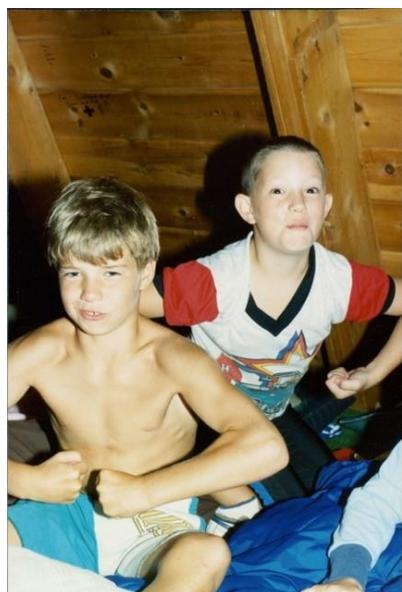




A New Day Calls for New Measures

Without a doubt we can say that in the last couple of months our world has been turned upside down. All that seemed so simple and innocent, is now different, difficult, and even suspect.

The decision to cancel face-to-face events this summer has been necessary to be extra careful with your health and safety right now. The camp experience is the extreme opposite of the physical distancing we are undergoing right now. Protecting the health of our community must take priority.



We recognize and are grateful for the efforts and detailed *'intention'* each camp has been planned with. Everything we do is meant to build community and strengthen our spiritual formation. Our camps are thought of as safe spaces and the best places to form and be together in community. The experience lifts us and carries us spiritually for the journey ahead while helping to shed burdens of the past. Lessons, values, and relationships developed, remain with us for years to come. It is a place of hope, a retreat from the world, and a place of connection with each other and with God.

We remember all the wonderful camp hugs received in a full embrace of love each summer. They are a symbol of the bond of this extraordinary community and its strength. Remember sitting together over meals, or around a campfire, laughing and singing, children playing in the pool, or enjoying class activities together? Cheering for a young baseball player, worshipping together, or discussing the lesson material, all the while creating lasting relationships with each other? That is what camp is and so much more! **We are profoundly disappointed** we will not see that experience of those precious moments shared at our campgrounds this summer.

Our Plan Moving Forward

We have not given up! Its time to step out of the box and find God in new places. Its time for us to be imaginative, to find creative ways to connect and grow. And while screen time is not our thing, we hope you'll join us online a little bit this summer for adapted camp activities like we have never experienced before, all together across Canada East Mission, and expand this meaningful community. **Watch for details** to unfold of plans to gather virtually. This is an opportunity to invite friends and neighbours – to draw the circle even wider. Consider who in your circle of influence might enjoy being part of this sacred community, wherever they may be.



Plans for our Mission Conference Retreat are also being adapted for an October date. Anticipate new and creative ways to engage in the “business” of our Mission Centre. Details will be announced soon. If you had already paid and registered, a refund will be issued.

***We will laugh and play and sing together.
We will be a people creating sacred community.***

We look forward to one day in the future when we can gather face-to-face once again. That is the optimism that we hold onto right now. In the meantime, thank you for your compassionate understanding, loving support, and kind appreciation of what we do, how we do it, and who we are.



What are your favourite memories of camp?

I remember frog races at Noronto one year and how Thomas Evenson created the most elaborate birchbark frog cage ever! There were plenty of cheers as frogs were leaping toward the finish line (or in all sorts of other directions). Or, the time we held a hog calling contest with voices echoing off the rock islands across the lake! Gosh, what amazing hidden talent!!

We invite you to share with us anything funny or your best memories from camp. Let's share all your excitement for those precious times and rekindle the feelings of our incredible community. Send them to info@communityofchrist.ca so we can share them with everyone.

**Let's make the best of all we have right now with the finest of all we are together.
Expect inspiring experiences via virtual means this summer and beyond.**