

LEARNING TO STAY TOGETHER - WHILE SEPARATED

This is a challenging time for the world we live in right now. In the course of other disasters, large and small, our usual behavior is to come together. I was taught from an early age “there is strength in numbers.” Now with COVID-19 we are entering a whole new dimension of “social distancing.” Life is different in a very short amount of time. Today, the bank lobbies, dining rooms, and restaurants are closed, only drive-thru, store hours are reduced, church services cancelled or moved online, and many people are hoarding and displaying unbelievable behavior.

Trinity Pines, in a time like this, looks to you for strength, stability and its future. You are the faithful partners who have remained steady through the development, growth, transition, and past turbulent times for the camp. Daily the phone is ringing in Cascade and Meridian inquiring about the future of camps this summer. Weekly, groups are calling to cancel, either because of kids needing supervision since they are not in school, honoring the no more than 5-10 people assembled in a social gathering, or concern over spreading or being in contact with someone who might have the virus.

On the front line of the camp are our paid (salary and hourly) employees. Concerned about their future with a reduced rental calendar which translates into a reduced bottom line for income, Camps Board Executive Committee met on Thursday evening, March 19, via conference call and issued the following statements related to the Coronavirus:

The goal of Trinity Pines is to comply with the federal and state laws and guidelines related to COVID-19. We are dedicated to protecting the staff and programs in an effort to curb the spread of the virus. Our mission and expectation is to plan for a fruitful and productive summer Christian camping season.

We need you to join with us in being prayerful and generous at this time. The loss of revenue is a real issue for camp operations. Even without guests we have some items that are there every month to be paid: salaries, insurance, utilities, and supplies. We are doing our best to evaluate and revise budgets and expectations, curbing expenses where possible and yet holding the camp steady and moving forward with the anticipation of a great summer season. We look to you to “stay together” on behalf of Trinity Pines and help us through these times. Your investments will help to stabilize rental loss and cancellations. Thank you for your past generosity and acts of kindness. May God bless each of you and keep you safe.

Rick Waitley
Executive Director

CONTACT US:
Association Management Group
55 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 100
Meridian, ID 83642
ph: 208-888-0988
fx: 208-888-4586
rick@amgidah.com
Cascade Mailing Address:
PO Box 1269, Cascade, ID 83611
Cascade Physical Address:
349 Cabarton Road
ph: 208-382-6200

May 8-9	Nampa First Nazarene Prayer Retreat
Apr 25-26	TV Southern Baptist Association Ladies Retreat
Apr 24-26	Sitch n' Snip Spring Garden Valley Quilters #2
Apr 21-24	Linder Road Church of Christ Men's Retreat
Apr 17-19	IMD Men's Retreat
Apr 17-19	Home Crown Quilts Retreat
Apr 17-19	Bethel Nazarene Women's Retreat
Apr 17-19	Galvary Chapel Treasure Valley Men's Retreat
Apr 17-19	Pinehurst Quilt Club
Apr 24-26	Canyon Hill Nazarene Ladies' Retreat
Apr 25-26	Bishop Kelly High School Senior Retreat
May 8-9	BUO Group Crab Feed

TRINITY PINES CALENDAR "AT-A-GLANCE"

CAMP MONTHLY

TRINITY PINES CAMP + CONFERENCE CENTER

CASCADE, IDAHO

SPECIAL EDITION

STAYING TOGETHER

It is important that we link arms emotionally, prayerfully, and with God's power, hold steady for our families, friends and associates. Therefore, we are offering some opportunities that you can engage in our mission as a Christian Camp.

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE EXTENDED: Parents are waiting to see what the Coronavirus does in the next few weeks in making decisions related to registration for summer camps. In order to help extend that time, Early Bird Registration has been moved from April 15 to April 30 to allow more decision time for families. Our goal is still a quality summer camping program for everyone who visits Trinity Pines.

DISTRICT MEN'S RETREAT: The Intermountain District Men's Retreat scheduled for April 3-5 has been cancelled due to the federal and state guidelines and recommendations related to COVID-19. Men who were planning to attend have been notified of this cancellation. Camp management will explore alternatives that might allow for re-scheduling the retreat if the situation changes surrounding Coronavirus.

HOMEMADE HAND SANITIZER: We have a recipe which will allow us to make hand sanitizer for our Trinity Pines staff and families reserving the commercial product inventory that we have on hand for our customers (we are backordered on any orders we have placed). The two ingredients that we have not been able to secure are 70% proof rubbing alcohol and aloe. If you have extra of either of these products and could drop them off we would be more than pleased to get them to Cascade to produce the hand sanitizer.

