



February 23, 2021

Dear Campers and Camp Supporters,

We wanted to take the time to give you an update on the happenings with Camp Jo-Ota. While not much is actually taking place on site there are several things in the works! Our JMA board met for its regular board meeting on January 18 and discussed whether to proceed with hosting camps for the Summer 2021 camping season. It was agreed by board members to proceed! Therefore, we are working diligently to confirm all of our directors and dates so that we may open up our camp registration by February 28.

The JMA summer camp schedule will begin on May 28 with Family Camp and will continue through the months of June, July and part of August. Please watch for updates and information pertaining to our camps on our Facebook page, website, church announcements, and via email. There are still a number of available weekends throughout those months for those who would like to host family reunions, church gatherings, pool parties, camp outs, use of shelter houses, etc. If interested in reserving a time to use the camp please contact the Camp Jo-Ota office to schedule your event.

The board decided to postpone our Annual Membership Meeting to May 8, 2021. In hopes of nicer weather there will be activities planned throughout the day for everyone's interest. There will be a lunch served and the worship service/membership meeting will be scheduled sometime after. This will be an opportunity for individuals to take a tour of cabins, sign up campers, take a walk on our trails, and take in the sights of God's mighty works around Camp Jo-Ota. Again, please watch for further information to be announced closer to date.

Please mark your calendar for March 27 for a pancake and sausage drive-thru supper. Thanks to your continued support the drive-thru supper hosted in the fall was a very big success. We ran out of brisket in 45 minutes and raised over \$2,000 for the camp. Since the freezer is already stocked with local raised pork sausage and the pantry stocked with pancake mix, we thought it best to serve it up. More details will be announced closer to date, be on the lookout!

Even though we suffered from difficult times in 2020 we were successful in making our payment to the Missouri Annual Conference of \$30,000 back in December. Praise be to God! Your continued prayers and generosity provided to the camp has been an outpour of God's love. The 2021 budget may look entirely different from years past so alterations to our operating budget have been necessary. We ask that you continue partnering with us by praying so that we will once again be successful in making our payment in December of 2021. Camp Jo-Ota has provided camping experiences to people for over 68 years. We need your financial support now more than ever, to assure that our ministry continues.

It's hard to believe that we are already beginning to talk and plan for the upcoming camping season. We know that many of you are hanging on to hope for summer camps to take place and hope you will be excited to learn of our intent of opening the camp for the 2021 summer. In the meantime, our Policy and Procedures committee will be meeting to update our Communicable Disease plan to assure the safety and wellbeing of all attendees, volunteers, and staff. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we tread through these unknown times. I encourage you to remain faithful and present with God through all uncertainty.

Thank you for your prayers! May God continue to bless all of us as we attempt to be a blessing to Him.

Sincerely,

Ann Wood

JMA Site Director