

Camp Alexander Mack

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MACKABILIA



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The 12 Days of Camp Mack

<p>1st </p> <p>Sanctuary on Lake Waubee Share the peace of creation with all who visit</p> <p>Priceless</p>	<p>2nd </p> <p>Life Jackets Provide safety on the waterfront</p> <p>\$25</p>	<p>3rd </p> <p>Loaf of Cinnamon Toast Create fellowship around the breakfast table</p> <p>\$25</p>
<p>4th </p> <p>Campfire with Popcorn Shape a community in song and spirit</p> <p>\$50</p>	<p>5th </p> <p>Gallon of Paint Give color and life to spaces</p> <p>\$50</p>	<p>6th </p> <p>LED Lightbulbs Make sustainable stewardship possible</p> <p>\$100</p>
<p>7th </p> <p>Dutch Oven Supply a full belly and warmth</p> <p>\$100</p>	<p>8th </p> <p>Climbing Harness Equip campers to reach new heights</p> <p>\$250</p>	<p>9th </p> <p>Radio with Charger Contribute to an efficient and effective summer</p> <p>\$250</p>
<p>10th </p> <p>A Week of Camp Build a lifetime of memories</p> <p>\$500</p>	<p>11th </p> <p>Chainsaw Maintain space for joy and adventure</p> <p>\$500</p>	<p>12th </p> <p>Holy Hospitality Invest in the love and care of people</p> <p>Priceless</p>

CLICK THE LINK TO DONATE: campmack.org/12days

News from the Director

Warm Campfire Stew

When I am camping, I get great enjoyment from cooking over the fire. Grilling is fun, and creating packet meals can sure be tasty, but my favorite way of cooking is with the **Dutch Oven**. While camping, my friends and I have produced beef and noodles, chicken and noodles, pizza, chili, prime rib, braised chicken, roasted chicken, cobblers of all kinds, breads, cakes, breakfast casserole, lasagna, and a hundred other things I have forgotten. The first meal I learned to cook in a Dutch oven was beef stew, and it is still my “go-to” meal to bring me satisfaction and comfort.

When I make a beef stew, the Dutch oven begins low over the fire, so it becomes hot enough to brown the meat. It sizzles and pops, creating brown bits of flavor on the bottom. The pot moves up higher as I add broth and water to begin braising. I stir well to pick up the browning from the bottom, and then let it simmer for a while, slowly tenderizing the rich meat and gathering flavor from the smoke. As the day goes on, the onions, tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, and any other vegetables I might choose are added with salt and pepper. After a while, the flavors have been blended and concentrated, and the aroma is wonderful. The final step is to add a thin paste of flour and water to thicken it up before letting it set off the fire to cool.

A Week of Camp is like making a good campfire stew. It begins with high energy and lots of possibilities as campers find new things and explore the world and relationships around them. As the week moves on, the campers and their leaders begin to recognize they are surrounded by the love of God, transforming them into a foundation of goodness and strength. New ideas and understanding are added each day to enrich the experience, blending together the fruits of the spirit learned through patient tending and care. Before it is time for the week to end, the opportunity to talk about how we have changed helps bring it together. In every case, God provides the fire that makes it possible.

Simpler life “stews” are created throughout the year as our retreats and guest groups also experience the **Sanctuary on Lake Waubee**. Life slows down; love is shared; God is at work. This place becomes “pure and holy – tried and true.”

As we focus on *The Twelve Days of Camp Mack* this year, we highlight the things, big and small, that connect each of us with God and others. We hope you can be present for even a small part of this, but even when you can't, your prayers and gifts bring you in. I thank God daily for this community of people representing many faith traditions and tied together by many different experiences. Together, we make the wonder that is Camp Mack!
Merry Christmas, and may this coming year bring us peace.

Gene Hollenberg, Executive Director



Nature Nut News

Popcorn Communication



Camp does not happen in a void, and it is far from silent. Some of the best sounds at camp include singing around the campfire, popcorn popping, the chimes being played, laughter, chatter around the dinner table, birds singing, and cabin doors opening as the camp wakes up. Through all of these, we communicate the mission of camp.

