

Camp Alexander Mack

Highlights of What's Inside

- ⇒ Upcoming Events (p 2); Get-A-Way Days, Save the Date, and Mack Milestones (p 3)
- ⇒ "Sabbath Rest" with Gene: much needed vacation and rest following busy days at camp (p 4)
- ⇒ Planting the Future update and volunteer call (p 5)
- ⇒ "Celebrating Muddy Days" with Jessie: exploring muddy camp spots with a camp kid (p 6)
- ⇒ "New Boiler in Sarah Major" with Galen: the many benefits to the new boiler and water heater (p 7)
- ⇒ "A Fun, Full Saturday" with Deanna; Retreats and Get-A-Way Days filled up the Welcome Center (p 8)
- ⇒ Summer Camp List; Inclusion Report (p 9)
- ⇒ 2022 Wish List (p 10)
- ⇒ "Reaching the Summit" with Todd: participate in Giving Day with service and ice cream on 4/9 (p 11)
- ⇒ "Grasshopper Parfait" with Vanessa: a cool treat to celebrate with green this month (p 12)
- ⇒ 2022 Retreats & Events (p 13)
- ⇒ Camp Mack Strategic Plan 2022–2024 (p 14–16)



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Volunteer Celebration March 5** We celebrate the many volunteers that make Camp Mack possible. Our guests enjoy fellowship, entertainment, and great food. Held at Camp Mack this year in the Kate Warstler Dining Center. Free (by invitation). Appetizers begin at 4:15 p.m. Dinner begins at 5 p.m.



- **Volunteer Work Days March 7–9 and April 4–6** Volunteers will work with Camp Mack's staff as we make preparations for the spring retreat guests and summer camp season. We have planned work tasks for all skill levels and ages. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Thank you for dedicating time to serving camp.
 - No charge.
 - Come for a few hours or all three days. Meals and lodging are available. Contact the office for reservations.
 - Also check out Giving Day for more service options.



- **Mother Daughter Retreat March 12–13** “Be Our Guest” is the theme this year! Adventure, friendship, imagination, and hospitality fill this weekend of crafting and creativity. Experience multiple courses of food at the tea. Mothers, daughters, sisters, grandmas, and women of all ages are welcome. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
 - Fees and time: \$51 per child ages 5 to 8. \$91 per person ages 9 through adult. Prices include lodging and meals. 9a Saturday to 1p Sunday.



- **Giving Day April 9** Join in a day of making a difference and being a part of raising funds for Camp Mack's new Summit, an inflatable waterslide. Spend the morning volunteering for various projects at Camp Mack. Spend the afternoon watching the Telethon of stories on Facebook Live or enjoying an ice cream social. Help us reach the summit!



- **Spring Quilt Retreat April 20–24** Spots are filled. Join the retreat in October (12th–16th)!

Plan now for these upcoming events!

For more info, check out cammack.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 cammack.org.

GET-A-WAY DAYS & MORE

Upcoming Get-A-Way Days:

- **March 26—Woodcarving** Carving a piece of wood into a caricature or face is one of the most relaxing hobbies. Come and learn how to carve a wood spirit or animal. We'll go through carving basics and build on your skills. Please plan to bring a good sharp knife. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$30, lunch included.



Save the Date:

- **5K Run/Walk May 1** Grab your family and run or walk around beautiful Camp Mack. The course is mostly flat with a finish lap around Camp Mack. Kids' Fun Run takes younger runners around Camp. Prizes for all ages. Entry gifts for early registrations only. Sponsorship opportunities are available.
 - Fees and times: \$25 for 5K, \$10 for Kids' Fun Run, \$100 for 5 registrations. Add \$5 late fee to registrations after April 15. Sunday: Kids' Fun Run at 2p and 5K at 2:15p.



MARCH 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 	3	4	5 
6	7 	8	9	10	11	12 
13 	14	15	16	17 	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 
27	28	29	30	31		

MILESTONES

ACK

In March of...

- 2020, Camp Mack held its first virtual campfire on Facebook during the COVID-19 pandemic quarantine.
- 2016, Gene Hollenberg was called by the Indiana Camp Board as the new Camp Mack Executive Director.

