



Camp Alexander Mack

News from the Director

As Grand Camp finishes July and transitions into August, so our camping season begins to shift from regular summer camp programs to smaller groups and retreats. That is not to say we aren't busy; it is just a change. Our summer staff starts leaving us on August 1st, and this will dwindle down to two who will remain until after Labor Day. We have had an awesome group of summer staff this year. They have worked hard and remained faithful. We will miss them.

When I first started volunteering as a counselor, I remember having camp during the third week in August. Back then, the camp season was often twelve weeks long. The summer has shortened now to seven weeks, and while there may be some very good reasons for this, it means rethinking some of the work we do. And this is only one change we have to respond to.

Of course, this is the challenge: How do we maintain our mission of connecting people with God and, at the same time, adapt to a world that is rapidly changing around us? The answer is to be fearless in what we do and flexible in how we do it. Dynamic organizations operate with this tension between maintaining traditions that create a strong foundation for the mission and new programs.

Over the last year, there have been a number of changes – some are cosmetic, but others are fundamental to our mission. As we continue to explore the ways we must adapt in order to connect people with God, we need to know how you feel. In mid-July, we had two listening sessions, one at Camp Mack and the other at the Kokomo Church of the Brethren. These sessions gave us a great deal of feedback that we will share in the future as the Indiana Camp Board completes its work. We also are sending a link to a survey that we hope you will complete, whether you attended a listening session or not. The link should come to you in an email during the first week of August.

The information gathered will inform the decisions of the Indiana Camp Board and the staff as we move forward into a new beginning for Camp Mack. Through it all, we remain expectant for the voice of the Holy Spirit and committed to listening to the people who have given time, talent, and financial support to this ministry.

There is no question we have to do new and responsive programs in order to meet our mission. But we can never forget that whatever we do must be driven by our values as an arm of the Church and the mission itself. I look forward to hearing from you as we continue to travel together in Christian camping.

Gene Hollenberg, Executive Director

Be Our Guest

Enjoy God's Beauty

God had created so much beauty for each of us to enjoy. In the height of summer we are enjoying not only the lush green grass that carpets areas we play in and walk on or just gaze upon. The trees are full of many shapes and sizes of leaves and needles that shade us and give us dimension. At Camp Mack there is beautiful Lake Waubee that, at times, is smooth as glass and other times has white caps. The lake can be blue or green and at the right time in the morning or evening it has a reflection of orange that is stunning.



The flowers and bushes have splashes of color that I am sure God delights in as He sees the enjoyment that it gives each of us. The prairie is alive and well with colors and plants we do not often see as well.

I have often marveled at the beauty of the rocks that have gone into many buildings and memorials around Camp Mack. The natural beauty of each rock is amazing in itself not to mention the integrity and strength it gives to the buildings.



It is such a pleasure to work in the midst of the beauty of creation that we have at Camp Mack. The changing seasons bring a variety of beauty that God has given us to enjoy and look forward to. We hear many times of the beauty of Camp Mack as guests come to enjoy a day or weekend or week. We are so fortunate for the vision of those selecting this spot over 90 years ago and for the many caretakers over the years.

Enjoy the beauty God has given us all over this great big world. It is an amazing gift God has bestowed upon us. Come enjoy this beautiful place we call Camp Mack and while you are here give thanks to God and help us to preserve this sanctuary.

Mike Kauffman
Guest Services Director

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
- ♦ Groups to help with the residing project for Ulrich House
- ♦ CMF would love donations of fresh produce for the Harvest Booth, Saturday, October 7.



Junior High Work Camp

We were blessed this past week with the Church of the Brethren General offices Junior High work camp. We had eleven junior high kids and five adult leaders. They blessed us with two full days of labor. We split into two smaller groups with one group working on the east side of Ulrich and the other group painting the letter cabins. For the painting group we had started earlier this summer painting that group of cabins. Our goal is to paint a group of cabins every summer and we have not met that goal the last couple of summers. With the help of this group of junior high kids we were able to paint seven of the letter cabins. We just have a little touch up and we need to put the letters back above the doors and this group of cabins is done. What a difference a little paint and a willing group of kids can make! The other group of kids worked on Ulrich. We worked on the east side with the west side just about ready to put on siding. They tore off the old cedar shake siding and then put on the sheets of insulation. We then put the wrap on to seal the building and started to put on the window extensions. We are now ready for Nick to come and finish wrapping the outside of the windows with aluminum and then we are ready to start the siding process.



What a difference eleven junior high kids and five adults made in two days! I had been getting a little discouraged at the pace of the progress of siding this building. We are just having trouble finding time for staff to work at it. This was such a lift for all of us.

Bless the hearts of volunteers!!