Communication goes together just like popcorn and radios. Weird, I know, but I will try to explain. Popcorn campfires start each of our weeks of camp. If you've never made popcorn in a giant kettle over the fire, I will take you through the process and contrast it to the importance of radio communication at camp.

Making popcorn begins with gathering the needed supplies; the popcorn, oil, salt, kettle, stand, oar for mixing, bags, welding gloves, and fire-making supplies. Radio calls begin long before your trip to camp as we get setup instructions for your area; clean; and communicate between the office, facility, and program staff.

The next steps in the popcorn-making process are getting a hot fire going, heating the kettle and oil, and throwing in a few tester kernels so we know when the oil is ready. When you arrive at camp, our staff in the office or on call are available to meet your needs or to make the tweaks needed for your time at camp to be successful.

Once the kettle and oil are hot, we throw in enough kernels to fill the kettle when fully popped. This high heat/high pressure time is a step that can go quickly and needs our full attention. At camp, there are times we feel those high pressure situations. Tornado warnings, waterfront emergencies, storms, gas leaks, and other safety emergencies are points at which time is of the essence, and radio communication is vitally important to working as a team, remedying the situation, and bringing things back to a status quo.

Lastly, the kernels begin popping slower and the kettle is ready to be pulled off the fire. The warm, freshly popped popcorn is then bagged and the salt passed around to season the fluffy kernels. Radio calls aren't just for planning, doing, and responding, but also to thank and encourage one another.

So, give the gift of communication through supporting the lifting of our voices around the campfire or doing the behind the scenes work to make your camp the best it can be. Thank you for your gift to Operation Popcorn Communication.

Jessie Kreider, Program Director



Sunny Camp Mack

The Days of Camp Mack

On the sixth day of Camp Mack an LED light bulb came to us! How does an LED light bulb contribute to the sanctuary experience at Camp Mack? Well, let me list some of the ways. I think about the small lights that welcome us to the Mission Village yurts in the evening. They beckon us to come in and rest, to contemplate the day, to be thankful for our experiences. I think of the lights on the John Kline Welcome Center deck. They draw us to the benches and chairs to look out over Arky Parky and catch glimpses of Lake Waubee; it's a chance to slow down, to let go of the world, and to hear God's call on our lives. The LED light also provides us with a reduced electrical demand. To go from a 100 watt light bulb to a 15 watt LED bulb means we need less kilowatts from NIPSCO, and that saves our planet a bit and allows us to put those dollars to a better use.

And on the eleventh day of Camp Mack, a chain saw came to us. How in the world does a noisy chainsaw fit in with a sanctuary experience here at Camp Mack? Well, for one, I think of all those campfires we have experienced here. That wonderful fire and smell that we gather around to sing and fellowship with each other is brought about by those pieces of wood that were cut up by a chainsaw. There would be far fewer campfires if we had to saw all that firewood up with a two-person hand saw. I think, too, of the wilderness area and the invasive species. We have spent countless hours in recent years trying to clear some of the areas of the Bush Honeysuckle and Autumn Olive. We would have been way less productive without a chainsaw.

We celebrate day six and day eleven of the twelve days of Camp Mack. Both days contribute in their own way to our sanctuary experience here at Camp.

Galen Jay, Facility Director



Be Our Guest

Providing Holy Hospitality

Have you ever noticed what the staff nametags at camp say? If you read the title of this article above, I'm supposing you have a good guess. And, you'd be correct: "Providing Holy Hospitality."

Holy—being set apart from the world for God's purpose.

Hospitality—intentionally anticipating, serving, and following up with the needs of our guests.

Camp Mack serves all who are seeking sanctuary. It's a place with an atmosphere of acceptance because we are called by God to love everyone as Jesus exemplified.

The guests of Camp Mack are some of the best around. We truly appreciate the opportunity to serve all who come through that archway.

For many, coming to camp is a "home away from home" experience, a tradition, a chance for peace, community, and spiritual growth.

Holy hospitality is, in a lot of ways, intangible, priceless, and potentially indelible. It's a gift we strive to give everyone. It's a key component to the makings of the sanctuary that is Camp Mack. Hopefully people will feel that joyful service and it will have a lasting impression, leaving guests with positive memories of Camp Mack.

