



Suwannee Ripples

Published for Camp Suwannee by the Advent Christian Village Office for Resource Development



CAMP SUWANNEE TESTIMONIES



WEEK NO. 1 TESTIMONIES

Camp Suwannee has always been something that I look forward to every year — it holds a special place in my heart. I am very grateful for every single relationship that I've made there and all of the memories that I will cherish forever. Every summer, I learn something new about myself, and, most importantly, I learn more about the Lord. I have never seen so much love in one place, and I truly feel God's love when I am there. Camp Suwannee is a place like no other. I love and enjoy it so much, and I am forever grateful for it!

Baylee Joyner, 16 years old

I have been going to Camp Suwannee for five years. Previously, I had gone to other church camps with my home church, but something kept calling me back to the peacefulness of the Suwannee River. Camp Suwannee is a great place to reconnect with God in a natural, peaceful setting. My friends and I enjoy the tracks for recreation that build team-building skills, the nights at the "Bowl," and worship in the hall. I have made lifelong friends at Camp Suwannee, and we will always remain close. My counselor, Keith Nicely, is one wacky, kind, inspirational dude. We stay in touch throughout the year attending movies and bowling. I cannot wait till July each year so I can meet new friends and spend a week with my best friends.

Jack Fry, 14 years old

WEEK NO. 2 TESTIMONIES

I went to Camp Suwannee the second week. I had lots of fun. Some things I did that week were pray in front of the cross, got emotional, and swam in the river and in the pool. I liked to cannon ball when it wasn't too cold. My favorite part of camp was worshipping God. I loved trying to find the counselors in counselor hunt. I also enjoyed the leather class and the art class and crafts. Camp Suwannee was so fun!

Sophia Lee, 9 years old

Camp at Camp Suwannee was one of the best things I've ever done. I had a lot of fun, and the kids I got to meet there were really cool. My favorite part about camp was the evening services. I loved my cabin mates and counselors — everybody was cool.

Weston Ward, 12 years old



DIRECTOR'S NOTES



By Doug Mabey, Director of Camp Suwannee



'all have been praying!!!
As a "transplanted Northerner," I don't usually use that southern

word, but I opened this report that way for emphasis because I want you to know that God answered your prayers in a mighty way at Camp Suwannee this summer.

The total number of campers for this year's two weeks of AC camps spiked to 171. That's the highest attendance since 2014. Praise the Lord! We set a record with first-time campers: 69 over the two weeks — 17 the first week and 52 the second week! As the second week was for the younger campers, this bodes well for building a strong foundation for upcoming years because they are the future of our camping ministry.

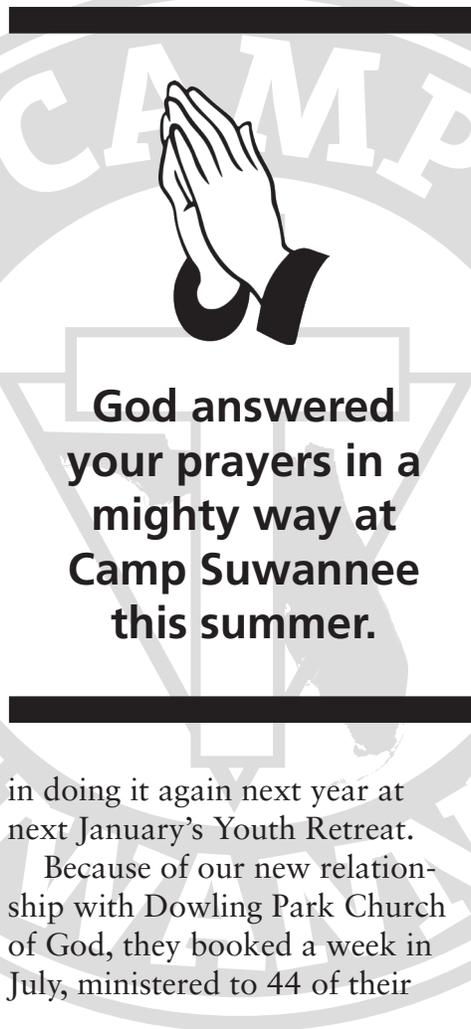
At the beginning of 2018, we had another great response from campers with 31 in attendance at January's Youth Retreat (formerly Fall Retreat). We had guest speaker Pastor Mike Carson of the Dowling Park Church of God. DPCoG's Youth Pastor Richard Banks also spoke, and their worship band led us

on Friday night. The Orchard Community Church Band of Lake City (with camp connection Amelia White) led worship on Saturday night. Emily Carter co-directed with me and did a great job, and she is interested

own campers, and plan on returning next summer. We're excited about a tentative new booking with Paddle Georgia for a week in June 2019 for about 300 people. We're also pleased to report that Grace Anglican Church is returning to Camp Suwannee at the end of October after a many-year hiatus. In fact, looking at the calendar, we have all but one weekend booked from September thru the middle of November. Praise the Lord!

Most that have come to camp look forward to their return to this holy ground with great anticipation. They look forward to the camping season all year long. From the minute they leave, they want to return. Most important of all, many of our youth come to the Lord at Camp Suwannee.

Please continue to pray for the ministry of Camp Suwannee, especially as we work to fill the calendar with rental group bookings. Thank you for your continued financial support as we strive to serve God and grow his kingdom, until He returns. I say "continue" because I know you have been praying; look at the results, y'all!



God answered your prayers in a mighty way at Camp Suwannee this summer.

in doing it again next year at next January's Youth Retreat.

