



May 20, 2020

Dear Luther Heights Campers, Friends, and Congregations,

Over the past two months, the Board of Directors has been meeting weekly in conversation and discernment on the viability and safety of summer camp 2020 in light of the coronavirus pandemic. After prayerful discernment and in consultation with medical experts and local authorities, we have come to the difficult, but unanimous decision, that it is in the best interest and for the safety of our campers, families, and communities that we cancel all youth camps, day camps, and traditional retreats through August 2020.

This decision has been a painful one. We feel deep grief and know you do as well. We are making plans to do ministry this summer in some creative ways. On the back of this letter, we provide more detail into our plan to **1. Connect TODAY, 2. Prepare for the FUTURE and 3. Praise our Loving God ALWAYS**. While this will be a different summer for all of us, we are committed to using this season to strengthen Luther Heights and its ministry, now and for future years to come.

Through dedicated efforts, we were able to secure a Payment Protection Program loan for staff payroll through the middle of June, and have made all possible budget cuts in conjunction with this summer's operational changes. However, we still find ourselves **facing a projected \$45,000 deficit this fiscal year as a result of the loss of all camp and retreat revenue**.

To allow us to end the year without a loss, we invite you to prayerfully consider if you can partner with us by increasing your financial gift this year. To become a monthly recurring donor or donate a one-time gift online, visit www.lutherheights.org and click Donate, or send a check with the reply envelope included.

In Leviticus 25, God sets out a rhythm of rest and renewal for the people of God. There was Sabbath every seventh year and Jubilee every 50. In the year of Jubilee God intended everything to reset and to begin anew. While we did not plan for this to be a year of Jubilee, we are looking at it in this light. A resetting with hope in God to begin anew next year.

We know that experiences at Luther Heights are powerful and transforming. We know no matter what shape this year takes, we walk with a God who guides us, encourages us, loves us, and calls us to be creative in how we connect with one another. We invite you to partner with us this season in prayer, in ministry and in financial stewardship to secure the ministry of Luther Heights Bible Camp for generations to come.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelly N. Preboski".

Kelly Preboski
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Carrothers".

Ken Carrothers
Board President

LUTHER HEIGHTS BIBLE CAMP 2020 MINISTRY

As we live into the realities that gathering together at Luther Heights Bible Camp this summer in traditional ways will not be possible, we do so faithfully following a God who is always ahead of us. Therefore, we look forward to the ways in which we might meet God this coming summer and hope you'll join us in prayer and ministry.

The Board of Directors and Staff

Connections TODAY

Luther Heights staff will connect with our campers, congregations, donors, and summer staff in a variety of ways throughout the summer. We will focus on connections through social media with what we're calling Mountain Top Messages. On Mondays, Executive Director Kelly will post a video message sharing stories, scripture, and hope from campers' favorite spots at camp. On Wednesdays, we will post a silly song or camper story or a game idea for families. On Fridays, we will offer a scenic view from around camp that might serve as a visual retreat, inviting you to pause in your day. We might even have you guess where around camp the photo was taken!

In addition to our social media outreach, postcards will be sent to all donors and campers throughout the summer with updates and inspirational messages. A virtual Leader-in-Training (formerly called Camphand program) will be created for our high school aged campers as a strategy to continue a successful program for young Christian leaders and our future staff. We are exploring other creative programming and canteen avenues as well.

We invite you to connect with us too by tagging us in social media (@LutherHeights), sharing your own favorite LHBC song or grace video, or sending snail mail to camp at: Luther Heights Bible Camp HC 64 Box 9381 Ketchum, ID 83340.



Prepare for the FUTURE

To prepare for next summer and beyond, we will focus on property improvements around camp. Completing several projects including the Sawtooth Lodge



and the Director's Cabin remodel will be priorities, as well as making steps toward a needed electrical upgrade thanks to a grant opportunity we received. Continued improvements to all buildings and grounds will be additional projects this summer. When we gather again at Luther Heights, the site will be ready for us all!

Praise our Loving God ALWAYS

We are excited to create a virtual camp worship for our owner congregations to use this summer, hopefully bringing some fun camp-style experiences to your church! We will share more Campfire Worships on our Facebook page, inviting all to join us at camp virtually. If you'd like to submit elements of worship (invocation, songs, sharing of the peace), please email Brooke at info@lutherheights.org. We remain thankful for a God who continues to be with us as we weather this storm.

