

*Come Away  
And  
Rest Awhile*

*Mark 6:31*

# The ARC-ives

Volume II, Issue 10

December 2007/January 2008

**Be sure to Register  
Early for  
SIDExSIDE,  
Sno Daze and  
Couples' Retreat!**

*The Newsletter of the Association Retreat Center*

## Keeping the ARC Covered

**W**e praise God for the thousands of people who enjoy the safe and friendly facilities of the Association Retreat Center every year.

Thanks to gifted staff people, and great volunteers, we are able to maintain this facility as efficiently as possible allowing us to keep rental fees moderately priced. In order to keep those fees affordable, we depend on your financial support.

Over the next year we are asking our friends to help us raise \$100,000.00.

These gifts will be used to put new roofs on **Shunem** and **House of Daniel**. The roofs on these buildings have outlived their 10-15 year life expectancy. New steel roofing on these buildings will cost more

initially, they will be cheaper to maintain and have a life expectancy of more than 50 years. New roofs will insure the structural integrity of the building.

The cost of putting new roofs on these buildings is estimated at \$40,000.00. ARC staff and volunteers will provide the labor for these projects.

We are also seeking gifts for our **General Fund**. These funds will be used to keep our rental rates as low as possible so that finances are never an issue for those needing the life changing experience of a camp or retreat.

Our General fund is used for other capital improvements such as replacing worn carpeting and repairs to various buildings. Your gift to our general fund will allow us to supplement the operational expenses of the

ARC.

You can help provide comfortable surroundings for people to grow in their faith through one-time gifts and/or monthly support to the ARC.

A gift of \$50.00 per month, or one time gift of \$600.00 from 125 of our friends will put us well on the way to reaching our goal!

Use the form at the back of this newsletter to send your gift to the ARC or find more information online at: [www.arc-aflc.com](http://www.arc-aflc.com).

Most importantly, **please pray** that our Father would continue to provide financially for this ministry. The ARC helps change lives for eternity as they "Come Away and Rest Awhile".



**Good News Lodge Has a  
New Steel Roof.**



**Daniel and Shunem Need  
New Roofs.**



## Making your gift Count



**B**enefit members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who are age 16 or older are eligible to participate in the GivingPlus program. Thrivent Financial will add \$1 for every \$2 contributed to The ARC, up to a \$300.00 match. That means that if you are a GivingPlus member and donate up to \$600.00 to the ARC in 2007, Thrivent will add \$300.00 to your gift!

"Benefit members" generally are those who have been admitted into membership and own Thrivent Financial for Lutherans insurance or annuity products. Individuals can make multiple donations (i.e. monthly, quarterly, etc.) and have the supplemental dollars provided when the paperwork is received and processed, however the donations will only be supplemented up to the \$300 maximum supplement.

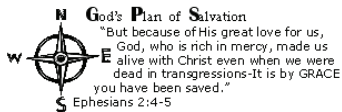
It's easy to become a Thrivent GivingPlus member. You can get the enrollment form on our website. Go to [www.arc-aflc.com](http://www.arc-aflc.com) and click on ARCADVANCEMENT. Download the PDF form, fill it in and send it with your next gift to the ARC. In order for your gift to be eligible for the GivingPlus program for 2007 we must have your gift by December 31, 2007.

Volunteers can take further advantage of their GivingPlus membership. When you volunteer at the ARC for 25 hours or more, Thrivent will add an additional \$25.00 to your gift.

Take advantage of these programs now and watch your gift to The ARC increase in value! If you have further questions about the Thrivent GivingPlus program, contact The ARC or Thrivent Financial online ([www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com)), by phone (800-847-4836, select option 3), or email ([GivingPlus@thrivent.com](mailto:GivingPlus@thrivent.com)).

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During the month of January the ARC is home to much of the AFLC local church leadership.

**AFLC Youth Workers** will hold their annual retreat at the ARC on January 11-13. This is a great weekend for our youth workers to get together for networking, planning and learning how to reach our kids. Please be praying for these leaders this weekend as they learn how to better reach our kids for Jesus.

The **AFLC Home Missions** retreat is scheduled for January 21-22. If you are interested in attending this retreat, contact the Home Missions Office.

The annual **AFLC Pastors and Wives** retreat will be held January 22-24. Those planning to

### AFLC Retreats and Camps

attend are asked to call the ARC for reservations.

These retreats are a highlight of our year at the ARC as we get to learn from our AFLC leaders. Please be praying for these leaders as they plan on attending. Better yet, show them you realize the importance of their being here and provide the financial means for their attendance. It is well worth the money spent.

