



# The Anchorage

Camp and Conference Center

December 1, 2022

Berean Baptist Church  
517 Glensford Dr.  
Fayetteville, NC 28314

Dear friends at Berean,

As the year draws to a close our camping “off-season” also winds down. Following a very successful summer camping program we will have hosted more than 2300 individuals in the off-season outreaches by year's end. This represents the most extensive off-season program we have ever experienced. The participants in these programs are generally associated with churches and Christian schools so we are dealing with a much smaller percentage of unevangelized lost than we might see in the summer camping programs or local outreach efforts. Still there were more than 20 that made professions of faith throughout the off-season.

Our major effort of local outreach begins the first week of January and continues through the end of March. Should it reflect levels of the past several years we expect to have opportunity to present the gospel to 175 or more individuals each week, many of whom are unchurched. The opportunity to build relationships with the families of the community and to present the gospel routinely are worthy efforts in their own right. However, the standing it gives us as an organization in the community has proved itself over the years to be key in enabling us to develop the property and programs with little interference.

Certainly, this has been one of the most memorable years in our 50 years of ministry. The year began with the very successful campaign to eradicate all debt, a dream that I had begun to think I would not live to see. And, as we should have expected, God once again provided through supporting friends *“above all that we ask or think”*. The amount received through the debt eradication campaign above the amount needed we have channeled to what is easily the most important maintenance issue for providing long-term viability to the facility: re-directing rain and ground water away from the main building. The effects of moisture on the main building are very detrimental, but the task has been too great in both finances and expertise to seriously attempt up to this point. But God in His infinite wisdom has brought both finances and expertise together at this time to undertake this long overdue effort. The last weekend of January 2023 is scheduled for this work.

Getting out of debt, particularly mortgage debt, has also enabled us to move forward in bringing on the personnel for transitioning into a new generation of camping outreach. In January, Dakota Ross and his wife, Kristina, began serving as maintenance director and in food service management. Then, in March, Thad Berrey and his family joined the ministry, he as program director. I am fully confident that these are those that the Lord has provided. Others will join as the ministry continues to develop. I have full confidence that the Lord will provide for them as

well in His timing. I covet your prayers for patience and discernment as we forge ahead through this new phase of ministry.

One of the most ambitious projects that we have undertaken as a camp—the complete renovation of a 100-year-old building into a new director’s residence (a project ongoing for more than 2 years)—was completed in August just in time for our 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration. About a month ago this project was finalized with the demolition and disposal of the previous residence. Friends and supporters were beyond generous in providing such an excellent housing option for Jeannie and me or for whoever follows us.

The upcoming winter and spring seasons are dramatically increasing in camping opportunities, particularly with adults, family, couples, and conference opportunities. Still, it is during this time of year that we rely on many volunteers to undertake the projects that will enable us to minister more effectively as a camping outreach. There are at least 4 significant projects that are on the table that need to be accomplished this winter and spring. Several of these projects are funded (mostly or fully) and are ready to be undertaken shortly after the first of the year. You can see concept drawings and a brief description on the website ([www.anchoragecamp.org](http://www.anchoragecamp.org)).

The seasonal nature of a camp ministry must be factored into any yearly budgeting plan. There are certain times of year that produce significant cash flow, and others that produce very little. You, as a faithful friend and supporter, are crucial to bridging those times of less program income to the times of more predictable cash flow. One of the benefits we had hoped to gain through elimination of debt was to have a cash cushion specifically for the predictable times of diminished income. The dramatic increase in expenses, particularly utilities (an unprecedented increase of \$90.00/per day beginning in early summer for electricity alone) and meals (a jump of more than 40%) ate up most of the cushion we had hoped for. I have every confidence that the Lord will continue to enable us to move forward through this inflationary time. Our prayer is that we will be able to make sound financial decisions that allow us to continue ministering to as wide a demographic as possible.

Your financial and prayer support has been key to the good operations of this ministry for many years. Thank you for your faithfulness. Our responsibility to you to make right and wise decisions as you have entrusted us with your time and finances is ever at the front of my mind. Thank you for all you do on our behalf.

Yours for the cause of Christ,



David Ulrich  
Director