



Grace Brethren Retreat Center  
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[www.campconquest.org](http://www.campconquest.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/WeAreCampConquest/>

### Responding to God's Provision

November 1, 2020

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His love endures forever. Psalm 136:1

Camp Conquest is in the business of **gathering**. Daily in the summer and most weekends through the year people **gather** at camp for a retreat or summer camp experience. They come to connect with God and with each other.

This year everything changed, for everyone. No one was allowed to **gather**. The American Camp Association stated that: "While this period of quarantine and social distancing has offered an opportunity for creativity and connection in a virtual environment, challenges persist as camps struggle to determine their role in a socially distanced landscape." ACA Camping Magazine, October 2020.

At Camp Conquest we rejoiced in the opportunities for creativity. Opening up our camp to the community via our pool, the target sport ranges, and the new Kern Activity Center was a great blessing. But we too, like so many other camps, struggle as we look at an uncertain future for groups to **gather**.

In our July letter, we acknowledged a sadness related to closing camp for the season. In September, we celebrated the capacity to be creative and resourceful. In August and at our banquet in October we celebrated God's provision through His people.



Dorothy Kern, Oct. 2020

Our board estimates that due to the COVID related shut down camp will lose \$300,000 in revenue, or 50% of our operating budget. The staff was able to reduce expense by over \$100,000, and our donors to date have sent in over \$100,000 toward the shortfall.

We are optimistic about the future of Camp Conquest. God has supplied all of our needs every month - in abundance. A new rifle range pavilion is in place, a new campfire amphitheater with a cross looks out over the Cocalico Valley, and the smell of new paint permeates the entire camp.

Why would God allow these things and many others to happen if He did not have a plan for tomorrow? In Ephesians we read that God "works all things after the counsel of His will". Yes, He is sovereign and He has a plan, but like He tells Habakkuk: "I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told."

For now, we will diligently prepare for a future ministry of Evangelism and Discipleship **beyond** the camp setting. We are moving towards a future of serving others creatively using the resources provided by God through our donors and friends.

Thank you for being on that list of friends. Thank you for helping us see that God is good and His love endures forever. Thank you for praying for Camp Conquest.

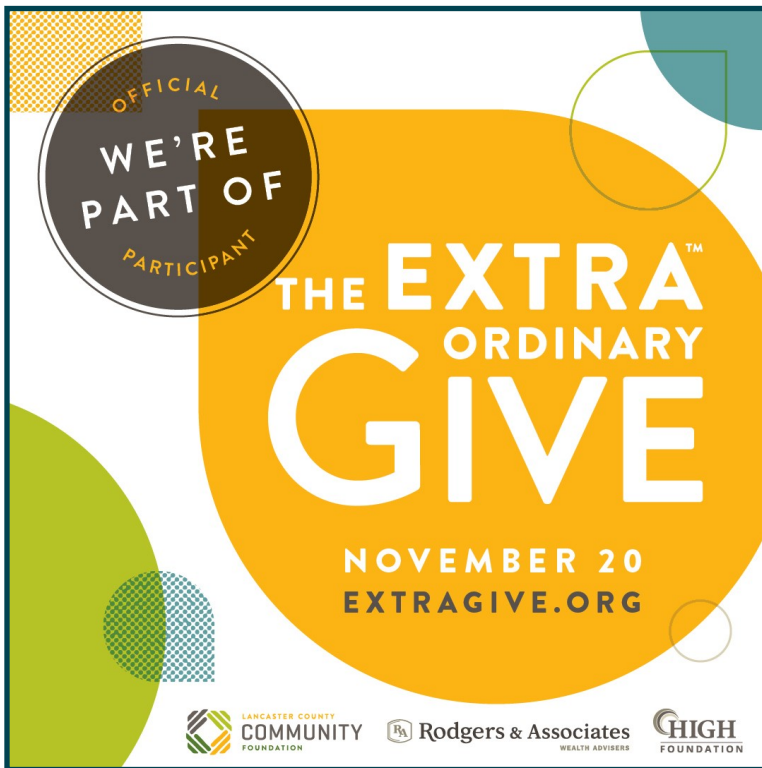
Serving with you at camp,

Michael R Gehlert, Executive Director

See the reverse of this letter for ways to creatively contribute to the ministry of Camp Conquest.

*Change Lives!*

*Be Changed!*



**Extra Give**— Be part of the largest single day of giving for Camp Conquest and many other great non-profits across Lancaster County.

On **November 20th** go to [Extragive.org](http://Extragive.org), search for Camp Conquest to join our team of online donors.

Donations are accepted year round at our website: [www.campconquest.org](http://www.campconquest.org)

We gratefully accept cash and checks at 480 Forest Road, Denver, PA 17517.



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2. Search for **Grace Brethren Retreat Center** (aka: Camp Conquest)
3. Select us as your charitable organization.
4. Then bookmark smile amazon. (works, even if you forget at first, if you're logged in, you can switch over to smile.amazon and your cart will still be full with the same items and same prices!)



Eat at **Park City Diner** (near Park City Mall) or **Knight & Day Diner** (near Lancaster Airport). Tell them you want to support Camp Conquest through their SOS program. 10% goes to camp.