

Camp Alexander Mack

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MACKABILIA



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Women's Camp June 2–4** Registration is closed for this year, but next year join for worship, reflection, fellowship, and fun. Now offering online registration. (All women are welcome.)



- **See page 13 for the summer camp schedule!**

- **Grand Camps June 16–18 and July 31–August 2** Spend quality time bonding with your grandkids and making memories that will last a lifetime. This camp will provide a time for grandparents to make connections with their grandchildren through a variety of activities such as swimming, boating, hiking, games, campfires, crafts, story times, Bible studies, and maybe even a nap! Due to supervision limitations, we ask that you bring no more than three grandchildren to this event.
 - *Age:* Grandparents of all ages and grandchildren ages 5–10
 - *Fee:* \$160 per grandparent and \$110 per grandchild.
 - Grand Camp 1 (June) is nearly full.



- **See page 9 for fall retreats and events dates. Register now to reserve your spot!**



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:

Join us in August for Prairie Walk (8/7), Sailing 101 (8/20), and Canoe and Kayak Skills (8/27)

Save the Date:

- **Colony Camp August 19–21** Fun and fellowship for the whole family! Colony Camp is a great opportunity to experience some summer fun with your family before everyone heads back to school. Enjoy the planned group activities along with boating and swimming, or simply relax and spend quality time with family and friends. Bring your RV, tent, or use one of the cabins. Bring your own food and bedding, and enjoy a weekend at Camp Mack!

- **Ages:** Families of all ages. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
- **Fee:** \$92 per family. Camp lodging is available. No meals are provided by camp.
- **Times:** 6p Friday to 1p Sunday.



- **Summer Spiritual Retreat August 19–21** Join in this adult retreat exploring faith and the unique activities available at camp. An outside minister and camp staff will work together to provide spiritual growth and camp fun in a relaxing environment. Come and explore your faith and play in the beauty and sanctuary of Camp!

- **Fee:** \$160 per person for 2 nights and 5 meals.
- **Times:** 7:00p Friday to 1p Sunday.



STONE

ACK

In May of...

- 2021, Ophelia the Virginia Opossum arrived for rehabilitation with Kristen Werling, Camp's Outdoor Education Coordinator. She was non-releasable and was approved as an educational animal to stay onsite. Come see her!



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

Camp Fills the Gap

Growing up in the 1960's and 70's, I was in Sunday school and church every Sunday, as were nearly all the people I knew. Nothing was more important on Sunday morning. I learned that my church was a central part of my life. I learned about God, the traditions of my denomination, the love Jesus showed, and the power of a community focused on biblical truth.

The practice of Sunday morning church is no longer the norm for most families these days.

There is a lot to be said for the need to be authentic in worship, and we must make our faith tangible through the investment of our time, talents, and resources. But, I have to wonder where children are learning about faith and community.

This is where Camp Mack becomes so vitally important. Each day, all day, the focus is on learning and experiencing how God works through the community to bless each individual and the world at the same time.

Here, children find **sanctuary** from the stresses of life. They **connect with God**, learning about God's love, and taking time to read the Bible and pray. Every day is spent outdoors, so they can **experience creation**, breathing fresh air and marveling at the beauty around them. Most importantly, they **build Christian community**, learning how to love and support one another, and developing a sense of belonging in a world that seems more and more isolated.

I don't want to go back to the days of going to church because it was expected or it was an obligation, but I do worry about the growing mental health issues and trauma children face. Lots of adults tell me that kids just need to be more resilient. "We need to toughen them up!" I disagree. My resilience was formed in the support of my church community and the experience of knowing God was always there.

Camp Mack can be an important part of providing the love and support of a community of faith. Have your children or grandchildren been given that gift? What other children do you know who need this special blessing? There is still time. We are waiting for the opportunity to minister and bring the love of God to as many children as we can.

"Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them."

Mark 10:14b-16

Gene Hollenberg, Executive Director





We need volunteer counselors and team leaders!

Here are the needs for June:

June 5–9, Male and Female Counselor for Archery Camp

June 13–15, Team Leader for Samplers Camp

June 19–24, Female Counselor for CIT Camp

June 26–July 1, 3 Female Counselors for Followers Camp

Contact jessk@campmack.org for more info.



PLANTING THE FUTURE

THE CAMP MACK CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

On **July 31st**, Camp Mack is encouraging churches to take up a **special offering** to support the final stage of Camp Mack's capital campaign. More information including videos, worship resources, and other information will be coming soon!

Nature Nut News

Prayer Position

What is your prayer position? As in, where are you or what are you doing when you pray? As children, our first prayer position we are taught is to be quiet, bow our heads, close our eyes, fold our hands, and pray. That method is one way we can center ourselves through a series of steps to enter into a time of quiet prayer.

The way we pray can look like so many things. At camp, campers experience TAG time each day which stands for Time Alone with God. TAG time often hits on all three points of our mission statement as campers find a place in nature to connect with God by praying, reading the Bible, enjoying a quiet reflective moment, or noticing creation. And, often the Christian community is built as they come back from their sit spot and share what they have experienced during TAG time.

