



Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, Inc.

Post Office Box 280645

Nashville, TN 37228

(615) 254-3115 • FAX (615) 242-9312 • tbmec@bellsouth.net • WEB SITE: www.tbmec.org

Elder Dr. Joe B. Maddox, President
Ms. Pamela Chesney, Recording Secretary

Rev. Luther R. Williams, Vice President At-Large
Ms. LaDalia Logan, Treasurer

June 28, 2019

Greetings,

I write this communique in an effort to bring clarity to the issues surrounding Youth Encampment 2019. Let me begin by expressing my continued confidence in Rev. Dwight Lewis and the Youth Encampment staff. Each year, this team of individuals works diligently to provide an exceptional camp experience for our children and youth. I appreciate their commitment and dedication to this important work of our Convention.

The team began working on securing the facilities at Lane College for this year's camp early in the spring. Site visits were made, meetings were held, and a contract was signed for our campers to convene on the campus this year. Unfortunately, what our leaders experienced fell short of our expectations. Several challenges were encountered that we felt compromised the health and safety of our children and the decision was made to shut the camp down. As difficult as this decision was, it is important that you know that we take seriously the trust that you place in us to ensure that your children are safe while in our care.

The Convention leadership is working now to recover any and all funds paid to Lane College. We will give a report of those efforts in the near future. However, while we work to make sure that the Convention's finances are recovered, ***we will be refunding every camper's registration in full.*** We will begin the process of refunding shortly and should have that process completed by the end of July.

In the meantime, please pray for the leaders of Youth Encampment as they are just as heartbroken as our children. They will soon begin the process of identifying a new camp location for Youth Encampment 2020 and we believe, with your continued support, that it will be an overwhelming success. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Him,

Joe B. Maddox

Elder Dr. Joe B. Maddox, President
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