

FLBC Update

Spring/Summer 2025 Newsletter Honoring 2024 Donors & Volunteers

We are excited to introduce "HOLY GROUND!" Capital Campaign Phase #1

After much study, surveys, feasibility studies, strategic plan finalized for the years 2022–2027 & the master plan coming out of the strategic plan, the board is working on many things:

- Staff Retention
- Staff Scholarship Endowment
- Program Review/Evaluation

The prominent Themes & Goals of the Master Plan:

- Welcoming and Wayfinding
- Accessible to All
 - Financially
 - Physically
 - Emotionally
- Create community while supporting privacy and diversity of guest needs
- Support the staff to enhance recruitment and retention
- Celebrate the site context and create a sense of awe, wonder and adventure
- Develop in a sustainable and earth-friendly manner

The board voted at its January 2025 meeting to launch the 1st phase of the Holy Ground capital campaign, with the theme "**Hospitality**" 'And there were those who welcomed angels unaware' ~ Hebrews 13:1

The campaign goals for Phase 1 include (costs are estimates):

- Work to make camp more accessible – connecting pathways
- Building a new guest/volunteer housing unit
- Improving bathrooms (#1 complaint by campers)
- Infrastructure—additional RV sites, relocating nature center; utility structure for next phases

\$1M—Growing the endowment (3 parts to our endowment):

1. General endowment (for Facilities & Programs)
2. Campership endowment
3. Staff leadership endowment.

\$3.4–3.7M = Total Phase #1 Campaign

Outright gifts/pledges (3–5 years) can be designated to this phase or to future phases/projects.

We pray you will find joy in joining in this exciting Hospitality Phase to make FLBC the best for all! Watch for more information. and/or contact FLBC.



Phase I – Guest/Volunteer Housing



Architect Gretchen Krumm going over the Master Plan.

Eugene Peterson writes in "The Pastor: A Memoir" how the Native Americans lived here – the cliffs were sacred – Holy Ground.

A Tibetan Buddhist Monk once visited FLBC. As he sat quietly on the Fireside porch, gazing around he said "This is truly Holy Ground".

God has given us this land to care for—to be used as a place of renewal—for people to grow & experience Christ's love & grace. This is indeed 'Holy Ground' that we are called to care for.

FLBC always serves as a place of deep personal renewal & grounding for me. It is the place that serves as a spiritual battery for me.

~ Jay Bates, Board member



Volunteers 2024

THANK YOU to all who gave of their time and talents in 2024! We also give thanks to the many families and individuals who attended our Memorial Day and Labor Day Work Weekends.

2024 VOLUNTEERS & LEADERS

Sharon Berthelote • Erin Beven • Ross Chamberlain • Alyssa & Howard Cliver • Linda Coty • Julianna DeMontigny • Steve Erickson • Jane Filkin • Eric Finsand • Eric Finsand • Sue & Tim Furey • Tonya Griffith • Patricia Harant • Dinah Helgeson • Nils & Michelle Henriksen • Terah Henry • Connie Himlie • Jonathan Hobbs • Megan & Matt Hoewisch • Barbara Liss • Doug MacCallum • Molly Marshall • Gracie Marshall • Melanie Martin-Dent • Haley Milton • Leslie Moody • Maureen Moore • Gretchen Munding • John Munding • Colter Murphy • Hanna Nagy • Seth Nelson • Kathy Olson • Halvar Olstead • Alvina Olstead • Stella Overstreet • Doug Peterson • Stephanie Richardson • Annela Rova • Krystle Salzer • Molly Sasser • Phil Sauer • Claire Schwarting • Deana Shook • Elizabeth Sillerud • Nancy Simmes • Sherry Sxennungsen • Griffen Trice • Sarah Vatne • Marissa Walker • Sarah White



2024 RETREAT & EVENT LEADERS

Thanks to our 2024 Retreat/Event Leaders and speakers for our FLBC sponsored retreats! THANKS for sharing your gifts with this ministry!

Mica Riendeau/Angle Byrd (Tea Party) • Jan Greenwald (Quilt retreat) • Baird Linke (CAMPfirmation) • Rebecca Cochran (Memorial weekend) • Julia Seymore (Women's retreat) • Paul Goodman (Family weekend) • Karoline Lewis (Lectionary retreat) • Julie Engh (Labor Day) • Jeff Barrow (Adult Spirituality Retreat) • Pastors Kelsey & Kevin Beebe (Family Camp) • Pastor Melanie Martin Dent (Grandparent Camp) • Nancy Nelson (Partners Luncheon)

2024 COMMITTEES

Development Team

Merv Eriksson • Mark Mohorich • Tim Wiersum • Bob McCoskery

Endowment Committee

Mike Borge • Lee Christenson • Dave Dickman • Greg Karlsgodt • Scott Moothart, Chair • Jim Stauffer

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Sacred Playgrounds

FLBC Partners with Sacred Playgrounds, a national firm specializing in camps! We do parent and camper surveys and retreat surveys to see how we can improve/change and to learn where we are effective.

DID YOU KNOW

Summer 2024 Campers at FLBC shared:

- 91% said they learned something about the Bible (9% knew it all!)
- 94% shared they would recommend FLBC to family & friends
- 53% listed none or "other" religious background
- 88% shared they grew in faith
- 96% said 'Camp was fun!'

Volunteering Opportunities

We hope you will consider spending a week with us this summer as an adult volunteer, resource pastor, camp nurse, etc., helping provide faith-filled, fun, and safe experiences for our campers of all ages.

