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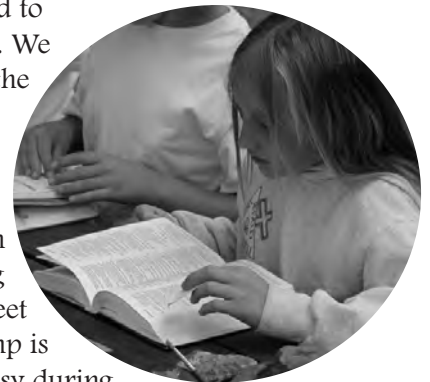
Bob LaCroix, Executive Director  
*St Pauls Luth Ch, Waseca*

## Is Camp Worth It?

The Wall Street Journal published an article in March by Anjali Athavaley entitled, "Cutting Back on the Kum Ba Yah". In today's difficult times, the article said, many families are having to make some tough decisions and not send their child to camp, opting for less expensive options. We all know times are tough and just like the retail stores, camps, including Camp Omega, are feeling the consumer spending pinch.

However, time at Camp Omega is much more than a simple consumer spending decision. Ms. Athavaley in the Wall Street Journal writes, "For many families, camp is an annual tradition that keeps them busy during the slow summer months and gives parents some alone-time in the house." If those are the only reasons that parents send their kids to camp, then I'd agree - when money is tight, it's time to re-evaluate. That kind of luxury may be one that can no longer be afforded.

However, a week at a Christian camp is so much more. Camp is a place where kids can "try on" their own walk with God. Camp is a place where kids learn not only who they are, but the wonder of who the Lord created them to be. Camp is a place where kids and families can discover the richness of God's creation together. At camp, they build strong life-long relationships that simply can't be forged any other way.



## Rooted in Christ, Camp Omega . . .

. . . is dedicated to assisting the congregations of the Minnesota South District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and other Christian and community groups in nurturing the spiritual, emotional, and intellectual growth of people of all ages through the camp's sponsored programs, resources and facilities in an outdoor setting.



## Did You Know...

Camp Omega is the name of the place where the Lord's ministry is at work, but it's also the name of your premier camp on Horseshoe Lake, serving campers and retreat goers for over 45 years with excellent programs and dedicated staff.

Day Camps bring a week of summer camp which includes staff, arts & crafts, bows & arrows, and loads of fun to 20+ cities and towns scattered around Southern Minnesota.

ELP, the name of our Environmental Learning Program, brings Christian and public schools to camp for exceptional day or overnight programs that teach students a greater awareness of and appreciation for the natural world and for each other.

YSL is Youth Servant Leaders, a summer youth leadership program committed to our partnership with the Church, training and sending out young adults to lead and to serve.

Camp Omega Sunday is the day the MN South District has established for congregations to publicly recognize, pray for and financially support camp during their Sunday services. It is also the day that the first summer campers arrive at camp.

## Is Camp Worth It? Continued...

Camp is a place where a family can connect... sometimes for the first time. They eat together, play together, learn together, and grow together. The greater benefit is that they can take these things home with them. For some, Camp Omega has become a cornerstone of their summer that they wouldn't miss.

When a child comes to camp, she or he learns what our Lord's voice sounds like. In the stillness of a starry night, a child or teen recognizes His small quiet voice that affirms, encourages, directs, leads and loves. When that child returns home to the activities and noise of life, they can much more easily recognize that voice when it beckons.



Camp Omega is so much more than a place to keep kids busy. Camp is a place where Christ's love is recognized...life courses are charted and set. The Holy Spirit uses the powerful tools of His creation, His Word, and young adults who love Him with their whole heart to change lives in amazing ways.

So, is camp worth the cost? To a Christian parent...what's it worth to put your child side by side with a caring counselor that will model the Christian life in front of him...daily? If the peer group and role models are primary shapers of our kids' lives, then what's it worth to take your child to such a positive place? How expensive is the alternative of not providing those positive experiences and role models?

At Camp Omega, we are doing everything we can to assure that every child is able to attend one of our camps, regardless of economic status. We have a camp for every child and every budget. Some of our camp experiences are as little as \$65. That's 60% below cost. You may also consider applying for a Camp Omega For the Children Fund Campership. We want every opportunity to produce a safe environment where Christ can change lives - forever.

