

Campers on Mission National Newsletter

2nd Quarter 2026

“Sharing Christ as We Go”



Hi COM family,

It has been a busy quarter. We hope your chapter is geared up and doing well.

Since we have last reported, many things have happened. This was our first year participating in the Strawberry Festival at Plant City Florida. We worked there for the week prior to the festival and most of the festival. It was such a worthwhile ministry. There were five salvations and countless breakfasts, lunches and dinners served to fair workers as well as a large homeless community. We had the opportunity to pray with dozens and minister in many other ways. It would have been impossible to do without the cooperation and help of Turkey Creek First Baptist Church and Liberty Southern Baptist Church and COM'ers from many states.

During National COM weeks, March 15th-April 4th, many COM'ers congregated at the Great Passion Play in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. We had members from Arkansas, Illinois, Nevada, Mississippi, Georgia, North Carolina, Iowa, Missouri, and Indiana helping build, repair, decorate and assist in every imaginable way to be ready for the play performance on Good Friday and Saturday before Easter. It was a great time of fellowship and accomplishments. We hope you can be a part of it next year. This may be the last season Joe Smith performs the preshow of the Potter. It is awe inspiring.

Let us know if you and your family plan to attend The Great Passion Play. We can arrange for you to get free tickets for the show and the Holy Land tour. Eureka Springs is only an hour away from Branson, Missouri. Your whole family will enjoy the trip.

Our future plans for next quarter are Illinois and Michigan rallies and, of course, the National Rally in Amana Colonies, Iowa. If you haven't sent in your praise reports and obituaries, get them to Karen Mowers, and Cindy Truesdail. Award nominees need to go to Barbara Coulthurst by May 1. Award Plaques cost \$35 each. If you have not registered for the rally, do so immediately. We look forward to seeing you there.

Don and Jan
National Coordinators



National COM Officers

National Coodinators—Don and Jan Kragness, campersonmission72@gmail.com

National Treasurer—Barbara Coulthurst, taxeaze@gmail.com

National Secretary & newsletter editor—Karen Mowers, kcc61254@gmail.com

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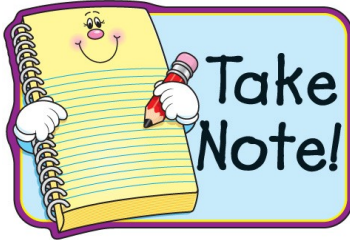
National website: campersonmission.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS



2026 President meeting dates –

Zoom meetings held at 6 pm Central Time Except for National Rally



June – National Rally, Art Zawislak, Lead President
Tuesday, September 8, Rick Mott, Lead President
Tuesday, December, 8, Rick Mott, Lead President

A new location has been added to the National Project List

Farmington Conference Center in Farmington, Maine

Contact: Kristi Rackliffe

Facebook: Farmington Conference Center

Email Address FarmingtonConferenceCenterInfo@gmail.com

Phone Number 207-491-3530

Farmington Conference Center is a rental retreat and camp facility situated on 42 beautiful acres. We hope to advance the Kingdom by pointing others to Christ and desire that all who come to Farmington Conference Center experience the love of Christ and are refreshed after spending time here.

Welcome 2026! We are looking forward to the 2026 season that is quickly approaching. We are still looking for some volunteer groups and couples to come help with projects. Are you a COM or retired couple and looking for a place to serve for a few weeks or maybe the summer? We have a place for you! Give us a call!

NATIONAL RALLY NEWS



At the March 10 President meeting, a discussion

was held about the National Rally locations for 2027 and 2028 since no state(s) have volunteered to host. The discussion centered on the following:

- a) date of the rally being held the first week in June as conflict for graduations, schools still in session and other family conflicts at that time
- b) the amount of money and work it requires for one state to host alone
- c) the distance some have to travel if it is anywhere but a central location in the USA

A motion was made by Wallace Blackstock, Georgia, second Rick Mott that the region reps work on this plan to organize changes to the National Rally to find a central location and organize a committee to take on the designated tasks listed in the by-laws. Motion passed. This was not intended to put all the work on the regional reps as they are already working hard in their jobs but it will be their task to help form an executive committee, find a central location and oversee tasks.

It was suggested that each President should consider who in their membership would be good to help with the planning tasks and leading committees. **Are you willing to step up and help with either the executive committee who does the planning or be a team leader and take on a job at the rally and make up your team and handle it? Or do you have suggestions of a central location that can be used for a rally?**

The goal is to choose three—four central locations (approximately 1—2 day drive for everyone) that will be rotated in hosting a National Rally. We want to find places that have things to do close to them, be near a project area so that some can do both the rally and a project if they so desire, can host a large number of campers to park comfortably, have adequate meeting space, is climate controlled to avoid weather problems of heat or cold or rain and is available anywhere from early June to mid June for a week.



