**SHOCCO SPRINGS BAPTIST CONFERENCE CENTER**

As 2019 comes to a close, we are humbled to see and hear the impact of God speaking in significant ways to our guests, staff, and volunteers. Shocco Springs’ distinctly Christian environment has remained constant since Alabama Baptists purchased it in 1948. The purpose of spiritual transformation and renewal is evident in everything that occurs here.

The mission in action is seen and felt by the over 41,000 people who have visited our campus over the past 12 months, coming together for a variety of purposes. We see it in spiritual decisions made during that time. Their experiences have led them onto a path of following Christ or deepening their walk with Him. Pastor Jarman Leatherwood of the House of Hope and Restoration Church in Huntsville recently shared, “For me, Shocco has really been an amazing blessing. The demands of ministry and family life can take a toll on you. I need a time to separate, so I can pray and meditate and talk to the Lord. For me, Shocco has been that place and is making a difference in my ministry.” Story after story, we are awed by the ways God uses His people on this campus to accomplish His purposes.

Several exciting construction and renovation projects have been completed this year. Ricker Activities Center has been transformed into a dedicated worship location. With generous donations given and invested across the years for a new worship center, along with several current and in-kind partner gifts, Ricker Worship Center was ready for use in May with our first summer camp. The Gospel is presented there and lives are being changed! We also have added a large pavilion at the recreation area and 5 smaller pavilions around the campus providing shelter and awesome spots for quiet times and group gathering spaces.

Volunteer groups over the years have become an integral part of the Shocco ministry. Over the last twelve months, 163 wonderful volunteers have served over 7,400 hours maintaining and improving our facility along with providing excellent service to our guests. Our largest group of volunteers is the Alabama Campers on Mission and they have completed many projects through the years. Each of these Alabama Baptist friends serve well and demonstrate their commitment to the Lord through their time at Shocco and many other locations. We are very blessed to have them on the Shocco Team!

It is a blessing to see the Lord work in such obvious ways through the ministry of Shocco Springs. The Board of Trustees and staff are deeply appreciative to Alabama Baptists for using our facilities, praying for us, partnering financially, making contributions of time and talent, and especially with gifts through the Cooperative Program. May God continue to be glorified and honored through lives He continues to change on the Shocco campus.