

# Camp Mack Statement on Discrimination and Harassment

The Mission Statement of Camp Mack is:

***Camp Mack provides a sanctuary where all people are welcomed to connect with God, experience creation, and build Christian community.***

The Vision Statement of Camp Mack is:

***To be a sanctuary where all who are served find a safe and inclusive environment where they can learn of Christ, renew their spirit, and experience God.***

In our core values, we list several biblical references to describe how Camp Mack defines these values. (CEB)

## 1. Spiritual Relationship:

- Micah 6:8 - ***He has told you, human one, what is good and what the Lord requires from you: to do justice, embrace faithful love, and walk humbly with your God.***
- John 15:12 - ***This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you.***
- 2 Corinthians 5:17-19 - ***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. In other words, God was reconciling the world to himself through Christ, by not counting people's sins against them. He has trusted us with this message of reconciliation.***
- Other references: Joshua 24:15, Deuteronomy 6:4-9

## 2. Caretakers of Creation:

- John 3:16-17 - ***God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life. God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.***
- Other references: Genesis 1:1-19, Genesis 2:15, Romans 8:19-23

## 3. Faithful Community:

- Romans 12:16-18 - ***Consider everyone as equal, and don't think that you're better than anyone else. Instead, associate with people who have no status. Don't think that you're so smart. Don't pay back anyone for their evil actions with evil actions but show respect for what everyone else believes is good. If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people.***
- Matthew 5-7, 1 Corinthians 13, Philippians 4:8-9, Matthew 18

## 4. Holy Hospitality

- John 13:12-15 - ***After he washed the disciples' feet, he put on his robes and returned to his place at the table. He said to them, "Do you know what I've done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you speak correctly, because I am. If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet. I have given you an example: Just as I have done, you also must do.***
- Other references: Genesis 18:1-8, Matthew 14:15-21 Luke 10:38-42

We want to be clear that Camp Mack makes no judgements about the people who seek sanctuary here. We are called to serve anyone who desires the hospitality and community we offer.

To this end, we share these guidelines for Camp Mack sponsored programs and events:

1. All are welcomed and served equally.
2. When possible, accommodations will be made for any physical and mental challenges of our guests, so they can be welcomed fully. While not all accommodations are possible at this time, the Camp Mack board and staff will continue to strive toward greater accessibility. Deliberate discrimination or harassment by a guest or camper will be considered a violation of their participation. Deliberate discrimination or harassment by staff will be considered cause for dismissal.
3. Religious differences will be honored. Racial and ethnic differences will be celebrated. Deliberate discrimination or harassment in this area is considered the same as for persons with disabilities.
4. It is recognized that knowingly or unknowingly, members of the LGBTQ+ community have participated as leaders and participants in Camp Mack programs and events, and they are welcome. Because issues of sexuality and gender identity are often polarizing, it is essential all people feel safe. Deliberate discrimination or harassment in this area is considered the same as for persons with disabilities and racial, ethnic, and religious differences.
5. Sexuality is private, and Camp Mack does not have the resources or time to effectively engage campers with their questions and concerns, therefore:
  - the leadership of Camp Mack will not engage in discussion of sexuality, including LGBTQ+, concerns with campers or event participants in Camp Mack programs and events.
  - campers with persistent questions will be referred to Camp Mack professional staff who will redirect their questions back to their home community.
  - minor campers and program attendees will be assigned to cabins/rooms on the basis of the gender parents have identified on the registration form. Adult participants will be assigned to cabins/rooms on the basis of the gender they have identified on the registration form.
  - all attendees at program camps or other events will change clothes privately in spaces identified by camp leadership.
  - the camp continues the policy that any sexual relations outside marriage are prohibited on camp property.
6. As we follow Jesus's example to extend mercy and grace, our responsibility is to provide love and care so that our campers and guests can be influenced by the movement of the Holy Spirit while here.