



NATURAL LINKS

MENNONITE CAMPING ASSOCIATION

JOB OPENINGS

Camp Luz, Orrville, OH, is taking applications for the position of Program Director. This full-time position is a key member of the year-round team and carries primary responsibility for planning and carrying out all retreat and summer camp programs at Camp Luz. The full job description is available at www.camppluz.com. Resumes should be sent to Andrew Michaels, Camp Director, at andrew@camppluz.com or mailed to the camp office.

Little Eden Camp, Onkama, MI, is seeking a full-time Guest Services Manager. The Guest Services Manager will provide leadership for the day to day marketing, booking and hosting of non-summer guest groups. This is a salaried, year-round position that includes benefits. To find out more about the position and the qualifications required, please download the job description on the website at littleeden.org. If you are interested in being considered for the position, please send a resume to admin@littleeden.org.

RECRUITING

2021 FALL RECRUITING

Wed., November 3--EMU
Thurs., November 4--Bluffton
Fri., November 5--Goshen

Mon. November 8--Hesston
Tue., November 9--Tabor
Wed., November 10--Bethel

Please let me know which Camp Days you plan to attend. In the past, campus pastors have often sent out information; knowing which days you plan to attend will help make sure you get the information you need.

Thanks,
Olivia Bartel
Email: olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org

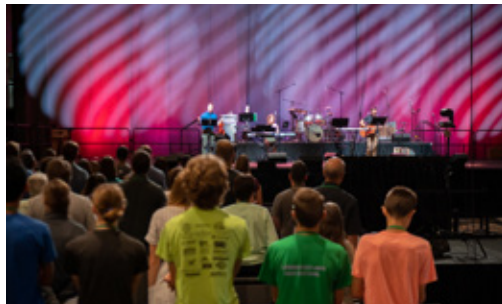
CAMP UPDATES

Woodcrest Retreat, Ephrata, PA, www.woodcrestretreat.org

Woodcrest Retreat is giving thanks to God for a record-breaking summer of intense ministry. We had 360 more campers than our previous record set in 2019 (a 24% increase)! Almost every week of camp was completely full, including three new weeks of camp that we added this year. Though we faced a few struggles with staffing and other challenges, the feedback from parents and campers has been so encouraging. For many of the children who attended, it was truly a life altering time both spiritually and emotionally.

This fall we took a step of faith and hired an additional full-time program staff to help us build on this momentum and offer additional off-season programming to serve the growing home school and Christian school community in our area. During the summer we also opened our newly complete playground expansion which includes a three-story tree house complete with rope bridge, fireman's pole, slide, and more. Plans are underway to replace our old bunkhouses with new cabins for overnight camps and add a program center that would include a new dining hall to feed our summer campers more adequately. ~ Bill Klees, Executive Director

MENNOCON'21



Mennonite Camping Association was represented at MennoCon'21, the MC USA convention in Cincinnati, OH, with both virtual and in-person booths. The convention was much smaller than usual with 253 adults and 281 youth & sponsors attending in-person. Approximately 500 adults, youth and sponsors participated in the virtual option of the convention. (All delegate sessions were virtual; there was some overlap between virtual and in-person attendees.)

It was an interesting convention for an interesting year. With the smaller number of attendees, there were still good conversations about camps and camping ministries, but fewer of them. The fake campfire continued to be a "hot" spot for attendees, but not having a display of camp tee shirts invited unexpected questions, such as "are you selling tents?" and "do you have trails and campsites?" One highlight was a conversation with a Laurelville summer staffer last seen at the Orlando, FL, convention in 2017. What fun to make a connection again!

There were 15 in-person and 19 virtual booths ranging from Mennonite Mission Network and Everence to colleges and universities. The virtual booths were not well attended, based on comments from other organizations. The MCA booth design was intended to imitate the sticker design with trees, a tent, and campfire. The primary giveaway for the convention was the new MCA sticker created by Erin Ramer. Remaining giveaways from past conventions were also available at the booth--guitar picks, pens, and stickers of the MCA logo.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the MCA booths! The next biennial convention is in 2023 in Kansas City. Further information about both conventions can be found at <https://convention.mennoniteusa.org/>.