To learn more, visit flbc.net/donate-volunteer/#volunteer

Calling for Summer Staff!

At the time of this writing (March 2025), we still need staff! 18 years old and up!

Scan the QR Code to apply!

Or send an email to Karen@flbc.net.

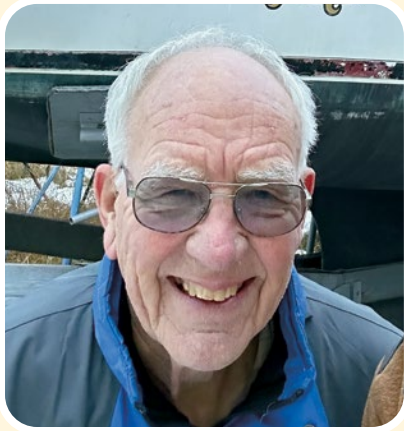
Or visit to our website for the application.



Volunteer of the Year 2024

Phil Sauer as a retired electrical engineer—at 87 years young— has helped camp over the years with all things electrical including working with Flathead Electric for a new transformer so we could add a kiln to the pottery studio.

Phil's passion is with sailing! Phil has worked with FLBC Wilderness directors to teach sailing and about our boats. Phil's son has been instrumental securing donated boats for our program. Currently, Phil is helping Justin (our new Wilderness/ Environmental Education Director) learn "the ropes" of sailing!



Volunteer of the Decade 2014–2024

Don Stadler has faithfully served FLBC throughout the fall/winter/spring for over 10 years (not in the summer, as he works at a golf course). In this time, Don has built and/or remodeled 28 buildings on site—sometimes with the help of staff & other volunteers. He and his wife, Susan, named the sauna "The Night Hawk"; and our soon to be finished Eco Burial site "The Doves Rest".

Susan and Don have brought grandchildren & family to camp over the years, and Susan has been a Summer Camp Grandma. She has faithfully supported Don in all his time at camp and she has cared for the Prayer Labyrinth, with lots of hours of weeding!!

With all thanks and praise to God for ALL volunteer's summer & year-round — who without this ministry would be at a loss!

Thank you!

Advent Giving 2024

Our Christmas Tree of Giving was filled with "stars" of well wishes, prayers, and honoring loved ones! Thank you and thanks to matching funds from 5 donors—over \$130,000 was raised—so more children can attend camp at FLBC, and more guests will receive "retreaterships" to attend a retreat. Thank you—Thanks to gifts, no one is ever turned away because of financial reasons.

"Thank you for the campership... I loved camp, and it made me want to go to a church"

~ 13-year-old camper 2024

With every campership given, we encourage the recipient to pay it forward and do something kind for someone else! We have heard fun reports such as: shoveling sidewalks, helping coach basketball to younger youth and making a pie for a neighbor! Thanks, campers, for making the world a kinder place, by reaching out with God's love to others.



THANKS so much for the many projects accomplished via Thrivent Action teams in 2024.

Please prayerfully consider a Thrivent action team for 2025. So many things need done at camp!

2024 ACTION TEAMS:

- Pastor Melanie Martin-Dent (solar path lights)
- Merv Eriksso (Food for a Missoula supporters gathering... yummy ice cream treats)
- Elizabeth Faircloth (solar path lights)
- Margie Fiedler (ping pong and foosball area, flattened and covered)
- Nancy Marks (Garden work with WELCA)
- Matt Kapella (Garden items)

DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Thank you for selecting the FLBC to receive your Thrivent Choice Dollars.

PLEASE NOTE, go to thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-847-4836 to make your selection today by 03/31/25 for your 2024 dollars.

2024 THRIVENT CHOICE DONORS

THANK YOU soooo much! Together, in 2024, You Raised \$34,915.70!

From 2010 to date 2025 = \$461,928.91 WOW! THANKS be to God!!!

You have helped campers attend camp, and have helped with new equipment, and facility improvements.

