

SUMMER 2023

# GROUNDED IN HOPE

Newsletter from Memory Lane Farm, Inc.

## Turning of the Seasons

Beth Zarnke, Executive Director

How could it already be July? It feels like we just turned the calendar to January. Apparently that shows that life hasn't slowed down at Memory Lane Farm! We have so much to share with you.

Yes, it might even verge on the over-sharing, but we are so honored and proud to be working along side many individuals supporting our efforts, those who volunteer, donate, pray, as well as those receiving the refreshment of being at the farm.

It's not unusual for us to talk about "seasons" on the farm, typically weather related, nonetheless, a change. We've also encountered a change in life seasons at the farm too.

Last December, Martin Wolf, founder of Memory Lane Farm, chose to close a chapter of a long life season. As many of you know, "Mr. Martin", as he is called around the farm, was born in the farmhouse in 1933. He shared the home with his parents and family until he joined the Army. After he returned to the farm, the farmhouse was then shared with his bride, Lucille and their children. Mr. Martin lived in the farmhouse for a total of 85 years! After losing his bride of 67 years in December 2020, he chose to start a new chapter of life, living with my husband and I, located next to the farm.

In January 2023, he celebrated 90 years and has adjusted well to his new surroundings. He gets daily farm activity updates, checks the weather regularly (like any good farmer), enjoys watching birds and being our summer gardener!

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## Turning of the Seasons

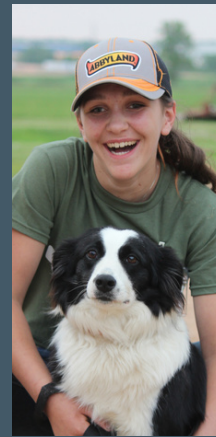
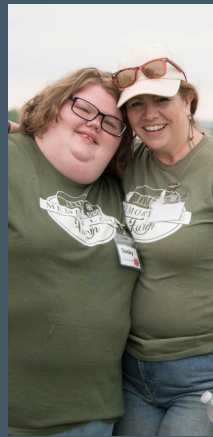
While Mr. Martin was looking for company, Memory Lane Farm's office space was also in need of expansion (located in my home). The timing couldn't have worked out better.

In January 2023, we began the transition of moving the MLF office and supplies to the "farmhouse". We quickly knew that this space would allow for us to have much needed office space, a meeting room, storage for office & program supplies and merchandise, along with a full kitchen and bathroom access for staff and volunteers. With a few updates to suit our new space, we officially made it home and couldn't be happier!

Seasons of life are always changing. We are so happy that Mr. Martin was able to stay in the farmhouse as long as possible, and that the MLF team now has space to meet, greet and dream!

## Faces of MLF

We are so incredibly blessed by the incredible volunteers that serve at MLF! Our events, such as camps, could not run without the heart and soul of passionate helpers who give their time and talent in a variety of capacities. This year, for AgriVenture Farm Camp, we had over 720 hours of volunteer time gifted to us. Thank you to our amazing volunteers!





## Grit & Grace Gathering 2023

With the wet and cool spring, the farm was slow at "waking up", but May took a new turn with warmer temps and the hope of spring peeking around the corner. This May we celebrated spring with over 60 women gathering at the farm's first event of the season.

The Grit & Grace Women's Gathering was held on May 19 & 20. The event was packed with live music, messages of hope, and stories of women who have been transformed by the love of Jesus. The sweetness was palpable as we gathered in the "big barn", raised our voices and supported each other in our brokenness, while celebrated the joy of transformation, recovery and renewal.

Guests also participated in line dancing, making mosaic photo frames, crafted beautiful earrings and enjoyed laughter and love.



‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you HOPE and a future.’” –  
Jeremiah 29:11



