

Dear Pastor, Churches, friends of ABA Camp:

June 1, 2024

Earlier this year, we found ourselves discussing with our Camp Council another raise in the rent at the Camp Overlook for summer 2024 and the continued low numbers for teen week. Although we are discouraged, we prayed and sought counsel from ABA pastors and youth leaders. We talked about a lot of different aspects of camp, but especially the scheduling problem that we've always had with our available weeks at camp, along with the question about the main focus of camp, evangelism or discipleship.

This year, specifically, the available weeks given from 4H are even later in the summer, with no time between children's camp and school starting. We also have essential staff for teen week that will be unavailable this August.

The Camp Council talked about the option of running two different programs, teen and kids week the same week, to save on the cost of rent and to have the camp fuller than we've had in years, but without our Program Director and Medical Director this year-it would be difficult. We also discussed splitting one week, doing half a week for both programs. We also consulted with Camp Mandaville about the possibility of having our teens join their group, but their space is very limited. After more prayer and discussion, we decided to have only one week of camp this summer, concentrating on our children's week, while inviting a smaller group of teens, applying to serve during the week and be discipled.

We are very aware that this is disappointing for those teens that may not be interested in serving, or for churches, parents and teens who want to invite unchurched or friends to a Christian Camp to hear the gospel. We are hoping that Camp Mandaville, Word of Life or other Christian Camps in our area will be options for teens that need evangelism.

That being said, our dates for ABA Kids Camp & Teen Servant Bootcamp for summer 2024 will be August 18th-23rd. We'll have staff and teen servants come in on Sunday the 18th at 4pm, and campers checking in Monday the 19th at a new time of 1pm-3pm.

Thank you to our supporting churches who trust us with your children, teens, counselors, and other staff. We are continuing to pray that God will use our ABA Camp, and guide us as we focus on discipleship and growing our kids week during this unique season.

In Christ,  
Caleb & Jen Clark  
ABA Directors