James Abrahamson • Duane B Alley • Eva Marie Anseth • Bonner J Armstrong • Karen C Armstrong • Patrick E Bahnmiller • Sue Ellen Marie Bahnmiller • Carol H Bangs • Thomas W Bangs • Kirsten R Barkman • Jay Alan Bates • Krista J Bates • Alice M Bautz • Dale D Bautz • Duane L Beirwagen • Arne Bergland • Linda C Beyer • Wade Daniel Bitz • Holly Mary Bitz • Alvin D Bitz • Deanna R Bitz • Joel A Block • Dorothy J Borge • Michael S Borge • Sarah Naomi Borge • Terry D Brosten • Betty L Brumwell • Ronald C Brumwell • Darryl J Burditt • Karen Diane Caplis • Linda L Carlson • Richard A Caron • Jo Lee Carpenter • Lee T Christianson • Diann L Claypool • Carol M Cockrell • Jennifer A Colegrove • Deanna L Conley • Robert G Conley • Michael Dennis Conner • John G Cowan • Sarah S Curtiss • Phillip E Davis • Jane L Dean • Lisa Carol Dean-Erlander • Todd P Dean-Erlander • David P Dickman • Melanie A Denning • JoAnn Walsh Dotson • Jeffery R Downhour • Sandra J Drollman • Philip L Dynneson • Ruby Marie Dynneson • Tami Marie Ellis • Peggy Lynne Ellingsen • Aaron H Ells • Julianna M Engh Peters • Mary Frances Erler • Clinton P Erb • Marion J E Erdahl • John D Ericksen • Verna M Eriks • David Alan Festerling • Margie P Fiedler • Carol L Flint • Kay A Ganser • Paul Alfred Gilbertson • Polly Gill • Robby J Goudette • Bruce S Graving • Mark Alan Grimstvedt • Timothy Robert Grosvold • Mark Scott Grotbo • Lon John Hackett • Doris L Halverson • Loren A Hanni • Vicky L Hanni • Paul L Hansen • Sandra Jean Hanson • Carolyn A Hardel • Richard A Hardel • Ann A Henricksen • Milton E Hjermstad • Sandra M Hjermstad • Juanita L Hogenson • Debra A Holm • Randall C Holm • Paul A. Holmgren • Douglas David Homer • Leann Narum Homer • Donald Oarl Jacobson • James E Jenks • Diane E Jenks • Richard F W Johnson • Bailey S Johnson • David John Karlsgodt • Gregory P Kasper • Brooke R Kimzey • Tricia A King • Janice Marie Kirkwood • Naoko Kozina • Blair D Krumm • Gretchen N Krumm • Steven A Laber • Roy Allen Lamb • Rodd M Langel • Chad Peder Lee • Jeanne Marie Lee • Rojene K Lemke • Catherine W Lerner • Craig Linke • Mary Kay Kathleen Linke • Katherine A Lundman • Kristi Jo Lynn • Nancy F Marks • David B Martin • Ann L McKnight • David Carlton Mehl • Albert E Melby • Nancy Papp Melby • Pamela Sue Hagen Melchert • Rodney John Minarik • Susan A Minarik • Courtney L Montgomery • Danny A Montoya • Dennis J Moore • Helen M Morris • Jerome S Mothershead • Steven P Mueller • Sharon E Mueller • Joel A Nelson • Duane K Nelson • Nancy K Nelson • Lyle Niederklein • Jason W. Nockleby • Kathryn K Nockleby • Robert B Nockleby • Nancy Ruth Norberg • Michael J O'Hearn • Patricia K O'Hearn • Cristian R Orrego • Karla R Osborn • Nancy Joan Osborn • Ronald George Osborn • Allan D Ost • Sue A Ost • Diane K Pabst • Gary L Pabst • Linda S Pedersen • Terry Pedi • Douglas Marek Peterson • Sally E Porter • Wayne H Pris • Georgia D Pris • Darcy L Reede-Caron • Janis P Restad • Lisa R Rochin • Janette M Rosman • Curtis W Rosman • Paul L Rowold • Luke Ramage • Brian H Sallee • Lynette L Sallee • Marjorie J Samsoe • Vince N Scofield • Jerome C Short • Charlene Kay Short • Nancy D Shumway • Lonnie Eugene Sibley • Kevin D Skaalure • Judy M Smith • Paulette Smith • William Richard Speer • Carol Elizabeth Spencer • Donald L Stadler • Charmaine M Stappler • Lawrence Paul Stappler • James Moyer Stauffer • Diane J Stauffer • Robert William Stauffer • David John Stenberg • Kimberly Ann Stenberg • Ernest H Stordahl • Nancy K Stoverud • Marion J Streich • Carolee E Stuber • Melanie M Swenson • Beverly J Taylor • Carla J Teigen • Chad Terry • Edward A Thamke • Joanna L Thamke • Jana B Thompson • Joan M Thompson • Paul A Thompson • Diane E Titch • Janette A Turbak • Emily Joy Ulgenes • Elaine E Ulgenes • Karen B Updike • Ervin D Unruh • Mildred P Unruh • Linda M Van Dyke • Stephen Dale Van Gilder • Valerie Dahl Van Voast • Andrew W Wendle • Ann L Wiersum • Timothy A Wiersum • David G Williams • Margaret Hustava Williams • Martin E Williamson • Ellen Ruth Wirshing • Nicholas David Wold • Catherine Marie Wold • Karen B Wolf • Tom N Wolfe • Bonnie M Wolff



2024 Donors

Keep that camp magic going!

We are forever grateful to have gotten married at camp and happy to be celebrating 10 years.

Thank you for all you do and impacting countless lives. Cheers!

~ Ryan & Mandy Pokorny

We couldn't do it without YOU!

THANK YOU to all who have supported the ministry of Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp this past year. We are full of gratitude for each individual, family, congregation, and organization who have supported FLBC since 1943 with such faithfulness, love, and care!

A NOTE TO OUR SUPPORTERS: We appreciate your generous donations to FLBC, and we want to recognize everyone accordingly with 100% accuracy. If we have inadvertently made an error, please contact the office at 406-752-6602 or office@flbc.net with concerns or corrections.

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Justin, Riley, Elizabeth and Karen are eager to welcome you!



2024 Donors

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Cottage Make-Over

The “cottage” located near the Cockrell Center has been used over the years for year-round staff housing, pastor & volunteer housing, nurse cabin, retreat guest housing, etc. Like all buildings on camp, depending on the need at the time is who is housed there!

Thanks to a grant from the Weekes Family Foundation, staff & volunteers have been giving the cottage “new life”—with new flooring, windows, kitchen cupboards & more!

Thank you, **Weekes Family Foundation**, for the amazing improvements you have made over the years.



A 2020 survey revealed that 40% of ELCA rostered leaders, including more than half of bishops, worked on summer camp staff. An astounding 91% indicated that camp had a significant impact on their life, and 74% said that working on camp staff was very or extremely important to their call to ministry.

One seasoned youth ministry leader who was part of the study remarked, “When I look back at any professional success that I’ve had, I find that the skills that have served me well are muscles that I learned at camp.”

