



## Camp Alexander Mack

### News from the Director

I'm sitting in my office on a Sunday morning, the sun is shining through a perfectly blue sky and the air is crisp with the hint of fall. Some of the reminders of the Northern Indiana District Conference are waiting for a facility crew to set them right again. I just finished a phone call asking about a jacket left in the gathering room the day before. And in the midst of this, the harmony and lyrics of *As a Deer* quietly drift through the doorways and to my desk.

Our ministry involves all that any church ministry provides. We do programming for our Church of the Brethren owners: summer camps, educational and recreational programs throughout the year, and teaming with our church partners for retreats and outreach. We also provide educational opportunities to nearby schools and other secular groups. While we can't openly evangelize, we are modeling a Christian community that advocates for peace and justice. Multiple groups of faith, churches and organizations, use our spaces in their own ways to become more in tune with God and to build their communities. People who are tired find rest here. People who need them will always find a warm cup of coffee, hugs, and the love of Christ here.

We don't talk enough about the kind of comprehensive ministry Camp Mack provides, and we don't acknowledge enough the full participation of the volunteers and donors who make that ministry possible. This is a vital ministry that God has called to do incredible work in the world. You, as volunteers, donors, and long-time supporters are the hands and feet of that ministry. For most people, spending a day or an evening washing dishes is not the activity they find meaningful, but many of you realize you are being Jesus in that moment. Giving money for every day expenses and maintenance is not as much fun as seeing something concrete that one can visit and revisit frequently, unless you keep in mind that the general gift is what makes the whole of the ministry possible.

During both district conferences, the District Executive Ministers challenged conference-goers to contribute generously to the 400 Club, a fund used to eliminate the mortgage on the John Kline Center. The gifts were to honor the service of Galen Jay as interim executive director. Together, the districts raised over \$10,000.00 and two generous donors matched those figures to bring the final one day total to over \$20,000.00! What an awesome show of faith and support that requires our response as a ministry to provide even more!

We are not going to be hesitant to ask for your help. There are still some steep hills we must climb before we can reach a more level course. As we climb, we will need continued substantial financial support and volunteers who can help us get through this challenging period with limited funds for staff. We will need the voices and consideration of everyone to help us fill our buildings to capacity with retreats, reunions, and programs so we can begin growing again. Think about how you or your church can use camp. Talk to others you know about this great place to get away.

This has been hallowed ground – a sanctuary – for ninety-one years. We are now in a position to do more in providing God's love and community to a world desperately needing it. Thank you for your support.

I have the best job in the world, because I get to work with you, and I get to do it from an office that sees the wonders of creation and hears the joyful sounds of Christian Community.

Gene Hollenberg, Executive Director

# Camp Mack Festival

## Camp Mack Festival Announcements:

1. ATTENTION ALL BAKERS!! Knock yourself out in making culinary confections for the CAKE WALK at the Camp Mack Festival! Items must be homemade; Suggested Items include: Cakes (decorated), Pies (no cream pies), Cookies, Brownies, Rolls, Cinnamon Rolls, Noodles, Fudge. All items will be available to participants in the CAKE WALK. Proceeds from the walk go back to Camp Mack. Any questions, contact Linda Starr, [lls0527@gmail.com](mailto:lls0527@gmail.com)
2. CHANGE!! Live Auction Time is 10:30; Please bring all auctions items to camp before 9:00 a.m. October 1<sup>st</sup>. Does your business have old inventory sitting around you could donate? Donate those items and help send a child to camp. Any questions, contact Deb Roe, [debra@campmack.org](mailto:debra@campmack.org)
3. If you have not signed up your church for a food booth during the festival in the auditorium please contact Barb Wood at [barbwoody57@gmail.com](mailto:barbwoody57@gmail.com)
4. If you are interested in joining the festival committee, please contact Jerry Brenneman. We are still looking to add a few to help make the future of the festival successful! Jerry's email is [diethighway@comcast.net](mailto:diethighway@comcast.net)
5. If you would like to volunteer a few hours to help out in children's activities, the auction, the facility crew or any other areas, please contact the camp office. I am sure we have a job you can do!! 574-658-4831 or [lauren@campmack.org](mailto:lauren@campmack.org)

Assorted Gift Baskets including:  
Embroidery Supplies  
Yarn and Crocheting Supplies  
Baby Gifts  
Antique Mop Bucket with Cleaning Supplies



Attention all festival goers, the festival is sneaking up here quickly!!! There are a few changes this year. We are moving the live auction time to **10:30 a.m.** So come get some breakfast and find some great treasures at the auction. Here are a few items that have been donated already!