Holy hospitality isn't stagnant. We are always trying to improve the guest experience, implementing practices that make things easier and more joyful. There are bumps along the way and we make mistakes, but our goal will always be to do what we can within our means to provide holy hospitality.

This Christmastime, may we all provide holy hospitality safely to one another, anticipating, serving, and following up with the needs of our neighbors, friends, and families. Let's check on each other to make sure we all make it through these winter months together. Let's bring our worries to God and remember that God is with us, guiding our purpose and reminding us how powerful love can be.

Deanna Beckner, Guest Services Director



Another Way of Giving

Life Jackets

It's not that I am afraid of the water, it's that swimming pools or lakes and I have healthy boundaries. I can swim, but I do not go underwater. It's not that I am afraid of drowning or that I have had a near-death experience on the water. I just don't go under water.

That being said, one of my favorite activities at Camp Mack is boating. Row boats are my go-to, but I will also kayak or canoe. My first kayak experience was at Lake Marburg in Codorus State Park in Southern Pennsylvania. It was my second summer of Ministry Summer Service, and the family I was staying with allowed me to take their kayaks out on the water whenever I wanted.

Kayaking was like gliding across the waves. My first time, I was out there so long, I had blisters on my hands from the paddles. It was a great way to enjoy the beauty of the area and do something new. I wore my life jacket good and tight. I was not going to push those agreed-upon boundaries with the water.

For some of our campers, they don't have healthy boundaries with water because they have never been swimming or boating before. They come from communities without access to swimming lessons, lakes, or other water activities. Lake Waubee might be the first time they go on a boat ride.

They are nervous and scared about the water and need to feel safe. Life jackets are not complicated or high tech, but they work. Life jackets not only provide safety, but also peace of mind, so our campers can enjoy the feeling of gliding across the waves.

Todd Eastis, Director of Development and Business



Kitchen News

Cinnamon Toast and a Gallon of Paint

A while back, camp's management team was discussing branding and what the camp's brand looked like to each department of camp. When thinking about the camp kitchen, the first thing that comes to mind for many is our cinnamon toast.



Cinnamon toast, one of the simplest things you can make for breakfast, has become one of the most memorable things about the camp dining experience. I don't know when camp started serving cinnamon toast, but in L.W. Shultz's book *The Story of Camp Alexander Mack*, printed in 1956, there is a small line that reads, "A favorite Camp Mack item of food is cinnamon toast." Based on this knowledge that cinnamon toast is a traditional breakfast item, it was decided that we will try to serve cinnamon toast, at least once, to every group that does morning meals with us. We even have groups who ask to have cinnamon toast every day! Just request it through your group leaders, or our Guest Services Director, and we will do our best.

When we have our littlest campers in the summer, I always make sure cinnamon toast is on the menu for their short stay at camp. Sometimes, if there are two younger-age camps in a week (like when Beginners camp comes in after a Samplers camp leaves), that means the older kids, who are here for the whole week, get cinnamon toast more than once; that's a treat.

As the Food Service Director, I love serving our campers traditional foods like our "famous" cinnamon toast. But, I also like to change things up and try new things sometimes. We have found that a taco bar is a meal that our guests enjoy and look forward to. Meatloaf is another hit that may become a regular menu item. I've had several retreat groups comment on how tasty our meatloaf is. It's been our number one seller for Camp Mack's Tuesday To-Go meals.

Not only am I always looking for new ways to change things with our menu options, I am also always looking for ways to help make our kitchen an enjoyable space for our staff. I'm never opposed to ideas and suggestions from the staff on how to make the 'flow' of the kitchen space better. If moving this to a different shelf means not having to walk as far from the stove, it sounds good to me. Putting that in a different drawer means I can reach it from the mixer area. Okay!

While Brad Hardesty, who works on the facility crew at camp, was patching up some chipped drywall during the retreat season a while ago, I made the suggestion of changing the color of the paint on the wall. If you've ever been in the camp kitchen, it has a lot of beige. The walls are beige, the floors are beige, even the ceiling tiles seem to have a beige-ish tint to them. I thought bringing a pop of color to a wall or two would just brighten the space up a little bit. It really did! With no windows in the kitchen, except for one in the kitchen office, adding a touch of blue to a wall here and there really helped bring some color into our day. I often find myself smiling when I walk through our dry dishes room. That pretty blue wall is such a wonderful color. And, if you've been following camp's Facebook page, you may have seen some pictures of our facility crew painting the insides of some of our cabins. The cabins have a whole new feel with the bright, cheery colors. I'm sure our guests will love to make great memories and connections in those cabins for years to come. It really is neat how a new coat of paint can change a whole atmosphere.

