



2007 CAMP MANAGER'S REPORT

Acadian Baptist Center was a busy place this summer! Our much anticipated Family Cabin was completed and it is great! Our primary goal for the Cabin is that it be used as a ministry to pastors and their wives for "alone time" to rest and rejuvenate. It will be rented out to others as it is available. We hope to build more as the Lord allows. The new Bathhouse by the pool was completed and both have been used often. They are a great asset to this ministry. Thank you to the many volunteers who made these new buildings possible. There have been over \$213,000.00 in improvements at ABC in the last 20 months.

ABC sponsored seven camps for youth and children this summer; as well as hosting seven other church groups. Once again, we hosted "Camp Inspiration" for children with asthma and "Camp Bon Coeur" for children with heart defects. We hosted four band camps, as well. During the course of the summer, we hosted fourteen retreats and eight church picnic/swims; four swims for a summer youth program and several other day activities. Our total attendance at summer camp was 2523 (does not include weekend numbers) and 6339 thus far this year. We served thirty-six thousand five hundred fifty-four meals thus far this year.

A total of 206 decisions were recorded at our sponsored camps this summer: 128 Professions of Faith; 65 Recommitments; 1 surrendering to full-time Christian service and 12 special prayer needs.

Thank you to our staff, board members, pastors, volunteers, Campers on Mission and prayer supporters. We would like to say a special thank you to Ted and Rita Callahan who have volunteered and served on our staff for the past seven years. They are retiring and planning to move to the Dallas area. Another special thank you is extended to Keith Langley for 10 years of service and Lynette Prather for 15 years.

One of the highlights of summer camp is the incredible worship services. Many times the altar was full. Several of our camps used the gym as a worship center, due to the numbers. One night, a teenage girl with multiple body piercings gave her life to Christ; another young lady surrendered to the ministry. The stories could continue as broken lives and hurting hearts were ministered to.

Guy Atkinson has begun our outdoor ministry. He taught several classes this summer – including tying knots, birding, archery, etc. He has structured a curriculum which will be made available this fall to Christian, public and home school groups on birds, plants, ecology, etc. The classes are especially aimed at 5th through 8th grade. He is also certified in leading archery and ropes courses.

Our Board of Directors is finalizing plans for expansion and renovation of our Cafeteria. We hope to start construction in August of 2008. Estimates for a 6000 square foot expansion run close to \$600,000. We will need your prayers and financial support for this special endeavor that is sorely needed.

Utility, food and fuel costs have risen considerably this past year. Please prayerfully consider increasing your support of ABC or making a special gift. Your help for the general ministry or our new building will be greatly appreciated. Consider attending and publicizing our upcoming events.

On a special note, I would like to thank everyone for letting me serve you here at Acadian Baptist Center these past twenty years. Shannon and I count it a privilege to be able to serve in the camping ministry of ABC. Having met here 24 years ago as summer staffers, ABC is a very special place to us. It has been a joy to raise our children here and see them grow in the Lord. Aaron was our Staff Director and Katy served with an evangelist this summer, leading many youth and children's camp.

God Bless,

James Newsom