## Adopt A Cabin Project

The five cabins and the Retreat Center at Camp Omega are looking for groups of 5-8 people to share Tender-Loving-Care with them. Adopting a cabin means two trips to camp, one in mid-Spring and the other in mid-Fall to give the cabin a thorough cleaning following an intense period of Retreat or Summer Camp season usage. Cleaning supplies, a check-off work sheet, a meal, and lodging (if necessary) are provided. Three of the cabins have been "adopted" by groups in or members of area congregations. If you are willing to organize a group and adopt a remaining cabin, please contact Camp Omega at 507-685-4266 or [curt@campomega.org](mailto:curt@campomega.org).



# Thank You!

The following pages highlight individuals and organizations whose financial support demonstrates their care, commitment, compassion and leadership to the mission and vision of Camp Omega during 2008.

We are grateful for your kind and willing spirits!

## Omega Society...

...gave \$250 or more

Wilford & Arlene Bartley; Woodbury, MN  
Anonymous  
Ken & Jackie Boese; Morristown, MN  
Richard Carlander; Faribault, MN  
Larry & Lu Clemmensen; Saint Paul, MN  
Roger Dubbe; Jordan, MN  
Robert Flom; Nerstrand, MN  
Arlaine Franzmeier; Rosemount, MN  
Brent Fuchs; Faribault, MN  
Roger & Pam Heiden; Wadena, MN  
Newell & Barbara Hoback; Mayer, MN  
Sylvia Hoehle; Sun City, AZ  
Delbert & Irene Jasmer; New Prague, MN  
Dale & Theresa Kelm; Faribault, MN  
Phil Klemp; Winona, MN  
Martin & Elda Krause; Owatonna, MN  
Bob & Jen LaCroix; Waterville, MN  
Charles & Delrose LaCroix; Alexandria, MN  
Paul & Lois Leckband; Norfolk, NE  
Howard & Vicki Luehmann; Lewiston, MN  
Tom & Theresa McLaughlin; Mankato, MN  
John & Mary Mertesdorf; Vernon Center, MN  
Gary & Dorothy Meyer; Waltham, MN  
Allan & Audrey Oehlke; Grand Meadow, MN  
Donald & Carol Olson; Woodbury, MN  
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Jim & Marcia Schultz; Janesville, MN  
Paul Schulz; Austin, MN  
Edgar Schulz; Morristown, MN  
Terry & Cindy Schwichtenberg; Waterville, MN  
Anonymous  
Charles & Gail Sheridan; Faribault, MN  
Curt & Sylvia Stoltenow; Waterville, MN  
Richard & Joyce Swedean; Eagan, MN  
Clyde & Jean Thurk; Bloomington, MN  
Randall Trapp; Dodge Center, MN  
Todd & Joyce Trump; Faribault, MN  
Herman Trump; Faribault, MN  
Terry & Kathy Wangen; Brownsdale, MN

## General Fund...

...gave \$1-\$249

Daniel Albright; Plymouth, MN  
Doug Andersen; Plymouth, MN  
James & Joy Anderson; Prior Lake, MN  
Eric Barth; Anoka, MN  
David & Dorothy Baumgartner; Brownsdale, MN  
Alanroy & Beth Bester; Hampton, MN  
Harriet Bliese; Mankato, MN  
Jeff Bliss; Faribault, MN  
Scott & Mary Blomberg; Plymouth, MN  
Scott Boldt; Faribault, MN  
Robert Bornfleth, City & State N/A