If you want to volunteer to be part of the planning in some way, please let your state COM president know so that they can pass your name on to the committee and plans can get quickly underway. If we all take a task, it will be a lighter job for the leaders, will be more fun because we will have a stake in making it successful and we can learn more from each other and work with friends.

**Please pray about the part you
can have in this new plan!**

You may also contact your Regional Representative, the National Coordinator or any COM leader. We promise that the we will give you your choice of jobs if you volunteer early!!!!!!

Book Link



Do you have Christian books, including Sunday School materials laying around that need a good home? **Why don't you bring them to the national rally and donate them to Book-Link!** Flinn Gregory, Executive Director of BookLink.

For those who have not heard of BookLink, their mission is to collect new and used (recycled) Christian materials. They:

Collect, pack and ship Christian study tools and Bibles to Baptist missionaries, theological students, and national pastors in developing countries.

Provide churches and individuals with opportunities to help Christians preparing to serve God around the World.

Assist in building up libraries in Baptist Seminaries, schools for pastors and other Christian centers on mission fields who have little or no reading resources.

Resources needed include: Bibles and New Testaments • Commentaries • Concordances and Dictionaries • Study Course Books • Sunday School literature for all ages, including teacher's books • Books concerning Baptist beliefs & doctrines • Vacation Bible School materials • Hymnals and Choir music • Religious Biographies • Bible Atlases, Dictionaries & Encyclopedias • Bible Study or Sermon Magazines such as Proclaim, Decision, Biblical • Illustrator, Administrator, Deacon etc. • Bibles and Bible Studies on Tape, CD or DVD.

Guidelines for MATERIALS NOT NEEDED include: No items that are significantly damaged • No fiction or novels (secular or Christian) • No materials with answers already filled in • No missions, parenting, or other magazines based on American culture (includes Home Life & Mature Living)

For more information you may contact
Flinn Gregory at gregoryikey@gmail.com



A New COM Project Needing Help

Hello from (still) snowy and cold Alaska. Twenty years ago, I founded and still lead GraceWorks Alaska here in Anchorage. This coming Summer we will be hosting 53 church/school groups serving and sharing Jesus in public city parks and mobile home parks. We don't do construction.

We run our mission with volunteer staff of which about half are seniors like myself. If you might have an interest serving up here in Alaska this Summer or Summer 2027, please check out our web page. We have options for parking RVs as well as housing if you choose to fly instead of drive. <https://www.graceworksak.com/serve/>

Special urgent need for culinary ministry in June. Cooks and helpers. Also public park hosts caring for mission teams working in one of our 11 locations daily. Also housekeeping and food shopping.

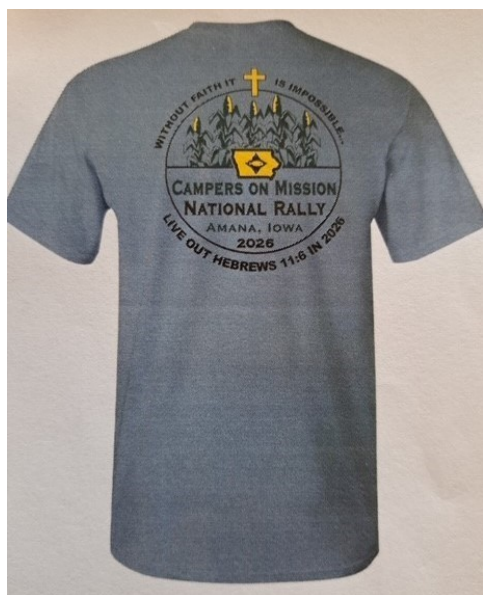
Hope to hear from you. Scott Kirby 907-440-4974



Did you know that Alaska is the least church-attending state in the US? Only 36% of Alaskans say they identify with any religious group. Alaska is far less churched than any of the Central American and Caribbean countries. People think of Alaska as a tourist destination, but we are a mission field.

At GraceWorks Alaska, we believe that the Great Commission is not for the World to go to church, but for the Church to go to the World. We want everyone everywhere to have an everyday relationship with Jesus.

We help create opportunities for mission volunteers to share the life-transforming message of Jesus in the communities we serve.