Because of our new relationship with Dowling Park Church of God, they booked a week in July, ministered to 44 of their



WEEK NO. 1 CAMP REPORT



JULY 8-14, 2018 • AGES 13-18



We had an exciting week at camp this year with 85 total campers. It was a pleasure co-directing this year with Randy Lamb. We decided on the theme of Sola: A

God's Word Story. We based the week around the Five "Solas" of the Reformation: scripture alone, faith alone, grace alone, Christ alone, and to the glory of God alone.

In the mornings, after breakfast, we had chapel lead by Shane Mumford followed by a time of team devotions lead by the coun-

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selors. This was a great way to start out the day: in God's Word.

Throughout the day, the Solas were taught about through the different Bible classes taught by various staff members. Also throughout the day, there were different classes and activities such as canoeing, art, ropes course, and a service project. Also during the afternoon, everyone got a chance to take advantage of either the Suwannee River or pool to cool off from the heat, which was needed that week!

The games were all themed off of *Star Wars* as a play on the *Solo* movie that came out recently.

In the evenings, we had our services, in which Rev. Bob Cope-land brought powerful and chal- lenging messages each night that not only impacted the campers, but also the staff. *There were many that responded either with first-time commitments or recom- mitments to Christ, along with a handful that felt called into ministry.* Along with the powerful messages, we had a great time of worshipping not only before the messages, but during them.

Following the service, Shane Mumford led the bowl service, which again was a great time of worship and glorifying God.

It was truly a great week of camp with not only a great group of campers, but also a tremendous staff. God was truly glorified throughout this week of camp, and we look forward to next year with great anticipation and excitement about what He has in store.

To God be the glory!

Josh Chamberlin
& Randy Lamb

WEEK NO. 2 CAMP REPORT

JULY 15–21, 2018 • AGES 7–12

 God moved in an incred- ible way during Week 2 at Camp Suwannee. With 86 campers ages 7–12 and 32 staff members, this was one of the largest camps in years. Camp Pastor Doug Mabey shared messages on the theme, “One Way.” The main verse was John 14:6, in which Jesus declares, “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life, no one comes to the Father except through me.” Kent Staples returned as our worship leader. The children enjoyed singing a mixture of silly camp songs and meaningful worship songs together. Kent and his worship team helped set the tone for the week.

In addition to the typical swimming at the pool and White Sands, older campers were also able to canoe and go tubing down the river. On Sunday night, we continued the tradition of Shanghai, the introductory walk around the grounds for campers to get to know each other. With

an underlying theme of the movie, *The Incredibles*, we had zany cabin names such as the Incredible Flashers, Gator Guard, Incredi- cabin, Netflix and Poptarts, Incre- digirls, Disney Stars, ElastiGirls, Incredigang, Gossipgang, and the Ultra Violets. Jeannie Thomas taught an art class, and Lucy Spencer instructed the leather class. These classes gave campers an opportunity for hands-on activities as well as creating camp keepsakes. Wednesday's special guest was Sammy the alligator! (mouth secured, of course) Campers were thrilled to see a live, four-foot alligator in the gym — some even got to hold him. Thursday night was the annual cabin skit competition. All 10 skits were entertaining, but only one cabin could win, and that was the Incredicabin. Joe Mathis returned for his second year as our special video guest, giving his humorous insights into the happenings at Camp Suwannee.

Pastor Doug's messages were a highlight of the week, prompting several campers and staff coming to the cross with sticky notes listing their sins, painful expe- riences, hurts, and concerns. The Holy Spirit's presence was remarkably evident this week. The late-night Bowl services were another highlight as campers and counselors shared their stories of how God was impacting their lives and speaking to them. Pastor Randy Henderson, the new co-director, gave his testimony at the Bowl service, and it was extremely inspiring. Your fervent prayers for camp bore rich fruit: 16 campers made a first-time commitment to follow Christ, and 13 campers rededicated their lives to Him. This year, so many kids cried out to God, prayed with and for one another, and truly worshiped Him in spirit and in truth. God is so faithful!

Jeff Pannone

Most Wanted List

Oak Lodge #3 & #4 room renovation: **\$50,000**

Horton's Landing revitalization:

\$1,580 received so far; still need **\$23,420**

Dowling Cafeteria ceiling:

\$2,000 received so far; still need **\$8,000**

Youth Lodge boardwalk replacement: **\$2,000**

Youth Lodge ice maker (90 lb.):

\$2,130 received so far; still need **\$370**

Oak Lodge #3 & #4 bathroom doors: **\$250**

Rumph Pavilion gym floor paint: **\$200**

Thank you to those who have given!

Upcoming Groups

Dates	Group Name
Nov. 2-4	Williamson Family Reunion
Nov. 3	Suwannee Valley Humane Society
Nov. 9-11	Leadership Phase II
Nov. 16-18	Adventure Camp
Nov. 21-25	Blake Family Reunion
Dec. 5 & 6	Facets Project
Jan 11-13	Adventure Camp
Jan. 25-27	A.C. Youth Retreat
Feb. 20-22	UF/NRLI
Feb. 22-24	Leadership Phase III
Feb. 27-Mar. 26	RVICS
Mar. 1-3	Suwannee Big Book
Mar. 15-17	Adventure Camp
Apr. 5-7	Leadership Phase IV
Apr. 10-14	Tres Dias Men
Apr. 24-28	Tres Dias Women

To schedule your group for a reunion, conference or retreat, call 1-800-371-8381.

Mark
Your
Calendar!

**YOUTH
RETREAT**



**Friday-Sunday
Jan. 25-27, 2019
Ages 11-18**

WHERE CHRIST IS
EXALTED THROUGH



CAMPING



Camp Suwannee

P.O. Box 4313

Dowling Park, FL 32064

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