

CAMP MACK CIRCLE

Quarterly Newsletter



News from the Director

This Little Light

You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can't be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they put it on top of a lampstand, and it shines on all who are in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven.
Matthew 5:14-16 (CEV)

Every opening campfire at Camp Mack features *This Little Light of Mine*. There are a lot of reasons why. One of them is that it is simple to learn and sing. But more importantly, the song reminds us that each of us is God's light in the world. We have a responsibility to live and proclaim the wonderful love of God through Jesus.

Nearly all campers and volunteers leave this place changed. They have experienced supportive communities of faith; they have spent time connecting with God in the midst of Creation; they have found sanctuary. This is the place where our God lights, often dimmed by the cares of the world, recharge and grow in intensity. Yet the reach of this ministry only goes as far as the people who come.



Over the last few years, Camp Mack has provided incredible experiences, but we have only served 60% of the number we served before the pandemic. This year appears to be the same.

But, we still have time to change that. Our first program camp begins on June 25th. The staff is set, the space is ready, and the food is ordered, but our program needs more members of the community. There are still many openings for campers and volunteer leaders to come together, sharing in joyful renewal, and igniting the lights of faith. Churches, groups, and individuals can grow the light of God through sponsoring campers, volunteering, providing scholarships, and praying for this ministry. How can you be involved in growing God's light through Camp Mack?

Gene Hollenberg, Executive Director

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Come Counsel at Camp Mack!

Would you or someone you know be a great volunteer counselor this summer? For an Application, email jessk@campmack.org.

COUNSELORS NEEDED

Camp/Date	Male	Female
WEEK 2 June 25-30		
Followers June 25-30	Thanks	2
WEEK 4 July 9-15		
Samplers 1 July 9-11	2	2
Seekers 1 July 9-14	2	Thanks
CIT Camp July 9-14	1	1
WEEK 5 July 16-21		
Seekers 2 July 16-21	2	Thanks
Finders 1 July 16-21	2	2
Splash July 16-21	Thanks	1
WEEK 6 July 23-28		
Finders 2 July 23-28	1	Thanks

“I’ve enjoyed getting a chance to meet a few of the counselors we will have this year. I really look forward to this summer and meeting the rest of the counselors. I hope that you all have a great time this year! We can’t do it without you.”
 -Rana Williams, Office Manager

See you this summer! Check out page 7 for a list of upcoming Camp Mack summer camps.



“...all our volunteers ...are already making this summer memorable and fun! It’s going to be a great summer!”



Kitchen News

No Bake Cookies Without Peanut Butter

It’s June, and the kitchen is hopping. Our summer staff are trained, and we are excited for the camping season. We welcomed and fed our first camp, 4-H, last week, and are looking forward to all the other camps who will be joining us in the Kate Warstler Dining Center this summer. Dave and I are feeling very blessed to have BVSer (Brethren Volunteer Service volunteer) Val Brubaker serving with us through October. We also have a great crew of onsite summer staff, local on-call staff, plus all our volunteers who are already making this summer memorable and fun! It’s going to be a great summer!

If you are looking for a yummy treat but, like me, can’t use peanut butter, these no bake cookies still hit the spot even without peanut butter in them. They are one of my go-tos for a quick, simple dessert, especially if the ovens are all full with the rest of the meal.

No Bake Cookies (No soy or peanut butter)

Ingredients:

- 4 cups sugar
- 2/3 cup cocoa
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup butter
- 6 cups oats

Directions:

In a medium saucepan, mix sugar, butter, milk, and cocoa over medium heat. Stir often.

Bring mixture to a boil, then remove from heat.

Stir in oats.

Scoop cookies onto a parchment lined tray.

Let cookies cool for approx. 1 hour

Serve.

Vanessa Bohannon, Food Services Director



Sunny Camp Mack

Late Spring Volunteers

The summer of 2023 camping season is upon us. Our first camp has just left, and the next two camps are coming this evening. After a winter's worth of preparation, it is good to hear the sound of kids' laughter. This is a special sanctuary where kids can just be kids. We have been blessed this spring with several groups of volunteers to help us put the finishing touches on our campus. One of the projects we tackled was a new 200 A service for the front of Quinter Miller Auditorium (Q.M.A.). A couple of years ago we burned a section of buried wire in the old service from Q.M.A. to the H frame where our power came in. We had the same problem a few years ago, and our electrician told us at that time that the wire needed to be replaced. So, we purchased \$5,000 worth of service wire, and Church of God volunteers brought a trencher and electrician to install it. While we were doing that, we also ran a new 100 A service to the Sarah Major Lodge well pit. That will help us when it comes time to update that well. We cut a 2" water line while installing the cable. Either we were trenching a little deeper than I had planned, or the water line was a little bit shallower than I thought. It is surprising how much water a 2" waterline can pump out in a short time! Anyway, we have a wonderful new electric service for Q.M.A. and the Sarah Major well pit.

Another good example of the volunteering spirit was the Beasley family. The family consisted of Grandmother, Grandfather, and two teenage grandsons. Their Mennonite heritage moved them to want to volunteer and to pass that characteristic on to their grandkids. They did a great job of watering flowers and trimming bushes. Camp really looks better because of their help.

