



Camp Alexander Mack

News from the Director

The most visible sign of our ministry is summer camp. Children, youth, and adults fill the camp with their presence, laughter, creativity, community, and new discoveries about God. It is exciting, and it is at the core of who we are as an organization.

The job of providing the sanctuary experience is very complicated, however. Summer camp begins in June, but the planning for this summer began last August when the dates were set. From that moment, all of our areas began the work of preparation.

Guest Services determined the locations of the camps, prepared schedules to coordinate between other groups using the camp, worked in providing marketing materials and information, and developed other business to assist in keeping summer camp costs down. **Food Service** tested menus, developed new recipes, and prepared the kitchen for the summer. **Facility** staff has been hard at work cleaning, repairing, and building.

Administrative staff have ordered materials, stocked the Gift Shoppe, and processed the hiring of staff. **Program** has organized the materials, planned with team leaders, trained CIT's and counselors, and prepared the program areas of the camp.

Volunteers have worked all winter to make repairs, beautify the camp, and make items that can be used by all of our guests. In the spring, volunteers have cleaned up the camp grounds, put piers in at the waterfront, assisted with building repairs, and helped with opening up camp areas.

You can easily see how much work is involved in preparing for each successful summer. The visible results of the less visible work make it clear how important our efforts are in ministering to so many children and adults.

As always, we thank you for your donations of time and money. Even more importantly, we thank you for your continued prayers and words of encouragement. Soon, we will be sharing plans for making major repairs and future development. It is a never-ending cycle of work and preparation that makes it possible for us to be the sanctuary that connects people with God.



Be Our Guest



The Ministry of Camp Mack has a season called summer. It is the time when children abound and the sound of laughter and play is heard across the grounds of this place. I can tell summer is getting close, not only with the green grass and leaves on the trees, but also with summer staff arriving to help us with the many parts of this vital ministry. As I look forward to the Summer Camping season this year with all the excitement and challenges and rewards it brings, I also know it is my last summer as a Staff person at Camp Mack. This being said, it causes me to reminisce about the 38 previous summers at Camp Mack.

I think about the many lives that have been touched over the years. I remember scenes of children talking excitedly to parents (as they arrived to pick them up at the end of camp) about their great week at Camp, and, "Here is my new friend." I can still see one young man running toward his mother as she arrived and he was so excited to tell her all about his week at Camp that he started the stories from 50 yards away. He was talking so fast when they embraced, she had to slow him down.

I also think about the many summer staff that have impacted the lives of campers, counselors, each other, and for sure, myself. I would like to write a book about the escapades, caring, blood, sweat, and tears of 400 summer staff during these past 38 summers. There would, of course, be a lot of humor, drama (both good and well.. drama), touching stories of compassion, as well as many love stories and weddings. Thank you to each of you for giving of yourselves for one or more summers.

Summer cannot happen without the care and love of Counselors, Team Leaders (formerly called Directors) and CIT's. They are incredible giving and loving disciples that make it possible for lives to be changed for the Campers that come each summer. Thank you to each and every one of you for the time, talents, and gifts that you give.

I cannot leave off the great full time staff that I have had the privilege of working beside for many long hours each summer. Many persons will never know what you have had to sacrifice to make Summer Camp happen. I thank you and I thank your families who had to be willing to be without you. It is never easy. Thank you for answering a call to be in a place where you were needed to make life changing differences in the lives of adults and children. Finally thank you to those who will continue to carry on the great ministry of Summer Camp at Camp Alexander Mack.

Camp Mack Wish List

- ♦ Clean and comfortable recliners or rockers with ottomans for Wampler guest rooms
- ♦ 2010 or later model $\frac{3}{4}$ or 1 ton pickup truck
- ♦ Box or floor fans for guest rooms and cabins
- ♦ Blankets or throws
- ♦ Gardeners: Culinary Camp would love donations of fresh produce for July 11-15
- ♦ CMF would love donations of fresh produce for the Harvest Booth, Saturday, October 7.