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.

News from the Director

Sabbath Rest



When you receive this letter, I will be on vacation. We are at a house on the beach in St. Augustine, Florida enjoying good friends, good books, puzzles, beachcombing, and area attractions. This is a vacation we take at different places every two years with a group of friends, and it is always recharging.

Today, however, as I'm writing this, it is a different experience. Yesterday, some things came up, so I needed to work long past the time I expected to go home. While working, a storm brought an inch of rain, some sleet and freezing rain, and then the snow. When I woke up this morning, we had about seven inches of heavy wet snow on the ground. I had an appointment at 8:00 AM and then about three hours in the office on my day off because of the unexpected work from yesterday. So, at 6:00 this morning, I cleared the

driveway (apologies to my neighbors). I am tired.

Getting away is important. God calls us to rest and renew, but many times we get caught up in the busyness of our days so that taking time for ourselves gets pushed to the side. You wouldn't think it would be this busy in the winter at Camp, but there is a lot to do year-round. If I don't plan for vacation and time off, it doesn't happen. And, if it doesn't happen, my work and my attitude suffer.



Camp Mack is designed to be the place where you can get away to reconnect with the grace of God all around you. Some opportunities are only for a day, and others last several days. If you haven't received this year's activities brochure, call or email us, and we'll send it out to you. Your ability to meet the needs of others and your own joy in life are dependent on your ability to recharge.



God regularly calls us to disengage from our day to day responsibilities. Camp Mack can provide a sabbath experience to renew your spirit and reconnect with God. Sign up today.

Gene Hollenberg, Executive Director



PLANTING THE FUTURE

THE CAMP MACK CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Since March of 2019, Camp Mack has been engaged in a 1.1 million dollar capital campaign called *Planting the Future*. The purpose of this campaign is to develop a strategic plan, begin an outdoor education program, and modernize the camp facility.

So far, *Planting the Future* has fully funded the original **strategic plan** which was completed at the end of 2021; the **Esther and John Hamer Health Center**, providing a centralized clean space to serve our campers' health needs and clean and private restrooms for our guests; and an **outdoor education** program that continues to grow. Two out of three phases for the new **Peace Garden** have been completed with the third phase scheduled for this summer.

Plans are now underway to develop **Ulrich House** into a welcoming **adult retreat center**. This will be an exciting project. We will begin with installing an elevator that will reach all three floors of the building. That portion of the project will be contracted out. Once that is completed, we will use volunteers to bring the electrical service to code, install air conditioning, and add two private full bathrooms to the upper level. Finally, all the rooms will be insulated for sound and brightened.



The volunteer portion of the project will take place between Labor Day and Christmas of this year. A volunteer project manager who has been working with Brethren Disaster Ministries for several years will live at camp during this period and coordinate volunteers.

There are two things that have yet to happen for us to make this work. First, we need to **complete the fundraising** for *Planting the Future*. Second, we will need lots of **volunteers** to do the work.

As of today, the capital campaign has raised \$845,000. This is 77% of the goal! In order to finish the work, however, we will need to complete our campaign. The \$255,000 still needed is not beyond our reach. It requires some sacrifice, but the payoff is incredible. There will be more in the coming months about our final push to complete the campaign.



We also would ask you to consider, either individually or as part of a group, to find a week (Sunday evening through Friday afternoon) or more when you could volunteer your time to complete the work. All skill levels are needed, so don't feel like you need to be able to do complex carpentry or plumbing. Your willingness is what is important. Please prayerfully consider whether or not you can set aside time now for this important work. There will be formal opportunities to get signed up soon.

This is an exciting and important time for the future of Camp Mack! We are looking forward to your participation.

Nature Nut News

Celebrating Muddy Days



See the world through the eyes of a child and receive the gift of their experience and a changed perspective. For a couple days in the past week, I have had the pleasure to share my lunches with one of the camp kids when school was closed for weather and a teacher work day.

Our adventures took us around the camp and close to the lake. We greeted the first frog of the year in the artesian well. He pulled ice closer to shore with a stick and then SMASHED ICE (yes, he was shouting “Smash ice” as he jumped on it and watched/felt it crumble). We experimented with sticks and whether they would skip across the lake ice, make a hole in the ice, or just go thud.

