

Volume 3 Issue 5

May 2016



CAMP ALEXANDER MACK

Mackabilia

Camp Alexander Mack



Welcome to Sunny Camp Mack

We have come to the beginning of the new camp season and we have found several opportunities to move this ministry forward but we need some help. The first project is in the Auditorium. We would like to replace the lights in the back half with new LED Bay lights. The cost of lights and wire is around \$4000. The second project is the lower roof of the auditorium. We started last fall by removing the shingles from 1/3 of one side and replacing a good bit of the plywood. We then put on new felt and it wintered that way. We now need to roof that portion. The cost will be about \$2500. The third project we are looking at is updating our internet connections. When a large retreat group comes and uses their cell phones and at the same time the leadership wants to download something we run out of capacity to do all of that. The cost of that project is _____. The fourth project is camperships. Last year we spent \$19,079 to help kids come to camp. That money all came from gifts. Our campership fund is currently at \$16,300. We anticipate the need to be a little bit greater this year than last. The last project I want to lift up today is the 400 Club. The Board started that drive to reduce the mortgage on the John Kline Center last spring. The response was wonderful. We reduced the debt from \$411,000 to \$96,562 today. We all did a little happy dance for that! It would really be nice to eliminate this debt before we move forward.

Five possibilities! Each project helps to create this "Sanctuary experience" here at Camp Mack. Do any of these touch your heart strings? Come join us as we prepare for a new season of kids escaping from the values of the world to a sanctuary where they can begin to connect with God.

Galen Jay, Executive Director

Be Our Guest

In the mail today we received a notice that we would be part of the settlement of a person's estate. It is not the first time we have received a gift from an estate but it causes me to once again reflect on a life and what was important to them. In this case it was the last words I remember hearing from this person as we walked together a few months ago down the hall where she lived "I can't do much now but you will be in my will". It is not the kind of words you want to hear from someone you care about but at the same time you know that Camp Mack had a very special place for them. What I have come to understand, and hear and experience from those giving to Camp Mack after they are gone is that they want to invest in future generations. They want others to have the mountain top, rich experiences at this Sanctuary that they had. They want to help preserve and enhance a place that "people Connect with God through Faith Formation, Experiencing Creation, and Building Christian Community".

A person's life is a lot about the dash between two dates, and they can do a great deal of good to make this world a better place for others as did my friend that recently left this earth. It is really great that even after they are gone they want to help others by giving to a place like Camp Mack so that others' lives may be enriched as well. Each time we receive part of an estate it is another story about a life well lived, but the last chapter is not all written yet because of the ripple effect of the many lives touched by the simple act of giving.

Mike Kauffman, Guest Services



Camp Mack Wish List

Auditorium Lower Roof \$2500

Auditorium Lighting Upgrades \$4000

Scholarship Funds- \$5000+

Internet Upgrades-

400 Club to pay off John Kline Welcome Center- \$96,000

60 more committed counselors

Summer cooks

Your prayers and encouragement as we minister to others this summer season.

What is Cookin' from the Kitchen

Spring is a busy time here at Camp Mack. Today we have a group of volunteers from one of our 12 step recovery groups. This colorful group of people may not be the kind of people who come to mind when you think of a church camp but these special people have experienced God as they have spent time here at Camp Mack. They have experienced our mission statement on a real and personal level. It is a blessing to be able to form relationships with these men and women who have come to love this place and who demonstrate that love through service.

The Camp Alexander Mack Mission Statement:

"A Sanctuary where people connect with God through Faith Formation, Experiencing Creation, and Building Christian Community."

May is here and I am planning menus for the upcoming weeks and the various groups that we are preparing for here at Camp Mack. As I think of spring time and of course food, I think of the foods that I associate with spring. If I were to ask you "What is the most common food that comes to mind?" Many of you would say **Morel's**. Just yesterday Mr. Ray brought me a nice sized Morel that he found while mowing the lawn here at Camp.

Another springtime food that we use quite a bit of here at camp is rhubarb. Last year a friend of Camp Mack from the Nappanee Church of the Brethren donated a 5 gallon bucket of rhubarb plants that are established and doing well in one of our raised garden beds. By next year we will be able to begin harvesting our own Camp Mack rhubarb.

The following recipe is growing in popularity, and was given to me by a member of the Maple Grove congregation. Hope you enjoy it.

RHUBARB OAT DESSERT Serves 12

In a large bowl mix: 1 ½ cups flour, 1 ½ cups old fashion oatmeal, 1 cup packed brown sugar, ½ cup chopped walnuts, ¼ teaspoon baking soda, ¼ teaspoon salt, 1 cup cold oleo (margarine) Mix dry ingredients then cut oleo into the dry ingredients until crumbly. Press 3 cups of this mixture into a 9X13 glass baking dish. Set aside. Then soak 3 cups fresh sliced or frozen rhubarb in 1 cup of cold water for 3 minutes. Drain.