STAFF: Our Cascade staff needs some words of encouragement! Drop them a card with a greeting and a word of support for their front line service in this crisis. They are spending extra time cleaning and doing several jobs around the camp in anticipation of when the schedule returns to normal so we will be back on track. The address for the camp is PO Box 1269 Cascade, ID 83611. You can also drop an email to Anthony Henry, Camp Manager, at anthony@tpines.org and let them know that you are praying for the staff. He will share those notes with the team in Cascade.

ADDITIONAL INFO

QUICK RESPONSE TEAM: A Quick Response Team was established to coordinate decisions quickly and efficiently for the stability of Trinity Pines. The team members include: District Superintendent Scott Shaw, Camp Manager Anthony Henry, Finance Committee Chairman Gerron Gibson and Executive Director Rick Waitley.

TRINITY PINES IN AN EMERGENCY: The Cascade Hospital has contacted Trinity Pines to be at what they refer to as Level C of the emergency plan for dealing with COVID-19. The hospital has less than 10 beds, Level B is to put extra patients at the Senior Center and then that is when Level C would come into play. We want to do our part and are working to cooperate in the community wherever we can during this time.

CASCADE FOOD PANTRY: Donnelly Foodbank has closed its doors due to lack of available product and are sending their people to Cascade Food Pantry, a facility that was already at capacity. Unemployment and lack of food is a dangerous combination. In consultation with their director, they sent the following:

Today was an overwhelming food distribution. We completely restructured the way that we distribute food. Each household was given the choice to receive a pre-filled box of food or to come inside and choose food for themselves. Our volunteers rose to the challenge with the peace of God in their hearts.

Cascadian's are hearty folks. 70% wanted to come inside for visiting and encouraging each other while 30% stayed outside. We were allowed to pray on site with more individuals in one day than we ever had in our history. Many were hungrier for spiritual food than physical food. It was a powerful afternoon.

We are having difficulty getting food service gloves. We have shifted to cleaning rags rather than anti-bacterial wipes for cleaning the tables and work surfaces. Gloves are a must for food handling. We don't have masks if it comes to that.

The Idaho Foodbank has a program called Power of Purchase where they make large food purchases at a very low cost and then pass along to the partner agencies the opportunity to purchase these canned foods at cost. These prices are 1/2 - 1/3 of store prices. We typically purchase \$400 per month of canned foods through this program. If these crazy days continue we will need to make more purchases and will need the finances to do so.

As you probably know, we have volunteers pull our trailer to the Idaho Foodbank in Boise before each distribution. We reimburse them for gas. Today I had 2 drivers inform us that they didn't feel comfortable driving the trailer to the Idaho Foodbank due to the larger loads that we are now bringing up. We are in need of a 3/4 or 1 ton diesel pickup, 10 years old or newer. We have volunteers willing to drive. We bring up approximately 5,000 lbs. of food each distribution, plus the weight of the trailer and freezers inside.

I have always known that Trinity Pines have been there for us, cheering us on from the beginning. Food drives through the camps and regular food donations have blessed us all.

The Lord continues to provide for all our needs and we continue to give Him the glory for His provision. Thank you for bringing our needs to your team.

*Lori Anderson, Director
Cascade Food Pantry*

A summary of the items needed are as follows:

- **Food Service Gloves (have 2 boxes)**
- **Cleaning Products**
- **Masks (if the time comes and we are required; we have none)**
- **Funds to purchase discounted canned food**
- **Non-perishables (if food is donated)**
- **300 boxes (each able to hold 25 lbs. of food)**
- **Vehicle to pull trailer to the Idaho Foodbank**

If you have availability to these items and want to help, drop off products at the District Office in Nampa or the Meridian Camp office located at 55 SW 5th Ave Suite 100. If there is not someone at the office, leave the items at the door and we will secure them daily.

THRIVING BOARDS: Trinity Pines was only one of the camps participating in the Thriving Boards Conference held last fall in Warm Beach, WA. The second session was scheduled for March 31 through April 1. However, the location of Warm Beach Camp is in a restricted county of Washington. The Conference will be conducted by virtual connection. While this presents some challenges and inconvenience, we were able to secure back the value of the plane tickets and will do our best to complete the training from remote locations given the current environment.