

Summer Camp Is Still On at Camp Lutherhaven

Hikes through the woods, new friendships, blue skies overhead, cannonball splashes in the lake, and singing around a campfire are just a few of the sights and sounds of summer camp being anticipated at Camp Lutherhaven this summer.

Lutherhaven has had its doors closed to guest and retreat groups since mid-March. Like most other businesses, non-profits, and families around the country, the COVID-19 pandemic has been devastating to camps. With the current loss of revenue from the spring season and half of summer programming, Lutherhaven is looking at a significant impact to its budget for 2020, projecting to be \$150,000 to \$250,000 below budget this year. Many camps have also made the difficult decision to suspend traditional camp programs through the end of summer, pivoting instead to family programming, day camps, or even temporarily closing until a more certain future emerges.

Lutherhaven is among a handful of camps still planning to open summer camp in 2020. The Lutherhaven staff and board of directors have worked hard to adopt new guidelines from the CDC and the American Camping Association, secure & train summer staff, and adapt programming, policies and facilities to accommodate a new and ever changing COVID-19 environment.

As long as Indiana moves into Stage 5 as planned, currently set for July 4th, we will begin our first summer program July 5th.

We're very excited to still be able to offer children something 'normal' like summer camp during these crazy times. The benefits of a camp experience are more important now than ever.

Camp Lutherhaven is taking all necessary precautions as we plan and prepare for an adventurous, fun, yet different kind of summer. This includes new health screening procedures for campers and guests, enhanced cleaning, and adapting activities to create more space. To learn more about how Camp Lutherhaven is approaching this unique summer, visit www.lutherhaven.org/coronavirus-response/.

While this summer will look somewhat differently, our heart and mission remain the same – to create adventurous, faith-building experiences for children, youth, adults, and families that include recreation, God's Word, group activities, Christian fellowship, personal growth, and of course, tons of fun!

Lutherhaven is a place where lifelong friendships are made, kids and families get to experience the great outdoors, and we connect around the things that truly matter – our True North - Jesus.

If you would like more information about our summer programs or how to support Lutherhaven during this challenging year, please visit www.lutherhaven.org.

Tim Jank