On August 3, the LUM Campers were visited by about 20 special LUM friends and Board members. At LUM Camp, it’s called “Board Night.” Board Night gives LUM an opportunity to showcase LUM Camp and give our guests a real camp experience.

Our LUM friends & board members took the LUM bus from downtown Lafayette out to Warren County. When they arrived at camp they met the campers and sang camp songs. The Purdue Boilermaker Special was even there. The guests were then treated to an authentic camp supper followed by an ice cream social—sundaes with all the fixin’s. Our guests scooped and served the ice cream to our campers which encouraged more interaction.

The evening was capped off with a stage show. This year, our guests and campers were treated to the Magic of Marcus Lehman. Marcus Lehman closed his show by bringing to the stage the LUM Camp director & LUM executive director Joe Micon, where he proceeded to saw him in half. You could tell that our guests enjoyed returning to their childhood for a few hours and our campers enjoyed having them visit for the evening.

LUM Camp is an overnight summer camp for boys and girls, 8, 9 and 10 years old. They are children who come from families served by the Lafayette Urban Ministry. Our camp includes all the traditional activities a great camp should: morning chapel, horseback riding, swimming, nature hikes, boating, arts and crafts, campfires and an outstanding staff of camp counselors. But along with these, LUM Camp focuses on interactive and experiential learning. Our theme was On the Banks of the Wabash, Far Away in celebration of the Indiana Bicentennial. Campers were taught in many creative ways about our state’s rich history, famous personalities, contributions to science, agriculture, sports, and the performing arts. LUM Campers left camp more proud of their Hoosier heritage and inspired by the opportunities that await them in the years to come as citizens of our great state.

Campers learned from the Legacy Theater Troupe from the Indiana State Museum, Purdue Entomology experts, Indiana Department of Natural Resources staff from Prophetstown State Park, Indiana Athletes and more. Many of the reading assignments for the campers included stories of noteworthy people from Indiana.

Thank you to everyone who helped make LUM Camp 2016 possible. Through your donations, campership gifts, and volunteer time, you have once again made it possible for our LUM Campers to have a positive, life-changing experience that they will remember fondly for the rest of their lives.
The Rev. Ron Elly, LUM’s First Director (1941-2016)

A Letter from Joe Micon, Executive Director of Lafayette Urban Ministry

The entire Lafayette Urban Ministry Family extends its deepest sympathy to wife Ellen Elly, and daughters Beth, Julie and Laura at the passing of the Rev. Ron Elly, LUM’s first director.

LUM has been part of the fabric of our community for so long it is difficult to conceive of a time when churches in Tippecanoe County were not working so closely together on behalf of the less fortunate. Ron was the visionary, the founder, the one with the special gifts to pull people and churches together to form LUM. Everything that has followed was built upon the foundation that he laid for us in the 60's and 70's. It would be hard to imagine our community without the good work accomplished everyday by the Lafayette Urban Ministry. It is even more difficult to know that Ron will no longer be here to support and encourage us. He was LUM’s biggest cheerleader!

John Kennedy once said that “When we express our gratitude to another we must never forget that the highest form of appreciation is found not in the mere uttering of words, but in our commitment to advance that person’s legacy.”

So let us remember and honor Ron Elly by recommitting ourselves to his work...

- By expressing our faith not only through our words but through meaningful acts of service to the least among us;
- By celebrating the fact that SO MANY churches in our community have found through LUM a way to put their faith-filled words into action;
- By speaking truth to power and winning real change for those who live on the margins of our community, state and nation.

I couldn’t help but smile when I read the recent Journal and Courier article about Ron. It spoke of his compassion, dedication and work ethic—complete with quotes by others comparing him to both Jesus AND Sheila Klinker! Ron would have rolled his eyes, but it was a pretty accurate representation of him on both parts.

Read more about Ron Elly at www.lumserve.org/ron-elly including the following:

- Remembrances & Prayers for Ron Elly (Eulogies)
- Ron Elly—His Impact on LUM
- Remembering Legacy & the Lafayette Urban Ministry by Jud Dolphin
- Ron Elly’s Obituary
- Ron Elly was an ecumenical game changer (Journal & Courier)

You may email Ellen Elly at: ellyre@msn.com.

Become a LUM Donor—LUM receives most of its financial support from individual gifts, church groups, member church contributions, and donations from civic groups and businesses. There are many different ways & options for giving to LUM. Check out your opportunities to invest in LUM — go to www.lumserve.org/donate. Thank you!

Meet Connie—LUM Summer Receptionist

Connie Decker has been serving as the summer morning receptionist. Connie has been volunteering with LUM for over seven years in a variety of areas including as a volunteer afternoon receptionist, with bulk mailings, Hunger Hike, Jubilee Christmas and the Tax Assistance Program.

Connie grew up and still lives in Lafayette. Born in Roachdale, she has never lived more the 52 miles from her childhood home. Connie is a Jefferson High School alumna and retired from the main office of the Food & Nutrition (dietary) Services department with Franciscan St. Elizabeth Health—Lafayette Central. Connie has a daughter (Shannon Renee) and two grandchildren — Emily (19) and Zakary (16). She enjoys supporting her grand-children by attending their activities and helping get them around town.

