



Dear Friends of Green Lake,

In the last year and a half, we have experienced extraordinary lows and miraculous highs! As we prepare to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, we reflect on the miracles that have happened at Green Lake.

In 2019 we celebrated 75 years of “a closer walk with God” (our 1944 motto). God’s usage of Green Lake to “nurture and train leaders for the cause of Christianity and the world mission of the church” (our 1944 purpose statement) has been wonderful.

After the celebrations, we shifted our focus to living out our 1944 motto and purpose in the next 75 years. We sought ways to flourish operationally so we could help more ministries, non-profits, and families thrive at Green Lake. Combining the joyous, humble spirit and leadership growth of the early years of the conference center with the best and simplest operating systems of today was our goal. Our leadership team engaged in 47 days of prayer at the end of 2019 as the power source for God to make this possible through His hand and our work to follow His lead.

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me.” Jeremiah 29:11-13*

We began 2020 by resuming our housekeeping operations after a 25-year corporate subcontract. This allowed us to nurture and cultivate within the housekeeping team the same values the rest of our staff have internalized. The housekeeping facility is in poor condition (too hot, too cold, floods, leaks and more), so we began a ground level up redesign and fundraising initiative. Then COVID-19 hit.

*But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.” Exodus 14:13-14*

Last year we shared about the miracle of the largest gift in our history paying off our debt on 3/20/2020. That and the provisions of your giving, the CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), and more have sustained us through this tidal wave. God parted the COVID-19 sea for us! Rev. Soozi Ford, Vice Chair of our Board of Directors, challenged us at a board meeting devotional in 2020 to then pursue the next part of the text:

*Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward.” Exodus 14:15*

God miraculously continues to provide manna for our journey through this time, allowing us to improve and simplify so that our mission can grow. Over the winter, because of continued giving and securing a second round of PPP, we have been able to retain our core staff and we remain debt-free. Here are some ways we took God’s manna to go forward:

Our staff is flourishing in temporary project roles:

- Housekeeping, conference services and food service staff have had fun painting the third floor guest rooms in Kern Lodge.
- Our housekeeping team completed the job (begun by a work group) of refinishing the benches at Vesper Circle, a great place for outdoor conferencing with lake views.



Angie painting at Kern

Other staff members are focusing on major technical projects such as:

- The conversion to new software to handle our accommodation and meal reservations. It allows both our staff and guests to flourish because everything from reservations to billing and reporting is simpler. Kara Robbins, Guest Services Director and Cindy Manske, Conference Planning Coordinator, did a great job leading the team from software selection through implementation.
- New electrical panels to replace those from the 1960s in Robbins youth dorms installed by our electrician, John Otto. He is now replacing old panels in Roger Williams Inn.
- A new floor in the Christian Writing Center kitchen installed by our Maintenance Director Dan Kunde and his team.



*John checking panels at Roger Williams Inn*

Our contractor partners are helping us flourish by improving the grounds:

- Our staff and a contractor Lawsonia provided are teaming up to remove buckthorn and make the woodlands healthier.
- A trade swap and donations enabled us to have the concrete wall along Lone Tree Point “riprapped,” adding rocks to protect the base and ensure we do not lose this treasure.



*Dan working in Christian Writing Center kitchen*

We are transforming our housekeeping facility so our housekeeping team will thrive:

- In spring our laundry and housekeeping office facility will undergo phase one of renovation via donor funding. This includes new walls, roof and heating and air-conditioning for more comfortable and efficient working conditions in the laundry and office areas.

In a COVID-19 era, we are reminded that God does the miracles, and we go forward in response, pursuing His plans that give us a future and a hope. We are thankful for your generosity and ask for your continued prayers, volunteerism, and financial support – key parts of God’s manna to bring us through spring and into summer.



*Lone Tree Point riprap*

As the pandemic eases its impact on conferencing in 2021, our flourishing team is excited to share a better Green Lake Conference Center that will train and nurture Christian leaders one closer walk with God at a time and bring peace, hope and healing to a hurting world. In this miraculous season for Green Lake, we are drawn to the greatest miracle that the world has ever seen at the heart of the Easter story. We rejoice at the foot of the cross!

May God bless and keep you and your family during the season of Easter,

Ben Mott  
President/CEO



**Green Lake Conference Center • W2511 State Road 23 • Green Lake, WI 54941**

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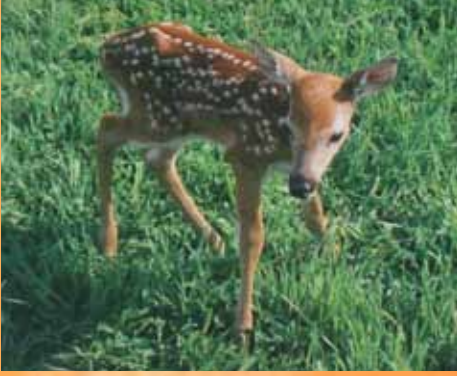
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*This means that anyone who belongs to  
Christ has become a new person.  
The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

*2 Corinthians 5:17*