Vanessa Bohannon, Food Services Director



Education Station

Harnessing Safety

“On belay?” a kid asks me.
“Belay is on,” I reply.
“Permission to climb?”
“Climb on.”

These are the commands used at the climbing tower at camp. I can't count the number of times a camper has hesitated to start at this point and instead asks me, “Are you sure you'll catch me if I fall?”

I always reassure them, “I've got you.” While I am technically holding on to the rope, the thing that is really keeping them safe is the harness they are wearing. They come to understand this the first time they lose their grasp on a hold and end up hanging out in the harness for a few seconds. Once they know they aren't going to end up on the ground if they fall, they gain the confidence needed to keep scaling the wall.

Harnesses give everyone who wears them a sense of safety and peace. **There's a difference between being afraid of heights and being afraid of heights while knowing that you're safe in a harness.** We recently had a group of boy scouts at camp to try out our new high ropes course. Charly had been to camp before and had climbed the tower, so he knew the harness would keep him safe as he completed the high ropes circuit. That didn't stop him from being scared to take those first few steps onto the course. Despite being afraid of heights, he eventually did the circuit 4 times and even managed to complete a full circle in about 5 minutes (that's fast)! He was terrified but he knew he was safe because he had that harness on. His harness gave him peace of mind and the confidence to push his own limits.

It's amazing to me how we can find peace in something as simple as a climbing harness.

Kristen Werling, Outdoor Education Coordinator



Diversity Report

November and December are often times when we have conferences, and we are able to work on our professional development. This year, with the pandemic, our conferences are meeting virtually. That has its limitations, but an advantage is that these conferences are now available to many more of us with significantly lower cost. All staff were able to attend the *Gathering as One* ecumenical conference, sponsored by several Christian camping groups including the Outdoor Ministries Association - Church of the Brethren.

The topics in Christian camping reflect the same topics as the world in general, and this year was no different. Therefore, there were several conversations in the conference about inclusion and diversity. Many of our staff were able to participate in these discussions, giving us more context as we move forward with our own attempts to be anti-racist and inclusive.

The Management Team has identified eleven different actions to take as we approach hiring for summer and permanent staff. This includes reaching out to groups we currently serve with diverse populations, developing relationships with community organizations who serve primarily people of color, widening our recruitment circle to larger university job fairs and community-based organizations, and seeking individuals who can help us learn more about how to remove barriers to people of color or those with disabilities.

Overall, we continue to stay engaged in addressing issues that have kept us from many opportunities to join in fellowship with the wide variety of people created in the image of God.

Support Camp While Ordering Christmas Presents!

Camp Mack is currently working hard to make up for lost income this year. It is not easy, and we have had limited success. However, there is one way you can help that is easy and simple.



Amazon has been one of the big winners during the pandemic. Mostly because it is able to help people get the things they need in ways that keep them physically distanced and safe. For years now, they have had a program called **Amazon Smile**. Anyone who purchases from Amazon can participate. It's so simple. When you buy something from Amazon, a small donation is made to the charity of your choice. Camp Mack is one of the charitable organizations that is registered, so you can help us by registering at Amazon Smile and selecting us as the organization, or you can switch to us if you are already registered.

For more information, you can follow this link:

https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/about/ref=smi_aas_redirect?ie=UTF8&%2AVersion%2A=1&%2Aentries%2A=0, or you can sign in to your Amazon account and click on "Customer Service." Under "Find more solutions," type in "Amazon Smile."

Each individual contribution isn't huge, but together, we can make a difference. If you have any questions, please email todd@campmack.org, or call the Camp Mack office.

Upcoming Events

All events will adhere to state and local guidelines and are subject to change accordingly. Before participating, please be considerate of other people's health by assessing your own. Thank you.

