



**JENNY PEDERSEN**  
**SUMMER DIRECTOR**

I grew up in Council Bluffs, IA where I attended Saint John Lutheran Church. I was actively involved in church ministries; being a part of Youth Group, volunteering, going on mission trips, and teaching Sunday School. I loved getting to do community work through my church, but even then, I didn't fully understand what it meant to share God's word with people. I found it challenging when I moved away to college because I had to join a whole new community where I didn't know people. I also wasn't ready to leave my church community, a place where my whole life had been.

When I started school at The University of Northern Iowa, college of Education program, I became too comfortable with not continuing my relationship with God. After a few life hardships I started turning towards my Bible for answers more than I ever had before. This restarted my passion to continue my relationship with God. Around the same time my family (in Northeast Iowa), started telling me about Beulahland and how they were in need of female counselors for summer camp. With my teaching major this made me really excited and I took a leap of faith to become a counselor.

Beulahland changed my life in the summer of 2016. In high school I never understood what it meant to actively have a relationship with God. But that summer taught me how to open my heart to so many people and lead in ministry. Five years of Beulahland has grown my relationship tremendously with God and it still continues to grow every day. I now spend my summers running Beulahland summer camp with a wonderful staff. All of my life experiences have led me to where I am today, and I am so thankful for all God has provided for me. I know that no matter what I am going through God is always there, and my story is forever changing because of that.

*"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.*