



2025
Summer
Review

Church & Business Donors

We are grateful to all the churches, businesses, and foundations that give.
Here are those who gave \$1,000+ between January - July 2025:

Arcadia Christian Church
Bachelor Creek Church of Christ
Center Christian Church
Chaplin and Sons Construction
Church of Christ at Logansport
Church of Christ at Treaty
Cicero Christian Church
Converse Christian Planners Class
Converse Church of Christ
Converse Personal Storage
Cross Lane Community Church
CrossPointe Christian Church

E91 Foundation
East Union Christian Church
First Christian Church of Francesville
Fortville Christian Church
Frankton Christian Church
Harvest Community Christian Church
Hickory Grove Church
Imagine Unlimited
JD Levy & Associates
Jerome Christian Church
Krintz Lawn Care
Ladybug Cleaners
Lilly Foundation

Main Street Christian Church
New Paradigm Christian Church
Normanda Christian Church
Omega Christian Church
Onward Christian Church
Pisgah Christian Church
Refuge Christian Church
Schoettmer Family Foundation
TSW Holdings, LLC
University Christian Church
Upper Deer Creek Church
Walton Christian Church
West Walnut Church of Christ

Looking to the Future, by Bruce Cameron, Executive Director

What's the next chapter at THE ARK? We seem to be seeing it slowly unfold. For one, there is an increase in campers, churches, school groups, after-school programs, year-round programs for various ages, and guest groups. As this happens, we are also raising funds to rebuild the Thai Huts, remodel all the Lakeside Cabins into year-round facilities, and remodel the interior of the Cave. Please pray that God will provide the funding as we move forward. Grant funds are paying for an additional, glassed-in classroom at the Ark Science & Nature Center. Work is progressing on a full conversion of the swamp, thanks to amazing, skilled volunteers and also through grant funding. That leaves the Thai Huts being rebuilt while the swamp is dry this winter. We need the remaining funds and additional volunteers to assist with demolition and construction. Grant and memorial funds are providing an extension to the Tower Shelter to include a laundry and cleaning facility that will be built this fall.

Staff roles are evolving to enhance efficiency and support the management of more groups and campers. Everything changes as God provides more opportunities to bring His transformation into more lives. Thank you for your continued support! Please consider a special gift at this time to move THE ARK forward on these ongoing needs.

Giving to THE ARK

You make this ministry possible! Without the generous support of individuals, families, churches, foundations, and businesses, there would be no campers or year-round programming. Thank you for your partnership!

Mail your check to THE ARK
in the provided envelope.

Give online at www.thearkcm.org
and click on any donate button.

Give by Bill Pay or EFT - contact our office.

*Thanks for giving to
grow the Kingdom!*

Fruit of the Spirit in Action

Statements provided by 2025 Summer Staff

Galatians 5:22-23: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control; against such things there is no law." Here are some ways the summer staff saw the Fruit of the Spirit lived out this summer:

Love and Faithfulness:

"This summer, God opened my eyes to the radical faithfulness of His love for us. Even now, as I transition out of summer, God is teaching me how to love those around me with His faithful and steadfast love."

Joy:

"God gave me an abundance of joy this summer! Through interactions with campers, a job I love, and relationships with staff, I was overwhelmed with joy."

Peace:

"I found peace this summer at the end of every week when we all got to come together to celebrate baptisms. There is just something so peaceful about seeing someone make that public profession of faith and getting to celebrate with them."

Patience:

"When you spend 3 months with kids of all ages, it takes a special person to reel them in and give them the best camp experience. Witnessing how patient each staff member was in different situations really encouraged me to work on my own patience!"

Kindness:

"Some of the kids showed kindness to others when they were having trouble with craft time. The staff showed kindness by encouraging the kids to try the high ropes course."

Goodness:

"This summer, the way I understood God's goodness was through His faithfulness to me. He is the definition of good, and we can't be good without Him dwelling in us."

Summer Numbers

1,209 Campers Attended
35 Camp Sessions

600+ Volunteers
Kitchen, Office, Grounds,
Maintenance, & Faculty

51 Campers Accepted Christ
& were Baptized at THE ARK

\$21,000+ Given in
Missions Offering

Gentleness:

"I saw gentleness in the way our summer staff interacted with one another. This was expressed during stressful and tiring times in the summer."

Self-Control:

"Multiple children exemplified self-control throughout the summer by deciding to treat those who had hurt their feelings with kindness and gentleness instead of reacting in anger."