2024 Donors

CAMPfirmation

As a result of congregations who have small numbers of youth and wanted them to connect with others, CAMPfirmation, a program that has been in the works for years, launched this past fall with a retreat; 4 zooms; and will “end” with a retreat in April. Special thanks to the **Hetzel Foundation** for making this possible!

6 congregations with 18 youth are participating along with an adult or two from their congregation.

THANKS Congregations and youth who joined us at FLBC for CAMPfirmation!

OSLC – Columbia Falls

Valley of Christ – Frenchtown

Faith – Hamilton

CLC – Big Sandy

GSLC – Polson

FLC – Havre

“It was amazing at the first retreat how the campers bonded—interacted—and grew in their understanding of Lutheran theology”.

Thanks all who made this possible. FLBC staff and teacher/leader Rev. Baird Linke (2024 summer staff member at FLBC) and all the adults in these congregations who are committed to helping youth grow in their faith.

If you are interested in CAMPfirmation 2026, please contact Karen@flbc.net.

Timothy & Eunice Phillips • James Lewandoski & Barbara Pierson • Michael & Amanda Pokorny • Janice Posey • Fergus & Jane Prestbye • Lydia Preston • Mike & Twila Pyette • Larry Pyle • Patrick & Kimberly Quinn • Chase Ragen • Pat & Chase Ragen • Raelee Rask • Charlie Rettig • Maggie Rettig • Thomas & Gail Reynolds • Lee & Tami Rhodes • David & Kari Richards • Donato Rigg • Chuck & Christine Robbins • Rlynn & Karen Rockman • Dallas Roots • James & Kristen Rosa • Curtis & Janette Rosman • Bailey Ross • Dave & Kristen Ryan • Joyce Ryan • Kacey Salo • Matt & Kellie Sanford • Bud & Diane Sather • Wayne & Sheryl Saverud • Karen Schneider • Dietrich Schurke • Frank Searl • Jerome Mothershead & Janice Seelye • Peggy Seifert • Sabrina Shattles • Patrick Short • Aleksander Sikorski • Eli Smart • Tim & Lisa Smith • Debbie Snyder • Don & Kathy Spritzer • Ed & Carolyn Stamy • Larry & Charmaine Stappler • Phil Stauffer • Russell & Karen Stein • Richard & Debra Steinbacher • Dave & Pauline Stevenson • Karlee Stires • RobinLynn Stobart • Megan Strand • Bobby Sundby • Sofia Supola • Lucille Svingen • Chayce Swain • Tenley Tellessen • Stephen & Marilyn Thackeray • Daniel & Peggy Thaden • Linda Thomas • Kimberley Thompson • Rosella Thompson • Brad & Nancy Tomscheck • Kenneth & Linda Torgerson • Max Frisbee Veliz • Lucy Wagner • Chad & Tracy Ward • Kadynce Warner • Noelani Watkins • Blake Watson • Eileen Weaver • Shelley Wee • Casey Wehunt • Ken & Lavonne West • Justin Westerbur • Stephanie White • Clint & Loretta Widdekind • Bob & Julie Wigen • Christian Wilde-Spiger • Keith & Becky-Louise Wilson • Shirley Wilson • Wyatt Wing • Kevin Winter • Ellison Wong • Graham Wong • Carlee Wood • Augusta Wray • Madison Wretling • Knox Wright • Abby (CW Test) Wyse • Darwin & Betty Zellmer

CONGREGATIONS

\$1,000-\$4,999 Bethany Lutheran Church - Dutton, MT • Bethel Lutheran Church - Great Falls, MT • Bethlehem Lutheran Church - Kalispell, MT • Christ Lutheran Church - Libby, MT • First Lutheran Church - Plains, MT • Gloria Dei Lutheran Church - Butte, MT • Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - Polson, MT • Lutheran Church of Sunburst - Sunburst, MT • Northridge Lutheran Church - Kalispell, MT • Our Saviors Lutheran Church - Great Falls, MT • Our Saviors Lutheran Church - Columbia Falls, MT • Redeemer Lutheran Church - Great Falls, MT • St. Paul Lutheran Church - Cut Bank, MT • Zion Lutheran Church - Lewistown, MT

\$500-\$999 All Saints in Big Sky - Big Sky, MT • Atonement Lutheran Church - Missoula, MT • Bethel Lutheran Church - Joplin, MT • Big Timber Lutheran - Big Timber, MT • Eidsvold Lutheran Church - Somers, MT • Faith Lutheran Church - Ronan, MT • First Lutheran Church - Havre, MT • Galata Lutheran Church - Galata, MT • Jocko Valley Lutheran Church - Arlee, MT • Malta Lutheran Church - Malta, MT • Mountainview Lutheran Church - Edgewood, WA • Our Redeemers Lutheran Church - Helena, MT • Our Saviors Lutheran Church - Thompson Falls, MT • Scobey Lutheran Church - Scobey, MT • St. Johns Lutheran Church - Helena, MT • Trinity Lutheran Church - Choteau, MT • Valley Of Christ Lutheran Church - Frenchtown, MT

\$499 & under Christ the King Lutheran Church - Bozeman, MT • Devon Lutheran Church - Shelby, MT • Hope Lutheran Church - Anaconda, MT • Kremlin Lutheran Church - Kremlin, MT • Lakeside Community Chapel - Lakeside, MT • New Hope Lutheran Church - Great Falls, MT • Our Saviors Lutheran Church - Bonner, MT • Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church - Townsend, MT