Ron & Barb Borwn; Faribault, MN  
Lynne Brevig; Minneapolis, MN  
Rick & Theresa Bussler; Lakeville, MN  
Tim Carlson; Austin, MN  
Joyce Ciffra; Owatonna, MN  
Lois Ciffra; Owatonna, MN  
Shawn & Lisa Cooper; Chaska, MN  
Tim Davis; Minnetrista, MN  
Doug & Denise Davis; Mapleton, MN  
Laurel Denney; Coon Rapids, MN  
Donald & Nancy Dickison; Faribault, MN  
Lane Dobie; Mankato, MN  
Madeline Drevlow; Faribault, MN  
George & Arna Farmer; Faribault, MN  
Luke & Kelly Fischer; Solon, IA  
Terry Forke; Billings, MT  
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Ted & Connie Fust; Plymouth, MN  
Harlan Gerke; Rochester, MN  
Michael & Diane Golchert; Pelham, AL  
Bruce Gorter; Eagan, MN  
Henry & Alice Groth; Lakeville, MN  
Tom & Amy Marie Gundermann; Robbinsdale, MN  
Linda Hannon; Long Beach, CA  
Nick Harrison; Lakeville, MN  
Eveline Hering; Waterville, MN  
Lyle & Susan Hermel; Waterville, MN  
Bob & Christine Hockman; Savage, MN  
Irene Hoffman; Waseca, MN  
Sandra Holten; Plymouth, MN  
Nathaniel Houle; Moose Lake, MN  
Craig & Debra Jergens; Litchfield, MN  
Ann Kalvig; Mankato, MN  
Harland Kelm; Faribault, MN  
Timothy & Debra Kinne; Lakeville, MN  
Robert & Deb Kirk; Lakeville, MN  
Martin Kirsch; Richfield, MN  
Jerry & Diana Kokoschke; Blooming Prairie, MN  
John & Lavonne Krause; Morristown, MN  
Edwin & Genelle Krause; Faribault, MN  
Erv Kurth; Mankato, MN  
Roger Lindemeier; Nya, MN  
Merle Lohse; Apple Valley, MN  
Gloria Luecke; Faribault, MN  
Virgil & Jane Luehrs; Morristown, MN  
Maynard Maas; Owatonna, MN  
Dan & Natilee Marose; Bloomington, MN  
Kent & Wendy McDonough; Aitkin, MN  
Kevin & Cheryl McDonough; Eagan, MN  
Wayne & Alice Meyer; Faribault, MN  
Jim & Nancy Meyhoefer; Shakopee, MN  
William & Eldie Michaelis; Rollingstone, MN  
Dan & Dottie Michaelis; Winona, MN  
Paul Miller; Minnetonka, MN  
John & Lisa Moorhouse; Kilkenny, MN

Joe & Tammy Murphy; New Prague, MN  
Tom Narr; Chanhassen, MN  
Wayne Nelson; Faribault, MN  
Kellie Nelson; Faribault, MN  
Jay North; Waconia, MN  
Frank & Janet Novak; Lakeville, MN  
Kevin Nutson; Chaska, MN  
Brian Nutter; Elysian, MN  
Steve Oborn; Faribault, MN  
Darryl Olson; New Brighton, MN  
Orlin Ortloff; Darwin, MN  
Nate Pakan; Eagan, MN  
Tim Peick; Lakeville, MN  
Marcos Peluso; Chanhassen, MN  
Gordon & Carolyn Peterson; Brooklyn Park, MN  
Del & Phyllis Pope; Waterville, MN  
David Priebe; Plymouth, MN  
Donald & Heide Ressie; Lewiston, MN  
Victor & Leona Roth; Waterville, MN  
Bruce & Melissa Rott; Elgin, MN  
Dale & Pam Rudolph; Waseca, MN  
Steve & Anne Ryan; Wayzata, MN  
Hilda Schafbuch; Faribault, MN  
Dennis Schmidtke; Morristown, MN  
Tony Schmidtke; Northfield, MN  
Michael Schmieg; Waconia, MN  
James Schull; Mapleton, MN  
Dean & Nancy Schutte; Kenyon, MN  
Dale Schwartz; Waterville, MN  
Andrew & Julianne Scrivener; Jordan, MN  
Alan & Betty Shaw; Faribault, MN  
Wes & Joanne Skunberg; Sioux Falls, SD  
Meagan Sons; Green Isle, MN  
J. P. Spetzman; Lindstrom, MN  
Albert & Charla Spitzack; Morristown, MN  
Iva Stoltenow; Wahpeton, ND  
Liz Strohfers; Faribault, MN  
William Struve; Waterville, MN  
Joel & Betsy Sullivan; Shakopee, MN  
David & Celine Swift; Glencoe, MN  
Don & Lavona Taylor; Shakopee, MN  
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Brent Thielen; Shakopee, MN  
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Betty Velzke; Faribault, MN  
Liz Volkert; Rosemount, MN  
Marilyn Wachholz; Lewiston, MN  
George & Jennifer Wagner; Faribault, MN  
Martin Wagner; Morristown, MN  
Mark Weber; Bloomington, MN  
Orville & Evonne Wegner; Faribault, MN  
Colette Weiser; New Brighton, MN  
Brian Weller; Waseca, MN  
Dave & Dawn Wenisch; Ham Lake, MN  
Robert & Mary Wetzels; Waterville, MN

