

Suwannee Ripples

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Dear Friend of Camp Suwannee,

It is with great sadness I announce that on September 21, 2021, ACV Director of Guest Relations, Susie Hudson died following a brief illness. It has been a difficult time for us all and we especially ask you to remember her husband Wayne and their family in your prayers.

Susie served the Conference and Retreat Center for over 20 years and she will be greatly missed by the staff and the many guests she served. Her strong commitment to this ministry, warm smile, joyful spirit, and passion for serving others made her uniquely qualified for her role.

Susie spent her days meeting the needs of the individuals and groups that visited the Conference and Retreat Center and Camp Suwannee. She managed the Village Lodge, overseeing the front desk and working closely with guest groups from initial contact to check out. She made a lasting impression on people and was a great ambassador for this ministry.

As we endeavor to move forward, please bear with us as we work to fill the great void that has been left. If you have any questions or concerns regarding an upcoming event, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

We're heartbroken by this loss but as Susie continually confessed, we lean on the glorious hope found in Jesus Christ our Savior and soon coming King.

Craig Carter, ACV President & CEO



Camp Suwannee Sign Gets a Facelift

Out with the old and in with the new! The Camp Suwannee sign is receiving a much-needed facelift, thanks to the generous friends of Camp Suwannee. The final materials should be in later this month to finish up the renovation. We are thrilled to have a fresh, polished sign to represent camp! Follow ACV on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ACVillage for a picture of the finished product in the coming weeks!





Director's Notes



By Doug Mabey

WE HAD CAMP THIS SUMMER!!!! And it was great!

I could stop there but that would be an incomplete picture. This year, as expected, had more challenges than in the past but with the Lord's help, we overcame them.

It was evident in late June that the Lord's adversary was trying to disrupt camp this year. A week before Senior Camp started, we lost two Counselors and because of that, were short by six. The Lord supplied all six counselors that week and 62 campers attended Senior Camp!



Junior Camp registrations started out slow with only 18 campers at the Early Registration deadline, but by the first day of camp, we had 67 campers!

Two Junior Camp staff members came to us because their plans to work at another camp had fallen through.

They were a blessing to us and made it possible for us to have less crowded cabins and fewer campers per staff member.

I served as the Junior Camp Pastor, which is always a blessing. The Lord gave me the messages the campers needed to hear, each building upon the one the previous night.

They were about turning our lives over to the Lord, trusting Him, and developing a relationship with Him because He wants that with each of us. The messages also touched on loving one another and how to deal with circumstances in our lives.

We had a total of 54 first-time campers, 37 from Junior Camp. That is a blessing, and we hope they will return next year and bring their friends with them.

I would like to close as always by thanking you for your continued prayers for this ministry and your financial help. We couldn't continue what we do here without you.

In-Service to Him,

Doug Mabey, Director, Camp Suwannee

Junior Camp Report

by Jeannie Thomas, Co-Director, Camp Suwannee – Junior Camp

This year began with faces beaming with joy as campers and counselors saw friends again for the first time in two years. Others had a timid look as this was their very first time at camp. In fact, of sixty-nine total campers, thirty-six were first timers! And boy did we have a great week planned for them all!

Sunday after worship service, the campers were introduced to their favorite, "Snack Shack" time, which includes talking with new friends on the patio. Later, after a game of Shanghai, the campers discovered the awe of the "Bowl Service," with worship songs and another message of God's love.

Each morning began with Jason's "strenuous" exercises. The cabins bonded over meals together and working together to try to earn Cabin Clean-Up Champions each day. Getting the coveted plastic Champion Belt was well worth their effort!

Mornings also included worship songs and classes. Evelyn Arnold, Laura Putnam, and Ted and Dodie Jones taught about the mission field

in the Philippines. Bible class by Jeff Pannone and Kent Staples taught how each of them is unique and special to God and why we all need salvation. Finally they met with Jeannie Thomas for adventures with leather, art, and science.

Afternoons were for fun games and swim time! This included games such as passing spaghetti noodles with their feet and other "messy games." You are just not having fun until you are messy and quite possibly wet! Which is also where the fun of going to the pool or White Sands along the river come into play.

