



Suwannee Ripples

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Seizing Opportunities at Camp Suwannee

Opportunity — it's a word that's loaded with potential. When you support this ministry, you help provide the "opportunity" for Camp Suwannee to share the gospel with the hundreds that come to the camp each year. Many of these opportunities come through our conference youth camps. Others occur as guest groups hold their own worship experiences.

The exact set of circumstances for each opportunity for sharing the gospel is different. However, many of them are rooted in the support received from people like you.



Gifts given to Camp Suwannee help keep the facilities, grounds and equipment in good repair and supply amenities for campers and guests. And perhaps most importantly, support makes possible Campership scholarships for needy families, which provide the primary means for many youth to attend.

Currently, a few opportunities for ministry at Camp Suwannee are being missed, as there are summer weeks and weekends during the year still available for guest groups to partner with us in ministry. We'd love to have these opportunities taken, so if you are aware of churches or



other Christian groups looking for a wonderful venue to hold a camp or retreat, please give us an introduction.

Opportunities grasped at Camp Suwannee can have eternal significance. Our goal is to seize as many of them as possible. As you support this ministry, you are a key in making that a reality. Thank you for your participation as we endeavor to provide opportunities for youth and adults to learn of the love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.





Director's Notes



Doug Mabey, Director of Conference Services

Oh, how things have changed for me and my family since I last wrote. As you know, our son, Alex, passed away in August, but God has used that tragic event to His glory. He has used me to lead seven people to Christ that knew Alex. What a blessing to be part of something like that in the midst of our pain and loss. We want to thank all of you who have prayed and given donations in Alex's memory. Many people will benefit from your generosity, and Alex would have loved that.

The Lord put it on my heart to build a prayer pavilion on the Camp Suwannee grounds in Alex's memory. It is to be a place where people can pray, reflect or do Bible studies. We picked a spot close to Oak & Pine cabins, which is where the campers usually congregate before going to Bowl services. We expect it to be completed soon. Thank you to all those who had a hand in it.

We are grateful that the roof of Rumph Pavilion has been replaced so it no longer leaks. Now we look to do some interior improvements such as repaint the floor, replace the stage curtains and fix the insulation.

Volunteers are such a big blessing to us. Steve & Joyce Parlette are here until June and RVICS is sending four more couples in February. As is the case throughout our history, volunteers have been a huge part of the ministry here and have contributed countless hours towards upkeep of our facilities.

We are pleased to have American Heritage Girls returning this year, as well as Live Oak Assembly of God. We have three weeks open this summer. If you know a group that is looking for a place to meet, please give us a call.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support of Camp Suwannee. May God richly bless you in 2026.



Save The Date!

Junior Camp (ages 7-12) is July 5-11
Senior Camp (ages 13-18) is July 12-18

Registration is online at
www.campsuwanneecamps.org
and is set to open in March.

A Message from the Florida Conference Youth Committee

From directors, counselors, Bible teachers, camp facility directors, cooks, game directors, worship leaders, musicians, carpenters, evangelists, faithful contributors to Camp Suwannee and our Campership scholarships, prayer warriors, and many more. The ministry of Camp Suwannee would not be possible without the support of faithful friends supporting the presentation of the gospel of Jesus to students, desiring them to come to a saving knowledge of Christ.

Because of your love for students our upcoming summer camp season is sure to be a great success. Through Camperships, you make it possible for students to attend camp and be in a place where they hear and see the message of the Gospel. Junior Camp will be held July 5 – 11, 2026 with Senior Camp to follow July 12 – 18, 2026. Registration will be through our camp website, campsuwanneecamps.org and is set to open in March, so check in regularly and explore the site to learn about all that goes on at Camp Suwannee.

For the last three years, Camp Suwannee has been an approved site for Prison Fellowship Angel Tree program. Through this program, children with parents who are incarcerated can attend summer camp at a greatly reduced cost. Camp Suwannee is one of two camps within a 75 mile radius serving the Live Oak



area offering a unique opportunity served through Prison Fellowship's program. This past summer, 17 Angel Tree children attended Camp Suwannee, allowing us to partner with Prison Fellowship's mission: *"Our mission is to encounter Jesus with those impacted by incarceration."* To learn more about Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree summer camp program visit their website at www.prisonfellowship.org/about/angel-tree/angel-tree-camping.

