be working about 40 hours per month for LOM in this new role. Since 1993, Kris has been the bookkeeper and human resource person at Camp Calumet in Freedom, NH. She also serves as the bookkeeper for the Green Mountain Conservation Group, a job she took on in 2013.

Kris grew up in Rockville, Maryland, where she lived with her parents and three sisters. She attended St. John's Lutheran Church where her father was the organist and music director. Summers were spent at the family cottage in Roland Park, a vacation community on Little Danhole Pond in Ossipee, New Hampshire. After graduating from college with a degree in graphic arts, Kris worked in the Washington DC area as a typesetter.

In 1983 she married Howard Hinkeldey, the son of the pastor at St. John's. In 1984 the couple moved to southern New Hampshire and joined Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Newington. They purchased a cottage in Roland Park, very close to the one Kris had summered in growing up, and spent their spare time fixing it up. In 1991, she and Howard moved to the cottage full time,

transferring their membership to Lutheran Church of the Nativity in Conway. Kris became very involved at Nativity, singing in the choir, serving on the church council and worship team, and acting as the church's office secretary from 1992 through 1995.

In her spare time, Kris enjoys decorating, gardening, playing in a bell choir, singing, and playing Words with Friends. Welcome, Kris!



First Leadership Award Presented in Pennsylvania

Howells honored ten days before his death



As part of a new LOM recognition program, the inaugural Manlove-Howells Leadership Award was started last year. The first recipients were the namesakes of the award. Jerry Manlove accepted the award at November's LOM Conference. Paul Howells was unable to attend the event but his acceptance was shown with a prerecorded video.

On January 12, 2018, in Frederick, PA, LOM physically presented Paul with his award. Don Johnson, LOM executive director, presented the award at a luncheon at Paul's retirement living community. Prior to the luncheon, friends and family gathered to greet Paul. After eating, many shared stories of how Paul affected their lives.

Pastor Conrad B. Youse, former executive director of the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania, shared two fond stories of Paul. He told of the annual volleyball game at the national conference and how Paul would wrench up the emotion at that game by yelling, "Kill, Kill!" One game got a little heated and Paul used the opportunity to teach about conflict management. Youse said it was through that experience that he learned about the importance of resolution. "Conflict is an opportunity to people to sit down and work out their differences," Youse said.

In presenting the award, Don Johnson showed appreciation for the leadership Paul provided during the decades that he served as Director of Outdoor Ministries for the Lutheran Church in America. Don recalled that Paul paved the way for bringing outdoor ministry into a prominent place upon the formation of the ELCA. "One of the legacies that Paul left to our church is that he saw the merger coming and provided opportunities for us to do things together. The legacy is now we don't even know who is formerly LCA or ALC," Johnson said.

Like Jerry Manlove, Paul Howells was given a painting of Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp in Colorado painted by Paul Oman. Howells died on January 23, 2018, one day before his 89th birthday. He is survived by his wife, Carol, and children and grandchildren. A memorial service was held on January 27 at the New Hanover Lutheran Church, New Hanover, PA. The family has asked that contributions in Paul's memory be made to Lutheran Outdoor Ministries, 1218 W. Addison Street, Chicago, IL 60613.



Innovative Program Award



LOM presented their 2017 Innovative Program Award at the recognition banquet on Thursday night of the 2017 LOM Conference. The winner this year, the sixth time the award was presented, was Agapé + Kure Beach Ministries' (NC) Reach 100 program. "Reach 100" was designed to fill slots which have not been filled in previous years of summer registration. "Reach 100" is a board initiative started in April of 2016. It is a two-year program designed to initially reach out into their local community and provide a positive Christian resident camp experience to children in severe financial need or are homeless.

"Reach 100" is a partnership between several local school counselors (who are identifying families and children), local businesses and business leaders (local chamber of commerce members), the camp's traditional donor base, and Agapé + Kure Beach Ministries. The children are mainstreamed into each week of camp and a variety of programs. Local school counselors have identified 60 homeless students between grades 3 and 8. These counselors are doing all the communication with the families, collecting forms and assisting the families with transportation to camp.





One of the unique characteristics of this program is that funds being raised cover the entire cost of camp and are not at the subsidized camp fee rate. Each camper requires \$600.00 to be raised to attend one week of camp. Business community leaders have offered to supply items like sleeping bags, backpacks, water bottles, towels, cloths. The \$600 also includes funds on the camp store card for each camper.

