

Camp Alexander Mack

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Another Way of Giving

657,976.27 is a Magic Number

I'm a numbers guy. Behind every person, group, or activity here at Camp Mack. I just wanted to take some time to share some fun, maybe even magic, numbers about what is going on here at Camp Mack.



\$657,976.27 is the amount raised so far in the Planting the Future Camp Mack capital campaign out of our goal of \$1,100,000. Many of you have already joined this endeavour, but if you haven't, I would love to find time to talk about it!

70 years of combined experience makes our facility crew the most experienced here at Camp Mack. Across 4 people that is an average of 17.5 years.

57% of campers registered for camp online this summer; in 2017, that was only 42%. Many new features are coming to registration that will grow that number even more.

96 grandchildren and grandparents at Grand Camp 1 this year. We have 95 coming to Grand Camp 2. Maybe it's time for a Grand Camp 3?

36 hours is how long it took to fill Culinary Camp. We still have room in many other camps, so register now!

360 hot dogs for lunch today (June 21). I can only imagine how many pieces of cinnamon toast they make in a year.

4 names. What do you call the building with the murals in the center of Camp? We call it Quinter Miller Auditorium, but Indiana Deaf Camp just calls it the Auditorium, the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana calls it The Q, and the Church of God calls it the Tabernacle. So its "new name" is The Q Tabernacle at the Quinter Miller Auditorium. But maybe that's a bit too long.

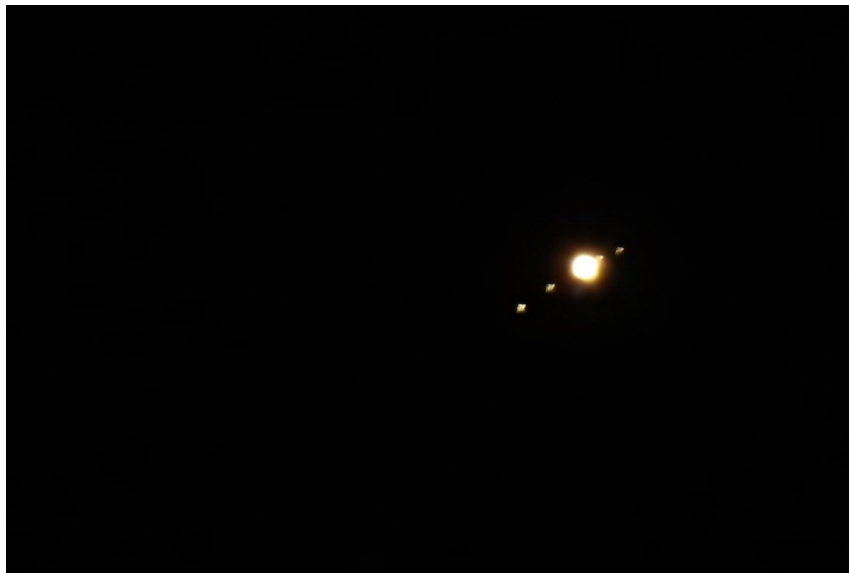


371 stuffed animals were sold in the gift shop last year to many loving homes. Creatures ranged from small hedgehogs to long snakes. What animals have you adopted from the Camp Mack Gift Shoppe?



On July 4th we turn 94 years old! Think of the countless people that have come to this place all these years. Think about how many more people will come here in the next 94 years. Camp Mack is always growing and changing—who knows what numbers we will hit next!

Todd Eastis, Director of Development and Business



Discovering the Night

Io, Europe, Ganymede, and Callisto are the four Galilean moons seen in the picture of Jupiter taken in early June when Jupiter was in opposition to the sun. It was so bright details could be seen with binoculars or a telescope. The night world is fascinating. Do you embrace it or do you fear it?

Fear of the dark is common for many. At camp we work to alleviate this fear by learning more about crepuscular and nocturnal animals and their adaptations through night hikes. Games, stories, and awareness activities give campers the opportunity to explore all their senses and use their sight in new and different ways.

