



Camp Alexander Mack



Welcome to Sunny Camp Mack

Summer of 2016

We just had our Camp Rep. meeting to start the summer of 2016 camping season. This is always an exciting time for those of us on staff. We have spent the time since the end of camp last summer working hard at putting together a program to carry out the “Sanctuary” experience here at Camp Mack. That “Sanctuary” experience was at the heart of our conversation with our Camp Reps. We all realize the need our kids have for a “Sanctuary where People Connect with God”. We read stories everyday about kids being led down the wrong path by worldly values. **If only they could have had a week at camp** where we hold those worldly values at the entrance and kids come in and experience God’s love through the hands of counselors, staff, and volunteers. Then these kids go back to their church and are nurtured further in God’s ways. The question then becomes, how do we find these kids and get them here? I think that is where you come in. Every one of you who are reading this newsletter has had some type of life changing experience here at camp. You are the ones who know these kids. You are the ones who have the relationships with them. You are the ones who can ask and gently convince them to spend a week at camp. Take time to pray about a list of kids in your influence who might benefit from a week at camp. Then start making your contacts. Find the Camp Rep at your church. They have all the information you will need to make this happen. This could change everything is some young person’s life. I close with this summer’s theme verse from 2 Timothy 1:7. “For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love, and of self-discipline.” With that spirit of power and of love, let’s move forward and change some lives!

Galen Jay, Executive Director

Why a retreat?

Have you ever felt you would just like to get away for a few days to relax, recreate and rejuvenate? Are you ever in a situation where you feel the committee, board or business you are a part of does not take the time to look at goals, planning or visioning? It may be time to think about having a **retreat**. A **retreat** is a time away from the business of everyday work or life. A **retreat** is a place that you can go to unwind and look at planning or refocusing in a serene relaxed environment that takes away the distractions.

Camp Mack is a place that is set up to handle your **retreat**. We offer you a place to stay and feed you delicious meals in a beautiful serene sanctuary. If you have not experienced a retreat in the past, but feel the need for such an experience please consider how easy it would be. Several things to consider are how many persons you would have in your group, several possible dates for the **retreat**, how many nights and meals would be involved, if you would have any outside presenters or conveners and the type of **retreat**.

Call Camp Mack and get a date set and the type of accommodations that would fit your group and type of **retreat** you are planning. When you call we can help you find the answers to those questions. You will want to put together a schedule and plan on some time just to relax and enjoy the fellowship and nature if you can. If possible plan a 2 night **retreat** as they are likely to be more productive and meet your needs as persons are likely to be more relaxed and open as they spend extra time together. If you need to start with just a day **retreat** or 1 night until you see the benefits, that is also an option at Camp Mack. Please let us know how we can help you as you explore the idea of a **retreat** for your business, Church Board, Sunday School class, total church, or the variety of organizations you belong to. You may call 574-658-4831 or email info@campmack.org to start the process or to ask additional questions.

Mike Kauffman, Guest Services



What is Cookin' from the Kitchen– Cookie Crew News

My thoughts have begun to shift to the coming 2016 summer camp season. Along with all of the many details we plan for is the “Cookie Crew”. Our cookie crew volunteers are such a great group of senior saints. They range in age from 65 to 80 with the average age of a volunteer being 74.4 years. Many of them have been part of our crew for the past 6 years. They love Camp Mack and absolutely love children. Most of them have grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They are special people who believe in the power of Christian Camping to change the lives of children. They believe that a simple act like baking cookies is a valuable part of that camp experience. I know that many of these volunteers pray a blessing over these cookies as they bake them asking that God would bless all of these children as they enjoy a snickerdoodle or chocolate chip cookie.

Let's look at what the cookie crew produces for Camp Mack each summer. The average week at camp is approximately 250 children with an additional 50 support staff. That's 300 people per meal. Take that 300 people offer them 2 cookies and now we have 600 cookies, that's 50 dozen cookies a day. Now offer that 5 days a week and then the cookies we offer during registration every Sunday and you see that we serve over 4000, yes that's 4000, cookies each week. All of these are baked from scratch right here in the kitchen. Cookies are a big deal here at Camp Mack.

Our cookie crew volunteers work as their schedules permit usually 1 or 2 days a week for 3 or 4 hours each day. We bake Monday through Friday. Over the past few months one of our original volunteers has retired from the crew altogether and 2 have expressed that they need to limit the hours that they are available this summer.

