

# The Seed

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## Camp Energy will *energize* LUM campers

LUM Camp 2006 will be the year of CAMP ENERGY! Not that LUM Camp and LUM Campers aren't always full of energy—Hanging Rock Camp will be buzzing with traditional camp activities like swimming, hiking, arts and crafts, campfires and games again this year—but this year's camp week will also focus on different areas of energy sources, our energy crisis and energy conservation.

From August 7-11, 80 campers will learn about our dependence on fossil fuels, alternate fuel sources, and conservation techniques. Activities will be led by experienced children's educators from the area including leaders from the Warren County REMC High Voltage Program and the Purdue Energy Center programs.

Over 30 volunteer counselors will guide the children through the week, helping the campers develop new skills, overcome challenges and gain confidence. And there will also be opportunities for just plain fun, such as a magic show by magician Rick Deardorff.

**LUM Camp has touched the lives of thousands of children over the years.** This year will be no different. Please remember the children in your prayers that week. We thank everyone who makes this experience possible.

There is nothing quite like the victorious smile of a camper who has conquered the rock climbing wall, or the shared smiles of new best friends, or the smiles over ice cream sundaes at the end of a great day. We're looking forward to the smiles generated by CAMP ENERGY!



**YOU** can be a LUM  
Camp Counselor

Volunteer camp counselors make LUM Camp happen. They guide, encourage and support each child through the wonderful week of camp.

You, or someone you know, might be just the person to touch a child's life this summer. Volunteers must be 18 years old, enjoy children, and be available for the entire week at camp. An air-conditioned cabin and a group of eager children await you!

Call Joe Micon at 423-2691 for an application, or download one from our website at [www.lafayetteurbanministry.org](http://www.lafayetteurbanministry.org).

### How can I support LUM Camp?



LUM Camp is a very large undertaking that requires significant financial support. We're in the process of registering 80 very special children for LUM Camp. They would not have the opportunity to attend a summer camp — much less a camp like ours—if it weren't for your friendship and financial support. If you've already contributed, thank you very much! If you haven't, please know that your gift of a full or partial \$125 campership is still needed. Place your check in the enclosed envelope and return it today.



# What is the language of the Gospel?

by Mary Anderson, Executive Director

**My great-great grandparents** were immigrants. I don't know if they were "legal"—or even if such a term existed when they left home and family in Germany to come to Fort Wayne, Indiana. I know they never learned English; they attended German-speaking church, frequented German businesses and had German friends. Even my grandparents, two generations later, were raised with German spoken in their homes, learning their English in public schools but still attending German church. Apparently it was quite the family scandal when my "high-German" Lutheran grandmother married my "low-German" Lutheran grandfather.

My ancestors were hard working people. They worked on the family farm and ran large households. They were fiercely proud of their heritage, and it has been handed down through the generations. Although I don't speak their language, I cherish their recipes and their traditions, and the courage it took for them to come to a strange land and begin a new life.

I don't have the answers to today's questions about immigrants and immigration policy. I know there are economic, legal and political questions that must be sorted out by

minds more astute than mine. But I do know that all of us are diminished by the language being used in these discussions. The heritage of my relatives—and yours—is being dishonored by terms



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like "those people," "illegals," or "aliens." Wherever they have come from, however they have gotten here, these are our brothers and sisters seeking a life that we take for granted.

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Jesus didn't say we needed to ask for picture ID or immigration papers. Recently proposed legislation would have made it illegal for churches, individuals or organizations like LUM to provide food, clothing or shelter to undocumented persons. Our basic Gospel call to welcome, feed, shelter,

clothe or give water to the stranger would have become a federal offense.

When I was about 10 years old, my family drove from Pennsylvania to Florida. For the first time in my life, I saw signs for "whites only" drinking fountains, and a warning in a hotel lobby that "we reserve the right to refuse service." I had to ask my father what those signs meant; it was language that I had not heard before but somehow knew was hateful and divisive. I am proud that, publicly at least, most of that hate-filled language has left our vocabulary.

And I am concerned that I read and hear similar language now being directed at other groups in America. Whether it is the language of immigration issues, political discussion between rival parties or any matter involving those who differ from us, our words should first and foremost be words of respect, caring, and love.