2024 Donors

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IN HONOR OF

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2024 Donors

IN KIND DONATIONS

BLC: Office Space | **Carol Berg:** Candles | **Louise (Ruth) Baker:** Toilet Paper/Paper Towels | **Melissa Bowden:** Fabric/Materials | **Kathy Davig:** Original Art Painting | **Ryan Droll:** Roof/Staff Bathhouse | **Karen Dwyer:** ELW Accompaniment | **Becky Frese:** Craft thread | **David Gallick:** Golf Cart | **Linda Geisel-Burkett:** Hand Stitched Table Cloth | **Mary Grandberg:** Kitchen Items, vacuum | **Peggy Graving:** Embroidery Thread | **Jan Greenwald:** Vacuum Cleaner | **Larry Halverson:** Fishing Poles, Yard Tools | **Frances Hawks:** Pillowcases/Quilts | **Matt Kapelke:** Car Parts | **Dave Kloker:** Blankets/Pillowcase | **Tamara Laib:** Kitchen Mixers, Rolling Pins, Utensils | **Craig Linke:** Golf Cart/ Trailer | **Barbara Liss:** 31 Concrete Sculptures | **Melissa Mower:** Greenhouse Materials | **Mary Pat Murphy:** Toilet Tissue | **Allan Ost:** Basketballs | **Steph Richardson:** Art Supplies | **Mica Riendeau:** Kitchen Measuring Cups | **Loren Sasser:** Book of Stamps (100) | **Zenna Scovel:** Postage | **Julia Seymour:** Playground balls, pump, bag, books | **Diana Smith:** Fabric | **Rob Stuberg:** Montana Grizzlies Football Tickets x2 | **Valeria Valiquette:** (2) Igloo Coolers, Christmas décor, coffee pot | **Nancy Zadra:** Painting | **FLBC Board of Directors:** Mileage | **Clayton Schenck:** Car | **Many Harvest Festival Donations Received!**



2024 ORGANIZATIONS/BUSINESSES

\$5,000+ Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation • Weekes Family Foundation • M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust

\$1,000-\$4,999 Hetzel Foundation • Generations Family Medicine & Obstetrics, PLLC • Harold & Shirlye Klinker Foundation • Hylke & Anna Wiersma Charitable Fund • Sliters Lumber & Building Supply • The Deist Charitable Fund • Karen & Al Hermansen Charitable Fund • Round Up For Safety

\$500-\$999 Hatlen Foundation • Jarecki Charitable Foundation Trust • Murphy Family Foundation • Pedersen Farms Inc. • Mitchell Development & Investments, LLC

\$499 & under Dock Masters • El Caporal Mexican Market • Fuddruckers • Larsen Production Inc. • RTI Fabrication Inc. • Story County Community Foundation • United Way of Snohomish County • Valley Bank of Kalispell



2024 MINISTRY PARTNERS

\$5,000+ Good Shepherd Trust, Polson, MT

\$1,000-\$4,999 Bethel WELCA, Joplin, MT • First Lutheran Church Endowment, Havre, MT • First Lutheran Church Foundation, Glasgow, MT • First Lutheran Men In Mission, Havre, MT • Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Women, Polson, MT • St. Paul Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, Missoula, MT • St. Paul Lutheran Church Foundation, Fairfield, MT • St. Paul Lutheran Church Women In Mission, Missoula, MT • Sunburst Luther League, Sunburst, MT

\$500-\$999 Faith Lutheran Church Women, Ronan, MT • Our Saviors Lutheran Church WELCA, Columbus, MT • St. Lukes Love & Care, Shelby, MT

\$499 & under American Lutheran Church WELCA, Chinook, MT • Big Timber Lutheran Church Women, Big Timber, MT • Five Valleys Women, Missoula, MT • Golden Triangle Cluster Women of the ELCA, Cut Bank, MT • Lutheran & Presbyterian United Church Women, Hot Springs, MT • Messiah Lutheran Church Women, Havre, MT • Trinity Lutheran Church WELCA, Choteau, MT

Are You Willing?

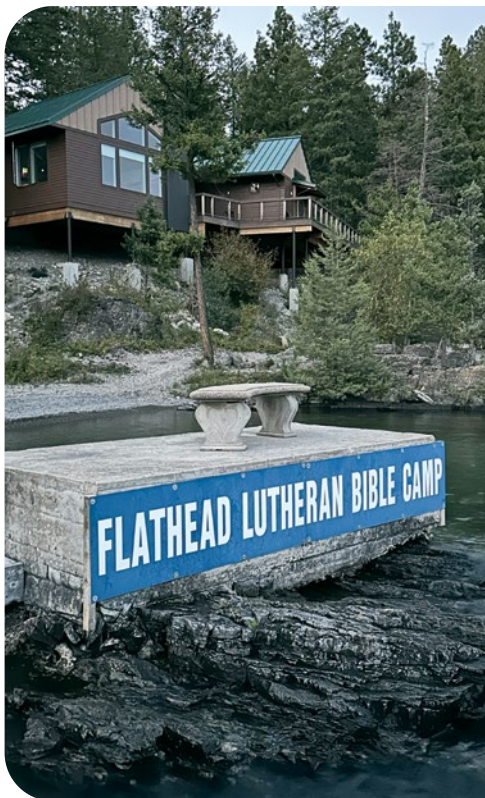
If you could make a gift that would impact the future of campers for generations to come, would you consider this? I have had several people say to me... "well I have children, or I don't have much of an estate... how could I make a difference?" But think about it... FLBC was 80 years old in 2024. Can you imagine what our endowment would be, and how much money would be funneled into the camp, if everyone had left just 1-5% of their estate to the camp? (I bet no one would be paying to come to camp or a retreat!!) Well, we can start now!