Galen Jay

Facility Director





The Mighty Milkweed

Summer is an exciting season for the wildflower and insect world at camp. We are fortunate to have 3 varieties of Milkweed at camp. Now, most people when they hear Milkweed mentioned, think of Monarch butterflies migrating and landing on Common Milkweed. There is so much more! At camp, we have the Common Milkweed, Butterflyweed, and Swamp Milkweed. The milkweed provides nourishment for growing Monarch larvae, nectar for many insects, and nesting material for Finches, Orioles, and Yellow Warblers. ~Jessie Kreider, Program Director



Powdery Sweetness and Fond Memories

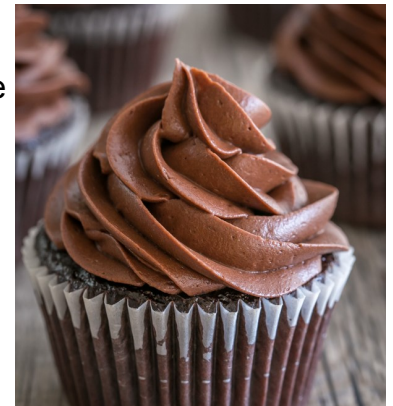
Powdered sugar is one of my favorite sugars to use in the kitchen. I have many fond memories, and a few not so fond ones, of learning how to ice and decorate cakes for 4-H. My grandmother would bring her big metal tin of Wilton decorating tips over and we would make frosting together. If you have ever used powder sugar you know just how messy it can be! When you are mixing powdered sugar in a mixer you have to be careful not to turn your mixer on too high of a speed or you end up with a sugary mess all over the place! I often ended up with sugar in my hair and all over my face when we made frosting. And as a kid having powdered sugar everywhere was great, because then I got to use my fingers to “lick” the dust up! The first few times we were decorating I ended up getting a belly ache from all the sugar I consumed, so I quickly learned to limit my “taste testing”.

Powdered sugar is exactly what its name implies, granulated sugar that has been ground into a fine powder. It comes in several finenesses, XXX, XXXX, and 10X. The more X's the finer the sugar particles. It also goes by several different names. Confectioners sugar, powdered sugar and icing sugar are all the same product. You can make your own powdered sugar by grinding granulated sugar in a coffee grinder or in a mortar and pestle and then adding a little corn starch which prevents clumping.

This Chocolate Frosting Recipe has quickly become my favorite. I love putting it on cupcakes and then adding some rainbow sprinkles to the top.

Whipped Chocolate Buttercream Frosting

1 ½ cups butter, at room temperature
4 cups powdered sugar
¾ cup cocoa powder
4 tablespoons heavy whipping cream
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
Pinch of salt



In the bowl of an electric stand mixer with the whisk attachment, whisk butter and sugar on medium-high speed until fluffy approx. 5 minutes. Scrape bowl half way through mixing. Add cocoa powder, vanilla, and salt. Mix on low for 30 seconds. Mix in heavy cream 1 tablespoon at a time. Scrape the bowl after all the cream has been added. Mix on medium-high speed for 3-5 minutes, until light and fluffy.

Vanessa Bohannon,
Food Service Director

Build a Drum Workshop



Build a Drum Workshop

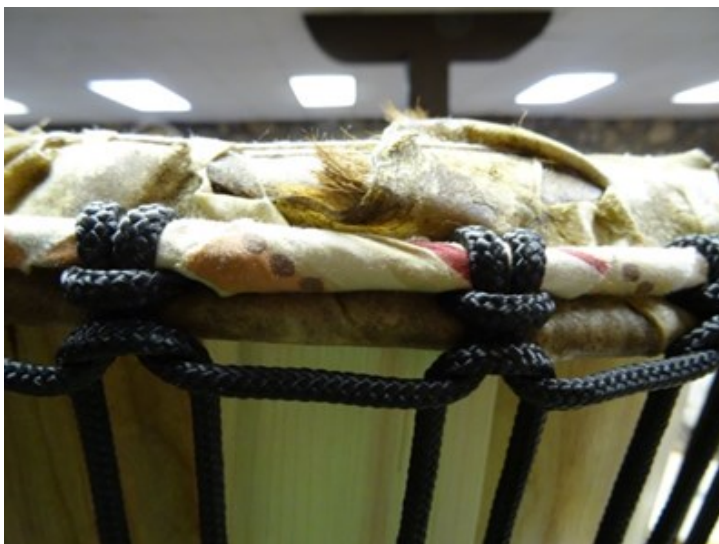
Djembes, Ashikos, and Native Frame Drums are all a part of our annual Build a Drum Workshop and Kids Day. Join expert drum maker, “Stan the Drum Man,” and use your creative skills to make your own unique drum. These are high quality drums that are made and designed by you and will bring you many years of enjoyment. At Kids’ Day, kids will decorate and assemble their own youth Ashiko drum. **All drums must be ordered and paid for by September 28. Spread the word to friends, family, and drum circles in your community!**

Date: October 27-29, 7p Friday- 5p Sunday.

