



FAITH'S LODGE

a place where hope grows

Backgrounder

Faith's Lodge was founded by Susan and Mark Lacek, of Minneapolis, Minn., as a lasting memorial to their infant daughter Faith Ann.

Two weeks before the baby's due date in June 2000, as the Laceks were preparing to attend a baby shower in their honor, Susan noticed a lack of movement. They were sure that a quick trip to the hospital would reassure them that everything was fine. Instead, they received the news that the baby girl had become the victim of an umbilical cord accident. The very thing that was to bring her nourishment and life had instead taken hers away. Mark and Susan's world was shattered.

After Faith's brief time on earth, Mark and Susan wanted to "get away" but found when they did so they were surrounded by families and couples on retreats for very different reasons. What they needed was a peaceful place to find strength and hope for the future, yet be able to reflect and speak about their daughter too.

In the midst of their grief, the idea for Faith's Lodge was born. It would become a way to help other families cope during their darkest hours, a place where parents and families facing the serious illness or loss of a child can retreat to reflect on the past, renew strength for the present and build hope for the future.

The nonprofit organization is headquartered in Minneapolis, while the Lodge itself is nestled in the woods of Northwestern Wisconsin. It was specifically architected to bring parents and families together with each other and the power of nature. Guests share their feelings in the great room, take walks on the Inspiration Trail, canoe, fish, or simply take in the views.

Since opening in 2007, Faith's Lodge has served more than 650 families. The response has been overwhelming and the Laceks see the spirit of their daughter, Faith, live on through this gift to other families.

More information can be found at www.faithslodge.org or find us on  [Facebook](#)