Diocesan Summer Camp 2005
Report for Diocesan Convention

Respectfully Submitted by Kim and Tim Gray, Camp Directors, Cathedral of St. James

Summary of Activities for 2005

Camp Planning Committee Members:

Fr. Brian and Tamisyn Grantz, St. Anne's, Warsaw
Jason Beschinski, Kim and Tim Gray, Steve Richards, and Erica Vitale, Cathedral of St. James, South Bend
Julie Handschumacher, St. Andrew's, Kokomo
Katy White, St. Michael and All Angels, South Bend

Camp Planning Committee Meetings:

January 29th, 2005
February 12th, 2005
March 19th, 2005
May 14th, 2005

June 5th, 2005: All Staff Meeting/Prevention of Sexual Misconduct Training

- Included camp nurses, planning staff, counselors, counselors-in-training, and program staff who met to answer questions, build community and discuss our theme
- All new staff participated in prevention of sexual misconduct training, lead by Katy White, St. Michael and All Angels, South Bend.

June 12th-18th, 2005, Camp Mack, Milford, IN
Diocesan Summer Camp, "A Series of Fortunate Events"

- 186 total, 60 Staff, 126 Campers *(2004: 141 total, 45 staff, 96 campers)*
- This year's theme, "A Series of Fortunate Events", used a variety of stories from the bible to show how God's blessings are sometimes disguised. The daily themes are listed below.

	Unfortunate	**Fortunate**
Monday: The Story of Joseph	*Joseph is sold into slavery, uncomfortable with his surroundings, and far from home.	*His life was a **JOURNEY** with God, and he listened to what God was telling him.
Tuesday: Story of Jeremiah and Mary	*These are young people that God asked to be different. He asked them to do "impossible" tasks.	*God gives us the tools we need to do His will. We are **CALLED.**
Wednesday: Story of the Feeding of the 5,000	*Resources seem limited, and we don't have what we need. We are hungry.	*God makes the presentation of our **GIFTS** more than enough to feed everyone.
Thursday: Story of Jesus in the Temple	*Jesus' parents believe He is lost or missing and they anxiously search for him.	*We are never lost. If we **SEEK** God's will, we find what we are looking for.
Friday: Story of Jairus' Daughter	*Jesus' parents believe He is lost or missing and they anxiously search for him.	*We are never lost. If we **SEEK** God's will, we find what we are looking for.

- Various activities included: daily program and worship, waterfront, hikes to the cross, boating, "Gross Games", scavenger hunts, daily devotionals, arts and crafts, field games, singing, free time, low ropes course, campfires, and prayer.

August 28th, 2005: "Thank You" Staff Barbeque at the Gray's

Accounting for Money (See Diocesan Budget)

Recommendations for Action for 2006

- Our camp numbers grew greatly this year! Thank you to everyone who helped spread the word!
- We had a lot of new staff members this year. One reason, we believe, is the addition of the senior high camp, Camp Timothy. High schoolers who participated in this event were anxious to get together for another camp experience. Their leadership and enthusiasm as CIT's and counselors at camp was inspiring for the present and encouraging for the future. **NOTE: Youth leaders are only as good as their adult mentors. For the CIT program to be a success, it requires the presence of strong adult leadership…thank you Jason Beschinski who tirelessly gives to our youth.**
- The follow-up party at our house was/is a great fellowship experience. We think it creates a community of people that want to return for the following summer, and sometimes draws new people into the group.
- Thank you again to Greg and Cindy Croyle for continuing to improve the database program which is already being used for other diocesan programs.
- In 2005 we sent all parishes examples of bulletin flyers, copies of camper and staff applications. We also made personal visits to parishes to encourage camp participation and awareness. **Because of the increased publicity on both a parish and diocesan level, we noticed a marked improvement in the number of parishes that participated in sending youth and staff to camp! Hooray!**
- Thank you especially to Fr. David Hyndman, Dcn. Gloria Taylor, and Rev. Jane Schmoetzer for their participation as age group chaplains. (This was a newly created position this year, largely undefined until they brought their energy, creativity, and faith leadership to the roles.) Fr. Charlie Deaton (Mississippi) and Fr. Brian Grantz were the musical headliners and program emcees.
- We recommend two paid full-time nurses next year at camp to help with the increased numbers of campers. It was also helpful to have some staff with EMT training.

For the second year in a row, it has been a pleasure to be camp directors. Camp was once again full of "fortunate events" for everyone present (if you haven't heard…just ask someone!) Thank you for allowing us the honor of directing this ministry.

DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMP 2006
June 18th-24th