Prayerfully consider a gift in your will, or including FLBC as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, your home, land, your IRA, or another estate planning tool. Your gift will reach beyond your lifetime and ensure that the gospel will continue to be shared through this ministry for generations to come.

Questions on how to do this?

Call our office at 406-752-6602 for our Legacy brochure and/or talk to Grace Schroeder Scott or Margie Fiedler about how to make this happen. We are happy to talk to your advisors also. If you have already included FLBC in your will/estate plan, let us know so we can list you as a Legacy Partner!

Thank You!



Legacy Partners

Legacy Partners are those who are giving in their estate plan. A cross (†) represents the person has gone onto glory and their gifts are already at work at the Camp. Our Legacy Partners are a **permanent** part of the ministry of Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. A courtyard brick paver is made for each Legacy Partner who has passed on.

Please let us know of any corrections.

If you have included FLBC in your estate plans... please let us know!

Thank you faithful stewards!

Mark & Carrie Aageson	Jack† & Connie† Hensley	John & Michelle Phelan
Marge Allen	Dick† & Carol† Irvin	Rod & Celeste Pogachar
Bob† & Shirley† Anderson	Donald & Donna Jacobson	Harold† & Olive† Price
Dexter & Jean Aspevig	Sylvia Jansen	Rick Richter
Louis & June Beirwagen	Ona Jaumotte†	Mica Riendeau
Bob & Midge Bentley	Penny Jarecki	Kathryn Rinehart†
Michael & Diana Blend	Dorothy Johnson†	Donna Rolfen
Jacob† & Jan† Block	Thelma Johnson†	Dennis & Monica Sabo
Horace Borchert†	Greg Karlsgodt	Marjorie Samsoe
Michael & Dorothy Borge	Greg & Connie Kasper	Bill & Sue Schottelkorb
Robert & Deborah Brown	Richard King & Tove Elvrom	Doug & Grace Schroeder Scott
Lucille V Buchmann	Gerhard & Gayle Knudsen	Roger Siblerud
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Jim & Sharon† Engh	Ron & Sandy Munson	Evelyn Wanke
Marion Erdahl	Sylvia Murphy†	Homer† & Betty† Wheeler
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Knud† & Kathy† Grosen		
Norm† & Mary Ann Hagen	Jim & Barbara Penner	
Bill & Marilyn Henry	Roy† & Jan† Petterson	

Thank you for all you do for the youth to love and learn about Christ's love.

Enclosed is a little something to help with scholarships.

Prayers & blessings...

~ Bill & Mary Harris

Thank You!



Specialty Camps

June 22 – 27 2025

Each year, FLBC has a week of specialize camps that are only offered once during the summer. This week is for campers interested in growing & learning in a specialty area, for part of the day... while the rest of the day they are mixed together in cabin time, recreation, Bible study and worship. We bring in topnotch leaders to oversee these programs, who are assigned 1-3 FLBC staff to work with them. This year our amazing leaders include:

Drama Camp

Producing the all camper led *Passion Play* for Thursday night and learning all styles of acting. Gretchen Mundinger, Helena, has led the program for several years and is a drama teacher, coach and musician.

Cooking Camp

Led by our very own FLBC “Chef Jess” (year-round Food Service Director) – campers learn how to cook lots of things... and eat them too!

Art Camp

Led by the talented Kelly Johnson. Kelly runs her own art studio in MN. She has been teaching art for years.

Ranch Camp

This year our ranch campers will be at Montana Horse Works with Kali Kitchen, Director. The ranch is outside of Kalispell. Campers will learn horsemanship and riding from 10AM – 2PM each day.

Choir Camp

The one and only... Dinah Lindberg Helgeson, Internationally known teacher/director, back for her 30th year and Jacoby Holte – choir director at Billings Senior High School.

Basketball Camp

Back by popular demand, our own local coach – Russell Aldrich, Somers, MT; with basketball camp held in the Somers middle school, beautiful new gym.

Camp Pastor for the week

Pastor Abe Johnson, will lead morning devotions before campers depart for their specialty and teach campers how to lead worship.

Join us at Specialty Camp—which includes all the standard camp fun/games/campfires/Bible study & more!

Partnerships!

FLBC has never “rented” facilities. Everything we do — from food service to games to high ropes — is about programming “Preach the Gospel at all times... if necessary, use words”.

This summer (2025) FLBC is thrilled to partner with groups who care for young people. FLBC strives to help make their camp week, the best week ever!

Grief Camp

for children who have lost/experienced a parent/or loved one

Blackfeet Camp

partnering with the Blackfeet Tribe

MT Youth Diabetes Association

for children with diabetes. Lots of doctors at camp this week!

Eastern University, PA

a partnership to hire summer staff

Family Reunions

from around the world!

Turn Around Ministries

a foster care home in Atlanta, bringing youth to camp

CASA

so all foster children can go to camp at no cost.

Flathead Industries

working with differently abled adults.

Thanks for keeping these specialized programs in your prayers.





FLBC Inspires Generous Giving

Grace Schroeder Scott, Senior Development Consultant

It is joyful to meet with faithful and generous FLBC Partners and Legacy Partners who wish to include FLBC in their charitable estate plans. We are grateful to assist and encourage one another

to provide gifts to support the Year Round and Summer Leadership Staff, provide Camperships, contribute to the Endowment fund, support Maintenance Improvements and consider gifts to help FLBC meet the Master Plan Capital Project funding goals.

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), distributions from Donor-advised funds (DAFs), and gifts of appreciated assets are described in this article. Hopefully, you will be inspired to engage in generous giving to support Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp in 2025 and beyond.

