



Ministry Impact Report

FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP. LASTING IMPACT.



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From the Director's Desk

"God continues to use Montgomery as a place of welcome, renewal, and transformation." —Rebekah Rodgers, Executive Director



Every summer at Montgomery Center tells a different story.

Some stories are loud—children laughing on the waterfront, campfire songs echoing through the trees, or the excitement of conquering the climbing wall. Others are quieter—a counselor praying with a camper, a volunteer repairing a cabin, or a church returning year after year because Montgomery has become part of its story of faith.

Ministry is measured by more than attendance. It is found in deepening relationships, growing partnerships, and moments when people encounter God's love through Christian community.

Behind every number in this report is a person, and every story reflects how God continues to use Montgomery as a place of welcome, renewal, and transformation. This ministry is made possible by faithful churches, generous donors, dedicated volunteers, an incredible staff, and all who pray for Montgomery throughout the year.

As you read, I invite you to consider a question we often ask around the campfire:
Where did you see God today?

Grace and peace,
Rebekah

Impact

Retention Rates & Geographic Reach

Summer Camp Retention by Year

Percentage of unique overnight campers who were returning versus first-time campers each summer.

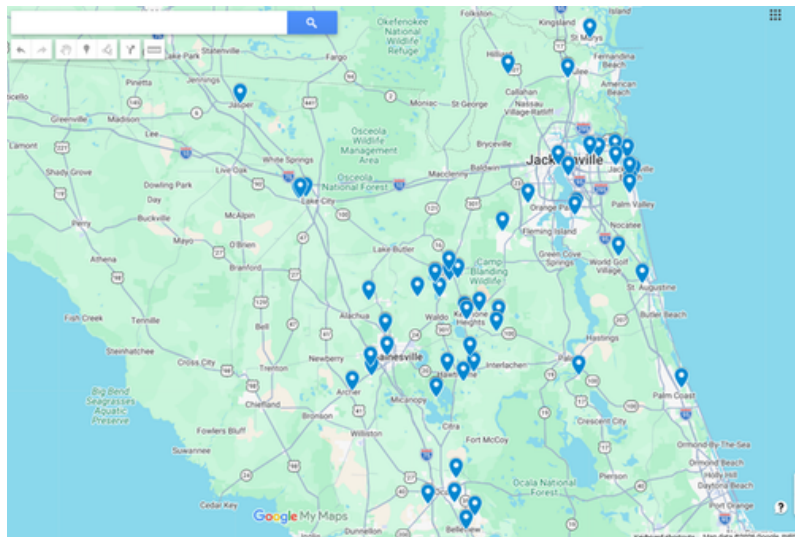


In 2026, Montgomery Center welcomed a vibrant community, serving **721 guests** across various programs. Our summer camps engaged 103 campers, fostering a spirit of camaraderie and growth.

“The growth we have seen in him—both in his faith and overall—has deepened each year he has attended camp.”

The commitment of **25 summer staff** helped create a supportive and enriching environment. We are proud to report that **64% of campers returned** from previous years, illustrating the deep connections formed, while 36% were new, bringing fresh perspectives and energy to our community. These efforts spanned **more than 25 communities** across Florida and Georgia, reinforcing our mission to provide a welcoming space for all.

Every number in this report is not just a statistic; it represents a person welcomed, known, and invited to grow. Together, we continue to nurture relationships that transform lives and create lasting impacts in our neighborhoods.



Each pin represents a camper in the 2026 camp program.

Leadership Takes Root

"I can't wait to come back next year as a counselor."



Leadership Development and Childlike Faith

This summer, we saw campers make an impact in different but equally meaningful ways. New and returning campers stepped into our CIT (Counselor-in-Training) and LIT (Leader-in-Training) programs, beginning the transition from campers to leaders. Their willingness to serve, encourage younger children, and be fully present blossomed throughout the summer. Their courage to serve their peers was truly a blessing.

We also saw that age does not limit the influence one can have at camp. A six-year-old day camper attended for four consecutive weeks and quickly became a beloved part of camp life. Whenever "Look Up Child" played during lunchtime, he excitedly sang—or shouted—the words for everyone to hear. Before long, campers and staff joined in, and the song became one of the most recognizable traditions of the summer.

His enthusiasm was contagious. What began as one child joyfully singing became a reminder to the whole camp to look to God with the same confidence, energy, and childlike faith.

Together, these moments captured the heart of the summer: campers growing into leaders, younger campers shaping the culture of camp, and faith being shared through service and joy.

Faith Formation

Exploring Scripture and Building Community Relationships



Bible study became a cherished part of camp under the guidance of seminary intern Jenny. Campers explored Scripture, asked honest questions, connected biblical teaching to daily life, and helped lead vespers. This year, they were encouraged to share their thoughts and feelings openly, fostering an environment of trust and growth. Campers expressed their gratitude through heartfelt reflections on what they learned.

That engagement carried into evening worship, where campers became increasingly enthusiastic about helping lead vespers alongside our camp chaplains. They were not simply hearing Bible stories; they were discovering their own place in the community of faith.



"Thank you for spreading the gospel with us," one camper shared, while another remarked, **"Thanks for teaching me the Bible."** The impact of these discussions extended beyond camp; many campers returned home inspired to live out their faith daily.

"'Bless the Lord, O My Soul' was playing, and everyone was singing—including me."

Partnerships

Impact beyond summer camp



Ministry partners brought children and youth from across the country—and around the world.

Mandarin Presbyterian Church returned with KKamp, where elementary students built relationships and practiced faith through interactive prayer stations and camp traditions. Reverb Church's growing program welcomed approximately 200 participants and celebrated more than 20 baptisms in Emerald Lake.

