



## P r a i s e s

- 56 campers accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior and were baptized at THE ARK this summer.
- 500+ volunteers gave countless hours serving in the kitchen, as faculty with the campers, mowing, in the office, and more.
- \$14,000 was given in missions offering this summer in support of Rebekah Hannum and Gabi Balestrini, who serve in Spain.
- 1,106 campers came to 31 camp sessions in June & July.
- Donors give faithfully so that campers can come to THE ARK and experience Jesus!
- God is using the newly renovated Ark Science & Nature Center multiple times a week with students in public and private schools.
- We received two grants from the Don Wood Foundation in Ft. Wayne. One grant is to run a Robotics Club out of the Ark Science & Nature Center for upper elementary and middle school students (that started on 10/17/24), and the other grant was a matching one to fund the final phase of the Ark Science & Nature Center which is a 3rd observatory classroom (construction will begin this winter).
- Donors generously gave \$93,000+ in less than 4 months to the matching grant mentioned above.

## R e q u e s t s

- For God to move mightily in the lives of Guest Groups and School Groups who are scheduled for retreats and educational field trips over the next few months. In September and October, we've had 8 school groups come for field trips that meet state standards in science/outdoor education.
- For wisdom, unity, and clarity in direction for the Board of Directors (Joey, Julie, Tim, Autumn, Lisa, Clint, Craig, Abby, Chris, and Brady) as they lead THE ARK. The board is part of a leadership cohort through the Christian Camp & Conference Association called Thriving Boards. We have a two-day retreat/training the first weekend in November.
- For Andrew who is leading a weekly Science class for homeschooled High School students and two monthly classes for Elementary homeschooled students.
- For the facilitators who come and share their time and talents to help us lead the school groups.
- For Yessica as she plans and leads after school programs. Please pray that the students who need to be here will be able to join and that it'll be a nurturing and growing environment for them.
- For Mason as he meets with volunteers and puts together the 2025 camp schedule.
- For Bruce and his family as they grieve the death of his wife Pamie, who passed away on September 14. (We praise God for Pamie's life; her impact and influence will be felt in the lives of those she touched for years to come, and we are so thankful.)



## Completed and in Process in 2024

- Installation of a climbing wall in the pool
- An additional 18-hole disc golf course was added to the existing 9-hole course
- Furnishings and Educational Materials in the Ark Science & Nature Center
- The main campfire area was renovated with new benches to seat 225+ people
- A new Shop Building and Facilities Manager Residence (goal is to move-in by Christmas)

## Upcoming in 2025

- A third observatory classroom will be added to the Ark Science & Nature Center
- Dredging and other work on the Swamp
- Jungle Huts renovations
- Thai Huts rebuild (this goes along with the swamp work)
- Make the Tower Shelter Bathrooms and Canteen area usable year-round (and potentially add laundry facilities to it)
- Beginning plans for a three-year campaign to build the first Lakeside Lodge



**New Construction: Shop & Staff House**



**Climbing Wall in the Pool**



**A school group learning in the Ark Science & Nature Center**



**Renovated Campfire area that seats 225+**



**Part of the new 18 Hole Disc Golf Course**

# Our Team

We hope this directory gives you a better idea of who you're praying for and who you're likely to see if you come to THE ARK Christian Ministries. In addition to the year-round staff pictured here, 15+ interns are hired each summer and over 500 volunteers support the ministry annually with their time, talent, and treasure.



**Amanda Bugos**  
Director of Development



**Bruce Cameron**  
Executive Director



**Karen Corn**  
Director of Food Services



**Andrew Hale**  
Director of Programming



**Jen Hale**  
Intern Manager



**Mason Hayden**  
Programming Manager



**Linda Kidwell**  
Reception/Guest Services Assistant



**Yessica Sandoval**  
After School Programming Manager & Huts Manager



**Suzanne Smith**  
Director of Guest Services & Registrar



**Mandee Winrotte**  
Financial Secretary/HR Director



**Danny Wright**  
Spiritual Director



**Larry York**  
Director of Facilities Management

Our board represents a cross-section of our community and is passionate about our organization and those we serve. The members work hard to ensure the organization's long-term sustainability and oversee that the funds raised directly affect those in need.



Joey Schlatter, Chairman  
Clint Manning, Secretary  
Chris Norris, Treasurer  
Abby Hayes      Craig McKillip  
Brady Manning      Autumn Carrell  
Tim Lewis      Julie Lewis  
Lisa Clark