



1. **Inspired and Blessed by 2020 donations.** Not counting \$87,426.22 of designated income, in 2020 donations, self-allocations, and fundraisers accounted for 67% of total revenue, (\$368,174.82 of \$546,871.63). *Amazing!* We survived 2020, and **until the pandemic ends, we will continue to rely on donations to retain staff, safely reopen, and adapt how we operate in 2021.**
2. **As of yesterday, April 2, all current Camp Bethel Staff are fully VACCINATED** (except 1 P/T maintenance helper). I have posed the question to Harry Rhodes and David Shumate as to whether we can “require” Summer Staff applicants to be vaccinated prior to employment here this summer. A quick Google search shows “Yes, probably.” I believe we should if we can. Having our entire staff vaccinated would (1) add an important layer of protection for our campers and families, (2) help protect our staff, and (3) enable easier implementation of our (already rigorous) modifications.
3. **Finances end positively for 2020, but 2021 might get complicated.** (See “02.28.2021 Camp Bethel Financial...” for details.)
 - Staff retention continues to be our primary goal. Our staff is our greatest asset.
 - We began 2020 with \$47,219.52 in reserve funds. On January 1, 2021, we added \$73,238.08 for new total reserve fund of \$120,457.60, which we will need to retain staff through summer camp.
 - We will hopefully receive +/- \$42,000 in 2021 grant funding from the SBA-PPP2 application. Big THANK YOU to David Shumate and Kathie Robinson for working on this!
 - We should be doing all we can to secure available funding from all eligible sources. We missed the "Rebuild! VA" \$100,000 grant in late 2020. I urge the Virlina District financial leadership to continue researching and pursuing potential funding.
 - **Discrepancies in 2020 finals?** *I'm unsure what adjustments David made to our Escrow Accounts, especially the Vehicles. I know he "zeroed out" these accounts in November(?), but it does not appear that the 2020 mileage transfers I reported on January 25 were applied. This also altered the Mileage portions of 2020 employee budget lines, which now show some as \$0. While not of extreme importance, I would like to be shown exactly what and where data was moved.*

4. **Guest Group Cancellations and schedule changes:**

	2019	2020	2021 (as of 04.02.2021)
Total scheduled guest groups & events	301	353	113
Cancelled or postponed	38	181	25 (+ 11 likely)
January 1 through March 15 only	32	27	8

- May 15 to December 30, 2020, 133 families or groups made “last minute” use of the camp for income of approximately \$47,000.
 - CANCELLED: March 4 “Sow the Seed” Scholarship Banquet. Having Mother’s Day Desserts sale + requesting donations instead.
 - MOVED: Pilgrimage moved from March 26-28 to October 8-10.
 - CANCELLED: July 11-16 Carilion Camp Too Sweet (loss of \$20,000) and July 25-31 Camp Kesem guest camp (loss of \$25,000).
5. **Camp Rep & Supporter Video and Information is at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/rep.**
We recorded the March 6 Camp Supporter Zoom meeting and it’s available to watch any time. All the updated information packets are available as PDFs at the Rep web site, AND we will have printed packets available for pickup AFTER March 31 at the Camp Office, the District Office, and post-mailed by request.
 6. **Partnerships with Virlina Disaster Response Ministries** and other skilled groups.
 - Virlina Disaster Response Ministries has established 3 dates for combination work-and-training: April 10, May 15, May 22. With advance notice, Camp Bethel can provide free overnight lodging and free lunch. Individuals and teams are encouraged to pre-register at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/volunteer. Contact VDRM Chair, Eric Anspaugh with questions at eanspaugh@yahoo.com.
 - BIG THANK YOU to the crew from **Cedar Bluff CoB** for taking on the construction of the new deck at the Bandage Box! BIG THANK YOU to the crew from **Mount Hermon CoB** for initial work on our new Adventure Village platform huts!
 - We can continue building any time volunteers are available, except for April 13 and Sundays. Rough plans for the new Adventure Village are at: <https://www.campbethelvirginia.org/uploads/1/1/0/2/11021295/2021newadventurevillage.pdf> with basic "code" requirements for both huts and dec at: https://www.campbethelvirginia.org/uploads/1/1/0/2/11021295/bldg_deck_guide.pdf.
 - With advanced notice, Mickey is available to be "foreman" for construction teams, and we can provide free meals. Our hope is to complete the Bandage Box deck before May 21 and the new Adventure Village before May 27.
 - Lastly, we’re also assembling dozens of **Box-Fan Air Filters** to improve ventilation in sleeping areas during summer camp. Video at <https://youtu.be/aw7fUMhNov8>, and we’re purchasing and asking for donations of 20” box fans; 20”x20”x2” MERV-13 air filters; adhesive weather stripping; and duct-tape. Links for donating these items are on our Amazon Needs List at <https://a.co/5qG5JYq>.
 7. **20th Sounds of the Mountains Storytelling Festival** will be a free (donation-based) online set of videos, available April 17 through June 19 at www.SoundsoftheMountains.org. The SOTM Committee met (via Zoom) on November 2 and February 3, and will meet again on April 13. Sponsor info and more is at www.SoundsoftheMountains.org.