## AgriVenture Farm Camp



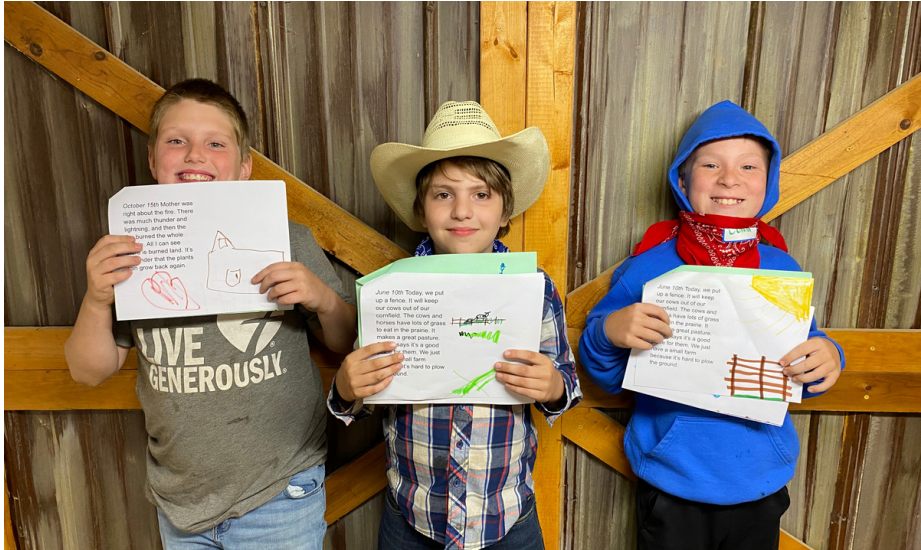
"Farm Camp", as many of our 3-6 grade campers refer to our annual summer camp, was again a time of learning, exploring and fun on the farm! Our main program focused on woodworking, farm animals, gardening, environmental science, and crafts. Environmental Science challenged campers by learning about symbiotic relationships within nature. In woodworking, campers made catapults, as they learned to measure, mark and cut. Hammers were busy as campers made string art creations, and our garden boxes were once again filled with tomato plants and peppers, as campers learned how to layer compost and soil.

In addition to hands on activities and skill building, campers learned about lessons in respecting God, others and nature. Flag Day was also celebrated by teaching about the US flag history and the meaning of the flag colors.



On the final evening of camp, families were invited to see the farm, enjoy in a delicious potluck meal and participate in our program and demonstrations. This year our program went to new heights by singing a special camp song, then giving a honor to our military veterans and agricultural workers. Campers made cards for the veterans and presented them after an impressive and beautiful horse-ridden honor in the MLF arena to the tune of "God Bless the U.S.A.". We were so proud of our campers, veterans and agricultural workers! Families also engaged tasting delicious meat samples provided by J&S Meat Processing, learning to blacksmith and even going to practice roping skills in the arena!

## Horse Powered Reading



A new program galloped into Memory Lane Farm this spring! Horse Powered Reading®, is known internationally as over 550 facilitators in 50 US states, and 19 additional countries, around the world have completed the training.

MLF staff, Maddy Hensel and Beth Zarnke completed their training this winter and were eager to give hope to struggling readers by offering equine assisted services and training for students, grades K-12.

A pilot program was offered this spring, at no charge, to help us get a good footing on our new program. It was a huge success with over 30 applications received in a 24-hour period. We were able to provide individual and small group sessions, which allowed for individualized learning.

As social-emotional issues, ADHD, anxiety, depression, and other mental health concerns often get in the way of learning, we observed that Horse Powered Reading® can break through challenges by giving students a chance to learn or reinforce reading and other academic skills in the moment.

Stay tuned for more updates on this fabulous program!

Reading  
has the  
POWER  
to change  
lives!





“Memory Lane Farm has been there for me through my ups and downs. They have made me into the person I am now. I can feel so much difference from 6 months ago. My self-esteem has gone up significantly. I've become a positive thinking person. Memory Lane has helped me to look at the good things in life and not to look down on myself. I'm opening up to more people because Korinna showed me I don't have to be tough. I can just be myself. One thing I will never forget was when I was riding, Korinna kept telling me to look up! I now know why she said that because if you look at what's ahead, you won't run into obstacles in life that could bring you down. Thank you Memory Lane Farm for guiding me through and showing me that I'm not that tough girl who can do whatever she wants, but a calm person who can have a positive life ahead of me and that I don't have to put a huge barrier up to protect myself.”

~ Cultivating Hope Graduate

## Look Up ... Mentoring Connections

The first half of 2023 has provided us with incredible new mentees, commonly referred to as "Wranglers". Many of our mentees come to the farm as referrals through social workers and therapists. Word is spreading that MLF provides safe and therapeutic space for individuals to share their challenges, while working on personal goals.

As of July 1, we have surpassed our 2022 total enrollment in the mentoring program and currently have a waiting list. As one of the pillar programs of Memory Lane Farm, we are honored to serve youth and adults, using our unique farm-based setting and hands-on experiences to help bring healing and growth while seeing opportunities through a new lens.

MLF Staff, Korinna Johnson, Aaron Harris and Beth Zarnke currently mentor and thoroughly enjoy impacting lives through encouraging our Wranglers.





## Excitement Around Every Corner

2023 has proven to be a year filled with new and exciting opportunities, connections and gratitude. This spring we welcomed Babe, our newest horse. Babe was owned by Mackenzie Huber, a college student from Colby, WI, who showed Babe in 4-H and had many wonderful memories together. Mackenzie donated Babe to Memory Lane Farm, as she knew Babe would have a grand life continuing to teach kids! As we are getting to know Babe, we are sure she will bring many happy years to our program and will bring smiles to those who meet her.