As I reflect on my own prayer positions, the photo was taken just days ago on the evening as we finished summer staff orientation and were making preparations to lead lifeguard training the next day. Some of my other favorite prayer styles are praying in rhythm with my cadence as I run or sitting in one of my favorite spots off trail up in a tree.

Consider your prayer position and how you find connection with God. It may be by folding your hands and bowing your head or during the quiet moments on a fishing boat in the middle of the lake. God is everywhere.

Jessie Kreider, Program Director



Sunny Camp Mack

The Blessings of Volunteers!

Summer camp is just around the corner, and we have several projects to complete before we hear little campers coming into the dining hall. I have been blessed by the presence of several volunteers coming to help us. My lawn mowing crew has been hard at it. Tim, Mike, and Ordway have been trying to keep up with our spring burst of grass. They each give a day each week, and then my facility crew finishes up the odds and ends on Friday. This works pretty well in keeping up with the grass.

I had a group coming in from the Wawasee Bible Community Church one Sunday morning to work on some picnic tables, piers, and splitting wood. The Church goes into the community to serve on Sunday morning instead of the usual morning worship and then returns back for a meal. We are blessed to get a group of 20 to come to camp. I have been stalling on putting the piers in because the water is so cold, but the time has come to get it done and we are so appreciative of their help!

We have a new volunteer, Rhonda Detwiler, who is going to work on the landscaping around the JKWC and the Hamer Health Center. Judy DePue designed and helped plant both of those landscape beds. My facility crew has a tough time keeping up with the weeds, and it really helps to have a volunteer come and take that over.

I was also blessed a couple of weeks ago by Jim and Travis helping us to build the dressing areas for the showers in the northwest restrooms in the W Cabin circle. On the women's side we now have a private dressing room with each shower. Hopefully we can continue to do that to other restrooms.

To put the finishing touches on my thoughts about volunteers, Steve Keim came the past week to do some work in one room of Ulrich. Steve is going to lead the volunteer effort to renovate Ulrich this fall. That project is going to take a lot of volunteer effort to complete. Start thinking about the possibilities of bringing a group up this fall to help renovate Ulrich.

There is an excitement in this as we all work together to better this sanctuary where people connect with God.

Galen Jay, Facility Director



Be Our Guest

Sing a Camp Song With Me

Sing a song with me at a campfire this summer,
With voices, a guitarist, and sometimes a drummer.

Sing about a thirsty worm and a moose with juice.
Sing about the spirit and some unlikely produce.

Sing about Heaven's gates and some roller skates,
Or a merry-go-round as it deactivates.

You may hear a washboard or a didgeridoo.
If so, bump a rump and shake a hand next to you.

March to the beat as dem bones are rising again.
Sometimes you'll start quiet then turn it up to a ten.

Whether you're singing Hosannah or in the rain,
You are holy and bound for glory in God's train.

Jesus's love is bubblin' over as campers sing,
And good morning to all with a left and right wing.

Request some oil in your lamp to keep you burning.
It's so fun to watch as the campers are learning.

Let's praise ye the Lord then raise our hands to swing low,
Because God is great and we want all to know.

Whether your boom chicka boomed or your bo diddly bopped,
We keep on going until the popcorn is all popped.

Campfires are one of my favorite parts of the summer. I am at almost all of the opening campfires, and I have a blast leading fun songs or following Brad with some classics. Come out to camp this summer as a camper, counselor, team leader, kitchen or facility volunteer, participant in a rental group, or however you feel called to be part of this sanctuary. Can't wait to sing camp songs with you!

Deanna Beckner, Guest Services Director



2022 Retreats & Events

Women's Camp
Colony Camp
Summer Spiritual Retreat
Labor Day Family Camp
Teen Leadership Wknd
Camp Mack Festival
Father Son Retreat
October Quilt Retreat
Scrapbook Retreat
Seasoned Citizens
Volunteer Work Days
Pastors Sabbath
Annual Dinner
Camp Rep Meeting

June 2-4
August 19-21
August 19-21
September 2-5
Sept. 30-Oct. 1
October 1
October 8-9
October 12-16
October 13-16
October 17-20
October 24-26
November 1-2
November 12
January 14, 2023





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 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

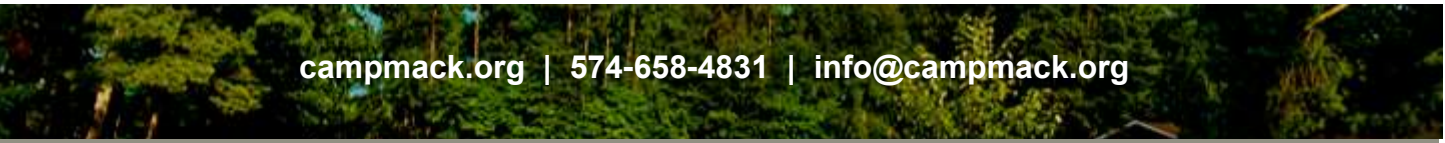
Needing Funds:

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

Completed:

- Replace the boiler in Sarah Major Lodge
- Replace the water heater in Sarah Major Lodge

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

Thank You and News



Thank you to everyone who donated to our Giving Day in April to raise money for a new Summit! We raised over \$16,500 to buy a new inflatable water slide called the Summit. We have ordered the Summit and all the installation supplies. The Summit ships from the supplier, so it can take some time to arrive. We are hoping for an arrival and installation in late June or early July. Keep an eye on Camp Mack's Facebook for updates.

