



May 3, 2020

To whom it may concern:

Just a few months ago, I would have never imagined writing a letter or announcement like this. My heart is extremely heavy as I share with you the difficult decision that our executive board has had to make. Every summer since 2003, The Wilderness Christian Camp has been packed with children and teens from all walks of life seeking God and learning in action-packed programs full of life and adventure. It has been my privilege to work all year long, every year, to prepare and plan as we serve the countless campers that come through our gates each summer. It is with extreme sadness that I announce that we have made the reluctant decision to cancel our 2020 summer programs for the months of June and July. While this decision was not made with haste, after carefully considering the temporary COVID-19 regulations and guidelines offered by both the CDC and our state and county health department, we saw no proper way to safely and effectively run our programs. Both our wilderness setting and our nation-wide reach complicated matters as we considered dozens of state quarantine regulations, flight and travel schedules, and the safety of our campers and staff. For the many families that have already registered and paid their campers tuition, we are offering a full refund. Please visit our website and fill out the online form entitled "COVID-19 Refund Form".

I know that this letter will come as a great disappointment to many. Please know that we are not going anywhere, and that we are more determined than ever to reach young people and to provide a healthy and God honoring atmosphere for people to meet with God and grow. We are already brainstorming and looking at ways to pack the remainder of the summer with camp activities as we are able. In late summer, as regulations and campground licensing allows, we would like to open our facilities to Pastors, Missionaries and Evangelist to come and take family vacations and to "retreat" in our cabins and to enjoy God's nature. This would be free of charge to like-minded preachers and their families. Please watch our website and social media for more details as this becomes available.

Let me close with a reminder that God is still working, and by saying to those that contribute to this ministry: thank you for your faithfulness in giving. Thank you for your sacrifice. We have many fixed expenses that will remain and that must be taken care of. Traditionally, camper tuition takes care of many of these costs. We ask that you prayerfully consider helping over and above what you typically have done. In addition to meeting our current financial obligations, we would like to take advantage of this unique time God has given to us to make some capital improvements and to do some large maintenance projects. God has always taken care of His work and we are confident that He will continue to do so. We covet your prayers as we move forward as God leads us. Ecclesiastes 3:11a – "He hath made everything beautiful in his time..."

Saved to Serve,

Jason J. Perlak
Executive Director