In a sauce pan combine: ¼ cup of cold water, 1 ½ cups sugar, 3 Tablespoons corn starch, 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, ½ teaspoon red food coloring. Add rhubarb and bring to a boil. Cook and stir for 5 minutes until thickened. Spoon topping over the prepared crust. Sprinkle remaining crumbs over the top.

Bake at 350 for 23 to 25 minutes or until golden brown. NOTE...Serve warm with ice cream. It's yummy! This will stay crisp longer if you use a glass pan. And you can see the pretty color better in a glass pan.

TONY'S NOTE: At home I like to make this with more rhubarb so I double the filling. I also like more crumbles on top so I make another ½ recipe of the crumbles to sprinkle over the top.

Tony Keck Food Service Manager

Nature Nut News



As of today, 416 campers have signed up for Summer Camp at Camp Mack. We would love to see at least 100 more registrations. Some camps have limited spots, so sign up today! Summer camp is actually pretty diverse and many of our campers are not affiliated with the Church of the Brethren. We get many campers from local schools and even the Boys and Girls Club of Elkhart Co. So invite your school friends, 4-H friends and others to come with you to camp this summer. With the blessings of campers coming, we also have 3 needs. One need is counselors. We need around 65 more and I know Ben Brubaker would love some help June 26-July 1 as he has over 50 kids signed up for his 5th and 6th grade Finders camp! Second is the need for more scholarship funds. We don't want to turn away any campers because of lack of funds. Consider paying for a child to attend camp. The last need is a request for your prayers and support. We pray that each camper and leader will strengthen their relationship with God while at camp through daily time alone with God (T.A.G), family time, Bible studies, time spent in nature and time spent with each other. Thank you for your continued support of the Camp Mack ministry as we explore our Fearless Faith: Courage in Community this summer.

Jessie Kreider, Program Director



Summer Staff

Applications are available and we have 1-2 Summer staff spots left. 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 this summer for a 12 week period. This position will act in a supervisory role and be an assistant to the Program Director. Contact Jessie Kreider at jessk@campmack.org for more information on these positions.



Indiana Camp Board

I wonder how many of you know the Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and our Core Values that the Board uses as a guidance in making decisions.

Our Mission Statement: A sanctuary where People Connect with God through Faith Formation, Experiencing Creation, and Building Christian Community.

Our Vision Statement: All who are served experience a safe, Christ-centered, faith-forming environment where they can learn of Christ, renew their spirit, experience God.

Our Core Values: Faith Development – Camp Mack is an organization that supports and encourages faith development in each individual and group who gathers here with God. **Caretakers of Creation** – As part of God's good creation, we believe we have a responsibility to be stewards of God's gifts. Camp Mack strives to be good steward through environmentally sound operational practices and to create awareness and understanding of this responsibility through experiential and educational opportunities for campers and guests. **Christian Values and Ethics** – Camp Mack is founded on Christian values and ethics as understood and interpreted by the Church of the Brethren. We will embrace Christ-like values and ethics in our operations, hospitality, and programming.

When I ponder on what the Camp Board should be doing I see all of the things that need to be done at camp. So many of our buildings need upgraded and repaired. We need to increase our Brethren, retreat, and outside camps to further our outreach. We also need to encourage our staff and volunteers daily.

As a Board we look at all of these issues plus many more. We have a Finance Committee who works with the budget and help gives guidance to Galen. We also have a Governance Committee which provides a method for clearly allocating an organization's work. The board's primary responsibility is to represent the interests of its owners.

My pastor wrote this in his "Mid-week Momentum" to our congregation. "No leader, pastor, family member, friend, spouse or board member can be everything that we hope and dream they will be. People, places, and positions always let us down. Only Jesus is worthy of all our hopes and all our confidence. Maybe you find yourself a little down today. Like Peter standing on the water, the moment you take your eyes off the Lord you start to sink (Matthew 14:14-23). Lift up your eyes; set your hope fully on Jesus."

We all have our bad days and times in our lives. But we need to keep our eyes on Jesus as we lead as a Board. To trust in Him to help us do the correct things that need to be done at Camp. Please be in prayer for the Board as we move forward.

In Christ's Love
Sue Freel, Board Chairman

Upcoming Events at Camp Mack:

Camp Mack Calendar

May 5-7 Birdwatcher's Retreat
May 13-14 Counselor Training
June 2-4 South Central Women's Camp



Birdwatcher's Retreat

Enjoy the spring migration with birdwatchers of all ages. Great for new and experienced birdwatchers. We will explore the various habitats of camp as well as travel to other location to see birds not usually found at camp. May 5-7, 6:30p Thursday- 2p Saturday. \$113 for 2 nights and 5 meals or \$71 for 1 night and 2 meals.

Counselor Training

Counselor Training is for all Counselors and Team Leaders. Get hands on experience with Bible studies, cookouts and camp resources. Gain new insights into tough topics such as homesickness and bullying. Also, be up to date on emergency procedures at camp and more. You don't want to miss this training. Friday evening May 13 to Saturday afternoon May 14. Meals and lodging provided at no charge.

