



Camp Hiawatha • Camp Vermilion 1105 E Superior St, Lower Suite, Duluth, MN 55802 800-331-5148 218-666-5465 vlm@VLMcamps.org www.VLMcamps.org

Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry provides opportunities for Christ-centered spiritual growth, leadership development, and outreach in God's great northwoods!

***“Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus.” – Romans 15:5***

Dear camp community,

Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry continues to offer each child the life changing experience of camp. As always, safety is a key part of that experience and we want to reassure you that we are following the Covid-19 virus details closely.

We encourage you to do what every group of campers is taught to do – pray for each other and work together to experience the Holy Spirit working in our midst. “Social Distancing” is important. Wash your hands and use common sense when out in public. It is also just as important to remain spiritually connected. We are a creative and supportive community and we have navigated tough times before. Together we can navigate this public concern.

There is new information coming at us all on a daily basis, including updates on public gatherings, practices to keep ourselves healthy, and information on how to make sure we are helping to keep others healthy. VLM is communicating with our local and state agencies to make sure that we have accurate and up-to-date information. As that information and their recommendations change, we will be working to make sure that camper health and communications are our priority.

As of today, March 16, our **facilities are available for your use**. If you are planning an upcoming retreat or visit, and you have questions or need to discuss options, please contact us at the VLM office **(218) 666-5465** or **VLM@VLMcamps.org** and we will help you take the next steps. Until we hear anything different, our sites will be ready and the staff are preparing for your arrival.

Our **summer youth programs and canoe trips** are moving forward as planned as well. The leadership here at VLM is taking this opportunity to review our current summer policies and procedures. This includes sanitation procedures in our cabins, lodges, and food service areas as well as pre-camp health forms, and parent communications. Any change to our policies will follow conversations with our local health professionals at the hospitals and clinics in Cook, Deer River, and Grand Rapids.

We will notify our community of any changes to our plans. **Until then, if you have any questions about the Camp Hiawatha and Camp Vermilion policies and procedures, please contact Gretchen Bachman, our Director of Operations at 218-666-5465 or gretchen@vlmcamps.org.**

As we continue through the next several weeks, we pray that you can both be healthy and creative during the unexpected changes to “normal” life.

**We will share updates on our policies and our availability on our website [www.vlmcamps.org/covid\\_19](http://www.vlmcamps.org/covid_19), on our Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/VLMcamps](http://www.facebook.com/VLMcamps) and through direct email.**

Thinking differently about time together is a spiritual gift. Wash your hands, get some sleep! See you at camp.

Joel Abenth, Executive Director

**DID YOU KNOW:** It takes about 25-30 seconds to sing the first verse and the chorus of the Camp Rouser. Sing it while you are washing and drying your hands.

***(Please see reverse for helpful links)***

**Please use the links below for information about symptoms, transmission, and other recent news about the Covid-19 Virus.**

- **Center for Disease Control**  
[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)
- **World Health Organization**  
[www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public](http://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public)
- **Camp Vermilion – St Louis County**  
[www.stlouiscountymn.gov/departments-a-z/public-health-human-services/public-health/coronavirus-information](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/departments-a-z/public-health-human-services/public-health/coronavirus-information)
- **Camp Hiawatha – City of Grand Rapids**  
[www.cityofgrandrapidsmn.com/9-articles/947-recommendations-regarding-covid-19](http://www.cityofgrandrapidsmn.com/9-articles/947-recommendations-regarding-covid-19)
- **State of Minnesota Health Department**  
[www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html)
- **VLM Updates and Information**  
[www.VLMcamps.org](http://www.VLMcamps.org)  
[www.facebook.com/VLMcamps](https://www.facebook.com/VLMcamps)

### **Camp Rouser**

We come from (Vermilion/Hiawatha), Our camp is the best camp,  
Our staff is efficient and really quite nice.  
We fight fast and furious, All insects injurious,  
Tonight the mosquitoes will sure meet their fate!

(Chorus)

Um ya ya, um ya ya, um ya ya, um ya ya  
Um ya ya, um ya ya, um ya ya ya! (Repeat)

2. We go on our hikes, we don't take our bikes,  
We see all the sights and scratch all our bites.  
The trees are so tall, and we are so small,  
But that isn't all, we're having a ball!

3. We don't have a pool, but we are no fools,  
We have a lake and it is quite cool.  
And we are so tough that it isn't rough  
To swim to the raft and show all our stuff!

4. We all go canoeing, and we are not fooling,  
We paddle and portage all day and all night.  
It may rain, it may pour, and (name) may snore,  
But all we can shout is more more more more!