Choice of a homemade blueberry, cherry, pecan, or pumpkin pie baked and delivered by Executive Director Gene Hollenberg on the day before Thanksgiving.



## Be Our Guest

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Fall has arrived and with it comes a new season at Camp Mack. Fall Retreat season is a great time to be in the middle of God's beautiful creation with changing colors and scenes daily. The sunsets are spectacular and the leaves on site as well as those reflected on the water from the other side of the lake are several examples of the beauty that God has provided for us to enjoy. It is another reminder to me of how much God loves us that he thought of the pleasure we would have in the color provided by colorful leaves and reflections in lakes and streams.

God's love and grace is given to us in so many ways and we reflect on that may we think of ways we can pass that on to others. Each of us are unique individuals with gifts and ways that we can share the beauty of God's love with others as God continually shows his beauty, love and grace with us. It is like the line of the song sung for many years at Camp Mack about the magic penny. "Love is something if you give it away, give it away, give it away. Love is something if you give it away, you end up having more. "It's just like a magic penny; hold it tight and you won't have any. Lend it, spend it, and you will have so many, they will roll all over the floor."

Come be a part of the Camp Mack Festival and other retreats and Get-A-Way Days planned. It is also time to plan your own retreats for fall and winter for your churches, small groups, and businesses. Christmas banquets are also right around the corner, so get the dates you prefer now while they are available.

Mike Kauffman, Guest Services



## Camp Mack Wish List

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Scholarship Funds- \$5000+

Internet Upgrades- \$25,000

Good Shepherd Window Repairs \$30,000

400 Club to pay off John Kline Welcome Center- \$55,000

Masons to help with repairs to rocks in our buildings structures

Corn Sheller and Grinders

# Sunny Camp Mack

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I thought I would lift up Lynn Kreider and his faithful volunteers. Each Tuesday and Thursday, three to six volunteers answer Lynn's call to action. They come and do a variety of things. At this moment they are building a trailer to haul leaves this fall. They are also rebuilding the couch cushions at Sarah Major and building a cabinet to hold architectural plans that are presently just sitting on their ends in my office. They are in the planning stages of building some book shelves for the office. They just finished residing the SM well pit which should help keep it from freezing so quickly. One of the more visible projects they have taken on is the woodwork in the QM auditorium. When we poured the concrete we then needed a railing between the two levels. Upon doing a little research we found that the cost of a metal railing was very high and it was suggested that perhaps we could build a wooden railing. It did not take Lynn and his crew very long to figure out a set of plans and start building them. The result is a beautiful wooden railing and a matching wall to replace the nifty blue tarp we used to close off the storage area. This winter we hope to replace the lattice wall on the north side with a matching wall. I could go on and on about the many projects they have completed but the point of this is our Mission statement. "Camp Mack is a Sanctuary where People connect with God". These men and women believe this in their heart and souls. This is using their gifts to make that statement come alive. To sit in SM on some new soft cushions makes it so much easier to connect with God. To sit in the back level of QM and look across the new wood railing at the Rose window just brings God right into that building. And the next time you are sitting at the center campfire circle enjoying popcorn and great company look at the new bench you are sitting on. These were built by our volunteers. God bless Volunteers!

Galen Jay, Facility Manager

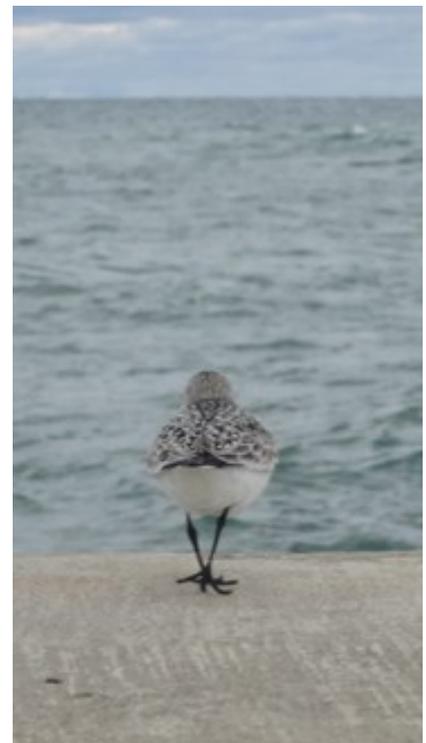


## Nature Nut News

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How does this picture make you feel? This picture was taken on Lake Michigan during the Sailing 201 Get-a-Way Day. The picture doesn't show how hard the wind was blowing, but I can still feel it. When I looked back at the photos after the trip, I just stopped at this one and let it sit on my screen awhile. I feel relaxed every time I look at this photo. It's so simple; just a little Sanderling who has turned its back on me and is looking out over the waves of Lake Michigan. I hope today you do one thing that helps you take just a moment to breath and relax. I know this picture does that for me.