Growing up, many of my fondest memories involve the night sky and nature. One of my earliest memories is of walking out of my grandparents house on a cold Christmas Eve night and seeing the northern lights glowing in the star lit sky. My next favorite was going out late one night to view the Hale-Bopp comet in 1997. Other memories were made on the ground and surround one of my favorite hobbies, fishing. My brother and I would go outside with dad after an early summer rain to collect night crawlers to go fishing with in the coming weeks. The other was in college, after a late night of bat research and banding, setting trotlines over ponds in Vigo County catching primarily bullhead catfish.

I encourage you this summer to experience and learn more about the world around you after dark. Watch the sunset and then experience the lightning bugs blinking out messages that remind you of Morse code. Watch the moon rise and the stars twinkle one by one until the sky is full. Give nothing a try with lights and a white sheet. Take time as a family and try something new and learn what the night has to offer you.

Jessie Kreider, Program Director

News from the Director

Compelling Vision and Camp Vision

*So then, if anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived! All of these new things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and who gave us the ministry of reconciliation. **2 Corinthians 5:17-18** (Common English Bible)*

These two verses are the basis for this year's Annual Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina. The theme is *Proclaim Christ Reclaim Passion*. During this year's meeting, delegates and others at Conference will have the chance to review the work of our denominational ministries and have deep discussions about our Compelling Vision.



The vision of Camp Mack is *To be a sanctuary where all who are served find a safe environment where they can learn of Christ, renew their spirit, and experience God*. Our goal is for people to know that we follow Jesus as they find peace and rest in this beautiful place. We want our guests to come here and put away the conflicts of the world, including the conflicts of faith taking place within and outside our denomination.

This new creation that we read about in the scripture above is the direct result of keeping our vision focused on Jesus. God brings us together and makes us whole when we submit ourselves to loving one another, serving one another, and supporting one another—entering into the presence of Christ. This is how God designed our reconciliation and restoration.

Our greatest desire here at camp is for all people to find God and to live in God's presence, experiencing

the joy of wholeness and the peace of restoration. Please join us in this ministry—as one who serves and as one who is served. We all need both.

Gene Hollenberg, Executive Director

Sunny Camp Mack

Lawn Mowing at Camp Mack

Lawn mowing at camp is a time consuming process. It takes us between 35 to 40 hours per week to just get the main campus mowed and then a good part of another day to do the trails in the wilderness area. This year we purchased a new John Deere Z960M Ztrak with a 72" deck. This is our third John Deere zero turn lawn mower, and they work very well for us. John Deere has an excellent discount program for not-for-profits where we get a very good mower for a discounted price. In the past we have had a 60" deck and we decided to go with the larger deck this time. We put about 400 hours per season on our mower and the hope is with the larger deck, we can cut that time down. We looked at the diesel model and it was probably a better value, but the upfront cost was too much for our budget.



Natural grass cutter

For the past 20 years our lawn mowing has been done by volunteers. Ray Swihart did the mowing for us for a long time. Ruth Angle did the wilderness area for quite a while. Hugh Rettinger from Plymouth has mowed for us for the last couple of years. As you can see from the number of hours it takes to do all the mowing, this is quite a valuable service these folk are giving to this ministry. To have a nicely mowed green space for our kids to play on contributes greatly to our “..sanctuary where people connect with God.”

Galen Jay, Facility Director

Kitchen News

Food for Special Diets

After two different weeks of serving over 500 people last year, you would think that almost 300 guests per meal this week would be a breeze, but it was not. Running two dining rooms at the same time for two groups really spread our staff thinner than I liked. Everyone pulled together and worked hard and got each task done as quickly as possible, though. All in all, it was a great week, even if all of us would like a 3 hour nap this weekend. The thing I personally struggled with was the long list of special diets we are seeing with our groups. How can we satisfy our guests with special dietary restrictions at each and every meal when a lot of our foods have things that they can not consume? Milk...eggs...soy...gluten...nuts...corn...strawberries... raspberries...beef. These are just a handful of the restrictions we have seen in the last week. How do we make sure these guests have foods they can enjoy? One thing my staff is very good at is talking to the guests and just encouraging them to let us know what they like and dislike. We find that we are learning a lot from some of our returning guests, and they help us improve our options and our recipes to better meet their needs. I tried a new recipe on our salad bar this week to help substitute some of our side options for some gluten and dairy free guests. Quinoa Salad. If you have never had quinoa before, I encourage you to try it. It is a grain-like protein substitute which reminds me a lot of very tiny, round rice. It is great in soups, salads, and by itself. I have often used quinoa to make a vegetarian stuffed pepper recipe. I decided to use the filling from the pepper recipe as a base for a cold salad on our salad bar. It turned out to be a great option for not only our gluten free guests, but also our vegetarians. If you have any great quinoa recipes you would like to share, I would love to hear them!

