

# A letter from the Board of Yellowstone Bible Camp at Bow & Arrow Ranch

Pray, Montana 59065 Summer phone 406-333-4418 - Internet: [www.yellowstonebiblecamp.com](http://www.yellowstonebiblecamp.com)



June 13, 2020

To all the campers, staff, and supporters of Yellowstone Bible Camp,

A few weeks ago, the board made the difficult decision to suspend all group activities at camp for the 2020 season. We also assured you that we would monitor news and events, and, if opportunity arose, we would “joyfully and promptly re-open the camp for any use that can be safely managed.” Regulatory conditions have started to change, and so we have decided as a board to make plans for a partial camp season, pending further and sustained relaxing of restrictions across the state. We certainly still have concerns about safely managing camps, and we appreciate your prayers on behalf of the camp and all those who may be serving to make the camp as safe as we can make it.

Here are the basic facts of our current plan.

- ◆ We want you to feel safe in coming to camp. However, there is nothing anyone can do to fully safeguard you while traveling to camp, while you’re at camp, or after you return home. Please be mindful of this. We ask you to prayerfully consider your attendance, or that of your family members, in light of any concerns you may have about the current pandemic. We’d love to have the camp be a blessing to your family, but we’ll still love you if you choose not to attend.
- ◆ No camp session will take place while Montana is in any re-opening phase more restrictive than Phase 3. As of today, Montana remains in Phase 2. If the governor keeps us there, there will be no camp sessions. If the governor moves to Phase 3, and then returns us to Phase 2 or Phase 1, camp sessions will be canceled, and we will immediately consult appropriate public health officials regarding sending campers home.
- ◆ Registration will not open until Phase 3 is announced. This is to save our Registrar having to manage refunds of any registrations. All registration fees will be priced as if for the “early” discount.
- ◆ Teen Camp and Junior Camp will plan to be open on their regularly scheduled, late July dates.
  - If Phase 3 is delayed beyond July 3rd, Junior Camp will be rescheduled to the 2nd week of August. If Phase 3 is delayed beyond July 24th, Junior Camp will be canceled.
  - If Phase 3 is delayed beyond July 10th, Teen Camp will be canceled.
  - We will manage arrival and pick-up times, and some other aspects of how the camps operate, very differently than in the past. We will get those details out as they are needed. Phase 3 still calls for us to be aware of social distancing. As faithful servants of the Lord,

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Bill Goben, Director - 766 Tepee Trail - Billings, MT 59105 – phone: 406.861.7844 - Email: [goben.b@juno.com](mailto:goben.b@juno.com)

Summer Camp Season Mailing Address: Yellowstone Bible Camp ~ General Delivery, Pray, MT 59065

UPS/FEDEX Deliveries: 27 West Fork, Mill Creek Road, Pray, MT 59065

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we will be submissive to rulers and authorities, and mindful of the law of the land. We will expect cheerful cooperation from all campers and parents.

- There will be no visitors allowed during a camp session, unless in case of family emergency.
- ◆ Family Camps will remain closed. Family reunions, Golden Age Camp, Camp Uno, and Elementary Camp will remain closed. We do not anticipate any change to these camp closures.
- ◆ Pending further developments, the board may consider opening Labor Day Retreat, the Ladies' Retreat, and the College Retreat. Currently, however, these retreats also remain closed.

We are still working with Camp Managers and staff to make sure we have all that we need to make the camps work. (Thank you Patty Laird, our registrar, and Michelle Alstrom, our food purchaser and kitchen staff scheduler!) We are planning, and look forward to a cheerful opening of these camps, but we recognize that God determines our steps. Please pray that we are all careful in looking to Him for guidance.

As always, we all take comfort in knowing that our God is in control, even in the most unknown situations, and He assures us that "all things work together for the good of those who love God: those who are called according to His purpose."

In Him,

The Yellowstone Bible Camp Board