Jessie Kreider, Program Director



# Upcoming Events at Camp Mack:

## Camp Mack Calendar

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October 1	Camp Mack Festival	November 1-2	Pastors Sabbath
October 7	Build a Drum Registration Deadline	November 4-6	Build a Drum Workshop
October 8-9	Father Son Retreat	November 5	Build a Drum Kids Day
October 10-13	Seasoned Citizen's Retreat	November 5	Volunteer Banquet
October 13-16	Quilt Retreat	November 7-9	Volunteer Work Days
October 27-30	Scrapbooking Retreat	Dec 31- Jan 1	New Year's Eve Retreat

## Camp Mack Festival

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Join us for the annual Camp Mack Festival. There is fun for the entire family with children's activities, demonstrations, food vendors, entertainment, hay rides, train rides, a live auction... This fundraiser provides support for scholarships and special projects. FREE admission and parking. Handicap parking and transportation available.



## Father Son Retreat

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A firm foundation in Christ is the base for building relationships between father and son. Have fun creating in the woodshop, playing with Legos and Lincoln Logs, singing around the campfire and more. 1 Corinthians 20. \$131 per father/son pair, \$60 for each additional person. All fathers and sons invited. October 8-9, 9a Saturday to 1p Sunday.

## Seasoned Citizens Retreat

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Seasoned Citizen's Retreat is a group of life-experienced people who gather twice a year to meet old friends and make new ones. Special programs, crafts, vespers and Bible studies will be offered along with plenty of free time for fellowship, "joke time," hiking, puzzles, and naps, too! We offer handicap-accessible sleeping and meeting rooms, as well as dining options for those on special diets. \$168 per person (\$113 if not staying overnight). October 10-13, 3p Monday- 1p Thursday.



## Quilt Retreat

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Gather with quilters of all ages to share your love of quilting and expertise while enjoying the tranquil scenery of Camp Mack. Bring your sewing machine, UFO's and quilting supplies. Space is limited to the first 40 fully-paid quilters. \$120 per quilter. Early arrival fee: \$134 per quilter arriving on Friday morning, \$166 per quilter arriving on Thursday evening. Includes housing and scheduled meals. October 13-16, 6p Thursday (early arrival) to 3p Sunday.

## Scrapbooking Retreat

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Crop 'til you drop with a weekend of scrap therapy. Bring the scrapbook you need to finish or may have been waiting for the perfect time to begin. Spread out your supplies and enjoy an uninterrupted time with fellow scrappers. Bring your extra scraps, paper, stickers and more to trade and swap. \$115 per scrapper. Early arrival fee: \$126 per scrapper arriving on Friday morning, \$143 per scrapper arriving on Thursday evening. Fee includes housing and scheduled meals. October 27-30, 6p Thursday (early arrival) to 3p Sunday.



## Build A Drum Workshop

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Meet "Stan the Drum Man" as he leads you through the steps in creating your own unique Djembe, Ashiko or Native Drum (more drum styles available). These one of a kind drums will bring years of enjoyment and the quality is amazing. *Drums must be paid for and ordered by October 7.* \$110 per person for the full workshop (2 nights/ 5 meals) plus cost of drum. Day rate available. November 4-6, 7p Friday- 5p Sunday. More information found at <http://campmack.org/celebrating> or by emailing [jessk@campmack.org](mailto:jessk@campmack.org)



## Kids Build A Drum Day

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At Kids' Day, kids will decorate and assemble their own youth Ashiko drum. All drums must be ordered and paid for by October 7. \$38 for adult and child (includes lunch) plus cost of the drum. Saturday, November 5, 9a- 3p. More information found at <http://campmack.org/celebrating> or by emailing [jessk@campmack.org](mailto:jessk@campmack.org)



## Pastors Sabbath

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Pastor's Sabbath is a time of reflection, fellowship, personal meditation and recreation for Church of the Brethren pastors. There is plenty of time for fellowship with a balance of structured and free time! Guest leadership: Jeff Carter, Future of ministry and the church. There is no charge for this event. November 1-2.

## New Years Eve

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Why spend the New Year sitting at home when you can gather with other youth to reunite with friends from summer or introduce someone new to camp? Count down the minutes until the ball drops at our very own "Times Square" event. Overnight event for all youth 6th -12th grades. \$59 per person early registration (\$69 after Dec 6), \$10 scholarship available during early registration. Dec 31, 2016- Jan 1, 2017. 2p Sat- 1p Sun.