I want to finish with one more example of the volunteering spirit. We are blessed with two BVS volunteers this summer. Ben and Val Brubaker will be with us for six months. Val is working in the kitchen, and Ben is working with me on the facility crew. Ben is a carpenter, and his handiwork is showing up in all sorts of places on our campus.

We are truly blessed with volunteers this season. They surely help us to "...provide a sanctuary where people may connect with God."

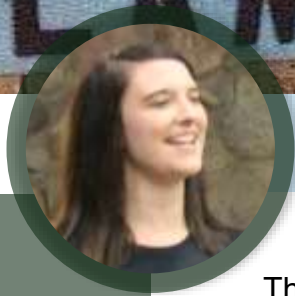
Galen Jay, Facility Director



"We are truly blessed with volunteers this season."



CAMP MACK



Be Our Guest

Observation Deck

The Camp Mack observation deck:

A gathering area for Bible study or free time.

A getaway space to relax and reflect.

A place to watch the boats float by or the swimmers slide down the slide at the beach.

A place to hang your towel for a bit to let it dry.

A place to lay down and look at the clouds.

A place to take in the sunset.



It's had its wobbly moments and times for repair. The path back to it is often squishy. But, over the years, it's been a part of the skyline at the Lake Waubee beaches of Camp Mack. We added it to one of our shirts in the gift shoppe this year to give it that extra Camp Mack touch.



“How can we be better observers of God?”

I've gotten a chance to walk out there twice in the last couple of months, which is surprising, considering I rarely have time to do so. The first time back in May was for an activity, and the second time a few weeks later was when we were doing our missing camper drill during staff training. I really enjoy visiting the top of the deck to get a new perspective of camp. It's a bird's eye view of camp life and nature and gives cause for a pause. How awesome is God's creation!

God observes us from above, from among us, from all around, and loves us always. How can we be better observers of God? Camp is a great place to start. I see God when a camper helps another camper. I see God when a team leader or counselor works with a camper to stay calm during a stressful situation. I see God when groups gather to worship along the hillside. I see God in the critters that scurry around camp. I see God in the dedicated staff and volunteers who work to provide sanctuary experiences for campers and guests. There are always new ways to catch God in action and observe the wonderful world we have been called to take care of.

**Deanna Beckner,
Guest Services Director**





Camp Mack Challenge

Camp Mack's Challenge Course is not just for campers! Sign up today with a partner to climb the wedge, scale the ship shroud, and conquer the ropes course. Spots are limited for this exciting new event. Register at:

<https://givebutter.com/DhJ0gn>

CAMP MACK CHALLENGE
August 5, 2023

Climb the Wedge

Scale the Ship Shroud

Conquer the Ropes Course

The Camp Mack Challenge is a new fundraiser where you and a partner race through parts of Camp Mack's rock wall and high ropes course.
\$20 per person

Registration Link in the Description

Join us for some fun while you support the ministry of Camp Mack!

CAMP ALEXANDER MACK

Summer Camp 2023

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

Grand Camp June 11–13
Ages 5–10/Grandparents

Completed

CIT Camp July 9–14
Ages 14–17

~~**Dadirri** June 11–17~~
Grades 9–12

Survivor July 9–15
Grades 6–9

Followers June 25–30
Grades 7–9

Samplers July 12–14
Grades 1–2

Target Sports July 2–7
Grades 5–9

Seekers July 16–21
Grades 3–4

Culinary July 2–7
Grades 6–9

Finders July 16–21
Grades 5–6

Youth Camp July 2–8
Grades 9–12

Splash July 16–21
Grades 5–8

FULL

Samplers July 9–11
Grades 1–2

Finders July 23–28
Grades 5–6

Seekers July 9–14
Grades 3–4

Eco Adventure July 23–28
Grades 5–6

Creative Arts July 9–14
Grades 6–10

Grand Camp July 30–Aug 1
Ages 5–10/Grandparents

FULL



2023 Retreats and Events

Camp Rep Meeting	January 14
Snow Camp Jr.	January 21
Spiritual Retreat	January 27–29
Snow Camp	February 4
Quilt Retreat	February 16–19
Scrap and Craft Retreat	February 23–26
Volunteer Celebration	March 4
Mother Daughter Retreat	March 11–12
Volunteer Work Days	March 20–22
Volunteer Work Days	April 3–5
Giving Day	April 15
Quilt Retreat	April 19–23
Birdwatching Retreat	May 4–6
5K/Fun Run	May 7
Pastors Sabbath	May 8–9
Women's Camp	June 1–3
Colony Camp	August 11–13
Spiritual Retreat	August 18–20
Labor Day Family Camp	September 1–4
Teen Leadership Weekend	October 6–7
Camp Mack Festival (CMF)	October 7
Pastors Sabbath	October 9–10
Seasoned Citizens	October 9–12
Father Son Retreat	October 14–15
Volunteer Work Days	October 16–18
Quilt Retreat	October 18–22
Scrap and Craft Retreat	October 19–22
Annual Dinner	November 4
Camp Rep Meeting	January 13, 2024