



Merom Camp & Retreat Center, Inc.

Formerly: Union Christian College, Merom Institute & Merom Conference Center

P.O. Box 127, Merom, Indiana, 47861-0127

GPS Address: 8555 Phillip, Merom IN 47861

1-800-313-4511 or 1-812-356-4511 Fax 1-812-356-4002 Web-site www.merom.org

May 2020

Peace and grace to all of you. After much prayer, discussion and heart-ache, our volunteers and board have come to the agreement that we will not be having in-person summer camp in 2020.

As time progressed, our summer volunteers discussed options that would fall within new guidelines. Discussions included how to serve meals, how to join together for worship, Bible study and fellowship all with personal distancing. The option of adjusting the summer schedule was considered. With the new findings that youth are being infected with some form of COVID-19 illness, we agreed that we cannot risk the exposure to our campers and their families.

We realize our regular campers will miss out on being with friends, having time away from their routines, and experiencing life in the camp setting. Our summer directors are working to figure out how we can connect in some form. Summer fees will be adjusted since we aren't going to be on-site. For those that sign up for camp this year we can still:

- Get a t-shirt
- Join a digital activity (probably through Zoom)
 - o Bible study
 - o Fellowship
 - o Vespers
- Celebrate life together

Please check our website for new sign-up information after May 27, 2020.

Along with our regular utility, insurance and maintenance expenses, we will have to do some modifications to meet the new standards in order to continue to safely host groups in the future. We need to do some updates on how we serve meals, how to congregate and how to share spaces safely. Some of these jobs will take contractors, others will take volunteers. Staff has spent some time going through old paperwork, sorting storage areas and doing basic clean-up. This year we will also be using volunteers for lawn mowing.

We will change our energy for the year from greeting campers this summer to tending to the facility. We hope to have contractors come to finish the College Hall cupola walkway, repairing the walls and floors from water leak damages. We also hope to get the gym/chapel tuck-pointing done and some repairs there. We work with grant programs; however, all of these projects take donations, so we can greet campers again.

We will keep up with notices from the State Board of Health, the Governor's public addresses and CDC regulations as we make adjustments to how we will operate in the future.

We wish you friendship and joy when you think of your time at Merom.

In peace,
Susie Larson, Executive Director
Merom's Board of Directors
Merom's Summer Camp Directors

Major Projects:

College Hall Cupola:

Replace outside flooring to prevent leaks \$43,000.
Replace metal edging: \$11,000
Volunteers: scrape, paint, plaster repair

Haatten Chapel/Gym:

Tuck-pointing to prevent leaks through the bricks: \$48,000
New chapel furnace unit: \$4,000
New gym vent fans: \$2,000
Gym ac/heat: \$30,000

Crawn Cabin:

There has been a dream over a decade long about replacing cabins.

Steps: finalize plan – state approval – hire contractors – groundbreaking – building – interior finishing – ribbon cutting



Mission Statement:

Merom Camp and Retreat Center (Merom) is a year-round camp and retreat facility committed to helping individuals and groups experience, understand, and practice their Christian faith at every stage of their development.

Merom provides a safe place, facilities, staff and program for congregations, families, and non-profit organizations who seek such a setting and accommodations.



Merom Camp & Retreat Center
PO Box 127
Merom, IN 47861

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
US POSTAGE PAID
Merom, IN
Permit No. 3



Summer 2020 Update



Merom Camp & Retreat Center, Inc.

GPS Address: 8555 Phillip

PO Box 127, Merom IN 47861

800-313-4511 or 812-356-4511

www.merom.org