**AFLC SIDExSIDE** (grades 7-12) and **Sno Daze** (grades 4-7) retreats will be held at the ARC on the weekend of **Feb. 1-3**.

Pastors Todd Erickson (SIDExSIDE) and Eric Westlake (Sno Daze) will be the teachers for this important weekend.

Along with on-campus activities, the SIDExSIDE group will have the option of going skiing at Trollhaugen in the afternoon. Campers from both groups will

have the option of going swimming in Osceola.

Plan now to send your kids, the neighbors kids and anyone else to these camps. They will thank you for it!

The **AFLC Couples Retreat** will be held the weekend of **February 15-16**. Leaders for this retreat are Pastor Lyndon & Linda Korhonen. This would be a perfect way to end the Valentines holiday. Couples attending the retreat will be treated to a banquet, great teaching and most importantly, time alone. Couples will also be given the option of staying an extra night (Saturday night) and enjoying breakfast Sunday morning before returning home.

More information on these camps and other AFLC camps can be found on our website: [www.arc-aflc.com](http://www.arc-aflc.com).

**YOUTH CAMPS!!**  
**Those registering 30 days prior to their camp can receive a free ARC T-shirt**  
**To receive your free ARC T-shirt your completed registration & medical forms along with a \$25 deposit must be postmarked 30 days prior to camp.**

### ARC Fall Family Weekend



We had a FANTASTIC group of Volunteers for our Fall Family Weekend!



Flower Beds were prepared for winter...



...and windows cleaned and painted



Good News Lodge received a new steel roof.



Everyone got in the act!

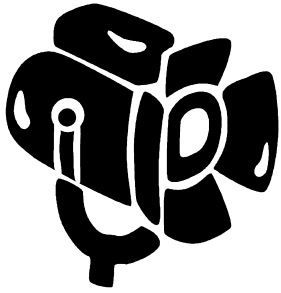


We got to use our 'new' ARC tree spade!



*Thank You to all of our great Volunteers. It was great to visit, work and laugh together!*

**M.A.D.!**  
**YES! You can Make A Difference in the lives of kids this summer.**  
AFLC Retreat Coordinator, Lori Keller, is looking for a few individuals that will assist her in planning, organizing and implementing various activities at our **AFLC Summer Camps**.  
If you would like to spend some time this summer making a difference in the lives of kids at 'Fire Up Youth Camp', Kid's Camp, or Family Camp please call Lori at 800-294-2877 or email her at [arcregistration@centurytel.net](mailto:arcregistration@centurytel.net).  
Many hands make light work and you **WILL** be appreciated.



*Happy to be in the quiet atmosphere of the ARC!*

## Spotlight on the ARC: Jerry Miller

Jerry Miller is our resident electrician here at the ARC. Jerry was born and raised in St. Paul, Minnesota where he spent most of his time working in construction and engineering.

Most notably, Jerry worked for ten years at Control Data in the area of new technology and robotics.

After retirement, Jerry moved to Cold Spring, MN for a few years. While living at Cold Spring, Jerry's son-in-law, and good friend of then director Eric Westlake, invited Jerry to put his name in the hat for ARC electrician.

In November, 1999, Jerry interviewed for the job and was hired. He moved into the Apartments and began working on his first project, which was helping with the construction of the gymnasium.

Shortly after moving to the ARC, Jerry acquired Gracie. Gracie is Jerry's Black Lab, and you may have seen Gracie on one of her occasional jaunts through the campgrounds.

Jerry has three children. Lisa and husband Mark Erickson, who live in Osceola, Kim and husband Grant Swenson, who live in St. Cloud, MN, and a son, Joe who is stationed with the National Guard in Arizona. He is also blessed with ten grandchildren.

One of the things that Jerry enjoys the most about the ARC is the quiet country atmosphere and the beauty of the ARC campus.

Besides the Gymnasium project, Jerry has been involved in several other major remodeling projects at the ARC. One of the challenges for him has been trying to match new wiring with the old and not having a blueprint of where the old wiring is going!

Along with the repair and construction major remodeling projects at the ARC, Jerry has worked on several house projects in the area.

Perhaps the biggest highlight of Jerry's time at the ARC happened Halloween night of 2007. It was Halloween night at 8:32 that Jerry gave his heart and life to Jesus Christ by accepting Him as Lord and Savior!

The ARC wishes to thank Jerry for the many projects, large and small he has worked on since moving here. Your dedication and friendship is appreciated. Most of all, welcome to the Family!