December 5—Wreaths and Swags Get-A-Way Day Are you getting in the Christmas spirit? Are you ready to deck your halls? Make a traditional Williamsburg Wreath, Christmas wreath, or a swag using greens and fresh fruit to grace your door this Christmas season. Saturday 9a–3p. Ulrich House Basement. Cost: \$30 (Lunch and all materials included). Leader: Karen Kauffman. Bring gloves.



December 5/6—Christmas Cookies Get-A-Way Days Fill your cookie jar for the holidays! Camp provides the ingredients, measuring utensils, and mixing bowls. You bring the family or friends (or just yourself), mix the dough, sample cookies, and sip hot chocolate. Best of all, camp cleans up the mess! Choose 4 batches of cookies (each batch makes about 3 dozen cookies). Sessions are Saturday 9a–1p, 12p–4p, or Sunday 12p–4p. John Kline Welcome Center. Cost: \$50 (lunch and all baking materials included). Leader: Jess Kreider. Please bring an apron and containers to take home your cookies. There are three sessions to choose from—please choose Saturday a.m. or p.m. or Sunday p.m.



Cookie choices: chocolate chip, double chocolate chip, ginger snaps, sugar cookies, monster cookies, oatmeal raisin, butter cookies (this cookie will be pre-baked and ready for you to decorate!), peanut butter, snickerdoodles, and snowballs (a.k.a. Mexican Wedding Cookies). Additional batches and lunches are available at additional charges.

December 12—Children's Christmas Party CANCELLED. CHECK OUT Snow Camp Jr. for details

December 31—January 1—New Year's Eve Retreat CANCELLED. CHECK OUT Snow Camp for details

January 16—Camp Rep Meeting Saturday, January 16, 2021—Camp reps mark your calendars! This will be a Zoom meeting.

January 30—Snow Camp Jr. Saturday from 9a-4p. Snow Camp Jr. is a day program for 5–12-year-olds. Enjoy a day with friends at camp. Play outdoors, build snow sculptures, warm yourself around a campfire with hot cocoa, do crafts, and so much more. \$35, lunch and snacks included.



February 13—Snow Camp Saturday from 9a-4p. Snow Camp is a day program for 6th-10th graders. Enjoy a day with friends at camp. Play outdoors, reverse tie dye a mask, sip and paint, get warm around the campfire, and much more. \$35, lunch and snacks included.



Plan now for these upcoming events!
For more information, check out campmack.org or a Camp Mack brochure. You may also call the office at 574-658-4831. Click "Register Online" at the top of the page at campmack.org.

Rentals Available!

BRING YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS TO **CAMP MACK** THIS FALL & WINTER

Camp Mack has lodges and yurts to rent to families and groups looking for a getaway to a safe and relaxing space. As the weather cools, the Mission Village yurts and all three camp lodges provide heated camping options at varying capacities. Book your reservation now!

Each yurt/lodge rental includes:

- A fully prepared and disinfected space
- Bathhouse/restroom dedicated to your family
- Campfire circle with wood
- Use of all camp green spaces and trails
- The experience of connecting with God in this holy place