QCDs allow individuals age 70½ or older to make tax-free contributions up to \$108,000 in 2025 directly from their IRAs to one or more eligible charities. Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp (FLBC) is an amazing transformational blessing and an eligible charitable organization, Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). QCDs are especially appealing to baby boomers managing their required minimum distributions (RMDs). Age 73 is currently the age for RMDs from IRAs.

DAFs are projected this year to outpace overall philanthropy in growth, as more donors turn to them for their flexibility and tax advantages.



What are the tax benefits of a donor-advised fund?

These donations provide two tax benefits:

- Become eligible for an income tax deduction of the full fair-market value of the asset, up to 30% of your adjusted gross income.
- Potentially eliminate and maximize capital gains tax on long-term appreciated assets, as long as they've been held for more than a year.

If you regularly give to multiple nonprofit charities – your alma mater, your house of worship or other favorite charities like FLBC — you might benefit from streamlining your giving through a Donor-Advised Fund.

In the spirit of generosity, we encourage you to contribute to the FLBC Endowment fund at the Silver, Gold, Platinum or Sapphire level. We hope you will also provide gifts to support the staff and the campers. Financial supporters of FLBC that give at least \$150 a year to the Annual Fund are Partners of FLBC. Our Partners sustain the transformational ministry of FLBC!

As the future unfolds, we invite you to become an FLBC Legacy Partner. Legacy Partners include Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp in their estate plans.

If you have already included Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp as a beneficiary of your estate, trust or retirement fund, please share your plans with us by contacting me (Grace) at grace@flbc.net and/or Margie at margie@flbc.net. By informing us of your plans, we will record your gift along with your specified purpose, allowing FLBC to use your gift as intended. We look forward to hearing from you, meeting in person with you, and thanking you for your generous commitments to the future of FLBC. Blessings abound.

Visit bit.ly/FLBCInspires for Grace's full article.



Free Will

The FLBC Endowment team, under the direction of Scott Moothart (chair), Jim Stauffer, Pastor Greg Karlsgodt, Tim Wiersum & advisors Rev. Mike Borge & Dave Dickman, have partnered with "Free Will" to help and encourage people to have a will—and include FLBC in your will!

Go to www.freewill.com for more information.

Search for a New Executive Director

After nearly 14 years of service, Margie Fiedler is stepping down as Executive Director, as of April 12th. She will be working to begin her position June 1st as the FLBC Capital Campaign Director.

Please welcome our interim directors, who will serve May 1st until a new Executive Director is called. Welcome and contact the interims at InterimExDir@flbc.net. **Judy Engh** has been an Ex. Director in the ELCA camping network for many years, and after “retirement” from camping, she went back to her first career as a nurse. Most recently she was the interim Ex Director at Lutherwood, OR, where she worked with and hired **John Grebe** as her Associate Director. Judy lives in Anchorage, AK. John has worked in camping and as a church youth director. He currently lives in Bellingham, WA. They will live at camp during their interim, and will office out of the FLBC Kalispell business office. THANK YOU for welcoming Judy and John. Thanks to our interim team who searched and interviewed candidates over the last 5 months. Pr. Scott Thompson (Chair), and Samantha Schurek (current board members) LaDonna Grotbo, long time camper and staff mom; and Dave Dickman (former board member, Endowment committee member, and long-term camp treasurer).

The search committee for the permanent Executive Director is under the direction of Jay Bates, board member—along with Dan Richardson, Chamane Plum (both current board members), Kim Haugestuen, (family camper and summer staff mom), Mark Aageson and Dr. Sarah Borge (both former board chair persons). This team will be conducting the search, with the goal of a new Executive Director for FLBC starting this fall.

If you have suggestions or input, please contact Jay Bates, chairperson: JayBates@hotmail.com (253) 380-6381.



*We are so blessed by the forefathers who found this camp...
it is truly Holy Ground.
~ Retreat guest*



A Note from Margie

Dear friends,

How can I ever thank you?? These past nearly 14 years have flown by and have been the most amazing years of my life.

It has been my honor to serve thousands of campers and retreat guests. And I have had the privilege of working with outstanding board members, staff members, volunteers, and donors. Each person has blessed my life in some way, and each of these people have used their gifts to bring glory to God at FLBC. It has been a true blessing. Together we have led this growing organization into many new and exciting endeavors. I am so very thankful for what by the grace of God what we have been able to accomplish together.

FLBC is in great hands with our board and staff, as together we work to bring the new strategic plan and master plan to life. Going where God is calling this ministry to be in the future.

I am thankful to be asked to continue the ‘behind the scenes’ work, on a part time basis, with the board of directors, who will be leading the capital campaign. I hope my new call will bring more time to visit with you over a cup of coffee or for a hike.

With all thanks and praise, and in service to God...

Sincerely,

Dear Friends of FLBC...

Greetings from FLBC. It was a year ago December, 2023, when Margie first approached the personnel committee of the board to talk about a transition from her call as the Executive Director of FLBC and for her to seek new adventures. For over a year, the personnel committee has been working on a transition plan. The entire board was informed in June of 2024 of Margie's plans, and in October, 2024, a committee was formed to seek an interim director, with the plan that the interim would begin late spring 2025, and continue for 4-6 months or until a new Executive is called. The call committee has been selected and is hard at work.

Our Interim Director team will start this spring. We are thrilled that they will be working with an outstanding year-round staff and summer staff through the summer. We expect to see new and exciting things for the ministry of FLBC as we go forward. (Always growing, always changing.)