Each of the days as the snow melted, rain fell, and giant puddles formed, we ended up at the donut. To most of you, this is the Council Fire Circle or Sarah Major Campfire Circle. We spent a lot of time here as it was first covered in slushy ice and then become a nice puddle. One job will be picking up the sticks we threw on it before the lawn needs mowed for the first time this year.

Today we played with mud pies, skipped sticks on the ice, felt the fog blowing across the lake on our faces, smashed ice, listened to sandhill cranes, and explored everything that caught our attention in some way. The weather may be gross some days, but I encourage you to embrace the gross. Throw on your old clothes and waterproof boots and remember the awe of discovery you had as a child as you jump in the puddles and splash the mud everywhere. I look forward to seeing how you celebrate muddy days.

Jessie Kreider, Program Director

Sunny Camp Mack

New Boiler in Sarah Major

The new boiler and water heater were installed this week in Sarah Major. The work was done by Alliance Comfort Solutions out of Warsaw who have done all our HVAC work for the last 7 years or so. This unit was manufactured by Weil-McLain and is called an Evergreen 299. This is the same unit that we have in the John Kline Welcome Center to heat the water for the floor heat. This boiler senses the outside temperature and then adjusts the temperature of the water it is putting into the loop serving the seven zones in the building. The max temperature of the water is 190 degrees. This should save us some natural gas and provide a more even heat to the building. There are seven zones in the building, each one with a zone valve and a thermostat. The thermostat tells the valve when to open and close which allows the hot water to flow through the zone. We have replaced all seven zone valves and thermostats.

Another really cool feature of this new boiler is it heats our domestic hot water. You can see in the picture the large white tank which serves as our new “water heater.” This tank is about 120 gallons and has lots of piping inside through which flows hot water from the boiler. This serves as a heat exchanger for the cold water coming into the tank, heats it up, and sends it on its merry way to our sinks and showers. The boiler will send 160-degree water to the tank normally, but when heating water for the floor, it will send whatever temperature water that is called for the floor heat. We have replaced one old water heater and one really old and inefficient boiler with one new highly efficient boiler. The result should be reduced gas bills and nice warm rooms and hot showers. The total cost of this project was a whisker less than \$30,000, and we have our generous donors to thank for this giant upgrade in our facilities. This will really help to improve the “sanctuary” experience of our guests here at Camp.

Galen Jay, Facility Director



Be Our Guest

A Fun, Full Saturday

The last weekend, and specifically Saturday, of February brought in several groups, many of which spent significant time in the John Kline Welcome Center. What a busy, fun time it was. It was a blessing to see so many people at camp, some new and some regulars.

We had a Women's Spiritual Retreat in Sarah Major Lodge. They have been a longtime group at Camp Mack and are a blessing to work with. We so enjoy their visits.

The Camp Mack Scrapbooking Retreat stayed the nights in Ulrich House and scrapbooked and crafted in Dining Rooms B and C. They are

welcoming and relaxed, and it's always great to hear about what projects they're working on. Jessie, program director, and Vanessa, food service director, spent time working on their own projects with this retreat group.



The Knitting and Crocheting Get-A-Way Day was held on Saturday in the Turkey Creek Meeting Room in the John Kline Welcome Center. Filled with stories and laughter, this group spent some relaxing time working on projects and getting to know each other better. Jessie, program director, set out lots of examples and options for the swap table and helped make copies of helpful pages for participants.

The Board Games Get-A-Way Day hung out in the Gathering Area of the John Kline Welcome Center doing puzzles, playing unique games, and learning strategies together. They all had a chance to win a new game and lured others into the fun.



There was lots of delicious food throughout the weekend. A scrapbooker's sister brought in delicious caramel cinnamon rolls to share with the group. There were lots of fun options for brunch with the Women's Spiritual Retreat. Lunch and dinner also were tasty, as usual. The kitchen did an excellent job adjusting to dietary restrictions and providing healthy, flavorful food for everyone. The chocolate chip cheesecake bars were a hit, as usual. The tomato soup warms you up with yummy flavors on a cool day. Several folks visited the coffee, tea, and hot chocolate bar throughout the day as they were drafting, gaming, and gathering.