Cold Quinoa Salad

Ingredients:

Cooked Quinoa
Canned Black Beans
Diced Tomatoes (canned or fresh)
Diced Peppers
Diced Onion
Corn (canned or frozen) *I omitted these due to a corn allergy*
Garlic
Cumin
Salt
Pepper
Cilantro

Combine ingredients, season to taste.

You can easily add to this recipe. I would have loved to have chopped avocado, a little salsa, and cheese added into mine. You could also add a dressing to it to give it a little pop of flavor. I hope you try this one out at your next family picnic or church potluck! Enjoy!



Vanessa Bohannon, Food Services Director

Be Our Guest

Gift Shoppe Updates

One of my favorite parts about the summer months at Camp Mack is seeing so many people enjoying what camp has to offer. Week after week we have people here swimming, boating, climbing the rock wall, swinging in the porch swing circle, worshipping in Quinter Miller Auditorium, eating yummy food, discovering new creatures at the nature cabin, belting out songs around a campfire while the popcorn is popping, etc. There's so much going on.

In the midst of all of that, a couple of staff members took on the challenge of rearranging the Camp Mack Gift Shoppe here in the John Kline Welcome Center. It wasn't great timing, but it is fun to have a change and see if it will work out well for us. We gave some input along the way, and the gift shoppe has transformed with a new system for displaying the different sizes of t-shirts, a new card/postcard corner, and so forth. We hope the new organization will help people find what they're looking for better and give a different perspective of some of the items in the shoppe. Kudos to the time and effort put in by the staff members who headed up the project! Thanks for your creative thinking and willingness to listen to ideas.

Come check it out for yourself! A couple of the new items we have this year are:



- This Indiana outline Camp Mack shirt where the star rests about where Camp Mack is on the map. There are four different colors of this shirt available: slate blue, mint green, coral, and cardinal red. Some sizes are down to limited colors, but it will get restocked with a few more shirts fairly soon.
- This red light-up fan that displays "Camp Mack" and then spins the words around—it's been a good seller, so come check it out before there aren't anymore in stock. Plus, it'll help keep you cool while you're at camp or other summer activities.



The spy pens were a hot commodity, and have already sold out. The kids seemed to have a blast with the secret ink and black light on the end. Another notable item is our new long sleeve shirts that have a classic but modern design on the front and Camp's mission statement on the back ("Camp Mack is a sanctuary where people connect with God..."). Check out the comfortable green beauties. Another fun item is the "The fruit of the Spirit is not a watermelon" shirts. These shirts reference a song that is sung almost every week with the Church of the Brethren campers at opening campfire circle (see background newsletter cover image). Youth and adult sizes in different colors are available.

The gift shoppe is open usually at the start and/or end of a camp session unless otherwise negotiated. Working the cash register is something many of us look forward to because we get to interact with you! We'd love to see you soon and throughout the year.

Deanna Beckner, Guest Services Director

Camp Mack Wish List

We are now recruiting team leaders, counselors, counselors in training, and summer healthcare personnel.

Team Leader needs:

Followers Camp—July 7-12: 1 leader

All other volunteer needs are at campmack.org/volunteer-opportunities. Please contact Jessica Kreider at jessk@campmack.org if you are interested in joining!



CAMP MACK'S COUNSELOR NEED IS LISTED BELOW—Where can we sign you up?