Camp Mack Festival



Plan now to be a part of the Camp Mack Festival on October 7th. We are in need of a few more volunteers to help with the festival. First, we need someone who can observe children's activities this year and take over the planning of them in 2018. Churches and groups, contact us about Food Court ideas and what you would like to sell and serve. Also, please send us pictures and descriptions of larger items for the Camp Mack Auction so we can start forming a sale bill to advertise ahead of time. We already have a nice donation of antique Persian rugs! Thank you for helping to make this the biggest festival yet!

For questions regarding the festival, email Deb Roe at debra@campmack.org and she will forward your questions to the appropriate committee members.

Sunny Camp Mack

Summer camp is almost upon us. One week and we have our first campers. We are working hard at putting the finishing touches on buildings and site. We put the swimming piers in yesterday and everyone stayed dry except for Ray. He had a slight mishap and had to go home and change into dry clothes. Lynn and his volunteers are putting the last coat of paint on the swings and we should have those hung by this week-end.

The Ulrich siding project is coming along nicely. We have the cedar shakes off of the east side and the insulation is on that side. The new windows are all installed and Nick will come back as soon as we have the insulation on and wrap the outside of the windows with aluminum. A lot of work to be done. If you have a group looking for a volunteer project, we would love to have your help.

Another interesting project being done now is work on the stones in Jacobs Well. This is the stone structure that used to house the flowing well. It had a flat roof on it at some time in the past, but it had rotted away and allowed water to get behind some of the stone work. We put a new roof on it last fall and now we have a professional working on putting new mortar around the loose rocks.



This man is an artist. It is so cool to watch him work with the rocks.



Stop and visit us any time you are in the area and if you have some volunteer time come and spend a week with us and help to create this “..sanctuary where people connect with God.”

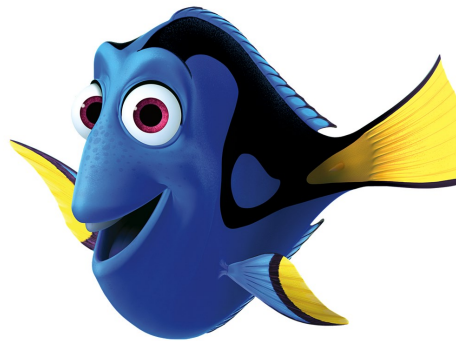
Galen Jay, Facility Director



JUST KEEP SWIMMING

Just keep swimming. Just keep swimming. Just keep swimming... Welcome to summer! I am going to take a break from nature news this month, to just put a spotlight on summer camp. It has indeed been a week of just keep swimming as another successful lifeguard training at camp has just wrapped up. We begin our summer staff training next week to prepare for the first Church of the Brethren campers to arrive on June 4. We have much to celebrate as we Branch Out and Connect *Through* Christ this summer. Please help us branch out and help our campers connect *TO* Christ by praying for them, mentoring them by signing up to fill a counselor spot, and sponsoring children to go to camp where they will have the opportunity to learn more about Christ and spend Time Alone with God (TAG time) each day.

Jessie Kreider,
Program Director



Summer Staff

We are in the process of hiring our final 3 Summer Staff and would like to have the positions filled ASAP. We really need staff who would like to be trained as lifeguards or have current certification. Summer Staff employment begins at Camp Mack in mid to late May. Lifeguards have the opportunity to receive free (re)certification as part of their job. Summer staff works in the areas of Facility, Housekeeping, Kitchen, Program, Lifeguarding and more. Lodging and meals are part of the summer staff package as well as the opportunity for a college scholarship. Summer staff will change your life! Email info@campmack.org if interested. Applications are available at www.campmack.org/employment. Apply today!



Summer Camping Season is here, how sweet it is!

