

TALES FROM THE CAMPSIDE

Sharing the latest news, info, and updates from Camp Challenge



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Summer Camp Recap
- Work Camp Wishlist
- Camp Champ: Jay Thomas
- 2020 Camp Dates
- From the Director's Desk

MEET UP WITH US!

- Sep 23-27 Campers on Mission Work Camp @ Camp Challenge, Bedford
- Oct 7 Indiana Ministries Annual Meeting @ Madison Park Church, Anderson
- Nov 8-10 365 State Youth Convention @ Westin Hotel, Indianapolis

SUMMER CAMP RECAP!

What an amazing summer! During June and July, over 150 staff and volunteers welcomed 564 campers during our 6 youth camp sessions. About 70% of our campers attend a Church of God or other partner church; the remaining 30% come from other churches and organizations or no home church.

Through our scholarship fund, our generous donors and church partners were able to provide registration fee assistance to 75 campers who otherwise would not have been able to attend camp.

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CAMP CHALLENGE

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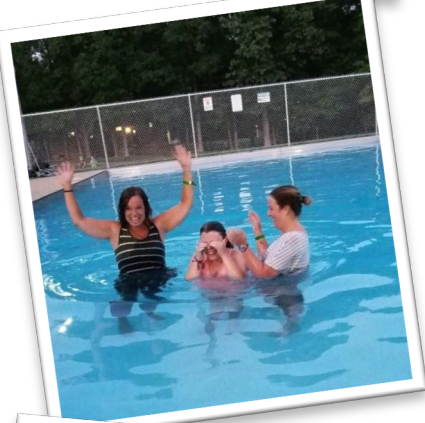
EVERLASTING was our theme, based on Isaiah 40:28-31, which begins, “Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.”



Our wonderful weekly program directors and staff & volunteer team helped our campers explore the everlasting nature of God—the Creator whose energy, wisdom, power, and strength knows no end, no matter how much He gives away!



Although the fun we share is fantastic, our ultimate goal is for our campers to experience the life change possible through Jesus Christ. 96% of campers reported their relationship with God changed positively because of camp, 88 campers made decisions to follow Jesus at camp, and 14 campers asked to follow Jesus’ example of water baptism and were baptized in the camp pool!



WORK CAMP WISH LIST!!

We often get asked what needs to be done around camp. Here's some things we aim to have completed before our next summer camp season!

We'd love your help with this list! If you and/or your group would like to adopt one or more of these projects, please contact Alec Kern at alec@gocampchallenge.com or 812.675.2815 to talk over dates and specific project requirements!

1. Reinforce fence posts at the pond with Quikrete. Estimated cost: \$50 plus workers
2. Build 3 or 4 new fire pit benches. Estimated cost: \$0 plus workers
3. Rip out carpet and re-floor Cabin 1. Estimated cost: \$500 plus workers
4. Reinforce floor joists and install new wall A/C in Donica cabin. Estimated cost: \$2000 plus workers
5. Fix walking trails to East Hill with new railroad ties and gravel. Estimated cost: \$300 plus workers
6. Demolish old pumphouse shack next to dining hall. Estimated cost: \$0 plus workers
7. Insulate dining hall addition ceiling. Estimated cost: \$250 plus workers
8. Fix cracked or breaking boards on octoball courts. Estimated cost: \$350 plus workers
9. Repaint rails on the back deck of upper amity. Estimated cost: \$250 plus workers
10. Various painting/staining projects. Estimated cost: \$150 plus workers

CAMP CHAMP: JAY THOMAS

What is your role at Camp Challenge?
I am the Food Service Manager.

What kind of things does that entail?
I oversee dining hall operations. I plan, purchase and prepare meals for camps and retreats.

How did you originally get involved with Camp? I started volunteering 5 years ago when our home church became a mission partner with Camp Challenge. I came with work groups, but my passion has always been with food service. When a request was made for a kitchen crew to cover a week of summer camp, I organized a group and to cook for a week.

Why do you choose to stay involved at camp? Working with the kids provides me so much personal satisfaction. It was so rewarding seeing the campers enjoying their meal time, learning how to connect to God and developing a relationship with Christ.

What is your favorite thing about working here? Seeing the campers develop a relationship with Christ. I encourage all the campers to let their minds be still from all the distractions that we have with daily life, they can open their hearts and minds to hear God speak to them. Camp provides that needed break from all the electronics and worries of daily life and allows them to listen and reflect.

What is your best memory at Camp? guys. I have so many that it's hard to say just one. Every year, at least one camper really tugs at my heartstrings. Some of the campers that come to Camp Challenge live and deal with issues that no child should have to cope with. Working here gives me an opportunity to show them God's love, to give them a chance to escape those troubles and to know that someone cares about them and to share God's love with them.



Meet some of the folks that make Camp Challenge go!

What would you say to other people considering getting involved in camp ministry? Camp ministry is hard work and can be especially emotional, that being said, the work is so rewarding! Some campers just need to know that someone cares for them. Many campers return year after year and you really get a chance to see them grow in their faith and begin their journey with Christ. You will get a chance to share in their accomplishments and comfort them in their difficulties.



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Camp Challenge exists to develop followers of and leaders for Jesus Christ by encouraging disconnection from everyday distractions and reconnection to God through His creation.

2020 CAMP DATES!

Registration opens January 1, 2020!

May 15-16, 2020: Staff/Volunteer Retreat

June 11-13, 2020: Young Explorers

June 14-19, 2020: Senior High

June 21-26, 2020: 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade (I)

June 28-July 3, 2020: 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade

July 5-10, 2020: 4th, 5th, & 6th Grade

July 12-17, 2020: 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade (II)

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Hello from Camp Challenge. We love the fall season around the camp, and we are starting to get an evening here or there that shows us the change in the seasons is almost here. I would like to thank each and every one of you that has supported Camp Challenge in some way. This includes summer volunteers and staff, work camp volunteers, board members, church partners, camper parents, and donors. Camp Challenge cannot continue to thrive without your involvement and support. I would like to specifically thank our "fire circle" donors. This is a group of individuals and families that have decided to support Camp Challenge on a monthly basis. I know it is exciting to give to a specific item or project and we have been able to do

a lot of very important things because of those targeted donations. The monthly recurring donations are no less important. Those dollars help us do all of the operational things that must be done to keep the camp functioning. We are always looking for new fire circle donors to step up and partner with Camp Challenge to replace donors that occasionally roll off as they have a change in life circumstances. If you are a former summer staffer, current or past camper parent, or someone that has had a long connection to camp I am specifically asking you to become a recurring donor. If you believe Camp Challenge

is impacting lives by teaching the Good News of Jesus Christ, I am specifically asking you to become a recurring donor. Our current monthly donors give between \$10 and \$250 per month. Anything you can give monthly is appreciated and it really does make a huge difference. If you have any questions about are donations are used or how to best partner with us, please call or text at 317-774-4441.



You can also sign up online at gocampchallenge.com/give. Have a great fall! You are always welcome to visit us at Camp Challenge!