T-Shirt Ordering Deadline

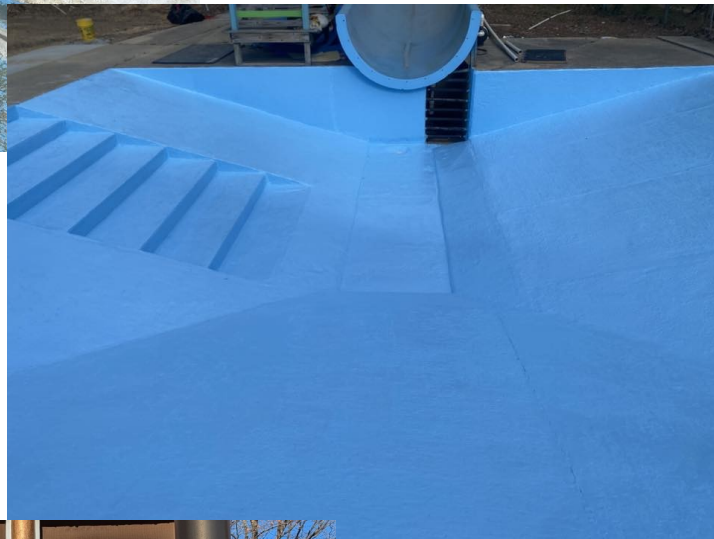
If you would like to add a rally T-shirt, please be sure your **registration and order are completed by April 15** so we can include your shirt in the final order.

This is the t-shirt design so please get your t-shirt order in right away.

IOWA COM



Louisiana COM worked on a pool this week. It went from this to this beautiful pool. Thanks Louisiana for your work.



COM volunteers from all over the country working together at The Great Passion Play in Eureka Springs, AR. Groups from week one and week two. One more week of work to go. Thanks for your work.





South Carolina working hard at the camp. Building a house and now starting on a tiny house, sewing, decorating, remodeling a jail chapel and so much more. SC, you are inspiring a lot of people to serve.



California COM working at Camp Cazadero Baptist Camp.

They worked hard doing lots of outdoor projects.



Georgia COM at Racetrack ministries, equestrian ministry and Samaritan Purse ministries.



Indiana COM working hard to help others.



Iowa COM is busy working on the National Rally.

Updated Menu – Please Review and Send Your Choices

The **updated meal menu is now available**. Even if you have **already submitted your registration**, we still need you to **review the menu and send us your meal selections**. Iowa COM is working hard to provide meals for the campers and it is one of the primary ways we are raising money to pay for our expenses at this rally.

Menu Update – Pulled chicken has been added as an option for the Tuesday evening BBQ dinner. If you'd like to revisit your meal choices or add meals, please reach out to us via email to iowacampersonmission@gmail.com. We are also happy to provide more information or options for specific food allergy accommodations.

Meal Selection Deadline – April 15 All meal selections must be submitted by **April 15**. After this date, we may not be able to guarantee meal availability.

Lunch meals: Because of the distance to other meal options, Illinois COM and Missouri COM will be working together to prepare some quick, reasonably priced meal options for Tuesday and Thursday at noon.

Wednesday will be the President's luncheon for all state Presidents and Vice-Presidents and their spouse.

A bbq meal will be available to purchase from Iowa COM for the rest of the rally attendees. Please contact Iowa COM about this option.

PLEASE CONTACT IOWA COM FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT MENUS.



Scan for Online Registration



More National Rally Information:

For those of you who are attending the rally, here is a partial list of ministry and educational seminars that will be presented this year: (some are still in progress on the planning and more will be offered but have not yet been confirmed)

Prayer Bibles

Plastic Bag Mats

Bible Tassels

Three Circles Evangelism

Influence of a Godly Man

Grief and Loss

Equipment Safety

Jobsite Safety

Bible Journaling

Campfire cooking

Barbara Coulthurst—seminar on taxes for COM expenses

39 second gospel

Prayer bears ministry

Drawstring bags & sling back bags

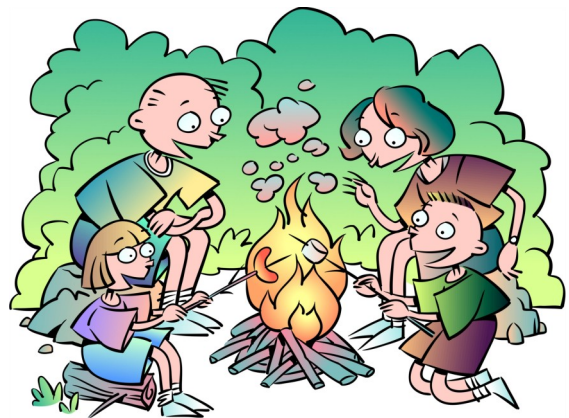
Others still not confirmed

Teen focus

Soul Care

Insurance & ministry

RV Maintenance



PLUS YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS THE DISPLAY AREA!!!!

TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET YOUR NATIONAL COM NAME BADGE!!