Youth Retreat February 6-8, 2026

While it is likely past by the time you read this, Youth Retreat 2026 will be unique. Do we actually know what it's like to miss more than one meal in a day or to watch as a family member dies of starvation? In our land of plenty, it is easy to forget about those on the other side of the world (or right here in our own town) who have so much less. In an effort to raise awareness, the Florida Conference Youth Board invited students to attend a free Fasting Youth Retreat (no food, only 100% juice or water) for 30 consecutive hours. Through fasting and a planned service project, our youth learned what it might be like to go without food, more about countries and people in need and how the saving message of Jesus' love makes all the difference. Through learning activities, devoted prayer time, worship and service project, our youth saw how they can have a local and global effect on hunger while sharing the gospel with others.



Calling all high school seniors, college students, and adults! Here is an amazing opportunity to participate in ministry. Serve as a counselor or staff member at Camp Suwannee for a week or two this summer. You'll be directly involved with campers in worship, games, fun activities, and Bible study all while building relationships that last a lifetime. Watch what God does in and through your life!

Pray about it and If you would like to serve on staff for either or both weeks of camp, please contact Randy Lamb at (386) 658-5344 or by email rlamb@acvillage.net.

My Camp Experience

Junior Camper Testimonies

I had so much fun, my favorite part about camp is getting to meet new friends and see old friends. I also loved my counselor, she was very nice and funny. I liked swimming at the pool with my friends.

Sofia Sosa

This was my second year at Camp Suwannee and I loved it! One of my favorite things was the Bowl Services every evening. We would gather around a campfire to sing songs to God and share about what He is doing in our lives. Another of my favorites was getting to go swim at the river! We played and splashed and also slid down the riverbank into the water. I had a very good time at camp this year!

Isabella Chapman

Senior Camper Testimony

The best memories I have always come from camp, it's crazy how one week can change your life, or even just one second someone says something to you or God speaks to you and everything changes. I've had the most amazing experiences at Camp Suwannee, my eyes were opened to so many things because God spoke to me. It's great to be around such remarkable people that pour life into you, but great is an understatement of how I feel. No place will ever compare to how Camp Suwannee has made me feel, even just standing there or looking at camp just makes me feel so much. It's a place that has made me feel God and his love more than any other place I've been. You make friends and connections that last a long time and you make memories that last a lifetime. I truly love camp, to some people it may be just some church camp but to me it's a second home because Camp Suwannee is without a doubt the most incredible place I can describe.

Ashlynn Clark

Upcoming Groups

Dates	Group Name
Feb. 27-March 1	Home of the Mother
Mar. 13-15	Dynamos #38
Mar. 27-29	Leadership Camp Phase IV (Canoe trip)
Apr. 8-12	Tres Dias Men #71
Apr. 17 & 18	Suwannee River Trail Tour
Apr. 22-26	Tres Dias Women
May 8 & 9	SHS NJROTC Military Ball
May 14-17	Peterson/Arnold Wedding
June 7-12	Creation Arts Camp
June 21-27	American Heritage Girls
July 5-11	FL Conference AC Junior Camp
July 12-18	FL Conference AC Senior Camp
July 19-24	First Assembly of God of Live Oak
Aug. 15	Leadership Camp - Phase I
Sept. 17-19	WH&FMS
Sept. 25-Oct. 4	Live Oak Comm. Church of God
Oct. 7-11	Tres Dias Men #72
Oct. 21-25	Tres Dias Women

Most Wanted List

We have some large ticket items. We understand that not many can cover the entire cost of these projects, however, many hands make light work.

- New Washers and dryers at Camp (4) - \$600 ea.
- Replace all bottom plexiglass windows at Rumph Pavilion (24) - \$30 ea.
- Replace twin mattresses (135) - \$150 ea.
- Folding chairs (24) \$30 ea.
- Replace Oak Deck - \$2,500
- Replace both Pine decks - \$5,000
- Scrape and resurface Pavilion floor \$30,000

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

Where Christ is Exalted through Camping

Camp Suwannee

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