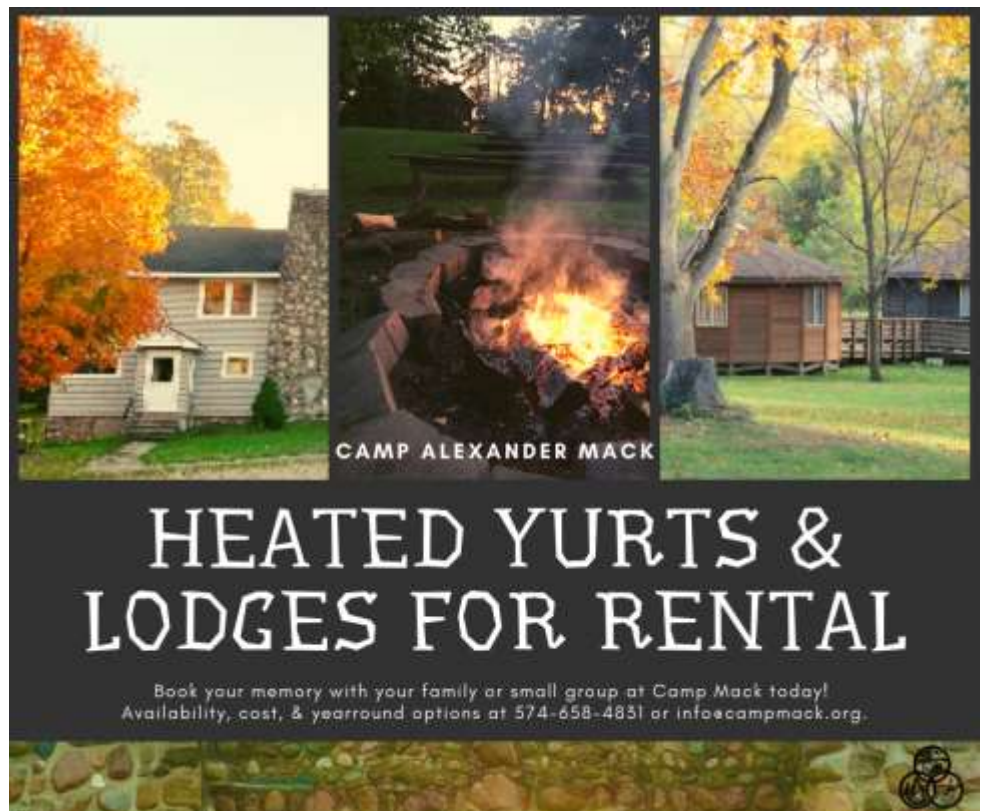
Families will be able to choose additional options to add to their stay:

- Meals may be available at regular rates with different options to choose from
- Kiosk rental with table service, Dutch ovens, and other campfire cookware for outdoor cooking may be available
- Popcorn campfire (popped by the Camp Mack staff in a kettle)
- A night hike through Camp's trails with flexible timing
- Archery Session
- Geocaching
- Wagon Rides
- And more!

Call the Camp Mack office at 574-658-4831 or email a request to info@campmack.org to ask about availability and prices.

Dining room space is also available for rental for banquets, parties, etc.

Get away to a safe and beautiful place to make new memories and connect with God!



CAMP ALEXANDER MACK

HEATED YURTS & LODGES FOR RENTAL

Book your memory with your family or small group at Camp Mack today!
Availability, cost, & yearround options at 574-658-4831 or info@campmack.org.

New Information

Hiring Counselors

The summer of 2021 will be a different summer for all of us. It appears that it will be far better than 2020, but it still won't be normal. A lot has been learned about how to be together and still be safe. An important way to be safe is to limit our exposure.

As we have learned from schools, children are not a major cause of infection, but adults are. This means that it is not safe for us to have volunteer counselors coming in and out of camp a week at a time. Providing safety for campers and staff means that we need more control, and for this reason, we will need to hire counselors for our summer camps this year.

This is not a permanent shift. Camp Mack highly values the volunteers who have led our camps through 95 years of service. We believe volunteer leaders enrich our program and create lasting relationships with campers. Unfortunately, we are concerned that this summer would not be safe for volunteers, campers, or staff. Volunteer opportunities will be available this summer, but they will be limited. Please contact Gene (gene@campmack.org) if you would like more information.

This also means that we need to begin recruiting counselors now. Specific dates, position requirements, and compensation are not yet finalized, It likely will be a six or seven week job beginning after the end of school (so teachers could be eligible). Keep your eye on our Facebook page, website, and this newsletter for the opening announcement. If you have any questions, please contact Jess (jessk@campmack.org).



COVID Protocols

The staff has completed protocols for groups joining us over the winter and early spring. These are steps we will take and expectations for groups, so everyone can be as safe as possible.

Protocols may be adjusted as we monitor the recommendations and mandates from the CDC, Indiana State Department of Health, and the Kosciusko County Health Department. If you are considering bringing your family or a group to Camp Mack, you are welcome to see our protocols and discuss our plans with us. You can contact Deanna (deanna@campmack.org) if you would like to explore this further.

There is no place that can guarantee complete safety in the middle of the pandemic. So, for people who are highly vulnerable, the safest thing to do is to stay home as much as possible. However, Camp Mack would not offer programs or rental spaces if we did not believe we are creating as safe a space as possible, allowing for people to create community during these isolated times.

