



CAMP LEBANON
A MEETING PLACE WITH GOD

JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING CAMP LEADERSHIP

October 17, 2023

FROM: Bill Abeler, Executive Director
TO: Friends of Camp Lebanon

After much prayer and personal reflection, I have notified the Camp Board of my intention to retire as Executive Director on December 31, 2024. With an abundance of gratitude, Lisa and I have been privileged since April 1, 1986, to have had front row seats to witness the hand of God on this amazing place called "Camp Lebanon."

In anticipation of continued ministry growth in a time of urgent spiritual need, I believe the time has come for Camp to seek a fresh, talented, and energized leader to guide the fulfillment of an exciting Camp Lebanon Master Plan. Understanding that the transition process could take up to twelve months, I promised the Board years ago that I would give them a full year notice and this I have done. As the Board moves forward, I fully support their strategic decision to retain consultants both to help clarify Camp priorities and to recruit the right kind of leader. Lisa and I deeply love Camp Lebanon and promise to do our best to partner in a successful transition.

Our focus in all of this must be advancing God's Kingdom through a healthy Camp Lebanon. My main objective, then, will be to help Camp's dedicated team be in the best position to shine an ever-brighter light for the Gospel for years to come. As Proverbs 3:5-6 instructs, we must fully trust in the Lord, not leaning on our own understanding. We must also resolve to acknowledge God's leadership in all things, embracing the promise of His direction at every step.

In addition to the coming transition, Camp Lebanon faces a full and active 2024 with packed-out sessions to lead, big projects to complete (like a new gym and staff duplex renovations!), and the "Good News!" to proclaim to over 12,000 youth, family, and adult guests. Your prayers and ministry partnership are appreciated and more needed than ever.

Thank you for your support!

Bill Abeler, Executive Director

FROM: Mark Waller, Board President, and the Camp Board of Directors

To the Many Friends of Camp Lebanon,

We, the Board of Camp Lebanon, have been notified of Bill Abeler's retirement as Executive Director effective December 31, 2024, after many years of faithful and impactful ministry. We look forward to partnering with both Bill and Lisa as well as two professional advisors retained to help navigate the transition process over the coming months. It is impossible to thank Bill and Lisa enough for all that they have done for the Lord through their nearly thirty-eight years of service to Camp Lebanon.

Please keep the Board of Directors, the Abeler family, and Camp's Staff in your prayers over the next year as we seek the Lord's guidance and wisdom in this process. We will provide updates as further developments of the succession plan become known.

Sincerely,

The Camp Lebanon Board

Mark Waller – *President*
Randy Toews – *Treasurer*
Dave Blanchard

Rick Stempel – *President Elect*
Karla Ross – *Secretary*
Vicki Trees

Diane Brandes – *Past President*
Matt Young
Jon Monsour
Tami Patten
Vicki Gustafson