So, this month I am putting the call out for Cookie Crew Volunteers. Won't you please consider giving some time this summer as a Cookie Crew Volunteer? Next month I will be posting more details about volunteering in the kitchen and will have a way for you to identify the need and when we need your help. Thank you.

Tony Keck Food Service Manager

Camp Mack Festival

Would you like to help raise funds for our campership fund? Do you have some new ideas to bring to the festival? Do love Camp Mack? If you answered YES to any of these questions then you may be a good addition to the Camp Mack Festival Committee. We are looking for 4 new committee members to fill the Banking, Facility, Demos and Displays Chair positions and also a Food Booth Co-Chair. We meet 5 times a year and the festival is the first Saturday in October. If you have any questions about the chair position job descriptions or about the festival please contact Lauren Carrick at lauren@campmack.org or 574-658-4831.



Nature Nut News



Seasons are always changing and a big change came to the program department this year. My name is Jessie Kreider and I am the new Program Director at Camp Mack. Most of you know me as the Lake Lady, Rat Lady, Snake Lady, Jessie K or other nicknames as I was the Program Assistant for many years. My work at Camp Mack began in 2003 when I started on summer staff. My first year I decided to work at camp because I enjoy working outside and it was better than my previous job at McDonalds. The years working at Camp Mack hold so many great memories and I love being in a place where I am constantly learning. One of my passions with working at camp is the role we play between camp and the local churches. I am happy to see the DUCT (District yOuth Coming Together) bring youth together from local churches and schools and am looking forward to see how we can reach more campers. For me, camp is all about relationships. Our relationships with each other, nature and most of all God. At camp you will find your connection with God, Community and Nature. Find your connections at camp this year as you invite campers to summer camp, attend retreats, volunteer as a counselor or Team Leader and continue to share your stories of camp connection. Please email me at jessk@campmack.org if you would like to volunteer as a counselor or Team Leader this summer.

Program Wish List

CRAFTS: Camp Mack is blessed to have a great craft program for campers and guests to be able to be creative. Crafts are not just a summer activity. We use many of the supplies for retreats and events such as CMF, Mother Daughter, Father Son and Build-a-Drum. Below are supplies we use the most.

- Glitter
- Acrylic Craft Paint
- 4 qt round Crock Pots
- Tie Dye Supplies
- Lanyard Lacing
- Elmer's Glue
- Colored Pencils
- Small Paint Brushes
- Wood burners
- Candles, wax, broken crayons for candles
- Beads



Indiana Camp Board

I just wanted to bring you up to date on a few things that the Board is working on. The Search committee has already interviewed one person for the Executive Director position. We have two more interviews set up. One the last week of this January and the other one the first week of February. We are excited about having these opportunities.

The Board also formed a Master Plan Review committee to look over the Master plan that is in place now. We want to be sure that the goals and ideas from the first plan is what we need at this time after so many years. This committee has met once and we will also be meeting at the end of this month.

These are just a couple of items that we are working on at this time. The Board is excited to keep working on other issues also. We have an official meeting in February which would be our first one for the year of 2016. If you have any questions, anyone on the Board would be glad to talk with you.

Blessings, Sue Freel, Indiana Camp Board Chairman

Summer Staff

Applications are available and we are starting to set up interviews for 2016 Summer Staff. Summer Staff is the hardest job you will ever love. Summer staff works in the areas of kitchen, facility, housekeeping, lifeguarding, climbing tower, nature, night hikes, low ropes and more. Make lifelong friends, grow in leadership, gain new skills, get trained in new areas, and grow memories that you will share the rest of your life. Apply today for Summer Staff 2016!

We will also be hiring a Challenge Course Manager, Waterfront Director and Camp Photographer for the summer. Contact Jessie Kreider at jessk@campmack.org for more information on these positions.



Upcoming Events at Camp Mack:

Camp Mack Calendar

Feb 13	Sweetheart Banquet	March 11	Annual Dinner
Feb 18-21	Quilt Retreat	March 14-16	Volunteer Work Days
Feb 18-21	Scrapbooking Retreat	March 19-20	Mother Daughter Retreat
March 5	Team Leader Training		

Sweetheart Banquet

Let Camp Mack take the guesswork and stress out of planning your Valentine's weekend night out. We provide the food, atmosphere, entertainment and even a flower for your special someone. So, make your reservations now for your night out and we will do the rest. Saturday, February 13. \$70 per couple. Must be Registered by February 5th.