News

Does the newsletter look a little different to you? Starting in May we switched software that we use to send the newsletter for a number of reasons, like better design features, easier opt out, and statistics. The Camp Mack Marketing Team is also exploring making our newsletter more focused on one topic at a time and how we can better communicate with you. Current members of the Marketing Team are Gene Hollenberg, Todd Eastis, Deanna Beckner, Alaister McFarren, Tricia Gall, Lacie Garringer, and Kim Gray. Let us know your suggestions and ideas so we can continue serving you!

Todd Eastis, Director of Development and Business

Kitchen News

Made-From-Scratch Biscuits with a Side of Grace

I can be a forgetful person. I make lots of lists when I am working on things like menus and banquets, or special occasions like parties or family get-togethers. I want plans, timelines, decisions, and choices made ahead of time, even though I am really good at thinking on my feet and coming up with quick solutions in the heat of the moment (especially in the kitchen when something isn't going quite right). I am blessed with co-workers who are good at reminding me of the things I have forgotten. Like when Deanna reminded me of this newsletter article due several days ago. Or, when I say that I want to remember to look into a new product, the next time I am talking about putting an order in, Miriam will chime in with a cheerful "Don't forget to look up that thing!" Sometimes I respond with "What thing?", and other times just the reminder triggers the memory of what we had talked about a few days or weeks ago.

One day this winter I went to get biscuits out of the freezer for our weekend retreat group when I realized I had forgotten to order the biscuits! The biscuits we get come in frozen and fully formed. We put them on a greased sheet tray and bake them fresh. They are so good with our sausage gravy or warm with butter and jelly (my children's favorite way to eat them). I tried not to panic as I quickly scrolled Pinterest to find a quick homemade biscuit recipe. I looked at a few and found a simple, easy recipe and got to work. We baked them off with PLENTY of time to spare before breakfast started. Since it was a new recipe, I grabbed one real quick to taste test....BLEGH!! I couldn't figure out why they tasted so good, but so salty! I rechecked the recipe, then rechecked my calculations. I had written down on a post-it note to triple the recipe. It was there that I found the problem. In my hurry I had written down the wrong amount of salt. Thankfully there was still time, so I carefully measured my ingredients and made another batch. This one was perfect! The biscuits were so fluffy and tasty. And they got done right on time to serve the guests. Success! Feel free to try this amazing recipe at home, and remember this is grace in mistakes and forgetfulness!

Ingredients

3 cups all-purpose flour
3 Tbsp sugar
1/2 tsp salt
4 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp cream of tartar
3/4 cup butter, cold
1 egg
1 cup milk



Instructions

Preheat the convection oven to 400 degrees. Keep your butter cold. Cut into small pieces then store in the fridge until ready to mix into dry ingredients. Combine the dry ingredients in a large bowl. Use a pastry cutter to cut cold butter into the flour mixture. Only mix until there are pea-sized pieces of butter still. Add in the milk and egg, and then mix just until combined. Do not overmix. It will be sticky, and you should still see butter pieces in the dough. Turn the dough out onto a generously floured surface. Sprinkle some flour on top and knead 10-15 times. If the dough is super sticky, sprinkle it with more flour. Pat the dough out to 3/4 - 1 inch thickness and cut with a biscuit cutter or glass. You should get about 10-12 biscuits. Place the biscuits on a lightly greased or parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake for 10-15 minutes or until golden brown on top. Optional: Brush the tops of the biscuits with melted butter.

Vanessa Bohannon, Food Services Director

Summer Camp 2022

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

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

Education Station

From an Exciting May to a Program-Filled Summer

May was an exciting month for Outdoor Education as it is typically the month we see the most school groups onsite. We had several elementary school groups, middle and high school groups, home school groups, as well as youth groups and Boy Scouts onsite this month. New Paris Elementary experienced a VERY rainy day, and despite how soaked everyone was, we had a great time! It's been so much fun working with these groups, even when the weather doesn't do what we want.

May is also a big Garden Club month as we try to get our plants from the greenhouse into the ground. We have been working hard and are proud of our efforts! Now we just have the monumental task of keeping up with weeding—definitely not the kids' favorite activity. They would much rather play in the dirt, as you can see!



Education Station, Continued

As this summer starts, I am most excited about spending the next couple of months out on the high ropes course. It is such a cool thing that we have built, and if you haven't had a chance to check it out, you should definitely come on out and visit camp! We recently had the new summer staff up on the course during their orientation and it was cool to see how many of them felt comfortable off the ground! Completing the high ropes course is a challenge that groups really love, and we'd love to have you and your group out to try it. Give us a call at camp and we'll get you on the schedule!

Kristen Werling, Outdoor Education Coordinator



