



When I am afraid,  
I put my trust in you.  
In God, whose word I praise,  
***in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.***  
***What can flesh do to me?***

In God, whose word I praise,  
in the Lord, whose word I praise,  
***in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.***  
***What can man do to me?***

*~from Psalm 56*

This last week we have seen a rise in the spread of COVID-19 in our part of God's kingdom. There is no doubt that your life, alongside the lives of your children and our country and world, have been and will continue to be affected in significant ways by COVID-19. What we also know is that God is still in control and that our hope is not in the things of this world. Our challenge at this point is to think clearly and to make healthy responses to the situation as we place the needs of the at-risk people in our community ahead of our own.

As you wrestle with so many unknowns, your summer plans are also likely uncertain or not a primary concern. We want to be an encouragement to you and not another worry for you.

***As of March 18, 2020, Camp Perkins Staff and Board of Directors are planning to proceed with Youth and Family Summer Camp Events.***

We remain optimistic that our summer will proceed as planned and provide a much-needed outdoor and face-to-face community experience in a safe environment. While we are 60-90 days away from our 2020 Summer Camp season, the health of our staff and campers will always remain our number-one priority in the planning and implementation of summer camp.

Therefore, we are highly engaged and actively monitoring the situation closely. Camp Perkins will work closely with federal, state, and local health officials so that timely and accurate information can guide appropriate responses specific to our communities. Along with our normal pre-summer communications, we will update you as developments related to Camp Perkins occur around this situation.

Finally, I ask that you join me and the rest of the Camp Perkins family across this country and the world to commit to praying for those affected by COVID-19 here and globally. I also ask that you prayerfully consider how you can be a light to those in your community. Camp Perkins has always been a place that refreshes and renews so that you can go back to your community and share the love of Christ with your neighbors. We have an opportunity as the body of Christ to be there for our neighbors during these challenging, unsettling times.

Be smart, be safe, be calm, and be present to your family and your neighbors. Remember, you are not alone; God is with us till we meet again.

In Christ Alone,

Signe White  
Executive Director



**Camp Perkins Staff and Board would like you to know the following about our plan of action:**

1. **Currently, all Camp Perkins programs will continue as scheduled.**
  - a) **Already registered?** Thank you for your registration, and we are prayerful and hopeful that we will see you this summer!
  - b) **Not registered for 2020 yet?** Registration is open online! Consider registering with only a deposit for now as we monitor the developments of this situation.
2. Camp Perkins staff will closely monitor and follow the recommendations of the CDC and the South Central Public Health District.
3. Per our routine practice, there is a trained health professional in residence throughout each week at Camp Perkins, serving as our Health Care Volunteer (HCV).
4. Our Full-time Staff, Summer Staff, and Health Care Volunteers will stay apprised of current CDC recommendations.
5. Our Staff and Health Care Volunteers are experienced in managing the impact of contagions. We have systems in place for heightened surface cleaning, as well as quarantine protocols for campers and staff that present with symptoms of contagions such as fevers and coughs.
6. The Camp Perkins Staff and Board are proactively preparing heightened protocols to ensure a safe environment. We will assess what changes to our summer programs may need to take place. We will keep you informed throughout this time and especially as we enter the 30 day period before our peak season.
7. Our Housekeeping Team supplies hand soap and boxed tissues. If the need continues, we will provide hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes in strategic places around camp. If the risk level is acceptable by CDC Guidelines and our programs are able to begin, our Housekeeping Team will increase the level of surface cleaning and disinfecting during our regular cleanings.
8. **Will Camp Perkins issue refunds for cancellations?**
  - a) Families or individuals who would like a refund because of coronavirus concerns will be issued a refund.
  - b) We encourage you to consider waiting until at least 30 days before your event to make a final decision.
  - c) If you do cancel but leave your 2020 deposit on file, we will “lock-in” the 2020 price for your 2021 Summer Camp registration.

P.S. As a nation we are calling this social distancing. However, this really seems like physical distancing, and there are endless ways to connect socially. Though camp is all about face-to-face community building, it is our hope to share opportunities online for our Camp Perkins community to come together - such as sharing some of your favorite campfire songs and more! (Virtual “Missions”? Who’s got their water cannons ready?!) If you have ideas or special Camp Perkins experiences you would like to see, send your ideas to [emily@campperkins.org](mailto:emily@campperkins.org).