The board has voted to go forward with a capital appeal based on our Strategic plan, Master plan, and feasibility study. The campaign is exciting and we as a board have hired Margie on a part time basis to work with us, (the board), as we lead the campaign. So, we are looking at Margie as not "leaving" completely... just changing pews!! We are excited to share the Capital Appeal plans with you.

We wish to thank Margie for her 14 years of faithful service. When asked what she enjoyed most about her leadership, she shared how being able to invite theologians from every seminary, and Pastors, leaders and speakers from across the country to lead amazing retreats, and summer staff trainings has been a blessing. "I selfishly invited people I wanted to learn from!" "What incredible continuing education for myself and our staff, along with all the retreat guests, as we kept the theology of the cross the main focus of all of our programs."

Others may remember Margie for her creative, solid, theologically sound program, as well as her passion for the care of creation and peace and justice issues. Her goal was always that each and every program focus was on sharing the story of Jesus, and that campers and guests would experience the love of God in Christ Jesus. Her prayer was always and that each camper and retreat guest left knowing they were loved by God, and called to serve. She started many programs, but always said they were 'carrots' to get people to camp, but that the base of sharing and learning about Jesus was at the center of each camp and retreat. Weather it was art camp, Grandparent camp, environmental ed for schools, hammock village, tree houses, disc golf, outreach to congregations, the sauna, basketball camp, ranch camp, a Sr adult nature day, global international trips, cooking camp, or whatever camp/retreat she created... JESUS was at the center. (Preaching the gospel at all times... and if necessary, using words) Margie is known for her passion for the 'ministry of hospitality' helping people feel welcome, with 'otter pops' handed out on summer Sunday afternoons at the Y, as kids came to camp, quilts on the beds to brighten the cabins, flowers and table cloths on the tables, and her 'loose leaf tea bar' to name a few things she brought to FLBC.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. FLBC is strong, and we praise and thank God for that. Please reach out if you have questions, etc.

Lord, God, you have called your servant to ventures of which we cannot see the ending... Give us good faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us...

Sincerely,

Bing Crosby

Board President—on behalf of the FLBC board



Thank you to all of the staff for your dedication and commitment to sharing God's love with all the campers and those attending retreats or other outreach activities.

*~ Trinity Lutheran Church
WELCA Chateau*

FLBC Staff

Back row: Matt Kapelke, Tom Carlisle, Riley Doman, Justin Sikkema, Grace Schroeder Scott
Middle Row: Jan Greenwald, Melissa Mower, Kellie Sanford, Mica Riendeau, Laurie Wilson, Elizabeth Faircloth
Front Row: Margie Fiedler, Jessica Eroh, Kendra Schmidt & baby Macaiah, Karen Rumage



Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

603 S. Main Street
Kalispell, MT 59901

Find us on @flatheadlutheranbiblecamp



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Needs List 2025

A few of the items that are needed! Gifts-in-kind or Financial gifts towards these items are so appreciated!

- Embroidery floss
- Cotton white pillow cases
- Brooms & dustpans
- Hand tools
- Postage stamps
- Staplers
- Pedal boats
- Snowshoes
- Soft play balls for GAGA
- Golf cart
- 4-wheel drive truck
- Cars and mini vans
- Band-Aids
- Electric fans
- Clorox wipes
- TP!
- Back hoe
- Low Ropes Element updates

Visit flbc.net/donate-volunteer to see camp's full list of needs.

We are always grateful for your in-kind donations!

Upcoming Retreats & Events 2025

- Apr 4-5 **CAMPfirmation Retreat Part 2**
- Apr 27-29 **Caring for Creation: Finding our way with honesty, humility, curiosity & compassion (Adult Spirituality Retreat)**
- May 11 **Mother's Day Brunch**
- May 23-26 **Memorial Weekend Work & Family Retreat - FREE!**
- June 6-8 **Women's Retreat**
- June 7 **Partners Luncheon with speaker Baird Linke**
- June 17-28 **Greece Trip – Journey with Paul**
- July 4-6 **FLBC Family Weekend Summer 2025 staff families come free**
- Aug 17-20 **Pack & Pray Adult Backpacking Trip**
- Aug 29-Sep 1 **Labor Day Family & Work Retreat - FREE!**
- Oct 11 **Harvest Festival & Annual Meeting**
- Oct 30-Nov 2 **Quilting & Crafts Retreat**
- Nov 14-16 **Yoga Retreat with Pr. Kelsey Beebe. Ages 16+**
- Dec 5-7 **Family Advent Retreat**
- Dec 6 **Cookie Making Day**
10am-3pm – Take a bunch of cookies home!

We hope to see you soon!

Mark your calendar and register soon for these upcoming events & retreats!



SAVE THE DATE!

Join us this October
for our
Harvest Festival event
Sat., Oct. 11, 2025

Summer Camp 2026

With over 75 different programs to choose from, our year-round program staff are hard at work! Working on curriculum, having the right equipment, planning the best canteen treats, & hiring the BEST summer staff ever!!

KAREN RUMAGE (Program Director) – Overseeing on-site programs (retreats, family & youth camp, volunteers).

JUSTIN SIKKEMA (Wilderness/Environment Ed. Director) – Overseeing Glacier Wilderness & on-site outpost camps.

ELIZABETH FAIRCLOTH (Assistant Program Director) – Overseeing Day Camp in congregations; Grandparent; Women's Retreat

RILEY DOMAN – Summer on-site leader

At the time of this writing (February), we are seeking to hire our year-round Retreat Coordinator/Community Staff person.

Sign up today for your best week/weekend ever!