



Hello Camp Family.
I miss you.

For the last eight months the camp staff has been preparing and praying for you. We are eager to see your camper's sweet faces and joining together for all the adventures camp has to offer. And we know you are excited for them too. For 89 years, Camp Kanuga has welcomed campers from all over world, but sadly, for the 2020 summer season, we will have to cancel camp.

This has been a terribly hard decision. But I do believe it is the right one. The limitations imposed by local and state regulations, as well as the real risks to campers and family members, will just not allow us to offer camp in any meaningful way.

If camp is about anything, it is about bringing people close together. Camp is about building relationships and taking risks with new friends on new adventures. Social distancing is the antithesis of what we do. Camp happens through the shared experience of climbing mountains, creating art, running rivers, performing skits, overcome challenges together and trusting each other with the things important to our hearts and minds. Even sharing a meal with our cabinmates is an important, silly and sometimes sacred act at camp. We huddle around a fire as we make s'mores, sing songs and tell stories – its intimate and close. Our time singing, dancing, worshipping, praying and growing together all takes place in a close community. We celebrate each other through pats on the back, encouraging words, high-fives and hugs. These are the moments that make camp special and bring people together, and we just would not be able to operate in these meaningful ways.

This certainly is not the news we hoped for. But I encourage you to not miss out on all the opportunities to live out the Kanuga spirit in your local community. How can you love and encourage your neighbors, friends and family? Where can you create beauty in the lives of others who live on your street? What adventures are awaiting you in your own backyard? May I ask that you bring the Kanuga spirit to your neck of the woods, and when you do, can you share them with us? Send us a note, a video or pictures of how you continued to live out the Camp Kanuga spirit at home. I think we can do something great with these images and stories you share with us.

I look forward to hearing from you, but more than anything I look forward to seeing you soon. We will be back! With your help, Summer 2021 will pave the way for another 90 years of growing in our faith with new friendships that last a lifetime.

Soon we will communicate more ways for campers to participate in Camp Kanuga throughout the summer and fall. We are going to get creative and adapt. Be on the lookout for new programs to be offered next summer and ways that you can really step in and help us. Because, now more than ever, we really do need your help. Your gifts and prayers are needed now more than ever. Please consider donating your camp fees or transferring them to summer 2021. You could be the difference in Kanuga's long term health. Complete the form on our website called, "[**Donation, Transfer, Refund Form**](#)". This will guide you on how to communicate how we should handle the fees you have already given.

Again, I look forward to seeing your smiling faces, hearing your laughter and watching you grow. Until then, may "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26

Blessings Friends,
David Schnitzer