In their application form, the camp indicated the program "has been powerful for staff, donors and our community. We had college students apply to work on summer staff because they wanted to work at a camp making this kind of impact on children. Second, one of the joys has been to help these children be like anyone else. Counselors do not even know which of their campers are Reach 100 kids. Reach 100 is the most exciting, impactful, and positive program initiative we have ever launched."





Words from Don

The year 2017 has ended and we are now into the new and what promises to be an exciting and fulfilling year in 2018. Thank you to all who were so generous with financial contributions during the year 2017. This newsletter provides a summary of those contributions. And when I say, "thank you," I'm saying it on behalf of every outdoor ministry organization in this network; every year-round staff person; every member of all LOM's organizational Boards of Directors; and



indeed, every camper and retreat participant whose lives are enriched and faith more thoroughly formed because of what all of us in the Lutheran outdoor ministry network do through LOM to ensure strength and vitality for outdoor ministry everywhere. Thank you! We have much to look forward to in 2018:

- The LOM Executive Directors Gathering, April 23-26, at Lutheranch (GA), promises to have an impact on all our organizations as we work together around the theme of "Navigating the Future", to say nothing of the deepened collegiality that will undoubtedly take place.
- The newly constituted LOM Education Committee will be a visionary think tank for LOM as we discern how LOM can best provide one of the missional keystones of our identity as LOM education. At the top of the agenda providing best practice educational opportunities for the members of your boards.
- Our LOM Technology Committee will be doing a survey to provide us with helpful data on the finances and budgets of LOM organizations.
- LOM, together with our Learning Center partners of ELCA Advocacy, will make a big and impressionable splash at the ELCA Youth Gathering. This, to go along with the synchronization we have with LOM Curriculum and Youth Gathering theme "This Changes Everything".
- LOM Consultation Teams will respond with a YES to invitations to organizations that request a team of experienced professionals to help them affirm their ministry's practices and make suggestions for them as they move forward. The most recent LOM Consultation Team is for Flathead (MT) on January 24-26.
- LOM has been and will continue to consult with organizations as they experience transition in executive leadership. This has been especially visible as LOM has been able to provide the names of experienced outdoor ministry leaders who have had training for intentional interim executive director leadership for outdoor ministry organizations.
- In 2018, LOM will be providing or identifying leadership for our organizations to experience Board Development Retreats. During the first two months alone, this has been the case at Cross Roads (NJ), Agape (PA), Flathead (MT), Luther Heights, (ID), and Lakeside (IA).
- The LTE Committee has been reviewing everything about this signature event to assure that it is relevant even as the times are changing. The 2018 LTE promises to be top-notch, as we have grown to expect.
- And the Conference you don't want to miss it! We can all look forward to inspiring and motivating each other when we gather at the T Bar M Ranch in New Braunfels, TX, November 5-9.
- In 2018, we will be developing and begin implementing expanded opportunities for regional gathering and networking and expanded opportunities to cooperate on summer camp staff recruiting and responding to other needs and challenges as they emerge.

The list could go on and on. It's going to be a great year for LOM! --Don Johnson, Executive Director

SERVANT CORPS

In the heart of one of the most gentrified and expensive neighborhoods in Denver Colorado, an old mansion houses 8-10 full-time volunteers living on \$75 per month. These volunteers come from all over the United States (and the world!) to the affluent city of Denver to practice simplicity, live intentionally with strangers, and serve full-time at a nonprofit... for free.

Since 1987, **Urban Servant Corps'** full time volunteers have contributed more than 800,000 hours of service for more than 75 non-profit partner agencies in central Denver. Urban Servant Corps prepares leaders through professional development, faith formation, household management, and environment stewardship. People from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences come together and are united by their commitment to a year of simplicity and service together. Four core tenants frame the Urban Servant Corps experience:



- 1. Spirituality
- 2. Simplicity
- 3. Intentional Community
- 4. Service



These four tenants may be emphasized in a year of service, but are also great guidelines of living a life of stewardship! The Gospel narratives are saturated with these tenants. When Jesus gathers his earliest disciples, he calls them from their own individual journeys and into community. In this new context of fellowship, the disciples grow into life together: sharing meals, traveling, participating in intentional dialogue, and living with common purpose.

Journeys are marked by an intense spiritual framework as they believe, doubt, question, and fear, remaining in dialogue with their companions and, well, God! They embark on lives of service, healing, and justice towards those most in need.

Who do you know that would thrive in this opportunity – dedicated to social justice and a simpler way of life, desiring to explore faith, seeking non-profit/ministry experience, serving those who are most in need -- please share this with them: http://www.urbanservantcorps.org/volunteer/apply.html Urban Servant Corps provides food, housing, health insurance, a monthly stipend and an annual "growth and development" allotment. Priority deadline is March 1. Join us!