The gift shoppe was opened after lunch, and folks were able to check out the new merchandise, including zip-up sweatshirts and sweatpants. The new mugs were a highlight, too.

Throughout Saturday, sunshine shone through the windows and smiles lit up the hallways. People gathered together to eat tasty food, learn, and have a good time. Conversations brought new friends together and reconnected others. Everyone brought life to Camp and made a busy day fun.

Deanna Beckner, Guest Services Director



Summer Camp 2022

**Grades are grade completed at the time of camp*

Samplers	June 5—7	Samplers	July 10—12
Grades 1—2		Grades 1—2	
New grade range			
Archery Camp	June 5—9	Splash Camp	July 10—15
Grades 6—9		Grades 5—8	
Samplers	June 13—15	Finders Camp	July 10—15
Grades 1—2		Grades 5—6	
Grand Camp	June 16—18	Creative Arts	July 10—15
Ages 5-10/Grandparents		Grades 6—10	
CIT CAMP	June 19—24	Survivor Camp	July 10—16
Ages 14—17		Grades 6—9	
Seekers	June 19—24	Eco Adventure	July 17—22
Grades 3—4		Grades 5—6	
Followers	June 26—July 1	Seekers Camp	July 17—22
Grades 7—9		Grades 3—4	
Youth Camp	July 3—9	Culinary Camp	July 17—22
Grades 9—12		Grades 6—9	
Dadirri Camp	July 3—9	Finders Camp	July 24—29
Grades 9—12		Grades 5—6	
		Grand Camp	July 31—Aug 2
		Ages 5-10/Grandparents	

Inclusion Report

The new strategic plan adopted by the Indiana Camp Board calls for Camp Mack to begin intentionally working at improving our work with a wide variety of people. It recognizes that we need to pay careful attention to our structures, staffing, and operations if we want to bring in people whom we have not traditionally served.

There are several individual tactics we will use to expand our ministry, but they all boil down to one general process. We must first identify groups we want to reach, analyze elements of our organization that may be barriers to that outreach, and address specific barriers with specific remedies.

Camp Mack does an awesome job of working with many different groups with various goals and traditions; however, there are many others we don't reach. It is our hope that we can enrich the experience of all by bringing in a broader range of traditions and experiences.



2022 Wish List

It is exciting to see the many improvements we have made through the last year. We hope you can stop by to see them soon. Better yet, look for a program that fits your interests and join us!

Each year, we put together a list of facility repairs and maintenance we have prioritized. Ideally, we hope to accomplish all of them; however, without help from others, we don't have the resources to get them all done.

This is the list of projects we have prioritized for 2022. If you see a project that interests you, please contact Galen (galen@campmack.org) and Todd (todd@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 is a lot here, but with faith, together we can accomplish great things.

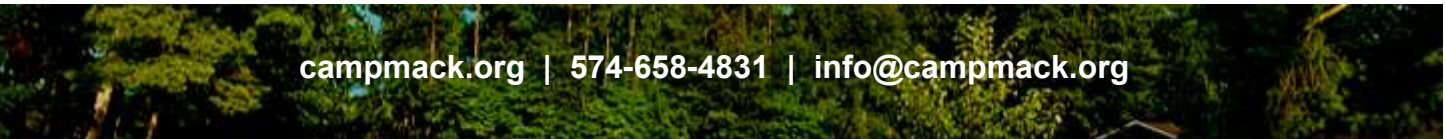
In Progress:

- Stonework repair on Quinter Miller foundation
- Replace the boiler in Sarah Major Lodge
- Replace the water heater in Sarah Major Lodge
- Replace the water softener in Sarah Major Lodge
- Remodel the upstairs women's restroom in Sarah Major Lodge
- Repair the deck on the John Kline Welcome Center
- Repair the boardwalk in the wetlands
- Repair the Mission Village boardwalk

Needing Funds:

- Wampler HVAC Replacement
- Sarah Major Carpet
- Archery Backstop
- Sarah Major Kitchen Renovations
- East Stone Restroom Electrical

Follow along at campmack.org for monthly updates. Thank you for your prayers, your financial support, your hours of service, and your presence here in this sanctuary place.



campmack.org | 574-658-4831 | info@campmack.org

Another Way of Giving

Reaching the Summit



There is nothing like standing on the summit of a mountain. You have a 360 degree view of other places to explore. You experience the awe of God's marvelous creation. When it is time to leave, you get back on your route and strive to remember the adventure you had.

