

Deer Lake Camp: The Lord has impressed it upon our hearts for many years to build our own facility where we can provide 7 weeks of children's summer camps with 80-100 campers per week. We would also like to provide certain specialized camps and weekend teen/college retreats, as well as expand our ministry to families by reaching out to the parents of campers with retreats for the purpose of evangelism, character development, Christian growth, marriage enrichment, and improved parenting skills. We purchased a beautiful parcel of land on September 29, 2000. It contains 280 acres of undeveloped land bordering on Deer Lake near Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The property has 3,000 feet of lake frontage with a beautiful white sand beach facing the western sky. Deer Lake is a 4,980 acre crystal-clear lake harboring walleye, muskellunge, and small-mouth bass. The water is very shallow near the shore, providing an excellent swimming area. The land has many steep hills and valleys and is almost totally wooded with pine, spruce, fir, cedar, tamarack, maple, poplar, birch, basswood, and other trees. There is a well-maintained road leading into the property and a three-bedroom log cabin facing the

lake. Top of Form 1 </FORM Bottom of Form 1 A small, 4-person bunkhouse and newer 2-car garage are nearby the cabin. We would like to have the new camp operational for small retreats by fall, 2001, and for summer camps by July 2002. Many people have expressed a desire to help us build the new camp. If you are interested in helping, please email us at lwbc@scel.com. **BUILDING PLANS: Phase 1:** 1. **Infrastructure** - Septic system, road construction, electrical work. 2. **Storage/Maintenance building** - To store equipment, supplies, etc. 3. **Main Lodge** - A log structure which will house a commercial kitchen, dining room, office, reception area, great room, library, classrooms, etc. 4. **Four Camper Cabins** - Upstairs will sleep 16 and have bathroom/shower facilities. Downstairs will provide apartments for additional staff housing, marriage retreats, crafts, games, storage. 5. **Move Buildings** - Existing cabin, garage, and bunkhouse. 6. **Furniture** - We plan to build our own log bunkbeds and other furniture. We could hold retreats and small camps after Phase 1 completion. **Phase 2:** 1. **Two Camper Cabins** [same description as in Phase 1] 2. **Chapel** - winterized with rest rooms, for Gospel meetings at summer camp, and other programs during the rest of the year including neighborhood outreaches (plays, speakers, films, etc.). This may be attached to the main lodge. 3. **Gymnasium** 4. **Games / Nature Studies building** 5. **Indoor Pool** **Phase 3:** Additional cabins for marriage retreats, family camps, etc. Address: 36186 Baker Rd., Grand Rapids, MN 55744 [Don't send mail here yet, though!] Directions to new camp: From Elk River, MN go north on Highway 169 for 145 miles to Grand Rapids, MN. Go west on Highway 2 for 4.3 miles. Go north on County Road 62 for 8.1 miles. Go west on County Road 302 for 3 tenths of a mile. Turn right into the property and follow that road until you get to the lake. There is a locked privacy gate when no one is there, so unannounced visits are, as yet, inadvisable. This is a picture of a temporary loading dock that we built for unloading equipment and supplies.

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4 April 2001

Office of Planning & Zoning
Itasca County Courthouse
Grand Rapids, MN

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to give further clarification of the intended use for the proposed buildings included in the development of Living Word Bible Camp on Deer Lake.

Our current ministry consists of Children's Bible Camp, where we have 74 children attending the camp from Sunday afternoon through Friday evening. During that time, we usually have from 26 - 35 volunteer staff members in attendance for the purpose of being bunk counselors, teachers, kitchen and custodial staff, nurse, and helpers with other activities such as games, crafts, singing, nature study, and waterfront supervision.

It is our intent, with the new camp, to accommodate up to 84 campers and about 40 staff members per week, for 7 - 8 weeks in the summer. The upper level of the camper buildings will house the campers and bunk counselors, with the lower apartment-type units housing the staff members who are not bunk counselors. Some of the lower levels will be made into a craft room, nature studies center, and game room. It is our intent to add some camp weeks in spring and fall for homeschool or Christian school students for the purpose of additional Christian studies, nature, and art studies. We see ourselves operating most efficiently with no more than 150 people occupying the camp at one time.

In addition to the children's camps, but not during the same time period, we will be using the camper buildings for weekend retreats for teens, young adults, men's, and women's retreats.

As our ministry grows and God provides, we intend to build small, cabin-type units to accommodate couples for marriage retreats, and individual families for family camps or retreats. Although we would make limited use of the camper building upstairs units during those times, we do not intend to have any time when we would fill every available bed. We are looking at two distinctly different types of building needs here, to be used at different times. Therefore, even though it looks like we are building to accommodate 300 people or so, this is not the case at this time.

Our current plans insure that our septic needs will be safely under the 10,000/gallon/day limit for the type of system we wish to install. Should we decide to expand in the future, we would, of course, have to install an additional septic system for the woods cabins.

Any further questions should be directed to Ron Hunt at reh1@wwdb.org, or 763-753-4403.

Respectfully submitted,



Ron Hunt

Director, Living Word Bible Camp

RH/jh