



# Release Notes

Jordan Alexander's Update Letter

**Release 8 – Winter 2023**  
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## A Patchy Winter | ●●●

Dear friends and family, welcome to my Winter 23-24 update letter.

Although perhaps it should be called "Winter-ish;" as mild as the rest of the country's season was, Northern Wisconsin's was especially warm and dry. That tended to be a problem for things such as snow tubing and ice skating. It proved a pervasive and persistent challenge for planning and hosting.

While the activities we normally have on offer suffered this past Winter, we still had a full complement of guests each weekend. This was especially encouraging to me, as it continued to demonstrate how Lake Lundgren isn't in the business of just providing

activities and fun, but rather that they are only some of the tools at our disposal to serve God and people.

Weather that's kind to people is also typically kind to equipment, electronics especially so. The calm winter allowed me to perform some outdoor and large scale testing for an upcoming fiber optic installation. We also only had one minor power outage, and no internet service outages, making for very smooth operations (for once). Thank God for that!

I'm happy to say that the M365 migration I mentioned last letter has been completed, and that it has more or less disappeared into the background as a good tool should. Alongside the

software migration, I've been working to update our workstations from the collection of 12 to 14 year old machines we've had. About half of camp is now on newer, more power efficient hardware, which will save on wait times and power bills.

Continuing with adventures in many close roommates, we in the log cabin have now managed six months together without strangling each other. Quite the opposite, we've fostered a unique set of relationships with each other, and I've seen each of us respond to God's overtures at different times. I think perhaps that being a part of "the log cabin boys" has been the single most influential gift from God of my time at Lake Lundgren Bible Camp.

## Getting the Next Steps Ready

Josh Grandaw – our food service director – and his wife Natalie expect their first child to arrive soon this Spring. Both Josh and I are glad that some time ago we chose to prepare someone to run the kitchen in case of his absence – that person being me! While Josh and Natalie prepare for their child we will also see how well we've prepared to cover for temporary absences of Josh, and will learn how best to both keep the kitchen running and to allow Josh the time he and his growing family the time they will need together.

Adjacent to running the kitchen, we expect to grow the kitchen team a little more this Summer. One of our SSTers, Hannah Cunningham, has asked to spend the whole Summer in the kitchen in preparation for her internship here beginning in August. It is exciting to have another staff member interested in taking on the challenges of camp's kitchen and to provide yet more depth to our "roster."

As always, the documentation of camp's IT systems and the knowledge key to maintaining them continues. I was working on this project, and it struck me how much there is to communicate; I've done much more than it feels like to me. I also reflected that it has been 2 1/2 years since I started here, and it will be 3 years by the end of this Summer. That's so much time that I didn't expect to have here!



Above: Working with Josh and the volunteers in the kitchen for men's Winter retreat.



Right: The attendees of the aforementioned men's Winter retreat enjoying an indoor corn hole tournament. Yes. Corn hole, not bags; I will die on that hill.

# The starting rumbles of Summer

Just as soon as we opened our registrations for Summer camp this year, they were full! Our registrar has a printout of the registrations vs time graph over the years, and this year's is basically a vertical line compared to the past three years.

Since Summer registration is effectively finished, our Summer Staff Team hiring and volunteer recruiting have also been going at lightning speed. The team responsible for our SSTers and volunteers — Jack, Haley, and Natalie — have been working hard to keep up with the influx of people to our Summer. While we think some changes may need to be made for our staff's sanity in future, we are very thankful that God's filled camp so completely!

## Coming Up:

- Spring Crafter's 1:  
April 4th - 7th
- Spring Crafter's 2:  
April 11th - 14th
- Memorial Day Work Weekend:  
May 24th - 27th



## Support, The What and Why

My salary is made possible by financial donors. Because of this Lake Lundgren is able to offer camps at lower costs so that families of varying incomes can attend camp to experience the Gospel! If you have questions about support or the work I do, please email me at [jordan.alexander@llbc.org](mailto:jordan.alexander@llbc.org), or text me at (515) 497-4425. Thank you!

# Future Intent, starting now | ●●●

This Winter I felt the need to decide on joining LLBC's permanent staff team; for my time here I've been committed only a year at a time. For some time I made no move either towards pursuing missionary staff or work elsewhere. But through long consideration, much conversation, and lots of prayer, God has clarified the events of the past months towards closing my time here.

One of the indicators that God is opening the pursuit of work elsewhere is that the IT needs I am able to address are ending, and nothing has replaced them. LLBC still has IT needs, but not in the same way it did two years ago. The solution to our ongoing but reduced requirements is itself an

indicator of direction. The people I've connected and worked with to craft plans and solve problems are professionals (thank you!); keeping camp in contact with them for support and maintenance questions does not require LLBC to shoulder the burden of training me.

The last indicator to me of God's action is that Hannah Cunningham, one of our SSTers and an incoming intern, will be joining the kitchen team this Summer. Making sure Josh has supporting staff in the kitchen, especially with the advent of his and Natalie's first child, was heavy on my heart until I heard of Hannah's intent. God graciously provided an answer to the question of

"who would replace me in the kitchen" far in advance, making clear the pursuit of work elsewhere.

All that said, there are yet fiber optics to install, IT volunteers to coordinate, a Summer to cook for, Hannah to train, and all of it to pass on such that our progress is maintained. I aim to test for certifications and put together my portfolio before Summer, and will begin searching for an IT job or internship I can begin in October or later. I thank you all so, so much for supporting me in serving God and people by enabling and easing the work of others at LLBC! I pray I will follow God to finish my work here well, and that you will continue with me until its end.

Right: Setting up a game of laser tag during Winter Family Camp. We put a fair amount of time on our sets this Winter.



Left: Families arriving for Winter Family Camp and enjoying conversation outside. It's not often you can enjoy standing in a snow shower in your sweater.

## ●●● | Prayer Requests

- You can join me in praise that God brought so many campers so quickly this year!
- Please pray for me as I need to balance the coming pursuit of a new place to learn and work with the work God still has for me here in the present. With decisions like this, I tend to obsess over finding the "correct" course of action instead of accepting that my reasoning falls well short of God's requests and commands of us.
- I again praise and thank God for those of you who have partnered with me financially, and even more so for everyone praying for me this past year.
- Please pray for the maintenance team and I as we embark on major IT projects this Spring, both for safety and for finality. Additionally, pray that we would accept what God deems we need; better equipment does nothing if it is not first directed towards enabling LLBC's mission of glorifying God through connecting everyone that comes here to Jesus.