Kids’ Day, Saturday, October 28, 9a-3p.

Fee: \$112 per person for full workshop (2 nights/5 meals) plus cost of drum. Day rate available. Kids’ Day, \$40 for adult and child plus cost of drum

**If you have drums of your own that need to be reheaded, contact us to order skins and bring your drums to the workshop.*



Don't Miss This!



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

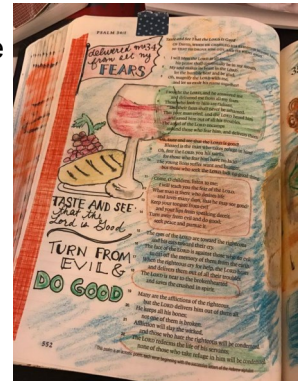
Where: Camp Mack's Kate Warstler Dining Room

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!

Upcoming Get-A-Way Days

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

- August 20 Prairie Flower Walk:** Bring a snack to share for this free summer tradition. We will meet in front of the John Kline Welcome Center and spend a leisurely couple of hours enjoying the beauty of God's creation in our natural prairie. **2:00 pm—4:00 pm.**
- August 26 Sailing 101:** Have you ever wanted to learn to sail? Were you once a sailor, but you have forgotten how? Sailing 101 is your chance to learn how to rig one of our sailboats and master the winds on Lake Waubee! Experienced sailors will help you have a wonderful day of learning and fun. The cost is \$15 (lunch included), and the group will meet at the Becker Beach. **9:00 am—4:00 pm.**
- September 9 Pallet Crafts:** Let your Pinterest ideas come to life as you upcycle wooden pallets. Learn how to quickly disassemble a pallet and use it for signs, decorations, and other usable objects around the house. Cost is \$30 (Lunch and supplies included) **9:00 am– 3:00 pm.**
- September 9 Bible Art Journaling:** This workshop will cover not just journaling in a Bible but other ways to integrate doodling/art/color into your faith life. Bring your Bible and an empty sketchbook as well as any materials you really want to learn/practice using, or just bring yourself. Cost is \$15 (Lunch included) **9:00am– 3:00 pm**
- September 23 Sailing 201 (NOTE DATE CHANGE):** Head to Lake Michigan for the day and sail on a 34' O'Day sailboat. The boat will depart from Michigan City and is a great way to experience sailing a larger boat on big open water. Learn to rig, trim sails, and navigate as well as relax the day away! Limited Space. Cost is \$25 (Sack lunch included) Age: 16+ **9:00 am– 7:00 pm**



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

Upcoming Events at Camp Mack:

Camp Mack Calendar

Aug 12	Golf Outing
Aug 18-20	Colony Camp
Aug 27	Mike Kauffman Retirement Celebration
Sept 1-4	Labor Day Family Camp
Oct 7	Camp Mack Festival

Annual Golf Outing

The Annual Golf Outing will be held at McCormick's Creek Golf Course in Nappanee on August 12th. We have had a long tradition of fun, friendly challenge, and great stories at this fundraiser for camp scholarships.

Registration begins at 8:00 and the first group will tee off at 8:30. Greens fees, cart, lunch, and prizes are included with your \$75.00 entry fee. Join us for good golf, great fun, and the chance to raise funds for an important cause. You can find a registration form at:

<http://campmack.org/supporting>



Colony Family Camp



Colony Camp is a great opportunity to spend some more summer fun at Camp Mack with your family before everyone heads back to schools. Bring your RV, tent, or use one of the cabins; bring your own food and bedding; and enjoy a weekend at Camp Mack. August 18-20, 6p Friday– 1p Sunday. \$85 per family.

Labor Day Family Camp

This popular camp offers something for the entire family! Swimming, boating, crafts, and community worship are available, along with age-appropriate classes and discussion groups. September 1-4, 6p Friday to 1p Monday. \$98 per family. Additional fees for lodging and meals.



Camp Mack Festival

Invitation to Attend

Free Admission! Free Parking! Invite your neighbors, family, and friends to attend the Camp Mack Festival, Saturday, October 7, from 9a– 4p. This is an event for our entire community. Enjoy a variety of foods, crafts, demonstrations, activities, entertainment, train rides, and hayrides. Check out the live auction featuring quilts, comforters, theme baskets, hand-crafted items, and antiques. This fundraiser provides support for the camp. Handicap parking and transportation are available for those with special needs.



Volunteer Your Time and Talents!



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 donations of antique Persian rugs, an antique marble-top bureau, and a number of other items! 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.

