



AN ESSENTIAL MINISTRY OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN DELAWARE

May 8, 2020

My Friends in Christ,

I am writing to inform you, with great sadness, that our 2020 summer camping season, both overnight and day camp has been canceled. Safety has always been the keystone in everything that we do and after considering all we currently understand about COVID-19 as well as what is projected for the summer, we clearly realized there was no way be able to offer what all have come to love.... an amazing camp experience at Arrowhead. This decision was incredibly difficult and was arrived at it through weeks of consultation with The Episcopal Camps and Conference Center, the American Camping Association, health care workers with ties to Arrowhead, state guidelines, Bishop Brown and Mission Support Staff....and prayer! Factors such as staffing, supply, distancing, and so many others played into this outcome, but every time we evaluated how the summer could run under these conditions either the program or safety were compromised, and we were not willing to take the chance to jeopardize either. Important to note that this decision came from the myself and full-time staff combined with fantastic support from Bishop Brown and the Mission support staff.

Personally my heart wanted to keep waiting to make a decision for it seems every day carries something new. But the incredible responsibility of 100 staff, 1300 campers and a program built upon 65 years of loving relationships lead my head in another direction. Although I firmly believe this is the correct decision, not everyone will agree... and I am okay with that.

Alternate uses of the property this summer are now forefront in our path forward. Over the next weeks the staff and I will be working on ways to safely do so. Our intention is to keep communications open and let you know what we may be able to offer if safety and common sense allows.

We have posted [a video message](#) from myself and the Director on our website. [You can click here to view FAQ page we shared on our website](#). Included is language asking for donations to help offset our operating costs for the remainder of the year. If this is something might consider....it would be a blessing.

The Arrowhead staff is devastated, to say the least. From the Pathfinder who has attended 8 years to the Taste of Camper's first experience, our mission has, and will continue to be providing an Arrowhead experience which reflects God's love through living together, learning, worshiping and great fun! We are not going away and will be all-the-more ready for the summer of 2021!

Peace and God Bless you all!

Walt Lafontaine
Executive Director