(You can find updates to this list at <http://www.campmack.org/counselorneed>)

Camp	Date	Counselor Male	Counselor Female
Week 6: July 7-12			
Samplers	July 7-9	1	THANK YOU!
Followers	July 7-12	2	THANK YOU!
Samplers	July 10-12	THANK YOU!	3
Week 7: July 14-19			
Finders	July 14-19	THANK YOU!	3
Creative Arts	July 14-19	THANK YOU!	2
Culinary	July 14-19	1	2

Summer fun and connecting with God! That is what summer camp is about at Camp Mack. Seeing the faces of children actively playing and building community is incredible, but even more, watching children learn about God and developing faith, perhaps for the first time, is an experience you will want to make sure you have at least once.

Counseling is one way you can share in the joy of summer camp, and the chart below will show you where we need counselors. But ***counseling is not the only way to impact children at camp and to experience the life-changing work we do.***

We also need dedicated people who can volunteer to work in the kitchen, do regular facility work, or volunteer in the office. Each multi-day volunteer opens up opportunities for others to counsel. So, you not only benefit our campers, but you have the chance to experience camp as well. Call us if you can help. It's a Win-Win!

Feeling called but have questions? Just reach out to us and ask (574-658-4831). We would love to have you here this summer. What kind of amazing adventures will you find at camp this summer?

There are 14 spots left to fill!

Check out Camp Mack's Website!


Find information and updates about all things camp at **www.campmack.org**. Contact camp with questions (info@campmack.org or 574-658-4831). We do camps, retreats, get-a-way days, rental spaces, and adventures of even more varieties. See what might interest you, and put it in your calendar.




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Summer Camps Retreats Get-A-Way Days Support Calendar



Planting the Future

PLANTING THE FUTURE
The Capital Campaign for Camp Mack





Summer Camps

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!
A nonrefundable \$75 deposit is required to register and hold your spot in a camp.

Camp Alexander Mack is a Christian camp located in Northern Indiana, affiliated with the Church of the Brethren. Our summer camp program is intentionally designed to provide campers with life-changing experiences that lead to the formation of personal faith within a safe Christian community. Our leaders are trained to focus on physical and emotional safety, skill development and age-appropriate programming that is exciting, educational and enriching. In addition to training, our leaders have a heart for ministry and kids and a love of summer fun that they share with the campers. A progression in programming makes each summer at Camp Mack more exciting and challenging than the last.


[More info here](#)


Get-A-Way Days

Everyone needs a break, a time to get-a-way, learn something new or do something you really enjoy. Get-A-Way days offer a "mini retreat"... so come, let your soul be renewed, refreshed and revived! Make a new friend or reconnect with an old friend as you choose from a wide variety of programs.

As you look through these events please note that several events are planned for the same day. Bring your whole family, bring a friend or just come alone to Camp Mack for the day and Get-A-Way.

[More info here](#)





Adult & Family Retreats

Camp Mack is a great place for ... all seasons of the year ... all seasons of one's life. We have many events ranging from birdwatching to family camps to needing a little quiet time to strengthen your spirituality.

Register for Summer Camp!

These are the camps that are currently full, but others have limited spaces.

Sign up now to guarantee your spot!



Samplers	June 5-7	Samplers	July 7-9
Beginners	June 9-11	Followers	July 7-12
Archery	June 9-13	Splash	July 7-12 Full
Seekers	June 9-14	Samplers	July 10-12
Finders	June 9-14	Seekers	July 14-19
Grand Camp	June 13-15	Finders	July 14-19
Dadirri	June 16-22	Creative Arts	July 14-19
Eco Adventure	June 23-28	Culinary	July 14-19 Full
Seekers	June 30-July 5	Survivor	July 21-27
Youth	June 30- July 6	Grand Camp	July 28-30



Register online at www.campmack.org or with the paper registration in the brochure. Registrations are being received now with late fees. Scholarship help is available. Please contact us with any questions about summer camp at info@campmack.org or by calling 574-658-4831. We are looking forward to great campers and leaders alike. Who will you invite to camp this summer?

Summer Healthcare Personnel Needs

Volunteer Camp Healthcare Personnel are needed this summer. For two weeks, they have the option of being a counselor in our wilderness camps. Volunteer for a week and bring a child or grandchild to camp for FREE for one week this summer. Healthcare personnel administer first aid, pass meds, respond to emergencies, and give empathy and compassion. An RN or above must be on site daily. All medical staff must be trained in First Aid and CPR/AED. Room and board are provided.