Are You Ready for Workplace Wrongdoing?

From Morris Gold, Sobel Insurance



Harvey Weinstein, Al Franken, Matt Lauer, Charlie Rose, Russell Simmons, Roy Moore, Louis C.K., Steven Segal, Jeremy Piven, Kevin Spacey, Mark Halperin, George H.W. Bush, Ben Affleck, John Conyers, James Levine, Donald J Trump, Mario Batali. Who will it be tomorrow?

The recent daily revelations of inappropriate sexual behavior have rocked the nation. It has sparked a conversation that, while never absent, has largely been left under the radar. Not anymore!

Twenty-six years ago, Anita Hill testified against Clarence Thomas during his confirmation hearings for Justice of the Supreme Court, on the grounds that he was unsuitable for the position because he had sexually harassed her while he was her boss – at of all places, as director of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Just as it is today, the country was riveted to their TVs and newspapers to hear the testimony and accusations. One could argue that was a pivotal point in American history. From that point forward, the idea that employers could be accused of workplace harassment, and sued for it, became mainstream. Indeed, in the years following those hearings, the incidents of employees suing their employers greatly increased. It is very likely that as more and more public figures are accused of wrong doing, more and more employees will come forward, accuse their employers of wrong doing, and take legal action. Unfortunately, camp owners and directors are not immune from these lawsuits.

Employment Practices Liability Insurance is designed to defend you against allegations of workplace discrimination, wrongful termination, and workplace harassment (including sexual harassment & a hostile workplace environment). The exposure to your camp is not just accusations made against you. Your head chef could pressure kitchen staff as easily as your waterfront director and head counselor could pressure their staff. You could be held liable for their actions.

If you do not already carry this insurance, you should seriously consider this important coverage. It is readily available and relatively inexpensive. And unfortunately, it is more critical than ever.



2017 Year in Review

Here is the LOM News' look back at the past year's highlights:

Conference Focuses on Reformation: Under the theme, "Re-form, Re-store, Re-focus," nearly 140 Lutheran camp professionals and board members attended the 2017 LOM Conference. This year's theme looked at how outdoor ministries need to be constantly reforming and looking at new ways to do ministry. As part of a new LOM recognition program, the inaugural Manlove-Howells Leadership Award was presented and given to the award's namesakes: Jerry Manlove, former outdoor ministry director for the American Lutheran Church and Paul Howells, former outdoor ministry director for the Lutheran Church in America. The LOM Auction raised raised \$33,605 for LOM's operating budget.

Board Elections: During the conference, LOM elected the following board members: Rev. Darryl Thompson Powell and Hannah Anderson. The following were also elected to the Nominating Committee: Joel Abenth and Deb Roberts. Also during business meetings, the organization adopted a budget for the coming year. Following the conference, the LOM Board met. At that meeting, the following were elected as officers for 2017: Casey Fuerst, president; Deanna Christensen, vice-president; Susan Troutman, treasurer; Lindsey Scheid, secretary. Outgoing Board Members were recognized during the conference as well. They were Rev. CeCee Mills, Dave Jarvis, and Rev. Dustin Lenz.

LTE Continues in 2017: Twenty-two participants and 10 faculty gathered in November at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp to learn about and discuss all things camp administration. Participants held a variety of positions at the 20+ outdoor ministry organizations that were represented in the group. Evenings involved intense community building with the crowd favorite "House of Bunco" and the very popular John Denver Karaoke night - which quickly evolved to plain karaoke since only the faculty knew any John Denver songs!

Permanent Director Hired: At its January 2017, the LOM Board officially voted to extend a permanent call to Don Johnson as the organization's first executive director. The decision was based on overwhelmingly positive feedback after the board asked for reflections on his first years in the job. Also at that meeting, the board unanimously approved a new strategic plan.

New Websites Unveiled: In early September, LOM launched a new website after nearly a year of development. As part of the new website development, two LOM databases were consolidated. A new *Journeys* website was also unveiled at www.journeys.lomnetwork.org. *Journeys for Youth* is supported by LOM to share adventure and service journeys for youth groups.

Curriculum Theme Same as Gathering: The LOM curriculum for 2018 was unveiled during Fall 2017. For the first time, the curriculum has the same title as the theme for the ELCA Youth Gathering. It was written in collaboration with the gathering team. The lessons are not the same but compliment those that will be used for the gathering.

Consultation Teams Now Available: LOM now has the capacity to line up consultation teams for our member organizations. At your invitation, a team of 3 or 4 seasoned veterans will spend several days at your site, listening to constituents and stakeholders, and making recommendations for you going forward.