We are filled with gratitude for new and old friends of Memory Lane Farm have been gracious with donations in 2023. As a non-profit, we are so appreciative of every prayer, financial, physical and in-kind gift. As our programs grow, so do our needs, but we trust God that each and every need will be provided for! Thank you!



# THANK YOU

*In gratitude we thank the following donors, sponsors and friends of MLF*

Marshfield Area United Way  
J & S Meat Processing  
Nasonville Dairy  
Premier Printing  
Bluff View Church  
Ott Farm  
Scotty's Pizza  
Jeff and Katie Olzsewski  
J-Rolls  
Denny Oertel  
Doug Pince  
Carpet City  
Homestead Acres  
Andy & Stacy Remus  
Don & Mary Jo Pikul  
North Ridge Church  
Ray & Jeannie Fait  
Mackenzie Huber  
Security Overhead Door, Inc.  
Nasonville School  
Darrel & Jeannie Paasch  
Janice Moen



## Excitement Around Every Corner, cont.

Meet Daisy, the Donkey! Our newest addition to the farm was donated by Ray and Jeannie Fait. The Fait's are long time friends of Memory Lane Farm and they have a special fondness for donkeys! Daisy, born in November 22' was first showcased as a "guest" donkey at last December's Christmas in the Barn event. We are grateful to the Eddy Family of Marshfield who sold her to the farm to bring enjoyment to all who come in contact with Miss Daisy. She has become one of the fan favorites at the farm, as she adores hugs!

Off the farm, MLF is getting noticed for our work and we appreciate any opportunity to connect with organizations through the community. This July, Women Helping Others (WHO) Golf Outing is hosting their 25th year annual golf outing for a cause. Memory Lane Farm has been chosen as this year's charity to be blessed by this event. WHO is an organization who believe in the spirit of giving and enriching lives of those in the Marshfield and surrounding areas.

Marshfield Parish Pull, sponsored by local Catholic parishes of the Marshfield Deanery, along with the Knights of Columbus Fr. John Eisen Council #1799, will be hosting the 10th annual truck and tractor pull in mid July. Memory Lane Farm, one of four non-profits, was nominated to receive proceeds from this fun-filled community event.

We are honored to chosen as recipients of these fine events and look forward volunteering at them as well! If you will be attending, be sure to look for us and say "hi!".

Not connected with these local events? No worries, we can still use your help! With our increase in programming, our needs have also grown. Visit page 9 for a list items needed for our programming. Please contact us for more information.

## Upcoming Events

- July 8 - Marshfield Parish Pull
- July 20 - Private Field Trip
- July 20 - Horse Powered Reading Family Night at Pittsville Community Library
- July 25 - WHO Golf Outing
- July 26-28 - Blazing Boots I Beginner Horse Camp
- July 31 - Private Field Trip
- August 8-10 - Blazing Boots II Horse Camp
- August 16 - Senior Citizens Day
- August 22 - Wood County Foster Care Family Night



# Yes! I believe in the mission of Memory Lane Farm, Inc. Here is how I can help:

## Sign me up to volunteer:

- Mentor (Cultivating Hope Program)
- Horse Powered Reading Helper
- Camp Volunteer
- Special Events
- Other (please list): \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark above, then complete the name & address portion below or visit [www.memorylanefarm.org/volunteer](http://www.memorylanefarm.org/volunteer)

## I'm happy to donate - use my donation for:

- Use it where it is needed the most
- Scholarships for programs

## Payment Method:

- A check payable to Memory Lane Farm Inc. or MLF for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donations may be sent to: Memory Lane Farm, Inc.,  
8640 Heritage Drive, Marshfield WI 54449

- Donations may also be made online (see Donations button) at [www.memorylanefarm.org](http://www.memorylanefarm.org)

## Please make my donation a gift:

- In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_
- In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

## Please send gift acknowledgement to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# Wish List

## ANIMALS

Rubber Mats for Horse Trailer  
Three-Step Mounting Block  
Harness for Mini-Horse  
Muck Buckets

## HORSE POWERED READING

Small colored cones  
Masking Tape  
Paper Towels  
Velcro Dots  
Wet wipes/Lysol Wipes  
Plastic Bags - All Sizes  
White Boards  
Laminator Supplies  
Acrylic Paints

## MENTORING

Journals  
Bench/Seating  
Yard Games

## GENERAL

Business Yard Sign  
Landscaping  
Concrete



Partner Program

Email: [memorylanefarm86@gmail.com](mailto:memorylanefarm86@gmail.com)

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