Please contact Jessie at jessk@campmack.org for more information.

WEEKLY HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL NEEDS

Dates	Camps	Medical Personnel needed	Other notes
June 23-28	See Adventure	1	Wilderness Camp- Can be a counselor for camp
July 7-12	Samplers, Followers, Splash	1	There is a mid week check in for the 2nd Samplers Camp
July 14-19	Seekers, Finders, Creative Arts, Culinary	0-1	I bet you can get Culinary Camp to let you taste test
July 21-27	Survivor	1	Wilderness Camp- Can be a counselor for camp. Ends Saturday morning

Continue to check online for updates!

CHECK IN PERSONNEL NEEDS

Sunday, July 7 1:30-4:30 pm	5
Wednesday, July 10 2:30-4:30 pm	3
Sunday, July 14 1:30-4:30 pm	4
Sunday, July 21 1:30-4:30 pm	2

For a further description of qualifications needed and what to expect, please check out Camp Mack's website at:

<http://www.campmack.org/summer-healthcare-personnel>

THANK YOU!

Upcoming Events at Camp Mack

Camp Mack Calendar

July 28-30	Grand Camp 2
August 16-18	Colony Camp
August 17	Sailing 101 Get-a-way Day, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
August 25	Prairie Flower Walk, 2-4 p.m.
Aug. 30-Sept. 2	Labor Day Family Camp
October 4-5	FLYE Weekend (for youth)
October 5	Camp Mack Festival
October 12-13	Father Son Retreat
October 28-30	Volunteer Work Days

And, sign up now for upcoming fall Quilt (Oct. 16-20), Scrapbook (Oct. 17-20), and Seasoned Citizens retreats (Oct. 21-24)!

Upcoming Get-A-Way Days

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

August 17—Sailing 101 Learn how to rig a Sunfish and basic sailing techniques. Review helpful knots and safety tips. Then, head out on lake Waubee for some practical experience on our fleet of Sunfish. Experienced? Try out one of our Lasers or the Force 5. We will meet at the boating beach on Saturday 9a—4p. Cost: \$15 (Lunch included). Bring a swimsuit, sunscreen and a towel. You will get wet.

August 25—Prairie Walk Explore our 5 acres of natural prairie area. See the prairie come alive with darting dragonflies and birds that swoop between the Blue Stem grasses, Compass Plant, Indigo, Rattlesnake Master, and other unique plants. Meet outside Wampler Lodge on Sunday 2p—4p. Cost: FREE (Bring a snack to share.) Come dressed for the weather.

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

Quilt Retreat

This is a unique opportunity for quilters of all ages to gather and share their expertise and love of quilting while enjoying the tranquil scenery of Camp Mack. Bring your sewing machine, UFO;s (unfinished objects), and quilting supplies. All levels of quilters, from novice to expert, are invited! Due to facility limitations, space is limited to the first 36 fully paid quilters. October 16–20, 6p Thursday to 3p Sunday. Cost: \$122 per quilter. Early Arrival Rates: \$137 per quilter arriving on Friday morning, \$166 per quilter arriving on Thursday evening, and \$190 per quilter arriving on Wednesday evening (April and October). Fee includes housing and scheduled meals.



Scrapbooking Retreat

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 at the swap table. October 17–20, 6p Friday to 3p Sunday. Cost: \$116 per scrapper. Early Arrival Rates: \$130 per scrapper arriving on Friday morning, \$145 per scrapper arriving on Thursday evening. Fee includes housing and scheduled meals.



Seasoned Citizens Retreat

Join this 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”, indoor and outdoor games, hiking, puzzles, and naps too! Our facility offers handicap-accessible sleeping and meeting rooms, as well as dining options for those on special diets. Bring your special talent, humor, Bible, bedding, and games...and be refreshed at Camp Mack. Oct 21–24, 3p Monday to 1p Thursday. Age: Older Adults. Cost: \$171 per person, or \$115 if not staying overnight; please contact camp for shorter lengths of stay.

