

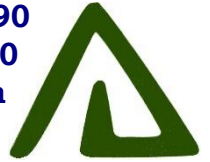


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July 21, 2020

I hope this packet finds you and your family healthy and happy. You are a friend and supporter of Camp Bethel, so I want you to be aware of our status, our hopes, and our needs.

This year has challenged us deeply. We know that you, too, have been impacted by COVID-19. This pandemic has altered all aspects of our mission and day-to-day operations at Camp Bethel.

- All Virginia overnight camps had to cancel. We cancelled summer camps for the first time in 94 years.
- We lost all rentals March 14-August 31, including all summer Guest Camps and Band Camps.
- Many, but not all, groups have cancelled their fall and winter retreats.
- *We face a significant financial challenge.* Projected revenue for 2020 is down 63%.

It's not ALL bad news. We produced on-line Bible Studies, Self-Guided Adventure Trails, and fun camp videos. Families are connecting with Creation via our forests, streams, and trails. Staff Alumni and other donors have initiated creative fundraisers for Camp Bethel, and dozens of supporters have responded. Expenses are down by over 50%, but despite our positive efforts, the projected year-end deficit is \$149,074. **We need your help.**

Here's what \$149,074 provides:

- We hope to **retain** core staff through 2020 into 2021. We do not want to dismiss or furlough staff.
- We hope to safely **reopen** for programs, services, events, and rentals.
- We hope to **adapt** our programs and food services so we can offer Summer Camps in 2021.
- We hope to maintain equipment, site and facilities, and pay invoices for electricity, insurance, and more.

Now more than ever, we need your donations to retain staff, safely reopen, and adapt how we operate.

Please give what you can to help keep Camp Bethel viable for the remainder of 2020 and into 2021.

Thank you for considering a gift. We are adapting and responding in responsible and creative ways. We continue to foster and build relationships with God, with each other, and with creation. Your support is a great blessing to everyone in the Camp Bethel community!

Our Upcoming Events are on the back of this letter, and I enclosed our latest News for you to share. Please encourage others to support us. We hope to see you soon! For more about what we're doing and ways you can help, visit www.CampBethelVirginia.org, or contact me with any questions or ideas. *Thank you!*

Together, in Christ our hope,

Barry LeNoir
Camp Bethel Director

Two Ways to Give: on line at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate
or mail to Camp Bethel, 328 Bethel Road, Fincastle, VA 24090.

Camp Bethel in Fincastle, Virginia is owned and operated by the Virginia District Church of the Brethren (Federal Tax ID# 54-6043879), and we are a subordinate group of the Church of the Brethren, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, so gifts to Camp Bethel and Virginia District are tax-deductible in the year given.

Please consider a gift to Camp Bethel and a gift to the Virilina District Church of the Brethren:

Camp Bethel
328 Bethel Road
Fincastle, VA 24090

Virilina District Church of the Brethren
3402 Plantation Road, NE
Roanoke, VA 24012

Or give to camp on line at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/donate

Together
with God
with each other
with creation

Upcoming Camp Bethel Events:

Summer 2020: Camp Bethel OPEN for Family & Group Rentals & Campsites w/ Summer Special Rates!
September 4-7, 2020: Labor Day Family Weekend, TBD.
September 5, 2020 (Sat): Camp Bethel PEP! 5K Run/Walk, *in-person*.
September 23, 2020 (Wed): 26th Benefit Golf Tournament, *in-person*.
October 3, 2020 (Sat): 36th annual Heritage Day Festival.
October 16-18, 2020: Camp Bethel at Roanoke GO Outside Festival.
November 2, 2020 (Mon): Crisis Management Workshop at Camp Bethel, TBD.
November 7, 2020 (Sat), 7:30am: Fall Volunteer Workday, RSVP free meals.
December 3, 2020 (Thu): Christmas TOGETHER Banquet.
January 2-3, 2021: Winter Camp Youth & Kids' Retreat.
January 5, 2021: Summer Camp Registration OPENS.
February 6, 2021 (Sat), 12:00noon: Camp Supporter Lunch, RSVP.
March 11, 2021 (Thurs), 6:30pm: Sow the Seed Campership Banquet, RSVP.
March 27, 2021 (Sat), 7:30am: Spring Volunteer Workday, RSVP free meals.
April 16-17, 2021 (Fri-Sat): 20th Sounds of the Mountains Storytelling Festival.
May 27-31, 2021: Memorial Day Family Weekend, RSVP meals.
May 28, 2021 (Sat): Family Day/Summer Camp Open House, 1:00-4:00pm.
May 31-June 11, 2021: Summer Staff Training.
June 4-5, 2021 (Fri-Sat): Parent-Child Overnight Camp.
June 11, 2021 (Fri), 5:30: Summer Staff Commissioning Dinner.
June 13-July 30, 2021: Summer Camps & Family Adventures.

CONNECT WITH US!

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www.CampBethelVirginia.org