Camp Mack's 2021 Wish List

One of the blessings of 2020 has been our ability to address many of the maintenance issues we have faced over the last several years. This year's accomplishments include: a new roof on the Jacob's Well pavilion, removal of the canvas yurts, Mission Village boardwalk repair, many smaller repairs that were hard to schedule, repainting Arky Parky and the interiors of the W-Cabins, new windows in Sarah Major Lodge, and we have the shingles for repairing the south lower roof of Quinter-Miller Auditorium. In mid-November, we received a \$5,000 Brethren Faith in Action grant from the Church of the Brethren Denominational Ministries office. That grant will improve our wi-fi connectivity so we are able to more effectively serve our rental groups.

However, there is much more still to be done. In order to make certain we are effectively meeting our maintenance needs, the staff has created a plan that identifies and prioritizes the projects we need to complete. Our ability to meet these needs is dependent on money and volunteer labor, We are sharing our list of projects we hope to do in 2021. If you see a project that interests you, please contact Galen (galen@campmack.org) to see how you can become involved. These are all projects that an individual, church, or community or partner group could assist with financial support and/or volunteer labor. There's a lot here, but with faith, together, we can accomplish great things.

Here is the 2021 list;

- Replace the upper roof on Sarah Major Lodge
- Stonework repair on Quinter-Miller foundation
- Replace the boiler in Sarah Major Lodge
- Replace the water heater in Sarah Major Lodge
- Replace the roof on Shultz Chapel
- Replace the HVAC in the South Residence
- Replace the water softener in Sarah Major Lodge
- Remodel the upstairs women's restroom in Sarah Major Lodge
- Replace the HVAC in Wampler Retreat Center
- Repair the electrical system in the East Stone restroom
- Repair the deck on the John Kline Welcome Center
- Repair the boardwalk in the wetlands
- Complete the communications display in the John Kline Gathering Room
- Repair the Mission Village boardwalk



Thank you for your prayers, your financial support, your hours of service, and your presence here in this sanctuary place.

Online Gift Shoppe Open



Does the cooler weather have you reaching for a sweatshirt, sweatpants, and a warm beverage? The Camp Mack online gift shop is open for you to add to your Camp Mack collection. More items will continue to be added. Visit: <https://one.bidpal.net/campmack/welcome>



Blessings for the Journey Ahead, Travis!

Travis Hartman, who has worked on the facility crew at Camp Mack in some capacity for 16 years, has been called to pastor the North Liberty Church of the Brethren. His last day on Camp Mack staff was November, 20th. We already miss him, but we know that he is following God's call, teaching others about God. With his wife Brittany still on staff at camp, we imagine he will drop by now and again to visit.

Travis first came to camp to work on summer staff after Lynn Kreider had planted the seed in his mind that it could be a great summer job. He was on summer staff for three years beginning the summer of '04, with some counseling during the summer, as well. He transitioned into full time work at camp the summer of '07 and worked for many years with general maintenance. For the last few years, he has been a project manager and has taken on other responsibilities, like managing some of camp's IT work.

Over the years, Travis has enjoyed the variety that the job has allowed. A memorable project was putting the metal roof on Quinter Miller Auditorium. Though the work was tricky, he found it to be rewarding and felt accomplished when it was completed. He remembers hauling many items out of Becker after the fire in 2010. And, he had a hand in setting off the fireworks display on the beach for the 4th of July one year.

Travis is looking forward to his new position at North Liberty COB. He anticipates getting to know the congregation better and eventually meeting together in person as the pandemic's harm is minimized. Theological conversations and teaching are two of his passions, and he looks forward to having those rich conversations as he leads the congregation.

Travis says that he will miss working with the good group of staff at Camp Mack the most. We all wish him well and pray that God continues to guide him as he transitions to this new journey. Thank you for your many years serving in ministry at Camp Mack, Travis!



Esther and John Hamer Health Center



Camp Alexander Mack is delighted to announce that the new health center, currently under construction, will be named in honor of Mrs. Esther and Dr. John Hamer, former Nigerian missionaries, lifetime members of the Church of the Brethren, and long-time volunteers at Camp Mack. The official name will be: Esther and John Hamer Health Center. Learn more about the Hamer Health Center: campmack.org/projects