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CROSS TRAILS MINISTRY

Summer Camps & Retreats

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response Looking Ahead with Hope...

March 20, 2020

Dear Friends of Cross Trails,

Cross Trails Ministry, through Camp Chrysalis, Ebert Ranch and our off-site programs, is honored to provide summer camps and retreats so people can step away from their everyday and encounter God in new ways.

As with each of you, we are in a situation with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) that we have not been in before, and things are changing day by day. At Cross Trails Ministry, the health and safety of our retreat guests, summer campers and staff are always our priority. As with most of you, we have been monitoring state, local and federal health authorities to determine the best ways that we can help and respond to the crisis.

In this time of uncertainty, it is crucial for all of us to make decisions that care for one another in new ways.

Year-round retreating for all ages is a large part of our ministry. However, at least through early April, Camp Chrysalis and Ebert Ranch retreaters need to stay at home to care for themselves, their families and their home communities. All of the rental retreat groups we had scheduled between last weekend and Easter have been cancelled to encourage this care. All have been given the opportunity to reschedule, when they are able, with no penalty. We are hoping and planning to host the retreats and day events we have scheduled for after Easter into early May, but will, of course, re-evaluate this decision in early April as the situation develops.

We know that, after this time of crisis, it will be more crucial than ever for youth, adults and families to experience God playfully and joyfully through summer camp. We are looking forward with hope, and planning for a fun and faith-filled summer. With the help of the online networking, our staff are preparing the sites and creative program activities. We are also actively recruiting and hiring summer staff who are excited for the ministry to come.

While we can't predict the future, we look forward with hope. Easter is coming, and the first day of summer camp is still over eleven weeks away. There is much to do. We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation. We will update leaders, campers and camper parents as needed on any necessary changes as we are able. Now is the time to prepare for the youth and families who will need this time away, more than ever.

Our office will remain open for calls and email for the next few weeks, so please contact us if you have questions. You can contact me directly at deanna@crosstrails.org.

We are blessed to join all of you in prayer, and appreciation of what really matters, as we all work to care for each other in this unusual time.

We look forward to welcoming you to camp again soon.

In Christ,

Deanna Christensen
Cross Trails Ministry
Executive Director