

Suwannee Ripples

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Camp Suwannee...Still Relevant

By Craig Carter, ACV President/CEO

It was a great blessing when I paused recently and considered the many ways Camp Suwannee is used to further God's Kingdom. Each summer during our Florida Conference Camps, young people hear the Gospel and many make first time decisions to follow Christ. Others benefit by strengthening their faith, renewing friendships with like believers, and some even answer the call to fulltime Christian ministry. Your financial support provides campership scholarships so needy children can attend.

When the camp is not in use for our Conference programs, other groups benefit as they rent the facilities. Many of these groups also testify to the life-changing experiences that an event at Camp Suwannee helps to provide. We are delighted to have these special groups as partners in ministry. Your financial support helps keep the grounds in good working order for all who benefit from this hallowed place.

We are also pleased to host special events at Camp Suwannee. In February, our Advent Christian denominational offices hosted a leaders' conference for

pastors from across the nation. They came to Camp Suwannee and the Conference & Retreat Center for a time of spiritual enrichment, relaxation and reunion with other pastors. It was a blessed time and it was wonderful to be able to partner with our denomination for this special event.

These past couple of years have been challenging for Camp Suwannee, as we have navigated the waters of the pandemic. We have held events when it was safe to do so and closed during other times when the virus was at its peak. We are looking forward, in anticipation, to what God has in store for this ministry.

When you consider the ways Camp Suwannee is used to further the Kingdom, you realize this Christian camping ministry is as relevant today as it has ever been, as lives continue to be changed. When you support this ministry, you provide the resources required for Camp Suwannee to continue to have an impact on people's lives. That can be a great blessing for you and those whose lives are touched.



**Share Camp Suwannee with others so that
we can reach more youth for Christ.**

My Experience at Camp Suwannee

If someone were to ask me where the best moments of my teenage life have happened, I'd have to say they all happened in the same place. Camp Suwannee. If someone were to ask where the majority of my closest relationships have been developed. I'd have to say it again. Camp Suwannee. If I were asked where my personality has been cultivated the most, where I've received the most comfort and clarity in dark times of life, where I've steadily heard God speak the most, and where I kneeled before the cross and genuinely gave my life to Christ. I'd have to say...without a doubt...Camp Suwannee's the place. God Bless.

- Jordan, 17

I've been coming to Camp Suwannee since 2017, to Summer Camp mostly. This past year was my first retreat. It was very fun and I learned a lot of things. There was a lot going on but it still went pretty smoothly. The counselors were really fun and Shane preached a lot of good sermons.

- Keith, 16



Opportunity to Serve

Interesting in being on staff for Camp Suwannee Senior or Junior week? We are looking for individuals who have a desire to see God work in the lives of students through our camp ministry, a staff member should have a strong faith in Christ, the desire to work with students in a camp setting, willingness to develop relationships with student and other staff, and be willing to allow God to use them in a powerful way. If you are interested in being a part of our camp ministry please contact Randy Lamb at 386-688-0498 or rlamb@acvillage.net.

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God so that He may exalt you at the proper time, having cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares about you. Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. So resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brothers and sisters who are in the world. After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen. - 1 Peter 5:6-11 NASB2020



Director's Notes



By Doug Mabey

I'd like to start by thanking God for His many blessings. We all hoped that 2021 would bring great relief from 2020, but the challenges continued. Many lost loved ones and friends. ACV lost a dear friend, Susie Hudson, a great leader at Conferences and Retreats. It was a heavy loss, but Susie loved the Lord, and we know we will see her again. I'm grateful for that comfort and that the Lord helps us through whatever circumstances we encounter.

The ministry of Camp Suwannee continues, and we were able to have camp last summer! Both weeks had about 65 campers and were fun and meaningful times. We also held the annual Youth Retreat in January with the theme "Social Myth." The speaker, Shane Mumford, discussed the effect of Social Media and cell phone addictions on a person's life. God wants a personal relationship with us, but those everyday distractions can become too big, and they pull us away from Him. They can rule us, and we need to get back into His Word to be reset.

Beyond our Advent Christian camps and retreats, we are calling past guest groups to let them know that we are open and ready for another visit from them. We have already seen a good response and look forward to more in the coming weeks and months. We have done several tours for some new groups and are seeing results from that.

Five couples with Roving Volunteers in Christ's Service (RVICS) arrived on Feb 7. They are doing projects throughout the Village, helping with much-needed work. We thank them for their 30 years of volunteer service here.

We look forward to this summer! Save these dates for summer camps:

Youth Camp Dates 2022*

July 10-16 for Senior Camp, ages 13-18

July 17-23 for Junior Camp, ages 7-12

The cost if registered by June 1 will be \$310.

Camp applications will be mailed out to previous campers and also posted online when available: www.acvconference.net/facilities/camp-suwannee.

*Youth camp dates are tentative due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We will mail out Camp applications soon, and they will be posted on our website and on social media at facebook.com/CampSuwanneeatACV.

Please invite young people whose families may not be able to afford it, as we will have camperships available, thanks to generous people like you.

Thank you for your prayers and your financial support. Have a Happy and safe 2022.

Where Christ is Exalted Through Camping

Camp Suwannee
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ACV Conference & Retreat Center
is part of ACV Community Services LLC,
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Upcoming Groups

Dates

Feb. 25-26
Feb. 25-27
Mar. 11-13
Apr. 1-3
Apr. 6-10
Apr. 20-24
June 13-17
June 17-July 9
July 10-16 -Sr.
July 17-23 -Jr.
July 25-29
Aug. 12-14
Aug. 19-21
Oct. 5-9
Oct. 21-23
Nov. 4-6
Nov. 11-13

Group Name

Leadership Phase III
Northside Baptist Church
Dynamos
Leadership Phase IV
Tres Dias Men #63
Tres Dias Women #63
Creations Art Camp
CISV Step up Camp
FLCACC
FLCACC
NFYC
Tall. Youth Orchastra
Leadership Phase I
Tres Dias Men
Tres Dias Women
Williamson Reunion
Dynamos

Most Wanted List

- Mattress Covers (30 @ \$12 each) = \$360
- Golf Cart (Gas Operated/Used) - \$6,500
- Wood to rebuild Kite & Wackerlin Deck = \$2,500 (received so far = \$250)
- Replace Dowling Cafeteria Ceiling = \$12,000 (received so far = \$2,000)
- Replace Rumph Pavilion Roof = \$60,000 needed

The list includes some higher dollar items that have appeared previously, and the total reflects what remains to be raised for those projects. We appreciate gifts of any size toward these much-needed repairs.

THANK YOU to those who have given!

Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; the one who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

John 8:12 NASB2020