Welcomed and Included: A retreat to help church leaders and LOM professionals in being more inclusive was held in September at Carol Joy Holling in Nebraska. The purpose of the event was to guide participants in best practices for ministry with youth, young adults and their families that identify as LGBTQ. The event was so successful, another is being held this year.

Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Annual Giving Report 2017

Welcome to LOM's Annual Giving Report. This report will give you a list of donors of record for 2017. We are grateful for your support! Giving that grows out of our relationship to God is part of living as faithful servants and stewards. Evidence that LOM is part of people's stewardship is here in this report. We thank you for your continued support, through financial giving and your prayers.

Organizational Giving

55 organizations= \$56,084.35

Onward & Upward (\$5000+)

Badlands Ministries (ND)

Uplifting Circle (\$3500-\$4999)

Luther Crest Bible Camp (MN)

Empowering Circle (\$2000-\$3499)

Calumet Lutheran Ministries (NH) Camp of the Cross Ministries (ND) Lake Wapogasset Bible Camp (WI) Metigoshe Lutheran Bible Camp (ND) Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp (CO)

Equipping Circle (\$1000-\$1999) Agape + Kure Beach Ministries (NC) Amnicon (WI) Briarwood Lutheran Ministries (TX) Camp Mount Luther (PA) Christikon (MT) Cross Roads Outdoor Ministries (NJ) Cross Trails Ministry (TX) Green Lake Lutheran Ministries (MN) Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Ctr (NY) Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA (PA) Lutheran Lakeside Camp (IA) **Lutheran Outdoor Ministries IN-KY** Lutherans Outdoors in SD Lutherlyn (PA) Mar-Lu-Ridge (MD) Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries (NE)

Educating Circle (\$500-\$999)

Upper Missouri Bible Camp (ND)

Agape Ministries (PA) Bethel Horizons (WI)

Sky Ranch (CO)

Camp Shalom (IA) Camp Tomah Shinga (KS) Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp (MT) Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp (MI) Living Water Ministries (MI) Luther Heights (ID) Luther Park Camping and Retreat Center (WI) Luther Park/Luther Woods (WI) Luther Point (WI) Lutherdale (WI) Lutherhaven Ministries (ID) Mount Carmel Ministries (MN) Mt Cross--Lutheran Outdoor Minsitries of N. Calif. (CA) Park River Lutheran Bible Camp (ND) Red Willow Ministries (ND) Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp (IA) Sequanota (PA) Sugar Creek Bible Camp (WI)

Encouraging Circle (\$25-\$499)

Camp Herrllich (NY) Camp Onomia (MN) Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp & Retreat (VA) Crossways Camping Ministries (WI) Hungry Mother Lutheran Retreat Center (VA) Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps (IA) Koinonia (NY) Lutheran Outdoor Ministries in Ohio Lutherhill Ministries (TX) **Pathways** South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers (SC)

Individual Giving

includes gifts, auction donations, and in-kind reimbursements of 130 individuals= \$50,407.79

Bold & Faithful Leaders Group (\$1000 and up)

Anonymous Anthony Briggs Mark Burkhardt Paul Hanson Dave & Ellen Herder Paul Hill Donald & Janet Johnson **Keith Johnson** David Larsen Evan Moilan Don Shunkwiler

Visionary Group (\$500-\$999)

Jeff Barrow Jeff Bluhm Korey Breutzmann Deanna Christensen **Dave Coker Casey Fuerst** Dave & Nicole Holtz Dave & Nell Jarvis Arden Norum Richard Sayther Dan Scharnhorst **Brent Seaks** Jake & Anna Sorenson Susan Troutman Kristin Wiersma

Capacity Builders Group (\$300-\$499)

Gretchen Bachman Judy Engh Margie Fiedler Logan Gooch Wayne Harrison

Individual Donations Continued Chad & Sarah Hershberger

Jesse Klosterboer Gary Schaefer Janis Sloka III Art Weiss

Forward Progress Group (\$100-\$299)

Brad Abbott
Dan Baker
Matt Baumhardt
Diane Beckwith
Nate Berkas
Tom Bley

Paul & Cornelia Briggs

Hattie Carrier Krista Casserly Penny Christensen **Nathan Clements Aaron Colwick Robert Coon** Craig Corbin Eric Elkin Jenny Frantz Rick Frederick Phil Geleske Robert Gillespie Dale Goodman Maddie Gray Jake Hanson Donald Hayn Phil Heide