Connie enjoys working for LUM and is proud to be a part of the team. She states that “the services provided by LUM are so important for the families in our community — and LUM offers help and hope with compassion, ethics and morals.”

In addition to LUM, Connie also volunteers as a tutor and reads to second grade students in the Lafayette School Corporation. In her free time, she bakes — and often shares her treats with the volunteers and staff at LUM.

LUM has been blessed to have Connie serve at our front desk this summer.
The Say’s Firefly Campaign

Susan Brouillette, director of the LUM Campaign for Hoosier Families, and her intern, Kathrine Schulze, visited with the students enrolled in the LUM 5th Quarter Summer Learning Program. The students were getting assistance in writing letters to their State Legislators advocating for the “Say’s Firefly” to be designated the official insect for the State of Indiana.

The LUM Campaign for Hoosier Families is partnering with Indiana State Representative Sheila Klinker to give these students a unique opportunity — to “lobby” the State Legislature for an important initiative.

Earlier this summer, Representative Klinker visited the 5th Quarter students to teach them all about the genus of the Say’s Firefly, the firefly’s unique characteristics and its role in the environment and ecosystem of the State of Indiana. The LUM students not only learned about the fireflies but also studied the democratic process and how a bill becomes a law. Forty-seven states have a “state insect.” Indiana is one of only three states without an official insect — and the firefly would be an ideal choice. The Say’s Firefly is especially appropriate since it was first identified in 1824 by Thomas Say from Harmony, Indiana, who is also known as the “Father of American Entomology.” This effort has the support of Purdue Professor Tom Turpin, founder of Bug Bowl at Purdue.

Susan engaged the students who attended LUM Camp and this Fall will work with the students enrolled in the After School Program in advocating for the Say’s Firefly. She has been working with local schools and teachers who are interested in joining the movement. If you or your group is interested in getting students involved in the Say’s Firefly Project please email or call Susan Brouillette (sbrouillette@lumserve.org | 765-423-2691).

If you wish to get more involved with the Campaign for Hoosier Families, go to www.lumserve.org/c4hf. To make a donation to CHF and Social Justice at LUM, click www.lumserve.org/donate.

Joe Micon Selected for IN Bicentennial Torch Relay

LUM Executive Director Joe Micon has been chosen by the Indiana Office of Tourism and Development to participate in the Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay. Micon is one of 2,200+ Hoosiers statewide chosen for outstanding leadership qualities and contributions to their communities and to our state.

The 3,200-mile relay will travel through all 92 counties, visit 260 cities and towns, 17 state and national parks, nine lakes and rivers, 27 national, state and local sites of historical significance and dozens of important Indiana attractions. Micon will run with the torch in Warren County on October 12.

Prior to that, he will visit with children in the LUM 5th Quarter Summer Learning Program, LUM Camp and LUM After School Program talking with them about the history of our state and asking each to write a letter to Indiana detailing their hopes and dreams for the future of our state. He will carry these letters with him as he runs. The torch relay starts on September 9 and ends on October 15 with a celebration at the Statehouse. Congratulations Joe!
Save the Dates — LUM Upcoming Programs

Before your summer gets away from you — we’d encourage you to add these important LUM programs to your calendar. Join the fight against hunger by participating in Hunger Hike—Volunteer for and donate to the Community Thanksgiving Celebration—and finally, make Christmas special for a family in our community by donating to Jubilee Christmas. More important dates below. Mark your calendars! Go to www.lumserve.org/calendar

Hunger Hike (September 17-18)
Saturday, September 17 is the 4th Annual HHSK Run. Sunday (September 18) is the traditional Hunger Hike 3K Walk. Proceeds benefit LUM Food Programs, Food Finders Food Bank Inc., & St. Thomas Aquinas’ Haiti Ministry. Mark your calendars and get your team together. Go to www.hungerhike.org

Community Thanksgiving Celebration (November 24)
The LUM Community Thanksgiving Celebration is on Thanksgiving Day from noon to 2 p.m. at Central Presbyterian Church (Lafayette). More than 800 people will be served dinner & dessert, and you may be a part of this special program by volunteering or making a donation. Go to www.lumserve.org/thanksgiving

Jubilee Christmas (December 10)
LUM Jubilee Christmas serves over 600 families and 1,800 children. Parents visit one of dozens of churches and shop for their children. In addition to the toys and clothes, each family also receives a ham and homemade cookies to make Christmas dinner special too. Go to www.lumserve.org/jubilee

August 9 LUM After School Program—First Day
September 5 Labor Day
October 6 Jubilee Christmas—Coordinators Meeting
November 8 Jubilee Christmas—Coordinators Meeting
November 24 - 25 Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 28 - Dec. 7 Jubilee Christmas Donation Center open

Join LUM online

The SEED — August 2016