If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation...

Many Thanks, written by Carmen Filbeck, Missionary

This summer marked my second opportunity to serve as a missionary with THE ARK, and I can honestly say it's an experience that leaves a lasting imprint on the heart. From the moment I arrived, I was reminded of why this ministry is so special. The leadership's deep commitment to teaching the next generation about God's global mission is not just a vision statement—it's something consistently modeled in all aspects of the ministry.

One of the things that stood out most to me was the genuine sensitivity of the campers to the Lord's presence and leading. They listened intently, asked thoughtful questions, and responded with open hearts. It was inspiring to see young people not only hearing about God's mission but also beginning to see their own role in it. Seeds of faith were planted, and the harvest will be beautiful!

Serving alongside the staff, interns, and volunteers is always a joy and a privilege. The unity among the staff, the intentional focus on discipleship, and the love poured into every camper create an environment where God's truth is planted deeply. I leave encouraged, challenged, and grateful!

A huge thank you to the campers and volunteers for your generosity toward the Lanna Theological Center (LTC) Student Scholarship Fund—helping train, equip, and send students to serve God. Please keep praying for us at LTC as we work to build a much-needed men's dorm so we can equip even MORE for God's Kingdom work.



Bible Based
Christ Centered
Discipleship Directed
Mission Minded

A Life Changed by Jesus, written by Jen Hale, ARK Staff

Dr. Seuss is attributed as saying, "You never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory." That is a lesson I have learned time and again through the life of Blake Waggle. I met Blake when he was a shy seventh grader attending camp at the Thai Huts. Like many campers that week, he was trying to make sense of recent painful events in his life while having little experience with camp, church, and God. During that week of Thai Huts, Blake encountered the love of Christ and began to heal. The week ended with every Thai Hutter receiving their own Bible. Blake excitedly leaned over to me and asked me to show him how to find John 3:16. I happily showed him. Little did I realize the impact of that precious moment. Blake left the Thai Huts that year, assured that there was a God who loved him more than life itself. The following two summers, Blake returned for a week of Thai Huts and even chose to be baptized at camp. Throughout his junior high and high school years, I would often run into Blake. We'd talk about life, school, sports, and his walk with Jesus, which was shaky at best. Life was not going in the right direction for Blake. However, despite the downward spiral, Blake's life was about to take a transformative turn.

In his sophomore year of high school, Blake was invited by a friend to attend my church's youth group, and he decided to join the youth group's spring break mission trip. Blake was terrified to learn that everyone was required to share a testimony. He and I talked about his life and what God seemed to be teaching him. Then, just like we had years before, we looked in his Bible for relevant verses. When Blake gave his brief testimony, his voice quivered, and his hands were so shaky that he could barely read his script, but he did it. The following year, he again joined the spring break mission trip and again had to give a testimony. He'd grown so much in his faith and knowledge of God's Word that year that he knew what he wanted to share and had an idea of which verses he wanted to include. He was still very nervous about sharing with the group, but was more confident.

Blake is now entering his senior year of high school. This summer, he was a leader for Switch, a junior high camp. During a small group discussion one day, Blake shared about his life struggles and how empty they'd left him. He commented to me afterward that he couldn't believe he had done that, but felt like he should. We talked about the prompting of the Holy Spirit and how God was redeeming Blake's struggles by allowing others to learn from them. Little did we realize that the devos he shared on the mission trips and the impromptu testimony at Switch were preparing him for something much bigger that God was going to call him to do.

Six weeks later, during Merge, a camp for high schoolers, Blake sensed that he needed to share his testimony in greater detail with the ENTIRE camp. On July 15, 2025, I watched as shy Blake Waggle stood confidently at a campfire in front of over 200 people, sharing his testimony at length! His voice did not quiver at all as he shared about the painful events in his life, making poor choices, and the consequences of those choices, coming to camp, attending youth group and mission trips, and how God has and continues to change his life for the better. He ended by saying, "Coming to camp and on those mission trips helped pull me out of the darkness and helped me learn that no matter what I'm going through, I'm not alone, and that God will never give up on me." Afterwards, Blake shared with me how dozens of fellow campers and faculty thanked him for what he shared. He had never dreamed that sharing about the good, the bad, and the ugly of his life would so profoundly impact so many. Only God knows what is in store for Blake Waggle, but assuredly, Blake walks into his future with a God who loves him more than life itself. And you can bet I will be the first to volunteer to watch God turn more moments in Blake's life into incredible memories.