# Contributors Continued...

## General Fund - *continued...*

John Wills; Eagan, MN  
Eric & Leah Worke; Waseca, MN  
Harold Worke; Waseca, MN  
Mike & Barb Young; Faribault, MN  
Robert Ziemba; Mazeppa, MN  
Steven & Joy Zimmerman; Faribault, MN

## For the Children Fund Camperships...

*...who recognized the importance of helping every child attend camp regardless of economic status.*

Ed & Allien Ahlman; Morristown, MN  
Todd & Terri Bentz; Richfield, MN  
Howard & Kathy Bode; Faribault, MN  
Bert & Bev Bode; Courtland, MN  
Joyce Brandes; Courtland, MN  
Helen Bunge; Mayer, MN  
Richard & Miriam Carter; Saint Paul, MN  
Bill & Marcia Cochran; Rochester, MN  
Melvin & Kay Cram; Waterville, MN  
Steven Eickhoff; Fountain, MN  
Robert & Lois Gebhardt; Waltham, MN  
Michael Gramse; Faribault, MN  
Jim Gramse; Faribault, MN  
Roger & Margaret Hosfield; Owatonna, MN  
John & Barb Meyer; Elgin, MN  
Raymond & Ann Mussell; Plainview, MN  
John & Juliene Schieck; Austin, MN  
Edward & Beverly Schmidtke; Morristown, MN  
Bryan Schuenke; Faribault, MN  
Jim Spitzack; Richfield, MN  
Jeffrey & Jan Trost; Kenyon, MN

## In Memory Of...

*...Glorianna Dubbe:*  
Rod Dubbe; Elko, MN  
*...Alton Hallauer:*  
Anonymous  
Harvey & Sharon Bursch; Faribault, MN  
Camp Omega Staff  
*...Phyllis Heine:*  
Harvey & Sharon Bursch; Faribault, MN  
*...William Arnold Klause:*  
Ann Klause; Rochester, MN  
*...Don Paap:*  
Kevin Paap; Garden City, MN  
*...Gilbert Stoltenow:*  
Iva Stoltenow; Wahpeton, ND

## Designated Gifts...

Delber & Irene Jasmer; New Prague, MN  
Stan Keller; New Brighton, MN  
Peace Lutheran Church; Faribault, MN  
St. Paul Lutheran Church; Waseca, MN

## Gift In Kinds...

Roger & Pam Heiden; Wadena, MN  
Jim Rook; Jordan, MN  
Roy Schmidtke; Morristown, MN  
St. John Lutheran Church; Garfield, MN

## Partner Organizations...*who recognized the valuable mission and ministry that is taking place through the power of the Holy Spirit Camp Omega.*