8. Mother's Day Desserts – For Camp & Camperships: Mother's Day is May 9. Honor Mom with a box of home-made treats and/or a gift to help kids attend summer camp. Each box has 6 Chocolate-Chip Cookies, 4 Chocolate-Dipped Strawberries, 4 Lemon Bars, and 6 Shortbread Cookies, all custom-baked-and-made by Wesley Shrader. Each box is \$20 or \$380 (which pays for 1 child's week of summer camp). Order TODAY for pick up on Friday, May 7, 10:00-4:00 at Camp Bethel or 4:30-6:30 at Oak Grove Church of the Brethren in Roanoke. www.CampBethelVirginia.org/TradingPost.

9. 2021 Summer Camp plans and adaptations:

We continue planning summer camps with multiple safety and structural adaptations. Registration is open, and we are continuing our "No Risk" deposit and registration policy for 2021. As of 03/30/2021 = 229 campers. 03/30/2020 = 235, and 03/30/2019 = 213. Carilion Camp Too Sweet had to cancel their planned camp for July 11-16 (Week 5), so we have added programs to that week. We are working on our own "Camp Bethel Health and Safety Plan" (linked at CampBethelVirginia.org/camps). We are basing our plans and adaptations on the following:

- a. Virginia Department of Health Summer Camp resource, which guides implementation of what is required in Virginia: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/summer-camp/>
- b. The American Camp Association's "Field Guide for Camps on Implementation of CDC Guidance. <https://www.acacamps.org/resource-library/coronavirus/camp-business/field-guide-camps>

Summer Staff applications are open. So far, 21 out of 36 hired. We are hiring fewer total staff, and we will forego the C.I.T. program in 2021. Summer Staff will commit to a "Healthy Behavior Agreement" for the duration of their summer employment. Information at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/summer-staff. Now that vaccinations are available for anyone over age 16 (after April 18), we are inquiring whether we can "require" applicants to be vaccinated in order to be employed (see #2, Harry Rhodes).

10. SUMMER STAFF ADOPTION 2021 FOR PRAYER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT: We ARE planning adapted Summer Camps in 2021, and we seek groups, congregations, and individuals to adopt one of 36 Summer Staff with a commitment of prayer, letters, and a \$100 "end-of-summer" bonus. This program helps Camp Bethel recruit and secure the highest quality Counselors for our Campers, and it helps these excellent young adults to accept God's call to summer ministry in what will be an unusual-and-challenging (adapted-for-COVID-19) program. Info at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/adopt.

11. We seek construction bids for the new RV Village: We have approval from Botetourt County, and we have initial funding provided by gifts to the "Seed, Scattered and Sown" campaign, so now it is time to build! Updated site layout and images for Camp Bethel's long-planned 15-site "RV Village" area are at www.VirginaFuture.org. Plans include water, electric, sewer, picnic table, campfire ring, and parking for 2-3 cars. Plan to reach out to A.R. Coffey & Sons, as well as Dennis Brown Construction. *Any other recommendations?*

12. UPCOMING EVENTS AT CAMP BETHEL, www.CampBethelVirginia.org/events:

Summer Camp Registration is OPEN!

Recording of the March 6, 2021 Camp Supporter Zoom is at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/rep.

April 17, 2021 (Sat): 20th Sounds of the Mountains Online Story Fest, available through June 19 at www.SoundsoftheMountains.org.

May 9 is Mother's Day: Order desserts for Mom for May 7 pick up at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/TradingPost.

May 27-31, 2021: Memorial Day Family Weekend, RSVP meals.

May 31-June 11, 2021: Summer Staff Training.

June 11, 2021 (Fri), 5:30: Summer Staff Commissioning Dinner, TBD.

June 13-July 30, 2021: Summer Camps & Adventures.

September 3-6, 2021: Labor Day Family Weekend, RSVP meals.

September 4, 2021 (Sat): Camp Bethel PEP! 5K.

September 22, 2021 (Wed): 27th Benefit Golf Tournament.

October 2, 2021 (Sat): 37th annual Heritage Day Festival.

November 6, 2021 (Sat), 7:30am: Fall Vol. Workday, RSVP free meals.

13. Questions, ideas, input?

OMC Meetings for 2021:

June 22, 2021 (Tue) 5:30pm: OMC Dinner and meeting at Camp Bethel. *Details TBD.*

August 21, 2020 (Sat) 9:00am. Budget Meeting. OMEC meeting & 10:00 OMC meeting at Camp Bethel.

November 12-13, 2021: Virgina District Conference and OMC Reorganization, at Grandin Court Baptist.