"Politically correct" language shouldn't be our goal. Christian-correct language, love-centered language, acceptance-based language should be. Let us all carefully watch our words, so that our actions may follow those words and be acts of compassion, grace and service. ✍

## Thanks to LUM volunteers!

As we mark the half-way point through the year, we want to pause and express our deep gratitude to the hundreds of volunteers who make LUM's work possible. Whether you are a LUM Board representative, an advocate, an overnight shelter volunteer, a bulk mailer, a food pantry helper or an office worker, or helped provide a meal at the shelter, helped with tax preparation, Jubilee, Thanksgiving Celebration, the Afterschool Program or summer camp, or helped in any other way, please know that your contributions of time and talents are important and much appreciated.



## 2006 Annual Fund Campaign closes in on goal

*You can help put us over the top!*

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Annual Fund Committee, \$51,823 has been pledged to the 2006 Lafayette Urban Ministry Annual Fund Campaign—86% of the Campaign's \$60,000 goal.

The Annual Fund Campaign is LUM's largest fundraising effort of the year. We depend upon the Annual Fund Campaign proceeds to support the Lafayette Urban Ministry programs that are vital to the well-being of so many families and children in our community: Tax Preparation, Afterschool, Jubilee Christmas, Advocate and Teen Pregnancy Prevention Programs among others.

If you've already made a contribution or pledge to LUM's 2006 Annual Fund Campaign, we thank you for your friendship and generosity.

If you haven't, there's still time to help put us over the top! Send your one time gift or monthly pledge marked "Annual Fund" in the enclosed envelope or visit our website at: [www.lafayetteurbanministry.org](http://www.lafayetteurbanministry.org) to contribute online.

Questions? Contact Joe Micon at 423-2691. On behalf of the many children and families who depend upon LUM's services, please accept our heartfelt thanks.



Above, LUM Executive Director Mary Anderson (on the left) and Homeless Shelter Joyce Boehm open the valve on the new water heater.

A just-in-time gift from the Diocesan Campaign for Human Development of Greater Lafayette made it possible for LUM to have a brand new water heater installed before our original equipment failed. The plumbing company told us we were within days of complete water heater failure! This generous donation kept the hot water flowing to our homeless shelter and offices without interruption. Our deepest thanks to the Diocese of Lafayette for this gift and for all they do to support our work.



## Hunger Hike 2006 kicks off

Representatives from Lafayette Urban Ministry, Food Finders Food Bank and the St. Thomas Aquinas Haiti Mission joined presenting sponsor Bison Financial Group on April 25 at the Tippecanoe County Public Library for the official KICK OFF of Hunger Hike 2006.

Guests got a sneak peek at this year's t-shirt, heard from the participating agencies and met the leaders of the Purdue Crew—grand marshals of the event again this year.

Forms for hikers, corporate sponsors and general Hunger Hike information are available on the web site:

[www.hungerhike.org](http://www.hungerhike.org).

We look forward to seeing you on September 17 for Hunger Hike 2006!

**www.hungerhike.org**



## **The SEED • June 2006**

**Change Service Requested**

### ***Briefly noted***

**The LUM Emergency Homeless Shelter needs your help!**

Current needs include overnight volunteers, emergency on-call volunteers, and meal donations. For more information and volunteer training dates, visit the LUM website at [www.lafayetteurbanministry.org](http://www.lafayetteurbanministry.org), or contact Joyce Boehm at 423-2691.

**Shelves at the St. John's/LUM Food Pantry are almost bare!**

Current needs include: cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, peanut butter, spaghetti and other pastas. Please bring your donations directly to the Food Pantry at St. John's Episcopal Church, 600 Ferry Street, on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday from 9am-noon. To make special arrangements for other days and times, call Patti O'Callaghan at 423-2691.

**LUM encourages everyone to participate in this summer's "One Great Read,"**

a community-wide event sponsored by the Tippecanoe County and West Lafayette Public Libraries. The featured book, *Nickled and Dimed: On (not) Getting By in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich, illustrates the struggles our LUM clients face each and every day. We hope it will open your eyes to the realities of life for the working poor in our community.

### **Children in LUM's Afterschool Program are all smiles...**



**...as they enjoy a special end-of-the-school year treat**