

# SO, WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN 2021?

That is the million dollar question for sure but we are moving forward, cautiously, with plans for operation at Trinity Pines. Let me take a moment and share who all has a stake in this decision:

**GOVERNOR OF IDAHO:** Governor Little has Idaho currently in Stage 3 with exceptions for houses of worship and political gatherings. This Stage limits gatherings to no more than 50 people. The positivity rate in Idaho continues to drop. That trend is good news and hopefully, will allow for larger groups.

**CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH:** Trinity Pines is located in Valley County overseen by Central District Health. Our relationship with CDH is not new. They are the ones that check our kitchen annually for safety and health related issues, check on certification of our kitchen staff and can make or break operations of food establishments should handling or storage of food not meet their standards. We recently reached out to CDH and they have given us the go ahead to seat 85 individuals in the dining room (tables 6' apart and four campers per table). Carla Thompson, Food Service Manager, states that with enough help and volunteers she can sanitize the eating area and turn around 20-30 minutes after their departure and serve another 85. This would allow us to accommodate groups of 85-170 under these conditions. Last fall, we opened in late August under similar situations. However, at that time, the weather was such that campers could wait outside and find things to do while their camp ate in shifts. In the winter, that presents a few challenges. This type of arrangement is a nightmare from the standpoint of programming - since half of your camp is being forced to eat quickly and then wait for the cleaning and the other half to eat. Plus, campers did not enjoy the lack of community and having only four to a table, but it can work and will if that is how we need to proceed. On the most recent visit, the CDH representative did give two conditions that would allow us to go above the current level of 10 people gathering - one, that the group at the camp participate in some type of worship activity (no specifics) and the other would be an exception for groups that had a youth orientated theme. That does open up several opportunities for us. We are also limited in the area that the Conference Center dining room floor area will not be able to be used as a place to hang out and are making provisions to use the other two floors for this purpose.

**IDAHO LEGISLATURE:** Many of you know that I have been a lobbyist for over 40 legislative sessions. We have been watching the debates and legislation that provides more power to the legislative branch and less to the executive branch related to declaration of disasters and health related issues. At this time, all of that is still up in the air. There are extreme measures and then there are lesser impacts that may or may not make it through the public policy process. These are all Concurrent Resolutions and would not require the signature of the Governor.

**CONT'D ON INSIDE >>**

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**YOU RESPONDED WELL:** If you have not received your year-end giving report for taxes from Trinity Pines, please contact Cindy at cindy@armgidaho.com. Sadly, we have removed the names of many folks who have passed on to Heaven this past year. Often times without a name of a next of kin, we are unable to forward the report. If that is your situation, please contact Cindy for the report. In 2019, we mailed 146 year-end giving reports - however, Praise the Lord, in 2020 we mailed out 222 year-end giving reports. Thanks for your great effort to support Trinity Pines during this challenging year. Congratulations.

# CAMP MONTHLY

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## TRINITY PINES CAMP + CONFERENCE CENTER

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CASCADE, IDAHO

FEBRUARY 2021

**VACCINES:** Idaho is running a very low rate of vaccines per our population. I don't see the camp mandating proof of vaccine in order to be on the campground. Of course, children and teens are down the list on the calendar for vaccinations. The Camps Board is reviewing various models of how summer camps could operate given some of these issues. Some of the groups who have cancelled in 2021, have explained, "Until a larger number of our participants can be vaccinated we would like to hold off on spending a weekend together" - we respect that point of view.

We are cautiously proceeding with plans for a semi-normal summer. There are still too many unknowns at this time to lay out a definite plan. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we proceed with the best plan we can to provide a quality camping experience for children, teens and adults.

Rick Waitley  
Executive Director



**FOR A SMOOTH RIDE:** We initiated this campaign the first of January. I am pleased and blessed to report that you responded in the month of January in the amount of \$15,819. In the January Camp Monthly, we laid out the details of the project and the generous offer by a donor (if you missed that check it out at [www.tpines.org](http://www.tpines.org)). Enclosed is a list of those who responded this past month to the appeal. Our goal is \$65,000 by June 1.

**MANAGER SEARCH UPDATE:** We have received over 30 applications from around the US. Many qualified applicants for the manager's position and additional support staff. Holding the camp together since March of 2020 have been Carla, Steve, and Carol with a great group of volunteers. In fact, Ray and Star Gartman, Nampa Karcher, stayed through the winter to help with office operations and snow removal.

**GIRLS CAMP DIRECTORS:** We are pleased to introduce to you two new co-directors of 4th-6th Grade Girls Camp. They will be supported by the past Director Stephanie Austin. Taking the helm of leadership will be Ashleigh Loeber, Nampa First, and Anneke Wolfe, Grace Bible. All of the directors would appreciate your prayers and support as we navigate through the trials of camping in 2021.

**DISTRICT MEN'S RETREAT:** Director Brian Bowman says we are 'green light go' for the District Men's Retreat scheduled for April 9-11. A special mailing will be going to prior participants and churches to let you know more details. Just get the dates on your calendars, men. There may be limitations for attendance so be sure you start talking this up to men in your church and plan to attend.

## A NEW CAMP GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE IS COMING

For the past year and a half, the Camps Board and the Camps Board Executive Committee have been working on an evaluation of the structure of Trinity Pines Governance Board and Committees. I am going to save you the pain of reading through lots of materials and give you a bird's eye view of what the new structure looks like.

The Intermountain District Camps Board has been a holdover from the years at Victory Cove. With a very distinct composition made up of laymen and pastors, this board is fairly good size (just fewer than 20). 2020 taught us some good lessons. We had to be nimble, able to pivot and quick to respond to the COVID impact on the camp. This challenge was given to the Camps Board Executive Committee who met almost weekly for updates and decision. That committee had only 7 members and was able to respond quickly to situations. The new structure will include a new name, **Trinity Pines Board**, and a composition of only 5-6 members depending upon how you count the Executive Director and District Superintendent, both ex-officio members. This list of selected individuals will be presented to the District Nominating Committee in mid-February who will pass it to the District Assembly delegates later in the spring for election. A requirement for the new board is that you must be a member in good standing with a local Church of the Nazarene.

The current **Property/Development Committee** will remain in place. This committee is made up of individuals who have expertise in the building trades and have been responsible for buildings and property over the past 20 years of operation in Cascade.

A new committee will be formed called the **Program/Development Committee** to oversee the retreats and camps operated by the Intermountain District, both what we have in place today and creating vision for new programs and activities for the District into the future. Initially, this committee will be made up of Nazarenes who have an interest in the continued development of camping opportunities for the Intermountain District family. Later, the committee will have members that are Nazarene and from other fellowships.

The District Advisory Board is also working through the process to allow for the establishment of a **Trinity Pines Foundation**. This entity would allow Trinity Pines to be more flexible in grant and funding opportunities since it would be an independent Foundation. Much of the proposed structure has been patterned after the NNU Foundation which has served to be a tremendous value to Northwest Nazarene University.

NOTE: If you would like to have your name considered for the new Trinity Pines Board or the Camp Program/Development Committee, please send your name, contact information and a short statement about your qualifications immediately to Rick Waitley, Executive Director. In making this transition, the current Camps Board recognizes that Trinity Pines is not Victory Cove. We are now a \$1 million plus annual revenue business each year, with 198 acres and a number of structures and employees. A much different scenario than what we had at Victory Cove for nearly 70 years. Therefore, the structure must change to keep up with the demand and future of the camp. Exciting days ahead.