CampAbilities served young people with visual impairments; the Boys & Girls Club of Keystone Heights offered local children recreation and connection; and CISV Jacksonville brought together delegates from ten countries.

Dada Bhagwan returned for a second year, Paxon Revival added an elementary camp, and Orange Park Presbyterian Church helped welcome Kim's Open Door for an end-of-summer celebration.

Together, these partners foster hospitality, belonging, and connection while extending Montgomery's ministry far beyond a single camp season.





Hearts to Serve

The spirit of service we saw in our campers was reflected throughout the wider Montgomery community. At least 19 volunteers served in ways we could count, while many others supported the ministry off site and behind the scenes.

They guided worship, cared for campers' health, handled transportation and logistics, prepared facilities for summer, maintained the grounds year-round, and offered leadership, encouragement, and practical help wherever it was needed.

Some served for an entire session; others came for a project, gave a day, or responded to a need from afar. Whether visible or unseen, every act of service helped create the welcoming and supportive environment our campers experienced.

Their faithful service is essential to the ministry of Montgomery Center.

19+ VOLUNTEERS
COUNTLESS ACTS OF SERVICE
And many more supporting Montgomery behind the scenes.



Stewardship in Action

Revenue Streams & Resources for Sustainable Growth

Financial Snapshot

- No short-term operating borrowing was required during the summer season.
- Montgomery continued to meet all financial obligations as scheduled.
- Summer camps and guest groups provided steady ministry and operating revenue.
- Scholarship and sponsorship gifts provided \$27,267 in assistance to 59% of campers.
- Careful stewardship and transparent financial reporting continue to guide the ministry.



Summer Revenue by Revenue Source



By balancing Montgomery's own camp programs with increased availability for guest groups, the ministry welcomed more people, diversified summer revenue, and made fuller use of its facilities. This evolving model supports greater financial sustainability while extending Montgomery's ministry of Christian hospitality to a growing community. Scholarship support was an important part of that stewardship, helping ensure that financial circumstances did not prevent children from experiencing camp, building relationships, and growing in faith.

"I am a single mother, and without this support, my child wouldn't have had the opportunity to bond with others and grow in faith."

Facilities & Improvements



Every improvement supports Montgomery's mission to provide a safe, welcoming space for faith, relationships, and Christian hospitality.

After a spring storm destroyed the woodshed beside the main firepit, the maintenance team built a new one and restored a favorite gathering place. The prayer labyrinth was also renewed as a quiet space for reflection and prayer.

At Emerald Lake, the swimming dock received a softer surface, while new inflatable play structures added energy to the waterfront.

Project: Sleep More increased overnight capacity to twelve beds per cabin and three per inn room. Donated shipping containers became air-conditioned cabins—the Highlanders—while the four-bedroom Lakehouse, with additional flexible sleeping space, opened as another retreat space.

When the Gator failed, supporters helped secure a lightly used Axis side-by-side, turning an unexpected need into a lasting investment.

Together, these projects strengthen Montgomery's ability to welcome people and create space for faith, friendship, rest, and lasting memories.

Looking Ahead

Preparing for future programs and community growth



The Ministry Continues

Summer camp may be over, but the ministry of camp never ends. Throughout the coming seasons, Montgomery will continue welcoming guests to rest, learn, worship, build community, and experience the beauty of God's creation.

Upcoming programs and guest groups include:

- Fall Retreat, Winter Camp, and Spring Retreat
- Bartram Trail District Scout Camporee
- Veteran Women Ignited Retreats
- Choose FI Jacksonville Retreat
- School trips with Pathfinder Outdoor Education
- Flint Hill K9 Scent Training
- Krawlin for the Fallen
- Presbyterian Women gatherings
- Equipped to Serve: Presbytery Enrichment & Training Event

Each gathering brings new people and new opportunities for connection. As Montgomery welcomes these communities, we remain committed to offering Christian hospitality and creating a place where people can grow in faith, deepen relationships, and find renewal.

Thank You

To our **Board of Trustees**, thank you for your leadership, wisdom, and commitment to Montgomery's future.

To our **churches**, thank you for partnering in ministry and helping nurture faith in children, youth, and families.

To our **volunteers**, thank you for offering your time, talents, and Christlike service with joy.

To our **summer and seasonal staff**, thank you for your servant hearts, dedication, and lasting influence on our campers.

To our **donors**, thank you for creating opportunities for campers to encounter God and experience Christian community.

The ministry of Montgomery Center is only possible because of the incredible community that surrounds it. Every camper welcomed, every meal served, every cabin prepared, and every life impacted is the result of countless people faithfully serving together.

Above all, we thank **God**, whose goodness and grace are evident in every changed life, answered prayer, friendship, and act of service.

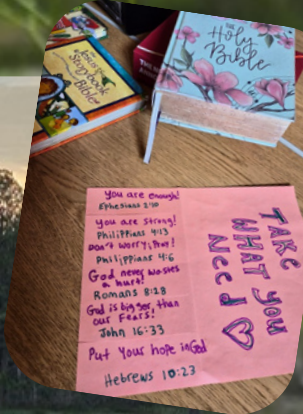
Thank you for being part of the Montgomery story. We are grateful for your partnership and look forward to all God will continue to do.



Thank you so much for making me happy, and thank you for teaching me about my Lord and Savior. This is the best camp ever.

Where Did You See God Today?

"She loves coming to make new friends and grow in her relationship with God. Last year, she cried the whole way home because she was going to miss camp so much."



Thank you so much for the wonderful lessons you taught us.

