



## **Pacific Southwest District**

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April 6, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Holy Week blessings to you, and peace from Jesus, our triumphant King!

Over two years ago, a planning team was formed for the sole purpose of preparing and executing the Pacific Southwest District's first ever Children and Family Ministry Conference to be held June 16-18, 2020, on the campus of Concordia University, Irvine. This conference was to have the unique theme: "Rally Together" based on Nehemiah 4:14b & 20.

The development, preparation, organization, scheduling and securing top-notch, nationally known presenters for this conference was right on schedule until the Coronavirus hit our nation with sweeping and far-reaching devastating results, bringing to a screeching halt many of our activities, lifestyles, and jobs. Schools have gone to remote learning, states are on "shelter in place" orders from their local governments, restaurants and businesses large and small have closed, and social distancing has become the new norm.

On Thursday, April 2, our planning team gathered via a Zoom meeting to discuss the future of our conference. After much prayer and discussion, we have decided not to hold the conference this year as planned. This was not an easy decision, but we felt it was prudent to make this decision as early as possible.

For those that have already registered, we are offering a full refund of your investment in this conference, if you so choose. You may also choose to donate the money you invested in your registration to help offset the cost of the planning that happened already – a donation to the district for youth and family ministry. If we do not hear from you by April 15, you will be reimbursed your registration cost in the same manner in which you paid.

We are tremendously disappointed that we will not be holding the conference this summer, but we are hopeful that we may be able to hold the conference in the future.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dave Rueter ([david.rueter@psd-lcms.org](mailto:david.rueter@psd-lcms.org)) or Rachel Klitzing ([rachel.klitzing@psd-lcms.org](mailto:rachel.klitzing@psd-lcms.org)).

In Christ,

The Children and Family Ministry Conference Planning Committee  
Pacific Southwest District