All week, each cabin worked on their performance for skit night. The judges and audience thoroughly enjoyed each one.

Ultimately, it was the young Baby Sharks who won the overall skit performance.

We thank Mr. Kurt



Junior Camp Report

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Mathis for coming from such a distance to be a special judge for this event.

Fun and games are important, but Camp Suwannee has something uniquely special. Each night the campers hear the word of God. This year Doug Mabey delivered God's message of salvation in a way that the campers could understand. Kent, Chrystal, Jordan, Joel Staples and Lily Lamb inspired worship through their music. Finally, there is nothing like the bowl service for the kids to open up and share their hearts with counselors who listen and pray with them. During the week, two campers accepted Christ as their Savior and nine rededicated their lives!

To all that helped make camp happen, from staff to those who gave contributions, Camp Director Jeff Pannone and I thank you. Camp could not have happened without you. We look forward to another great week next summer.

- Jeannie Thomas, Co-Director,
Camp Suwannee – Junior Camp



Junior camper, Kari Thomas, shows off her well deserved "clean up champion" belt!

Senior Camp Report

by Randy Lamb, Sr. Camp Director

After not having camp in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there were valid concerns about keeping everyone safe, but still a strong desire to see God work in the lives of the campers.

We had an exciting week at camp this year. It was a pleasure co-directing with Josh Chamberlin again this year. This year's theme was Breakout, based on Romans 12:1-2, emphasizing our need to be transformed by God rather than conforming to the patterns of this world and offering ourselves to God as an act of worship.

After breakfast, we had chapel led by Matthew Malinowski, Pastor of the Dover Advent Christian Church, followed by individual quiet time and team devotions. This was a great way to start the day in God's Word.

Matthew Malinowski and Megan Portervint taught Bible classes. Throughout the day, we had different classes and activities, such as art, ropes course, a STEM class, CIT training, media games, and a challenge course. During the afternoon water activity, everyone got a chance to take advantage of either the river or pool for a much-needed break from the heat! Our Campers competed in games lead by Liz Vann; killball, water slide bowling, and space invaders were among the camper favorites.

Our evening service provided campers an opportunity to worship God in song lead by Kent Staples and the worship team. Shane Mumford brought powerful and challenging messages each night that impacted both the campers and the staff. Many responded either with first-time commitments or recommitments to Christ. Along with the powerful messages, we had a great time worshiping before the messages and during them. Shane Mumford led the bowl service following the service, which again was a great time of worship and glorifying God.

It was indeed a great week of camp with not only a great group of campers but also an excellent staff, and all were kept safe by our camp nurse Jeannie Thomas. God was truly glorified throughout this week of camp, and we look forward to next year with great anticipation about what He has in store.

To God be the Glory!



Most Wanted List

- Volleyballs (4) @ \$10 ea. = \$40
- Basketballs (6) @ \$15 ea. = \$90
- Street Hockey Sticks (8) @ \$25 ea. = \$200
- Mattress Covers = \$360
- Youth Lodge Ice Machine = \$2,500
- Dehumidifiers 2 @ 110 ea. = \$220

Thank you to those who support projects from the Most Wanted List! We appreciate your help with making Camp Suwannee the best it can be.



Upcoming Groups

| Dates | Group Name |
|------------|----------------------|
| Oct. 20-24 | Tres Dias Women #62 |
| Oct. 29-31 | Leadership Phase II |
| Nov. 5-6 | Williamson Family |
| Nov. 12-14 | Dynamos #29 |
| Dec. 28-31 | New Comm. COGMA |
| Jan. 14-16 | FLCACC Youth Retreat |
| Feb. 25-26 | Leadership Phase III |

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

My Experience

"Camp Suwannee is one of my most anticipated weeks of the year. We play fun games. We stay up late. My favorite part about camp though is the preaching. Every year we hear something different and inspiring. Another great part about camp in my opinion is the bowl. The bowl is a moving place and this year was probably one of the best years at camp. I look forward to camp and retreat. The friendships made each year are like no other."

-James Austin Harper, age 13



Above: "The Bowl" at Camp Suwannee is home to many fond memories for both past and present campers.



AT ADVENT CHRISTIAN VILLAGE

Where Christ is Exalted Through Camping

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