



Camp Hiawatha • Camp Vermilion 1105 E. Superior St. Lower Suite, Duluth, MN 55802 800-331-5148 218-666-5465 vlm@VLMcamps.org www.VLMcamps.org

Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry provides opportunities for Christ-centered spiritual growth, leadership development, and outreach in God's great northwoods!

To: First Lutheran Church  
2201 3rd Ave E  
Hibbing, MN 55746

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday  
and today and forever.  
- Hebrews 13:8*

Dear members of **First Lutheran Church**,

All I can say is **THANK YOU FOR LOVING YOUR CAMPS** and making space available for this life changing ministry to happen. The congregations of Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry opened the doors to Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion in the late 1950s and every year since then. When the VLM Board made the decision to close those doors and our programs due to the Covid-19 pandemic we knew we were entering different waters. It was a hard decision to enter conservancy and it was scary. But it needed to be done, if for no other reason than to continue growing leaders for moments like this.

**Even with no campers on site, it felt exciting.** We immediately started working to make sure that the organization was strong, the sites were secure, and the staff and volunteers were safe. We were given new perspective on how we could prepare to provide camp in new ways for kids and families.

We know that you have also been navigating these new waters in your own congregation and understand that most budgets and plans were changed dramatically. Even so, **our congregations increased their giving by 25% - amidst a pandemic!** Through your **prayers** and **\$8,563.75 (and \$250 Women of ELCA) financial support** this year, VLM was able to successfully navigate 2020 and enter 2021 in a stronger position. This is allowing your camps to securely move forward in faith. Wow, thank you!

As we move forward, the end of conservancy and a return to gathering around the campfire is coming. In the meantime, we continue to work together for God's mission here.

We are honored to be your camps and look forward to where God is nudging us in the years to come.

See you at camp! (Soon!)

Joel Abenth  
Executive Director

**Your extra gift in the middle of the year  
came jus at the right time. Thank you for  
your support and love for camp!!**

As a reminder our annual meeting is on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Details and our full annual report can be downloaded at [www.vlmcamps.org/2020-annual-meeting](http://www.vlmcamps.org/2020-annual-meeting). Please contact us with any questions you may have.

Registration is open for summer 2021! Visit [www.vlmcamps.org/summer-schedule](http://www.vlmcamps.org/summer-schedule) to learn more. Member church can take advantage of savings by Feb 15<sup>th</sup> with the VLM Early, Early Bird Discount!

## 2021 Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry - Events

**January 15-17**      **Family Winter Rejuve**      **Camp Hiawatha**  
-a weekend for families to reconnect and enjoy all that winter has to offer at camp. Meals and staff led activities provided along with the flexibility for families to have their own adventures. There is also an opportunity to extend your stay through Jan. 18.

**April 16-18**      **Paddle Building**      **Camp Vermilion**  
-a weekend building a wooden bent shaft canoe or stand up paddleboard paddle.

**May 1**      **Spring Work Day**      **Camp Hiawatha**  
-a day for volunteers to help get the camps ready for summer and enjoy fellowship with other camp supporters; day includes snacks and lunch.

**May 9**      **Mother's Day Brunch**      **Camp Vermilion**  
-a wonderful brunch at camp to celebrate and honor important women. Table reservation will be limited each hour between 9am and 1pm.

**May 15**      **Spring Work Day**      **Camp Vermilion**  
-a day for volunteers to help get the camps ready for summer and enjoy fellowship with other camp supporters; day includes snacks and lunch.

**July 31**      **Bluegrass Festival**      **Camp Vermilion**  
-an annual fundraiser for VLM with music, raffle and auction opportunities, and the opportunity to fellowship with camp supporters while supporting camp.

**September 18**      **Fall Work Day**      **Camp Vermilion**  
-a day for volunteers to help get the camp ready for winter and enjoy fellowship with other camp supporters; day includes snacks and lunch.

**September 25**      **Fall Work Day**      **Camp Hiawatha**  
- a day for volunteers to help get the camp ready for winter and enjoy fellowship with other camp supporters; day includes snacks and lunch.

**October 15-17**      **Paddle Building**      **Camp Vermilion**  
-a weekend building a wooden bent shaft canoe or stand up paddleboard paddle.

**October 22-24**      **Quilting Retreat**      **Camp Vermilion**  
-a weekend of quilting for beginners through experts working on personal and community projects.

**December 4 & December 18**      **Christmas Tree Cutting**      **Both camps**  
-Pick a camp and pick your tree. Stop by camp to cut your own fresh Christmas tree. Enjoy a warm beverage and a sweet treat.

**December 12**      **Celebration of Light and Music**      **Camp Hiawatha**  
-an afternoon event which includes outdoor winter fun such as sledding, sleigh rides, food and crafting demonstrations indoors; snacks throughout the afternoon with worship service and evening meal.