One thing Camp Mack doesn't have is a physical mountain. However, there are plenty of places for that mountain-top experience. When you finish a volunteer project, you can look back and see the result of your hard work. When you climb the observation deck, you can see many corners of the camp waiting for you to explore. When you gather with others, you are in awe of how God moves in our midst.

Camp Mack's Giving Day will be all day April 9th. You can be a part of helping Camp Mack reach our summit. There are two goals for the day: 250 volunteer hours and raising \$15,000 to purchase and install a new inflatable water slide, called the Summit.

From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., there will be 10 different volunteer opportunities across Camp. From mulching the high ropes course to prepping cookies, there is something for every age and ability. All volunteers will be provided lunch.

At 1 p.m., our traditional telethon of Camp Mack stories live on Facebook begins. These stories showcase the many ways that people have their own mountain-top experiences at Camp Mack.

From 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Camp Mack will host an ice cream social. This will be a great time to visit with friends, watch the telethon together, and celebrate a day of supporting Camp Mack.

No matter how you choose to participate, we hope you can join us in reaching the summit on April 9th.

Todd Eastis, Director of Development and Business

Kitchen News

Grasshopper Parfait

As the temperature goes back and forth between chilly winter and warm springtime, I really enjoy making desserts to match the weather. Warm days get cool desserts, while cold days are perfect for warm cookies (the facility crew would say any day is perfect for cookies) and fruit crisps. With the return of the yummy, green, minty shakes at all the fast food chains, I am itching to make a dessert that is similar. I made these parfaits several years ago and can't wait to make them again! They are a great way to use up leftover chocolate pudding.

Ingredients

15 Oreos, chopped (approx. 1 ½ cups)
Chopped Andes Mint chocolates
2 2.9 oz. packages of chocolate instant pudding
4 cups cold milk
Green food coloring
Mint flavoring
2 cups whipped topping
Additional Oreos and Andes Mints for garnish

Directions

Combine chopped cookies and chocolates and set aside.

In a medium bowl whisk pudding mix and milk. Let stand for 5 minutes.

While pudding sets, add mint flavoring and desired amount of food coloring to whipped topping and mix until blended.

Layer pudding, whipped topping, and cookies into a cup. Repeat layers and top with additional Oreos and Andes Mints.

Refrigerate for 30 minutes before serving.

Vanessa Bohannon, Food Services Director



2022 Retreats & Events

Updated List:

Volunteer Celebration	March 5
Volunteer Work Days	March 7–9
Mother Daughter Retreat	March 12–13
Volunteer Work Days	April 4–6
Giving Day	April 9
April Quilt Retreat	April 20–24
5K/Fun Run	May 1
Pastors Sabbath	May 3–4
Birdwatching Retreat	May 5–7
Seasoned Citizens	May 9–12
South Central Women	June 2–4
Colony Camp	August 19–21
Summer Spiritual Retreat	August 19–21
Labor Day Family Camp	September 2–5
Teen Leadership Weekend	Sept. 30–Oct. 1
Camp Mack Festival	October 1
Father Son Retreat	October 8–9
October Quilt Retreat	October 12–16
Scrapbook Retreat	October 13–16
Seasoned Citizens	October 17–20
Volunteer Work Days	October 24–26
Pastors Sabbath	November 1–2
Annual Dinner	November 12
Camp Rep Meeting	January 14, 2023



Camp Alexander Mack Strategic Plan 2022–2024

On February 19, the Indiana Camp Board approved the strategic plan for 2022-2024. This three year plan will set the direction for Camp Mack for the next three years. Each of the goal areas and strategies are listed in the plan. A more detailed plan that includes the tactics for achieving the strategies is available by contacting the Camp office. A list of the teams who developed the plan is also shared.

