

Community of Christ

August 30, 2018

Dear Friends,

On Saturday August 25th, a presentation was made by Tom Bradish, Board Chair of Whispering Pines Campground ("Whispering Pines" or "WP"), to the Mission Center Council (which consists of the Mission Center Leadership and Congregational Pastors and Financial Officers). Tom's presentation provided information about all the costs (including historic and projected future) associated with the operations of Whispering Pines along with several challenges to meeting the ongoing financial needs of Whispering Pines. At the conclusion of Tom's presentation, a letter from the WP Board was read that outlined the action that was taken by the WP Board of Directors at their July 29th meeting. That letter is included with this communication; please share all of this information with your congregation. The WP Board of Directors has recommended the sale of Whispering Pines Campground and will be submitting a resolution to the Mission Center Conference on December 1, 2018 for consideration.

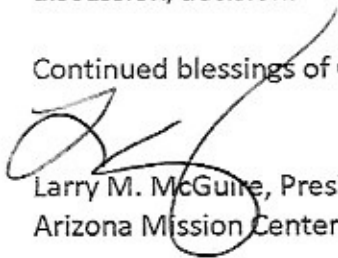
For many, this decision has come after careful consideration of the financial responsibility we all carry for the stewardship of resources in the Mission Center. During the meeting of the Mission Center Council, preliminary discussions were held, and the recommendation was made to have a day of sharing, listening and exploring both the proposed sale as well as possible alternatives related to the sale of Whispering Pines. The Mission Center leadership team will identify a date/time/location when we can come together and explore the decision to sell as well as alternatives that can be considered. This information will be communicated soon for this conversation.

The recommendation to sell WP will be considered at the Mission Center Conference in December. If there are alternative resolutions for the Conference to consider, they will need to be received by me (lmcguire@cofchrist.org) no later than November 3, 2018 so we can provide them to the Mission Center at least two weeks prior to the Conference. More details about this requirement will be contained in a future communication. Also, I will be working with our Mission Center leadership team along with Apostle Ron Harmon and Field Support Minister William McFarlin to provide information regarding the use of funds by the Mission Center and World Church should the Conference decide to support the recommendation by the WP Board.

I want to express my gratitude to Tom Bradish as WP Board Chair along with all the members of the Whispering Pines Board of Directors for dealing with a very difficult situation. Decisions like these are always difficult and can create moments of stress. It is important that we approach the conversations related to this recommendation with hope for the future and explore all avenues of how Christ's Mission can be realized now and into the future of the Arizona Mission

Center. Please join me in continuing prayer for the Mission Center and this important discussion/decision.

Continued blessings of Grace and Peace,



Larry M. McGuire, President
Arizona Mission Center