

Camp Director laid off due to financial crisis

On behalf of the Pine Lake Christian Camp (PLCC) board I have some important information to share with you. It is never easy to communicate tough news yet it is necessary to be forthright in sharing key issues that affect all who are connected with this valuable ministry.

As a board we made the very tough decision on Friday of this past week to deliver a layoff notice to our Camp Director, Eric Nyrose. The reason for such a drastic move on the part of the board is strictly related to our present financial cash flow crisis. Eric has been stellar in his work and effort in carrying out his role as the first ever full time Camp Director. However, when it became apparent that our incoming funds were not sufficient to cover operating costs, including salary, we determined it would be irresponsible to continue in this manner. It should be noted that, even without the Director's salary, it will be a challenge for the camp to meet the day to day operating expenses we are responsible for. We understand that this creates a difficult circumstance for Eric and his family. The board has grieved over having to make this necessary decision.

Once it became clear that incoming funds were not going to be adequate, the board immediately searched for a solution. Supporting congregations and individuals were contacted resulting in some very generous donations, for which we are all very thankful. Our inquiries also included the fervent search for an operating loan. Although the camp does have some designated funds in place for capital expenditures, due to legal reasons, we were unable to reallocate these funds. It quickly became apparent that the board would not be able to secure any monies for operating expenses, and thus, the need to inform Eric of a layoff notice. Effectively, Eric has been given a two week notice and will complete his compensated work on October 7th. This is a most unfortunate turn of events.

The work of the previous board, the comprehensive professional consultation process, the efforts of the transition team, and the collective decision at the annual meeting to proceed with the hiring of a full time director, were all carried out in good faith. It has become apparent that more preparations and planning to secure additional funding for the new position were required. We are saddened over not being able to follow through at this time with the agreed upon plan and direction we have all been working toward.

A common consensus has been that PLCC's ministry, in terms of our regular camps and rentals, has been going well. Our hope and desire is to be able to create a circumstance whereby this plan can be brought back into full effect. Of course, this is going to take many people making contributions of time, energy, and finances.

As a board, we will take appropriate responsibility for the present state of affairs. We are prepared to answer questions and address concerns. This coming weekend we will be meeting together for a regularly scheduled full day session. This will include some important debriefing time with Eric as well as planning ahead for the next several months.

Please pray for wisdom and God's leading at this crucial juncture in the life of Pine Lake Christian Camp.

Sincerely,

Rod MacKenzie – Board Chairman