

May 18, 2020

Dear Camp Families,

Thank you for your patience as we have prepared for this summer, planning ahead while waiting for guidance and information in this unpredictable time. Our greatest hope was to be able to offer you a program that we felt safely addressed the situation but still felt like Country Lad, even if there had to be a few changes. It has become clear, however, that with the current restrictions, this will not be possible. It is with great disappointment that we write to you today to say that we are canceling all of our Camp Country Lad sessions this summer.

Camp is about being together. We come from all parts of the country and the world, to live closely and simply together in the out-of-doors. We come together to reunite with old friends and to meet new ones. We come together at meals and at hootenannies, around campfires beside the lake and on simple log benches as we gather together in our outdoor church, and we come together each night in our cabins during our devotions. The ongoing guidance to maintain social distance and avoid large gatherings would not allow for these special times together.

Over our 58 years, we have met many obstacles, often adjusted our plans and still found a way to have fun together, but this time is different. Despite our sadness and deep disappointment, we know that this is the right decision. It is the right decision for the safety of the boys, our Camp families, our staff and the communities in which we live.

Any payments already made for this summer can be rolled over to next summer or returned as a full refund. If you choose to roll over your payments, you will still have the option to cancel if plans change and receive a full refund prior to April 1st, 2021. Please email us at CampCountryLadTN@gmail.com or call the Camp office at (931) 839-2354 if you would like to request a refund.

Although we will be apart this summer, assure your boys that we will be back together again, just as we were, to ride the trails and jump off the big rock at the Rock House. Let them know that we love them and will miss them terribly, and are eager to see them again. We will be in touch throughout the summer and into the fall as we make plans for 2021.

We also want to help the boys remain connected with one another. Their Camp friends mean a great deal to them so please encourage the boys to reach out to each other and to us. And let us know if we can help connect any of the boys, or if there is anything that we can do for them during this time or throughout the year.

“Day is done,” we sing at the end of each Campfire, “God is nigh,” as we head back up to our cabins, looking ahead for the new day to dawn. Our 59th summer will take a bit longer to get here than we expected, but we cannot wait to welcome you back when the time is right. I feel sure we, with each of you, will make next summer “the best summer ever.”

Sincerely,

Marion Williams and the Williams Family