### Congregations & Schools

Bethlehem Lutheran Church; Minnetonka, MN  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church; Morristown, MN  
Emanuel Lutheran Church; Hamburg, MN  
First Evangelical Lutheran Ch; Glencoe, MN  
Gethsemane Lutheran School; Maplewood, MN  
Grace Lutheran Church; Mankato, MN  
Holy Cross Sunday School; Rochester, MN  
Hope Lutheran Church; Hastings, MN  
Immanuel Lutheran Church; Ormsby, MN  
Immanuel Lutheran Church; Plainview, MN  
Messiah Lutheran Church; Lakeville, MN  
Our Savior Lutheran Church; Mankato, MN  
Prince of Peace Luth; Spring Lake Park, MN  
St. James Lutheran Church; Northrop, MN  
St. John Lutheran Church; Austin, MN  
St. John Lutheran Church; Stewartville, MN  
St. Michaels Lutheran Church; Bloomington, MN  
St. Paul Lutheran Church; Blue Earth, MN  
St. Peter Lutheran Church; Afton, MN  
St. Peter Lutheran Church Women; Afton, MN  
St. Peter Mission Circle; Easton, MN  
St. Stephanus Lutheran Church; Saint Paul, MN  
Trinity Lutheran School; Janesville, MN  
Trinity Lutheran Church; Waterville, MN  
Zion Lutheran Church; Albert Lea, MN  
Zion Lutheran Church; Hopkins, MN

### Thrivent Chapters

Carver/Hennepin Thrivent Chap.; Chanhassen, MN  
Central Minneapolis Thrivent Chap.; Mpls, MN  
LeSueur County Thrivent Chapter; Waterville, MN  
Mower County Thrivent Chapter; Sargeant, MN  
N. Dakota County Thrivent Chapter; Eagan, MN  
NE Mpls Thrivent Chapter; Minneapolis, MN  
Rochester Chapter of Thrivent; Rochester, MN  
Rum River County Chapter; Foreston, MN  
S. Rice County Thrivent Chap; Faribault, MN  
Scott County Thrivent Chap; Montgomery, MN  
So. Ramsey Thrivent Chapter; Saint Paul, MN  
South Dakota Thrivent Chap; Apple Valley, MN  
Southwest Hennepin County Chap; Edina, MN  
Waseca County Thrivent Chapter; Waseca, MN  
Waseca County Thrivent Chap; Janesville, MN  
W. Hennepin County Thrivent Chap; Delano, MN

## *Did You Know...*

Camp fees at Camp Omega only cover about 68% of the annual costs of summer camp and retreat events. Camp relies on generous individuals like you to help make up the remaining 32%.

## Men's and Women's Organizations

Christ Lutheran LWML; Eagan, MN  
Dorcas Society-Trinity Lutheran; Janesville, MN  
Fieldon Trinity Ladies Aid; Lewisville, MN  
Good Shepherd Mission Guild; N. Mankato, MN  
Hannah Circle; Albert Lea, MN  
Holy Cross Ladies Aid; Austin, MN  
Immanuel - Dorcas Society; Courtland, MN  
Ladies Aid Society; Saint Paul, MN  
Our Savior Ladies Aid; Brownsdale, MN  
Our Savior's Church LWML; Winnebago, MN  
St. John's Ladies Aid; Chaska, MN  
St. John's Ladies Aid; Austin, MN  
St. John's LWML; Sherburn, MN  
St. John's, Rich Valley Ladies Aid; Rosemount, MN  
St. Matthew Ladies Aid; Saint Charles, MN  
St. Paul LWML; Fairmont, MN  
St. Paul S. Cotta Guild; Waseca, MN  
St. Paul's Ladies Aid; Green Isle, MN  
Tabitha Circle; Minnesota Lake, MN  
Trinity Guild; Elgin, MN  
Trinity Ladies Aid; Medford, MN  
Trinity Ladies Aid; Morristown, MN  
Zion Ladies Aid & LWML; Cologne, MN

## Other Organizations

American Legion Post 149; Morristown, MN  
MN District-LCMS; Burnsville, MN  
MN North District; Brainerd, MN

**We make every attempt to list all donors, but mistakes do happen. Please call us at (507) 685-4266 or e-mail at [info@campomega.org](mailto:info@campomega.org) if we have inadvertently omitted your name or listed you incorrectly.**

**- To God Alone Be The Glory -**

# For The Children Fund

Camp Omega is dedicated to ensuring that no camper - child, teen, adult or family - is ever turned away for financial reasons from a camp program. The "For the Children Campership Fund" has been established to provide financial assistance to individuals and families who would otherwise not be able to participate. Last year alone, Camp Omega gave nearly \$15,000 in financial assistance as Camperships to families in need.

## Need some help during this tough financial time?

Call the Camp office at 507.685.4266 or visit [www.w.campomega.org](http://www.w.campomega.org) to learn how Camp Omega is there for you.