Goal area one: By the end of 2024, Camp Mack will have commissioned or developed a Master Plan to determine facility capacity needs, property stewardship needs, and building renovation needs for a ten-year period

This goal will be achieved through the work of a committee to include representatives from staff, Board, and various constituencies appointed by the Indiana Camp Board to begin work no later than April 2022. The strategies and tactics indicate the work of the Board, the staff, and the committee as they provide and review the data necessary to achieve the goal. The work of the committee is planned to end by April 2024. Additional data may be requested by the committee.

Strategy one: Provide relevant background information for the committee to review in establishing a baseline understanding of current site and facilities.

Strategy two: Develop a list of site and building needs as defined by the committee in order to accommodate ministry and program aspirations for the future.

Strategy three: Determine the financial needs required to meet the ministry and program aspirations over the master plan period and define the capacity to meet those needs.

Strategy four: Create a plan outline for presentation to the Indiana Camp Board. Make a recommendation for the plan to be completed either by the committee or a professional planner.

Goal area two – By the end of 2024, Camp Mack will have a robust outdoor education program targeted to youth and team-building groups generating at least 2,000 engagements per year.

Strategy one: Create an operational plan for outdoor education

Strategy two: Create and implement a robust marketing plan.

Strategy three: Develop an infrastructure that supports the operation of a complete day and overnight outdoor education program.



Goal area three – By the end of 2024, Camp Mack will have established at least six new documented key relationships for the purposes of income generation, donated services, and/or volunteer and staff recruitment.

Strategy one: Implement a process for connecting Camp Mack with a variety of community organizations, businesses, and groups.

Strategy two: Empower Board members to initiate and develop relationships with a variety of organizations on behalf of Camp Mack.

Strategy three: Empower staff to initiate and develop relationships with a variety of organizations on behalf of Camp Mack.

Goal area four: By the end of 2024, Camp Mack will increase total operational revenue by 20% over 2019.

Strategy one: Develop the Challenge Course (high ropes, climbing tower, zipline, low ropes) into a significant income center.

Strategy two: Develop a plan for large events to include evaluation of current events as well as recommendations for future events.

Strategy three: Use existing facilities to expand recreation choices for campers, retreat guests, and the community.

Strategy four: Develop a process that fosters entrepreneurship among the staff and provides opportunities to explore new ideas.

Goal area five: By the end of 2024, Camp Mack will conduct a review of board, volunteer, and staff structures and training, and make recommendations based on that review with attention given to benchmarks of diversity and operational needs.

Strategy one: Review current staffing structure and recommend changes considering efficacy, efficiency, and financial stability.

Strategy two: Assess the effectiveness and methodologies used for staff and volunteer training and explore an expansion of alternate training methodologies.

Strategy three: Develop a plan to institutionalize/standardize new board member orientation and onboarding.

Strategy four: Conduct a review of the board structure and composition to recommend possible changes.

Strategy five: Develop a plan/policies to enhance the diversity among the staff and volunteers.



Strategic Plan Teams

Team 1

- Dave Cox, chair
- Phil Barkey
- Steve Egolf
- Brian Flory
- Galen Jay
- Kevin Ramer

Team 4

- Rosanna McFadden, chair
- Don Anderson
- Vanessa Bohannon
- Amy Eberly-Baumann
- Allan Kauffman
- Paul Thomas

Team 2

- David Doudt, chair
- Ben Barkey
- Michael Casey
- Jessica Kreider
- Ed Pippenger
- Cindy Ritter
- Kristen Werling

Team 5

- Aaron Alexander, chair
- Eunice Culp
- Todd Eastis
- Torin Eikler
- Jason Metzinger
- Norm Waggy

Team 3

- Debbie Eisenbise, chair
- Deanna Beckner
- Patricia Gall
- Renea Salyer
- Beth Sollenberger
- Laura VanVoorhis

Coordinators

- Jim Shively
- Jim Bates
- Gene Hollenberg



