

Friends of Lake Doniphan,

This summer has looked very different – for many of us it is the first summer we can remember that we have not attended or volunteered our time for Reunions and Camps. Our staff and board members miss seeing your faces and experiencing the laughter, fellowship, and community that you bring to the campground each year. Even though things are quiet this summer, we are still working hard to maintain the facilities, grounds, and continue looking to the future to ensure our long-term sustainability.

We would like to thank those of you who participated in the Central Mission Center Virtual Reunion this year. With your help, and generous donations, we raised \$7,000 for Lake Doniphan! Thank you so much for your love and support during these trying times. We cannot wait to open our doors and welcome you back with open arms next year. We are extremely excited to share the resurfaced pool, new fan in the tabernacle, new South Mini Lodge AC unit, freshly painted Mini Lodges, and new labyrinth with you!

Due to Covid-19 concerns, we have not been able to welcome visitors to Lake Doniphan since mid-March. We are grateful for the monthly support received from Community of Christ Congregations – this support is a welcomed gift but totals only \$2,200 per month. This accounts for the only income being received right now, plus your generous gifts.

The rental income budget for 2020 was approved for just under \$645,000, with actual rental income January-July of \$26,000 or 5.5% of what was expected. This level of income pays for only 1 month of Lake Doniphan's bare bones operating expenses. We are hoping to gain permission to welcome smaller groups starting in August but with COVID-19 cases on the rise across the country, this remains only a hope. Our visitors' safety is our top priority. If we were to open in August, this comes with new expenses to ensure that we are able to follow procedures for sanitation put forth by the American Camping Association, Environmental Health and Engineering, Inc, and the Missouri Health Department.

Our reserves are rapidly being depleted due to the COVID-19 restrictions, making us unable to sustain our campground and skeleton staff members. We are doing everything we can to reduce our expenditures, but there is not a way to reduce these numbers to zero. The Board, Executive Director, and Staff have been taking many steps to cut costs. A difficult decision was made to significantly reduce the salaries of our 2 full time staff members. We also took action by delaying needed repairs, using old parts that we already have on site, shutting down camp buildings so that utilities are being kept to a minimum, having our trash service placed on an on-call basis, and putting a hold on all large projects, including the lower dam repair, foundation repairs, and window replacements. The Executive Director has been conducting consistent walk throughs of all our buildings to ensure that we maintain our buildings while they are shut down, with no mildew or other issues. The lake level is also being kept low to relieve undo pressure on the dam.

Even with our bare bones operating approach, Doniphan needs \$26,000 per month to pay insurance, staff wages, and utilities. We are looking to the future where we can resume normal operations, but the reality is that we do not have enough money to make it to that point. The needs of Lake Doniphan are significant, we want to remain a place that welcomes all. A place for renewal, love, and spiritual growth. Right now, this desire is not enough, and we are in need of critical support to make it through. If you are able, please consider making a donation to ensure that Lake Doniphan remains a place for you and your family in the future. Contributions can be made online at lakedoniphan.com (click on Donate), through [e-Tithing](#) (scroll and select Central USA Mission Center), or checks can be made payable to **Center Place Campgrounds, Inc.** and mailed to 12856 Doniphan Lake Rd, Excelsior Springs, MO 64024. Please note **we are currently not able to accept checks payable to any other entity** other than Center Place Campgrounds, Inc. Thank you for your support!

Center Place Campgrounds, Inc. Board of Directors
d/b/a Lake Doniphan Conference & Retreat Center