Jon & Ruth Hoyme Dana Isaacson Paul Kehnle

Melissa & Eric Kornkven

Bob Kuehner Steve Lee Sarah Lefler Paul Leslie Meggan Manlove

Gerald & Linde Manlove

Paul Mittermaier Megan Myers Knute Ogren Jerry Olstad Dianna Parks Ingrid Peterson Steve Peterson Jessica Pina Tracy Polzin

Sunni Richardson

Debra & Jeffrey Roberts

Lindsey Scheid

Russ Senti Bob Severson Jon Skogen Jeffrey Thompson Tom & Becky VonFisher

Jeremie Vore Ruth Warmanen

Charles & Lavinia Wingert

Deb Yandala Ralph Yernberg

Randy & Mir Youngquist-Thurow

Mike Youse

LOM Advocates Group (\$25-\$99)

James Addy Katherine Albin Al Arndt Willfred Bigott Bob Bowden Phil Bramley Paul Christ

Jake Czarnik-Neimeyer Jonathan Davidson Mike Dismer James Doyle Kevin Eichhorn Paul Frantsen Ben Fulton Donald Hallberg Jody Johnson Paula Kent **Dustin Lenz** Lee Lindeman Leah McDougall **Dennis Orsen** Micaella Petrich Nathan & Angie Pile Rodney Quanbeck

Rodney Quanbeck Elnora Romness Roy Satre Jim Schmidt Amanda Severtson Mike & Else Thompson Melinda Trotti

Jesse Weiss
Dayna Weltzin
Allison Westerhoff
Marianne Wilkinson
Mike Wright
Mike Zolnosky

Gifts given in honor of

<u>Jerry Manlove</u> Camp Agape (PA) Margie Fiedler Tom & Becky Von Fisher

Deb Yandala

Other Contributions

Totaling \$39,450

ELCA Region 3 Mar-Lu-Ridge Red Willow

LWR Ministry Partner

ELCA Fund for Leaders Ministry

Partner Thrivent

Auction Item Donations

Joel Abenth

Agape

Agapé Kure Beach

ALDE

Bear Creek Camp Sam Berglund CampBrain CCCA

Church Mutual

ELCA Youth Ministry Network

Margie Fiedler
Flathead
FunFangle
Logan Gooch
Holden Village
Brooke Klemetsrud
Bob Kuehner
Kyle Larson
Lee Lindeman

Living Water Ministries

LOSD Luther Crest

Lutheran World Relief

Lutherdale Lutherlyn

Mission Investment Fund

Evan Moilan

Mount Carmel Ministries

Nebraska LOM Outlaw Ranch Rainbow Trail

Red Willow Bible Camp

Lindsey Scheid
Seafarers/Crossroads
Seafarers/Crossroads
Shetek Lutheran Ministries

Sky Ranch

Voyagers Lutheran Ministry

Purchased Auction Items

Joel Abenth Travis Aufderheide Gretchen Bachman

Dan Baker Matt Baumhardt Sam Berglund Nate Berkas Jeff Bluhm PhilvBramley Korey Breutzmann **Anthony Briggs** Paul Briggs **Hattie Carrier**

Krista Casserly **Nathan Clements Dave Coker Aaron Colwick** Jonathan Davidson **David Dykes** Kevin Eichhorn

Jenny Frantz Rick Frederick **Casey Fuerst**

Margie Fiedler

Ben Fulton Phil Geleske Robert Gillespie Jacqueline Goering

Logan Gooch Jake Hanson Paul Hanson Chad Hershberger David Holtz

Ben Jarvis Jordan Jensen Donald Johnson Adam Joraskie

Dave Jarvis

Melissa Kornkven Ben Larson Sarah Lefler Kyle Lefler **Heather Lutz** Meggan Manlove Caleb Maughan Noah McCov

Scott Miller Evan Moilan Megan Myers

Layne Nelson Mary Nysetvold Dianna Parks **Ingrid Peterson** Micaella Petrich Jessica Pina **Debra Roberts** Kathryn Schaefer Dan Scharnhorst Lindsey Scheid Jim Schmidt Andrea Scofield Don Shunkwiler Janis Sloka III **Judy Smith**

Jake Sorenson Savanna Sullivan Jeffrey Thompson Susan Troutman Jesse Weiss Dayna Weltzin Allison Westerhoff **Charles Wingert**

Randy Youngquist-Thurow

SUPPORT LOM

To make a gift to LOM, visit http://www.lomnetwork.org/donate.html. If you would like to explore the possibility of including LOM in your will or other planned giving strategies, please contact Executive Director Don Johnson at director@lomnetwork.org or 603-848-9904.



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> Don Johnson, Executive Director Casey Fuerst, Board President