



Inviting families to experience
getaways with greater purpose
this summer at Camp Caroline

May 5, 2021

A warm hello from all of us at Camp Caroline on this beautiful spring day!

This will be a different summer ministry season at camp.

Without knowing whether we will be permitted to host overnight camps or what public health measures will be in place for camps, we have decided not to offer grade camps again this year.

Instead, we are inviting families to experience getaways with greater purpose this summer at Camp Caroline.



Something extraordinary happens when people slip away from the regular rhythm and routine of life to visit camp. While difficult to describe, it's impossible to forget the difference even the shortest stay at camp can have as they discover the story of God's amazing love and incredible hope. Getting away does not produce transformational ministry. It does however cultivate moments. Moments created to encourage faith. Moments full of redemptive potential. And in these moments people encounter God's presence and purpose for their lives and relationships. At Camp Caroline, we are uniquely able to serve people by creating environments designed to encourage life-changing experiences. Through the ministry of hospitality, we strive to serve people with such excellence that their time at camp is free of any distractions or hassles, allowing them to focus on connecting with family and with God.

This summer the camp will be open to families of all stages and ages wanting to getaway together. These getaways will be different than our regular family camps or retreats. Families will set their own daily schedules. We expect many families will spend their days around camp, while others will go on day adventures (exploring, hiking, swimming, rafting, etc....).

Families will be able to book either a 4-night getaway (Wednesday to Sunday) or a 2-night getaway (Friday to Sunday). During their getaway they will stay in Aspen or Hillside Lodge. **Families will also have the option of purchasing meals, and we will offer limited activities.** Should public health measures allow we may plan family firesides for worship and/or additional activities for families. The health and safety of families and staff will be of highest priority to us. We are committed to following public health guidelines and working with Alberta Health to protect families and staff.

We will be ready to begin booking getaways this month. You can visit us online after May 15 for more information on booking your getaway this summer.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE ON SUMMER STAFF

Earlier this spring we began recruiting our summer staff team. We have been thrilled with the caliber of candidates applying to serve at camp this summer! **We are still actively recruiting for a number of positions in the areas of lifeguarding, food services, housekeeping, and grounds. If you know someone committed to following Jesus and interested in serving others, please encourage them to apply online.** Please also be praying for us as we continue staff recruitment.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT OUR REOPENING

We have been working diligently to be ready to reopen. Our team has worked on the facilities while we have been closed. We have completed repairs on the pools, patched leaks in the roof, patched and painted a variety of areas in each of the lodges, and thoroughly cleaned just about every area in the lodges. As we have been getting ready, we identified a series of maintenance projects that could not be delayed. Whereas each of these projects addressed either safety concerns for guests and staff or the immediate care of the facilities, we committed to having the required work completed before we reopen. These projects included replacing the heat exchanger in the make up air unit in Aspen Lodge, a cracked picture window in Creekside Lodge, and the hot water tanks in Creekside Lodge. Our site and facilities team have worked hard to have these projects completed at the lowest cost to camp without compromising the overall quality of work. The cost of these projects was just under \$25,000.

In addition to these project costs, our site and facilities team is having to replace a number of tools and equipment due to a break in at camp last month. Just under \$5,000 worth of equipment and tools were stolen from the shop. While we will replace some of the tools and equipment taken, we will not replace everything. It will cost us approximately \$3,500 to replace the tools and equipment needed.

If you are able to help us cover the cost of these projects and purchases, you can give online at campcaroline.ab.ca/donation.

We are so thankful for your continued commitment to the ministry of Camp Caroline. **Please pray with us as we work to be ready to reopen this spring and then step into the summer ministry season.**



Warmly,



Ben Trites
Executive Director

Want to go paperless? Contact Hilde at office@campcaroline.ab.ca to sign up.


MATCHING GIFT APPEALS


Earlier this year we had a donor offer to match every dollar received before the end of April up to \$5,000. In response, individuals and churches gave generously, and we reach this goal! **THANK YOU to everyone who gave to this appeal!** After hearing about this appeal, we were contacted by another donor offering to match every dollar for the remainder of the spring up to \$3,000. **If you were not able to give to the first appeal and would like to help us take full advantage of this second matching gift, you can give online at campcaroline.ab.ca/donation.** As you consider making a gift please know we believe the church should be the primary place each of us give and want to encourage you to give to your church first. If after giving to your church you have the means and desire to help camp financially, we welcome your gift this spring. Gifts received this spring will be used to help us be ready to reopen. At this time we are asking that gifts be directed to the *General Fund* to allow us to maintain appropriate cash flow, manage ongoing costs, and direct funds to those areas most in need as we look to the future.

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