



Grace Brethren Retreat Center
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Celebrating God's Provision

August 1, 2020

"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen." Ephesians 3:20-21 NASB

Jehovah Jireh—the Lord will provide. And not only does He provide: He does it *"far more abundantly beyond"* as we read in the verse above. So, let me tell you a story.

Camp Conquest discovered a problem last year - a big problem. Hundreds of trees (mostly ash) on our campus are dead or dying. Tim Weaver has been leading the charge of volunteers to remove these trees before they fall and cause damage. A tree service was scheduled to remove a tree in a dangerous spot next to the staff house. It looked like a \$2,000 expense to cut and lift this tree out piece by piece.

Then COVID-19 shut everything down. With the anticipation of no spring retreat revenue, we asked the vendor to wait until camp was back up and running. Then we prayed the tree would remain standing until we had some cash flow, but God answered that prayer in a different way. A few days later there was a heavy rain storm followed by a day of strong winds. The tree came crashing down.



God threaded that tree down into the only spot where it caused no structural damage. The dead tree took out a nice maple tree, but it missed everything else: the house, the power lines, the propane tank, and the generator (by inches). Volunteers arrived the next day. The tree was cut, chipped, and removed. God knew we had no cash, so he dropped the tree down for us. **Jehovah Jireh**.

With so many more 'the Lord Provides' stories experienced at Camp Conquest during the COVID-19 shutdown there is not enough space in this letter. You will have to join us at our banquet on October 12th to hear more.

Camp Conquest anticipates a \$90,000 operational loss this year due to the cancelation of our spring and summer programs and retreats. If we lose the fall season, that number could increase by \$50,000. As of the writing of this letter, all camp employees are fully engaged in meaningful work and ministry.

Just as God dropped that tree, we are asking for Him to provide in ways 'beyond all that we can think'. You have been part of the story of Camp Conquest in the past. Will you be part of God's provision for Camp Conquest now and in the future?

This is an exciting time to be serving in Christian Camping. A big part of that excitement comes as we lean into relationship with **Jehovah Jireh**.

Serving with you at camp,

Michael R. Gehlert, Executive Director



Change Lives!

Be Changed!