South Central Woman's Camp

Gather with Church of the Brethren Women from South Central Indiana for a time of worship, reflection and fellowship. June 2-4, 4p Thursday- 1:30p Saturday. For more information, contact the South/Central District office, 260-982-8805.

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 you 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 four new committee members to fill the Banking, Facility and Demos & Displays Chair positions. We meet five 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.



Counselor Needs

Counselor Need- Please contact Jessie Kreider, jessk@campmack.org to let her know where we can write you in. We would love to have all spots filled in the next 2 weeks before Counselor training.

Camp	Date	Male	Female
WEEK 1: June 9-11			
Samplers	June 9-11	2	1
WEEK 2: June 12-17			
Beginners	June 12-14	2	THANK YOU!
Archery	June 12-16	1	THANK YOU!
Eco Adventure	June 12-17	THANK YOU!	1
WEEK 3: June 26- July 2			
Seekers	June 26- July 1	4	3
Finders	June 26- July 1	5	5
Survivor	June 26- July 2	3	1
WEEK 4: July 3-9			
Samplers	July 3-5	THANK YOU!	THANK YOU!
Seekers	July 3-8	4	2
Finders	July 3-8	2	4
Pedal & Paddle	July 3-9	THANK YOU!	THANK YOU!
Youth Camp	July 3-9	YCC	YCC
Culinary Camp	July 5-9	1	2
WEEK 5: July 10-15			
Seekers	July 10-15	4	2
Splash Camp	July 10-15	2	2
Sailing Camp	July 10-15	1	1
Followers	July 10-15	2	4
Creative Arts	July 10-15	1	1
WEEK 6: July 31- Aug 6			
Dadirri	July 31- Aug 6	1	1

A Quiet Place

This month we would like to let all of you know about our new offerings for the monthly Creating Community groups at **A Quiet Place**. All of them will be starting in September, 2016 and we need to have your registration and a deposit to hold a spot for you. There are four choices for this fall and the titles and some information is included below. If you need more details please let the camp or myself know (574) 536-5672.

Men & Women Group Spiritual Direction: A Communal Experience in Spiritual Formation

Larry Fourman, Leader

Second Thursday

Registration fee \$115 – Balance due in February, 2017 \$115

Bring your own bag lunch.

Open the Door: A Journey to the True Self

Wilma Cender, Leader

Third Wednesdays

Registration fee \$150 – Balance due in February, 2017 \$150

Lunch at Camp Mack

Learning to Walk in the Dark: Moments to Pause to Take Back Our Faith

Yvonne Riege, Leader

Second Wednesdays

Registration fee \$150 – Balance due February, 2017 \$150

Lunch at Camp Mack

Men Creating Community (Information not available yet)



Many people clergy and lay people alike have benefited from attending these monthly retreat days since we started over 20 years ago. Too many times we feel like we are too busy to take a day away, and yet those who do will testify that your time actually seems to be multiplied when you spend quality time with Jesus. ~Norma Miller

REGISTRATION FORM **Creating Community Group**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

PROGRAM TITLE _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Please return this form along with your payment to A Quiet Place, PO Box 158, Milford, IN 46542 **no later than July 31**. Thank you.

Scheduling a Retreat: Norma Miller, Spiritual Director

Phone: (574) 831-2423 Home, (574) 536-5672 Cell

Email: milfam@bnin.net Website: www.campmack.org

Upcoming Get-A-Way Days

***Please sign up for Get-a-Way Days 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!**

May 7 Canoe the St Joe River - Eight relaxed miles canoeing the St Joe River, Mottville, MI to Bristol, IN.

**This trip had 1-2 spots open or if you meet us there and bring your own boat, it will be \$10 and include lunch.*

May 7 Wildflower Walk (LEADER NEEDED)- Learn more about the wildflowers in the woods at Camp Mack. This is a FREE event but preregistration is requested.

May 7 Dutch Oven Cooking-From appetizers to desserts, you won't leave this night hungry.

June 4 Family Fishing Day- Free fishing day in Indiana. Learn to tie knots, cast and enjoy a Camp Mack fishing derby.

June 11 Pumpkinvine Bike Trek- Load up bikes at camp and ride the Pumpkinvine Trail from Goshen to Shipshewana (and maybe back).

5K Run/Walk Results!!

What a great day it was for the 3rd Annual 5K Run/Walk and Kids' Fun run to support the 400 club. 113 people participated with almost 60 registrants from Bethany Church of the Brethren! Well done. We hope to make this event bigger and better each year. A huge thanks to Reed Results for timing the event.

Top 5 Males: DJ Mumaw, Waylon Herschberger, Paul Kern, Myron Herschberger, Dean Warstler

Top 5 Females: Tori Mumaw, Megan Hunter, Pam Jack, Carrie Eikler, Rosanna McFadden

