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2021 Report to Annual Associational Meetings

Shocco Springs has a long history of being a place where people come to find solitude and rest among God’s creation, giving them a chance to unplug and escape the distractions of life while drawing closer to God. Located on almost 900 beautiful acres in Talladega, our camp and conference center provides lodging, food service, meeting space, and recreational opportunities for approximately 40,000 guests each year.

Summer of 2020 was definitely not “business as usual” for Shocco Springs. Campus was beautiful as always, but it was quiet. We missed the familiar sounds of constant multitudes of kids splashing in our Aqua Park on the lake and the cheers of students as they prepped for team activities. It was strange not to see groups of kids sprawled all over the grass in front of the chapel or on the rock walls near the stream, working on their daily Bible studies.

But this summer we have experienced a complete, 180-degree change! Campus has been overflowing with high energy and excited students, eager to return to the full camp experience of new friends, incredible recreational activities, and awesome worship time. In 2020, guest numbers dwindled to less than 25% of our normal numbers. However, guest attendance for 2021 is almost back to pre-Covid levels. We give God the glory as we rejoice over the consistent reports of how students and adults continue to be impacted in wonderful ways through the ministry of Shocco Springs.

Always looking for new ways to love and serve our community, we had a dream of sharing our part of God's magnificent nature with local children who might never have an opportunity to visit Shocco with a church or other group. So for the first time ever, this July Shocco held a week long Day Camp for children from 5 to 12 years old. When reservations opened, our camp spots filled very quickly and left a long waiting list of students. Camp was a success and we were able to minister to around 60 children from our local community, several who were able to attend due to scholarships. The children enjoyed exciting recreation, crafts, and fun activities while learning about the love of God through Bible study and worship time. Our desire is that this will begin a tradition that will expand and minister to hundreds of local kids each summer.

God has been faithful to Shocco and we are committed to faithfully serving Him as we continue to welcome the thousands of people who visit our campus. The Board of Trustees and Shocco 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 be glorified and honored through lives He continues to change on the Shocco campus.

To find out more about how you can experience Shocco, visit our website at [www.shocco.org](http://www.shocco.org).