

THE ARK Christian Ministries

3522 N 1000 W 27, Converse, IN 46919 Office: 765-395-3638 or 866-491-2212 Fax: 765-395-3819

Facilities & Services

Conference Center



Built in 2002, our newest facility on the grounds is the Conference Center. It provides year- round meeting space for large and small groups. Picture a large gym with an indoor climbing wall and high ropes course that also serves as a unique dining experience with buffet-

style meals provided by our wonderful kitchen staff. There are two conference meeting rooms that can be arranged to best serve your needs. The sleeping accommodations include dormitory style rooms fully equipped with bathrooms and showers. The two dorm rooms sleep 22 each.

The Conference Center provides the needed facilities for holding multiple small group meetings and luncheons or hosting large conferences, concerts, sports events and even weddings. This comfortable new 30,000 square foot air-conditioned Conference Center houses:

- An 8,640 square foot multi-purpose room which can be used as a spacious meeting space with seating for up to 1,000 or as a gymnasium, set up with basketball and volleyball courts as well as a world-class 30' climbing wall and a high-ropes course across the ceiling.
- Meeting rooms of various sizes.
- Dormitory sleeping areas with full restrooms & showers (two dorms sleep 22 each, 44 total).
- A fully equipped commercial kitchen serving up delicious buffet-style meals.



Main Camp

Cabins

For a more traditional retreat experience, come stay in our 10 cabins surrounding a small pond. Each cabin sleeps sixteen and houses its own set of restrooms and showers. Situated on 25+ grassy acres, Main Camp is a traditional camp with...

- 10 bunk-style cabins, equipped with restrooms and showers, facing a serene pond (each sleeps 16) and surrounded by spacious peaceful grounds and whispering trees.



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Cave Retreat Center



The Cave Complex offers a large meeting area that can be arranged to your tastes and can seat 150 and sleep up to 32. It also houses 2 dormitories that sleep 14 additional people each for a total overnight capacity of 60 people. Bathrooms

and showers are easily accessible, and the Cave offers groups the flexibility of cooking their own meals with a fully stocked kitchen: commercial stove, 2 ovens, large griddle, microwave, large toaster, freezer, refrigerator and utensils. The Cave is available year round.



Shelters

Main-side camp also offers campfire areas: Harmony Pavilion, Wilderness Shelter, the Wetland Gazebo and several other small group shelters. These areas are ideal for group picnics or any type of outdoor meetings or activities.



Wilderness



Jungle Hut Village

Providing an African-style rustic camping experience, the four huts (16 feet in diameter) on 8' high poles sleep 10 each. Cook over the open fire or join us for meals in the Conference Center. Move about the village traveling above ground on the walkways and meet together under the huts or in the Mission Compound. The Mission Compound provides a place for large group activities sheltered from the weather.

Thai Hut Village

The Thai Hut village offers the feel of Southeast Asia and living in a house built over the water on poles in our wetland area. Do your cooking over an open fire or join us for meals in the Conference Center. You can canoe from hut to hut or try one of our rope bridges to get around. Light the floating campfire and enjoy the sights and sounds of nature all around you.



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Activities

Noah's Ark

Built of cedar and local hardwood, the flag-ship of THE ARK, this model of Noah's Ark is the only true quarter-scale model of the petrified remains of the great Ark buried in the mountains of Ararat. Based on a blueprint taken from sub-surface interface radar scans, our ark is 130 feet long, 13 feet high and 21.5 feet wide, and sits on the edge of the water, waiting to set sail. Take a group picture on deck.



Recreation

Recreation areas: basketball court, softball field, sand volleyball court, a soccer field, and a 36' x 72' pool with water slides are just some of the many things to do. In warm weather, ask to enjoy the large (and wonderfully dirty) mud slide or trolley swing situated atop the Cave. These are quite popular activities!



Pipehenge



Sometimes called "Stardome," Pipehenge is based on the principal of Stonehenge in Britain. Located in front of the Conference Center, Pipehenge is an eight foot walk-in star observatory, a compass, a sundial-clock and a calendar. Pipehenge was obtained from New Zealand and is a practical aid in the study of astronomy, day or night. It is a teaching aid for science classes, and follows with declaring the glory of God since "the sky shows the work of His hands."

Group Initiatives Program

Take your group to a new level with trained facilitators to lead your group through team-building exercises while building unity and improving communication. Group initiatives are available year round with the indoor 30' climbing wall and high ropes course. The outdoor 45' tower has several high-rope elements including a 300' steel cable zip-line, dangling duo, climbing wall, catwalk and the matrix. This experience is designed for a variety of groups: schools, youth groups, adult retreats, businesses, and more!



THE ARK facilitators lead your group through games and initiatives that will help develop team-building, problem solving, leadership, and communication skills. We offer an indoor and outdoor high elements course to get participants out of their comfort zone no matter what the weather.



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Group Initiatives Program Overview

THE ARK offers a full Group Initiatives Program (GIP) through our gaming, low elements and high elements courses. The group initiatives process is facilitated by one of our trained volunteer facilitators who will help your group develop skills in the areas of teambuilding, trust, leadership, problem solving and communication.



Emotional, spiritual, and physical safety is paramount! THE ARK has modeled our GIP after standards set by Project Adventure (PA) and the Association for Challenge Course Technologies (ACCT). The low and high ropes course is thoroughly inspected annually to ensure the utmost safety.

On-going training is provided to our facilitators to keep safety standards fresh, introduce new elements and games, and continually improve their skills as facilitators.

The GIP is available to youth and adults of all ages. A custom GIP process can be adapted for youth as young as 2nd grade and is integrated into all age levels of camp programming.

Team Building — Problem Solving — Trust Activities

The GIP starts with activities that are designed to better introduce the group members to each other, develop a higher level of comfort between group members, address the dynamic of the group, and build a greater level of trust among each group. When the facilitator determines the group is ready, they graduate from the team building - problem solving activities to the low elements course.

The Low Elements Course

The low elements course is made up of more than 20 different elements that provide a true challenge for each group. The low elements require the group to reference skills they have learned during the team building-problem solving-trust activities to accomplish the challenge. After the low elements experience, the group is ready to trust and encourage each other in the ultimate challenge of the high elements course.

The High Elements Course

The high elements course is made up of over 10 high elements highlighted by our 45 foot tower! The high elements course requires the group to provide each other with an encouraging, trustworthy environment. THE ARK practices "Challenge by Choice" for all activities. For some people the ultimate challenge of the high elements may be to put on the harness, for others it may be to get to the top of the ladder, and for others it may be to reach the top. It is always up to each individual how far they wish to challenge themselves. The high elements experience is meant to bring together all of the skills learned, issues addressed, and dynamics identified from within the group and put them to work.

