



Disciple Oaks Camp & Retreat  
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(830) 437-2900 Cell: (830) 857-1605  
Rev. Scott Miller, Camp Director

**Where love, faith, and relationships take root.**

May 8, 2020

Disciple Oaks Camping Family,

It is with great disappointment that we inform you that Mission South Summer Camps at Disciple Oaks Camp & Retreat this year have been cancelled. Our team of summer directors and children and youth chairs have met many times over the past month in discussion around this decision, and we are heartbroken that the safest option for all camping families is for us to not hold camp this summer.

As we planned for meeting social distancing and health guidelines, we realized that meeting the Federal, State, and local requirements would not be possible in a camp setting and still allow us to have a meaningful camp experience with God and community. We considered the need to take every camper's temperature multiple times per day, isolate campers to their small groups and not allow them to spend time with other campers, maintain 6 feet separation between everybody, avoid hugs and holding hands in prayer, and wear masks throughout the day. We feel the fellowship and friendship that is so important to the camp experience would suffer tremendously. And, just as much as we care about our campers, we also care about their families and want us all to remain healthy and safe during these trying times.

We will begin processing refunds for those that have paid in the next few weeks. If you would like to make part or all of your payment a donation to the camp, please contact Scott Miller and tell him the amount, and he will put that money into the camp fund instead of refunding it. The camp will fall significantly short of its normal camping income this year, and any donation is greatly appreciated.

Camps occurring after summer are still scheduled as originally planned. In addition, we will add a Chi Rho Fall Rally October 16-18, 2020. The Chi Rho Team could not imagine not getting the group together until next year! So, all of you in the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades in October 2020, please put this on your calendar!

Seniors, we know this summer at Gonzo is extremely important to you, and it is important to us that you have your moment with camp during this part of your life. The directing team is discussing special opportunities for 2020 Seniors to participate in the camping experience in the Fall of this year or in 2021. We celebrate the success of all our Senior graduates and celebrate your transition to the next part of your lives.

For campers signed up for Eighter's, we are evaluating offering Eighter's next summer to the campers that will miss it this year.

To all of our campers, know that we miss you, and love you, and we can't wait until we get to see you again. You are a very important part of our lives, and you matter to us.

Camping family, please hold one another in prayer. For our youth and their families, the many volunteers and directors, and the camp staff who are affected by this decision and know that we will be together again when everyone's health and safety can be achieved.

Much love, and we look forward to when we can see you again,

Mission South Summer Directors, Children & Youth Chairs, and Gonzo Staff