## Upcoming Get-A-Way Days

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**\*Please sign up for Get-a-Way Days in 1-2 weeks in advance. We have had to cancel a couple of events when we have had no registrations and then find out we had numerous people interested in an event. Thank you!**

October 15 Knitting & Crocheting- For beginner to advanced, enjoy a day filled with fiber at Camp Mack

October 15 Wooden Pen Turning- Turn blocks on wood on a lathe into beautiful pens

October 15 Beginner Quilting- Get started in the world of quilting with your first block

October 16 Fall Nut & Tree ID Walk- Come along for an afternoon of tree and nut identification

November 12 Sandhill Cranes- Trip to Jasper Pulaski FWA to see 10,000+ Sandhill Cranes

December 3 Williamsburg Wreathes and Swags- Make a wreath or swag from fresh greens and fruit

December 3 Christmas Ornaments- Make Christmas ornaments on the lathe

December 3 and 4 Christmas Cookies- Stir, Bake and Decorate 12 dozen cookies and we clean up the mess

## Indiana Camp Board

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There are many exciting things happening at Camp Mack. The Board has been busy with working with Gene as he comes on as the position of the Executive Director.

The Master Plan committee has been going thru the 20/20 plan. They have proposed several new ideas for the Board. They recommend that the Becker Site to be cleaned up and more pleasing to the eye. The Board encourage the Camp to seek donations to under write this project.

At Family Camp, over Labor Day weekend, a collection for this project was taken and the total came to \$2,000.00. Thank you very much Family Campers. We appreciate it very much and plan to get started on this project.

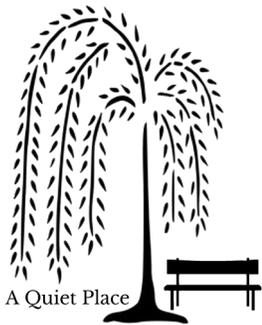
The Master Plan committee also recommends that the Board begin meeting short-term needs of the camp by aggressively pursuing the building of a small retreat guest center/lodge to increase retreat capacity and summer camp experience. The Board will begin to start on this project by having a committee formed to start meeting soon to talk about what we need in this building.

The Master Plan committee also recommends that the Board make the committee a permanent committee consisting of Board, staff representation, and of our constituency. They should meet a minimum of four times a year. We felt this was an excellent idea since as the years go by, needs change. This will keep up with what was planned and what will be needed.

I would also like to shout a big "THANK YOU" to the many people who donated at both District Conferences this past weekend to help pay down the "400 Club". The total raised between the two conferences was \$10,110. With the matching contributions, the total is \$20,110.

The Board cannot thank you enough! This puts our loan down to \$55,000! We Praise the Lord for your encouragement, your kind words, and your support.

God's Blessings and continue to pray for Camp and the leaders.  
Sue Freel, ICB Chairman



# A Quiet Place

**ON THE THRESHOLD:  
A DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION  
Wednesday, October 5, 2016  
8:45 AM—3:30 PM**

A Quiet Place Prayer Center is delighted to announce that Marlene Kropf will be returning to lead a day for us. It will be held at the John Kline Center at Camp Mack in Milford, IN. Snacks and lunch will be provided. Seating is limited so get your reservations in early!

A threshold invites us to step through into a new experience. Celtic Christians described thresholds as “thin places,” a space in which God’s presence may be revealed in vivid ways. As we leave behind what is familiar and known, we enter uncharted territory. How will God’s presence become known in a new or strange place?

In this retreat we will consider how God has been with us in the threshold-crossings of the past. We will also reflect on how God’s presence is revealed in the thresholds we face today or anticipate in the future. The retreat experience will include worship, guided reflections, space for silence, group conversation, and a closing communion service.

**Leader of the retreat is Marlene Kropf, AMBS Professor Emerita of Spiritual Formation and Worship (Elkhart, IN). Marlene lives on Discovery Bay near Port Townsend, Washington where she enjoys retirement with her husband Stanley. She is a spiritual director, retreat leader, ordained minister, and leader of Celtic pilgrimages. She serves on the Mennonite Spiritual Directors Network Steering Group and has written a soon-to-be-published Bible study guide, *Faith Travels: Trusting God in Life’s Transitions* (MennoMedia 2016). For seven years, Marlene led monthly retreats at A Quiet Place and is looking forward to returning to this special place.**



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## REGISTRATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**COST: \$50 PER PERSON**

**MAIL TO:**

**A QUIET PLACE PRAYER CENTER**

**P O BOX 158**

**MILFORD, IN 46542**