The sounds of a busy kitchen have picked up recently including some equipment changes, new staff members, and filling up the freezers and dry storage. I look for recipes with all of our many diets in mind. What our campers need to sustain a day of busy activities includes a well balanced diet, but also some sweet treats. We try not to do any overload on sugar but to find treats that make our campers and staff happy, and yes, that means sugar in various forms.

We like sugar for its natural sweetness and the energy it provides. Sugar plays an important role as a type of carbohydrate which our bodies like as an energy source. The key to understanding the nutrition that sugar brings to fuel our bodies is in balancing energy inputs (what we eat) with our output (the energy we use) while we enjoy the taste of the treats we like to eat.

There are many types of sugar which we will explore in upcoming months. This month we will look at sugar cane which helps provide glucose and, in drink form, can give an instant burst of energy. It contains a natural sugar which has a low glycemic index that helps prevent a steep rise in blood glucose levels for diabetics. Sugar cane boosts our protein level which helps maintain the health of our kidneys. It is also a good digestive aid due to the presence of potassium. There are studies that show that sugar cane protects against tooth decay and bad breath due to its high mineral content.

Sugar cane is not only beneficial for good health but also promotes healthy skin. So the next time you are craving an artificial sweet drink or soft drink, think about the benefits of a sugar cane juice drink! Try cane sugar in your sweet tea.

Sweet Tea

24 ounces of boiling water
Approx. 8 standard tea bags
8 ounces fresh mint
4 ounces cane sugar

Stir sugar into the boiled water add tea bags and fresh mint; let steep 15 minutes. After the tea has cooled slightly add 3 cups of iced water or more according to your taste. Garnish with a sprig of fresh mint.

Summer Medical Staff



We need medical staff for approximately three hours on check in days and volunteers to spend the week in the health office. Medical staff may be a MD, NP, PA, RN, or LPN. Check-in staff are responsible for collecting health forms, checking in camper meds, or doing health checks. Weekly medical staff are responsible for distributing camper medications, providing care for minor illnesses and injuries, and general care of campers. Staff are provided with lodging and meals. If you are interested or would like more information, email jessk@campmack.org. Health personnel are needed for June 4-6, June 18-23, and July 9-15.

Summer Camp Schedule

BRANCHING OUT <i>Connecting Through Christ</i> SUMMER CAMP 2017			
Samplers	June 4-6	Pedal & Paddle	July 2-8
Beginners	June 11-13 9 SPOTS	Samplers	July 9-11 11 SPOTS
Archery	June 11-15 4 SPOTS	Seekers	July 9-14
Grand Camp	June 15-17	Followers	July 9-14
Seekers	June 18-23	Splash Camp	July 9-14 FULL
Finders	June 18-23	Creative Arts	July 9-14
Survivor	June 18-24 4 SPOTS	Culinary	July 11-15 6 SPOTS
Eco Adventure	June 25-30 7 SPOTS	Dadirri	July 23-29
Dune Challenge	June 25-July 1	Grand Camp	July 30-Aug 1
Seekers	July 2-7	<i>In RED are SPOTS REMAINING in camps that are filling up quickly</i>	
Finders	July 2-7		
Youth	July 2-8		

Upcoming Get-A-Way Days

***Please sign up for Get-a-Way Days 1-2 weeks in advance.**

June 10 Pumpkinvine Bike Trek: Load up your bike at Camp Mack and head to the Pumpkinvine Rails to Trails pathway. Ride from Goshen to Shipshewana. This is a beautiful trail with little road traffic. \$20 (Sack lunch included)

-For more information, check out Get-a-Way Days at www.campmack.org/get-a-way-days or by emailing info@campmack.org

5K RACE and KIDS RUN

The Indiana Camp Board would like to thank everyone who came out to run in our annual 5K Race and the Kids Run. We had a beautiful day; although a little windy at times. We had 95 runners participate in the race. The results are as follows:

The top 5 male runners
DJ Mumaw -22:50
Craig Miller – 22:56
Jami Mitcham – 23:02
Jonathan Warstler – 24:18
Dean Warstler – 24:19

The top 5 female runners
Staci Weisser – 22:11
Susan Warstler – 27:14
Angela Vargas – 27:26
Carrie Eikler – 30:34
Rosalie McBride – 33:54

We had 18 children run in the Kids Run. I think all of them had a lot of fun running. Congratulations to Grady Berkeypile, first finisher of the Fun Run.