Quilt Retreat

Quilters of all ages are encouraged to come to Camp Mack to gather and share their expertise and love of quilting. Bring your sewing machine, UFO's and quilting supplies. Space limited to the first 40 quilters. February 18-21. 6p Thursday early arrival to 3p Sunday. \$118 per quilter (Fri eve arrival), \$132 (Fri AM arrival), \$148 (Thurs eve arrival). Housing and scheduled meals included.



Scrapbooking Retreat

Crop 'til you drop with a weekend of scrap therapy. Bring the scrapbook you need to finish or may have been waiting to start. Spread out your supplies and enjoy an uninterrupted time with fellow scrappers. Bring your extra stickers, scraps, paper and more to swap. February 18-21. 6p Thursday early arrival to 3p Sunday. \$110 per scrapper (Fri eve arrival), \$120 (Fri AM arrival), and \$136 (Thurs eve arrival). Housing and scheduled meals included.



Annual Dinner

This annual fundraiser provides funds for special projects and operations support at Camp Mack. Come enjoy an evening with delicious food, entertainment, and hear the stories of our guests. A donation of \$25 per person (open seating) or \$300 for a table of six, \$350 for a table of seven or \$400 for a table of eight (reserved seating). Friday, March 11. Appetizers begin at 6:15p, dinner begins at 7p.



Volunteer Work Days

Work with Camp Mack's staff as we do jobs around the site. We have planned work tasks for all skill levels and ages. Come for a few hours or all three days. Meals and lodging are available. No charge for this event. March 14-16. Call the Camp Mack office for reservations.

Mother Daughter Retreat

"Seasons of the Heart." Winter, spring, summer or fall... Mothers and daughters will celebrate the seasons through craft projects, a Frozen themed tea time, Bible studies and time spent with each other. March 19-20. \$163 per mother and daughter pair, \$72 for each additional person.



Up Coming Get-A-Way Days

- Feb 14 Eagle Watch- See dozens of Bald Eagles in Indiana
- Apr 2 Flintknapping- Learn to make tools from stone
- Apr 2 Genealogy and Family History- Learn how to research your ancestry
- Apr 2 Container Gardening- Vegetable gardening for every space
- Apr 2 Youth Ministry Workshop- Day for youth leaders to explore the partnership between camp and the local churches.





REMINDER: Register for summer camp by March 20 to avoid the late fees.

Retreats & Events

Camp Rep Meeting	Jan 16	5K Run/Walk	TBD
Sweetheart Banquet	Feb 13	Camp Mack Festival	Oct 1
Quilt Retreat	Feb 18-21	Father Son Retreat	Oct 8-9
Scrapbooking Retreat	Feb 18-21	Seasoned Citizen's	Oct 10-13
Team Leader Training	March 5	Quilt Retreat	Oct 13-16
Annual Dinner	March 11	Scrapbooking Retreat	Oct 27-30
Volunteer Work Days	March 14-16	Pastors Sabbath	Nov 1-3
Mother Daughter	March 19-20	Build a Drum	Nov 4-6
Volunteer Work Days	April 4-6	Volunteer Banquet	Nov 5
Pastors Sabbath	April 5-6	Volunteer Work Days	Nov 7-9
Prairie Restoration	April 9	New Years Eve	Dec 31-Jan 1
Volunteer Work Day	April 9	Camp Rep Meeting	Jan 14, 2017
CIT Training	April 15-17		
Quilt Retreat	April 21-24		
Seasoned Citizen's	May 2-5		
Bird Watching Retreat	May 5-7		
Counselor Training	May 13-14		
South Central Women	June 2-4		
Colony Camp	August 12-14		
Golf Outing	August TBD		
Labor Day Family Camp	Sept. 2-5		



Samplers	June 9-11	Youth Camp	July 3-9
Beginners	June 12-14	Culinary	July 5-9
Archery	June 12-16	Seekers	July 10-15
Eco Adventure	June 12-17	Splash Camp	July 10-15
Grand Camp	June 16-18	Sailing	July 10-15
Dune Challenge	June 19-25	Followers	July 10-15
Seekers	June 26-July 1	Creative Arts	July 10-15
Finders	June 26-July 1	Grand Camp	July 31-Aug 2
Survivor	June 26-July 2	Dadirri	July 31- Aug 6
Samplers	July 3-5		
Seekers	July 3-8		
Finders	July 3-8		
Pedal & Paddle	July 3-9		

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A Camp, Conference & Retreat Center

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline." II Timothy 1:7 NLT