## Are You Able To Provide Assistance?

You can have a part in assuring that a child, teen, adult, or family will experience Christ's love and fellowship in a Christian community through a Camp Omega event. Any gift towards Camperships is appreciated. You can make a contribution by sending a check to Camp Omega and writing "For The Children Fund" on the memo line. On behalf of the camp staff and the children, we thank you!



"My granddaughter was a guest at your camp. For two years she had been asking to go to Camp Omega after meeting your summer counselors at church Day Camp. Wow, did she have fun! The happiness shone from her face

when we arrived to pick her up. Her counselors were awesome. My granddaughter would not have been [able] to attend camp without your campership program. Thank you for this, and for your dedication to mentoring youth. I applaud you!" - Grandparent of Camper

## Camp Omega Needs

- Projector Screen (6x6 or larger)
- TV with RCA plugs
- Vacuum(s)
- ~~Football~~ THANK YOU!
- Parachute (\$50)
- Colored Markers
- Safety and Regular Scissors
- Gator Skin Balls (\$12 each)
- Four Wheeled Muel/Gator type vehicle
- ~~Four Wheel Drive Truck~~ THANK YOU!
- ~~Zero Turn Radius Mower~~ THANK YOU!
- Pool cover to keep the pool temperature comfortable during summer (\$2500)
- Two Way Radios (\$150 each)
- Pontoon Boat For 15-20 People
- ~~Pontoon Boat Lift~~ THANK YOU!
- ~~Deck~~ THANK YOU!
- Winter Sno-tubing Tubes (\$15 each)
- Taxidermy Animals and Fish
- Clipboards
- White T-Shirts (new) for Crafts
- Duct Tape
- Craft paint
- ~~Dryer~~ THANK YOU!
- ~~75-100 Chairs~~ THANK YOU!
- ~~Soccer Goal Nets~~ THANK YOU!
- ~~Archery Targets~~ THANK YOU!
- ~~Office Desk~~ THANK YOU!
- ~~30 Cup Coffee Makers~~ THANK YOU!
- ~~Mini Van~~ THANK YOU!
- Carousel Slide Projector

THANK YOU!

## Dining Hall Deck Nearly Complete

Fall of 2008 provided an opportunity for volunteers and Camp Omega staff to bring to near completion a project long on the list of "things to do". The view up the hill in front of the dining hall now features a new deck, a structure which provides both aesthetic and practical value. With the assistance of \$3,000 from Thrivent Financial, and over 600 hours of volunteer labor, the deck became a reality! Not only does it enhance the look of the dining hall area, it also provides overflow space for campers during weeks when the camp numbers do not allow for all to eat in the dining hall in one seating. A few more weeks and the deck will be complete just in time for summer camp. Thank you to the many individuals and groups who spent time and energy working on this project.



**Camp Omega**  
22750 Lind Ave  
Waterville, MN 56096  
www.campomega.org



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Organization  
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Waterville, MN

You Are Invited To  
**Camp Omega Day!**  
June 6, 2009 9am - 4pm  
A free day of fun for  
the whole family!  
Visit [www.campomega.org](http://www.campomega.org) for details.



**OmegaWord**

## How Do You Measure Ministry?

It is measured by lives impacted and lives changed.

Here are three snapshots from people touched by the ministry our Lord has through Camp Omega.

From Rocky, a retreat guest... "Just wanted to send a Thank you to say that was one of the best retreats we have had. The staff was fantastic and very willing to help/assist in any way. They also gave us a few new ideas and twists to what we were doing which enhanced our retreat experience."

From Arianne, a camper... "I think camp is the awesomest thing that has ever happened to me. The counselors are awesome role models, listeners, and friends."



From Ron, a retreat guest... "I wanted to thank you for all the Camp Omega provided for our retreat. The camp property and facilities were a perfect setting for our retreat. All of the staff that we interacted with made us feel very welcome. The food was amazing and the staff did a phenomenal job at leading us with our activities and hosting us. The campfire on Saturday with song, and a skit presenting a message of Joy in Christ was a great experience for us all."