Bethany Church of the Brethren in Milford had the most people participate in the race this year. They had 65 people attend from their church.

Again, thanks to everyone for their attendance and help with the race to make it a great year.

Upcoming Events at Camp Mack:

Camp Mack Calendar

June 1-3	South Central Women's Camp
Aug 12	Golf Outing
Aug 18-20	Colony Camp
Sept 1-4	Labor Day Family Camp

Summer Camp Counselor Needs

Camp	Date	Male	Female
WEEK 2: June 11-15			
Beginners	June 11-13	1	THANK YOU!
Archery	June 11-15	1	THANK YOU!
WEEK 3: June 18-24			
Seekers	June 18-23	1	THANK YOU!
Finders	June 18-23	4	2
Survivor	June 18-24	2	1
WEEK 3: June 25-July 1			
Eco Adventure	June 25- 30	THANK YOU!	1
WEEK 4: July 2-8			
Finders	July 2-7	2	THANK YOU!
WEEK 5: July 9-15			
Seekers	July 9-14	3	THANK YOU!
Splash Camp	July 9-14	1	THANK YOU!
Followers	July 9-14	1 (Age 21+)	THANK YOU!
Culinary	July 11-15	THANK YOU!	1
WEEK 6: July 23-29			
Dadirri	July 23-29	1 (Age 25+)	1 (Age 25+)

Don't Miss This!

What: Mike Kauffman's retirement open house

When: August 27, 2017

Time: 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm, with a short program at 3:30 pm

Where: Camp Mack's Kate Warstler Dining Room

Mike has given 38 years of service and ministry to Camp Mack. We would like to send him into his retirement with the best of wishes from the many people whose lives he has touched. Our wish is to collect written memories and pictures of his years at camp. Please send your thoughts or pictures to debra@campmack.org soon!

From the Camp Board:

I found this article about being a grandfather. I thought everyone should have a grandfather like this one.

It was through good fortune my father placed his father-in-law on a pedestal. It was also good fortune my grandfather accepted the responsibility given to him by his son-in-law.

My father once told me if you could be like any person in this world, be like your grandpa (his wife's father). And this worked. Through challenges in life I would think back, and still do, and ask myself what grandpa might do.

Fortunately, this grandfather was someone who lived with a high degree of integrity. For he would do what was right, even when it cost him. Even if it meant he had to give more than his fair share, he would do what was right. He might stand up for his convictions in the face of others who might not agree, but did so in a way which was fair to others. He was also so patient and calm, he made himself easy to talk to.

In his life he valued, not his reputation, but of being who he felt he should be. He mentioned how one of the most important items in his life was to live his life with God leading him. It was his desire to be known as a hardworking man, who lived right and helped others be successful. His integrity was always at the front of who I believed him to be, and it gave me an image to strive for from the early stages of school until even now.

Being and having that person who lived with integrity is an opportunity I am thrilled to have had growing up. It helped develop much of who I am today. At the same time as an adult, I see this same sequence happening in many grandparents. Something magical happens to a grandmother and grandfather which allows them to be patient, calm, interested, and caring. They often set an example of what life should be.

If you have a relative like mine, tell them thank you for the good example. If you have a chance to be the relative, take full advantage of it. The actions we take now can have a lasting impact on those around us.

God's Blessings to everyone,

Camp Mack is in need of old bath towels and dish towels for cleaning rags. If you happen to have any, please send them our way!

Thank you very much!

