



March 25, 2021

LuWiSoMo Summer 2021

Responding to input from the vast majority of LuWiSoMo families and campers regarding interest in return to traditional camps this summer, given the current status of COVID, LuWiSoMo shifts its focus for Summer 2021 to expanded camp options for individual families and smaller groups of families, and limited Joyful Hearts camps for fully vaccinated Joyful Hearts campers, volunteers and staff, with plans to return to full summer camps and maybe more for Summer 2022.

See full announcement from the LuWiSoMo Board of Directors below

Thank you to all of the LuWiSoMo families and friends who participated in sharing your input and prayers as we sought to understand your desires and God's plan for His ministry at LuWiSoMo this summer, and serve as good stewards of His blessings to and through LuWiSoMo in both the short and long term.

The vast majority of families and campers indicated they were not yet ready to commit to returning to traditional camps this summer. Consequently, concerns were raised regarding being able to provide meaningful camp experiences with 10-15% of our normal campers. In addition, we prayed about the stewardship of spending the gifts God has given on staff, horses, supplies and everything else needed for a full summer camp program, knowing revenue would be far less than expenses, resulting in a significant financial deficit that may set LuWiSoMo back in both the short and long term. Our stewardship includes doing our best to ensure God's continued meaningful ministry at LuWiSoMo both now and for years to come.

Consequently, like so much of life over this past year, we're pivoting our focus for Summer 2021 to expanded camp options for individual families and smaller groups of families, and limited Joyful Hearts offerings for fully vaccinated campers, volunteers and staff, with plans to return to full summer camps and maybe more for Summer 2022.

So, what does this mean? Families, extended families, groups of families, and church groups will have more options to enjoy LuWiSoMo in ways that best suit their family or group's needs and COVID comfort level. Our Campground will be open Memorial Day Weekend through September for family retreats and gatherings. In addition, we're opening our 8 summer camp cabins (9 guests per cabin and air-conditioning) for families and groups of families. The Retreat Center will also be available for large family retreats or gatherings. Our ministry team will work with families to customize their experiences depending on their length of stay, with offerings like archery, canoeing, kayaking, games and campfires. For larger groups with longer stays, we may be able to help arrange for some meals through our meal service partner.

Come to LuWiSoMo this summer as a family, extended family, or group of families for a week or long weekend. Enjoy time together as a family in God's beautiful creation! For families with younger future summer campers, give them a chance to become familiar with LuWiSoMo. Include grandparents and friends. Make multi-generational, extended family, multi-family, or "Grandpa and Grandma Camp" with your grandchildren memories at LuWiSoMo this summer. Be creative. Let us help you find the right experience for you and your family!

For those already registered for youth summer camps, our team will be reaching out to your shortly with options to pivot to family time at LuWiSoMo this summer, rollover your registration to 2022, or arrange a refund or donation to ministry.

Thank you for your understanding, prayers and continued support in these times as we do our best to serve and follow God's will in making these difficult decisions, remaining firmly rooted and confident in following the direction He leads, and grateful for the continued blessings He provides people of all ages to and through this, His ministry at LuWiSoMo. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path. *Proverbs 3: 5,6*

Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*