### Search and you shall Donatel

Imagine if every time you logged on to the internet and ran a search, you could donate money to the ARC? That's just what can happen if you use the Goodsearch website for your cyber-searches.

GoodSearch is a search engine which donates 50-percent of its revenue to the charities and schools designated by its users.

With each search you launch on goodsearch.com, about 1 cent goes to the charity of your choice. You simply select The ARC from a database. Then tell all your friends, tell your friends to tell their friends and so on. If 1,000 people with the same charity search twice a day for a year, the charity earns \$7,300.

Go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and check it out! It's an easy way to support our ministry.

### Getting To Know You!

*If you would like to have someone from the ARC visit your church to update you on the exciting things we have happening here call us at: 800-294-2877 or email us at:*

*arcadvancement@centurytel.net*

*We'd love to visit!*

### \*Gifting Opportunity\*

The Pension Protection Act of 2007 permits current gifts of IRA charitable rollovers, up to \$100,000.00 to your favorite Charity.

These gifts allow a savings on your income tax as they are not included in taxable income. Gifts must be made to public charities or to ministries.

Only regular and Roth IRA's qualify.

Donors with other qualified retirement plans (401k, 403b, 457, TSA) may be able to rollover to an IRA, then use the IRA rollover to make a gift.

Contact your financial advisor or The ARC for more information.

### ARC notes:

#### Praise God for...

- ◆ \$5000.00 grant given to the ARC by the AFLC Foundation.
- ◆ \$50,000.00 in repaid loans.
- ◆ His faithfulness to the ARC ministry.
- ◆ Several new groups who have booked retreats for the 2008 season.

- ◆ Continued development of the Featherstone Scholarship Program.

#### Please be in prayer for...

- ◆ Late fall finances.
- ◆ The "Covering the ARC" campaign.
- ◆ The students at our AFLC Bible School and Seminary.
- ◆ ARC campers and staff.

- ◆ Our ARC volunteers.
- ◆ The ARC Corporation as it considers forming an Executive Committee and Development committee.
- ◆ Our servicemen and women at home and overseas.
- ◆ Families in financial hardship, especially this Christmas Season.



The ARC is a non-profit ministry owned and operated by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. Established as a camp and retreat center in 1979 we are open to religious and secular organizations and groups ranging in size from 25-600 persons.

**"Come away and rest awhile"-Mark 6:31**

The ARC  
2372 30th Avenue  
Osceola, WI 54020

The ARC offers the perfect setting for your group to leave the chaos of society and find a quiet place to rest, reflect and re-energize. We welcome you to 'Come away, and rest awhile.' For information on booking the ARC for your next group event contact us at: the\_arc@centurytel.net or call us at 800-294-2877. You can also visit us on the web at www.arc-aflc.com.

Phone: 800-294-2877  
Fax: 715-294-2398  
Email: the\_arc@centurytel.net

KEEP UP TO DATE ON THE  
ARC.  
VISIT US ON THE WEB @  
WWW.ARC-AFLC.COM

If you no longer wish to receive the ARC-ives by mail please email us at arcregistration@centurytel.net or call 800-294-2877.



Merry Christmas  
From the  
ARC Staff!

**ARC GROUPS FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY**

**DECEMBER:**

7-9 Apostolic Church 15-16 Cristo Vive leaders

**JANUARY:**

4-6	Sunday Night Men's Group	21-22	AFLC Home Missions Retreat
11-13	AFLC Youth Workers	22-24	AFLC Pastors' & Wives' Retreat
17-20	Creative Memories-Sharon	25-27	Boy Scout Troop 226
	Peace Lutheran-Coon Rapids Youth		Creative Memories-Donna
	Lord of Life		Vision of Glory
	Creative Memories-Amy		Angelica Contanti

**KEEP THE ARC COVERED!**

YES!! I want to help KEEP THE ARC COVERED. Here is my tax-deductible gift. Mail this form to:

**The ARC; 2372 30th Avenue; Osceola, WI 54020**

**Please use my gift for:**

- Putting a new roof on Shunem
- Putting a new roof on Daniel
- General Fund

- I am a Thrivent member and would like this gift matched.
- I would like information on how to become a Thrivent member.
- Please contact me about other gifting options for the ARC.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  Daytime  Evening Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 My gift is: \_\_\_\_\_ a monthly pledge of : \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Other (\$ \_\_\_\_\_)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ a one-time gift of: \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Other (\$ \_\_\_\_\_)  
 Please use my credit card:  Visa  MasterCard  Discover # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of card holder: \_\_\_\_\_