



# NATURAL LINKS

## MENNONITE CAMPING ASSOCIATION

### JOB OPENINGS

Laurelville Retreat Center, Mount Pleasant, PA, seeks to fill two year-round positions: Assistance Maintenance Director & Co-Director of Food Service. Starting wage \$15/hour. Benefits and housing packages available. For more information, visit [www.laurelville.org](http://www.laurelville.org).

### RECRUITING

#### 2022 FALL RECRUITING

Wed., November 2--EMU  
Thurs., November 3--Bluffton  
Fri., November 4--Goshen

Mon. November 7--Hesston  
Tue., November 8--Tabor  
Wed., November 9--Bethel

Mark your calendars! More info to come at a later date.

### MCA GATHERINGS

#### SAVE THE DATE for the 2023 Regional Gatherings

March 20-23, 2023

Eastern Regional  
at Camp Hebron,  
Halifax, PA

West/Midwest Regional  
at Pine Lake Fellowship Camp,  
Meridian, MS



Drift Creek Camp, Lincoln City, OR

### CAMP UPDATES

#### Camp Friedenswald, Cassopolis, MI, [www.friedenswald.org](http://www.friedenswald.org)

This summer at Camp Friedenswald we played, prayed, and worked with clay as we explored the theme of “Shaped Like the Earth”. Throughout our weeks of summer camp we focused on the Genesis creation story – particularly God’s dividing of water and land and the creation of plants and trees, as well as exploring images of God as potter, found in the book of Jeremiah.

As we considered ways that we’re shaped like the earth, we also learned about the ways that the earth has been shaped here at Camp Friedenswald. Activities throughout the summer helped campers engage the theme more deeply - we went on glacial morphology hikes, learned about the indigenous peoples of this area, and formed clay that was harvested from the ground at Camp. As campers learned about the types of soils found at Friedenswald, and as they gathered around balls of clay that would become part of a community mosaic, conversations were sparked, relationships were deepened, and connections were made.

Together we celebrate and honor the ways that God shaped and continues to shape the earth and each one of us - and for the ways that shaping happened during summer 2022 at Camp Friedenswald! ~ Jenna Liechty Martin, Executive Director

#### Laurelville, Mount Pleasant, PA, [www.laurelville.org](http://www.laurelville.org)

Introducing the Laurelville Leadership Lab (L3), formerly known as the Values Based Leadership Program, launching November 1-3, 2022:

The L3 leadership retreat equips leaders who want to develop their leadership skills from a values perspective. This program has been revised and updated, combining the best from our 20 years of program experience with current research on leadership and more flexible delivery methods. This retreat is relevant to leaders from a broad base of organizations, whether for-profit or non-profit and faith-based or secular. Visit [laurelville.org/program-events/l3/](http://laurelville.org/program-events/l3/) for more information.

### TRANSITIONS

#### Spruce Lake, Canadensis, PA, [www.sprucelake.org](http://www.sprucelake.org)

Richard Brewer will become Spruce Lake’s new Director for their Pinebrook location near Stroudsburg, PA, effective this fall. He moves into the role held by Chad Strausbaugh, who served Pinebrook for four years and is now following a call he could not resist into pastoral ministry at First Baptist Church Allentown (PA). Richard currently serves as Executive Director of Camp Men-O-Lan near Quakertown, PA. His move to Pinebrook, though, is like a return home, as previously he had been on Spruce Lake’s staff in multiple roles including Expeditions Manager, Adventure Program Instructor, and Outdoor School teacher. His steady personality, passion for people, and love for Christian camping will follow him to Pinebrook. Richard and his wife, Liz, have four children.

#### Hidden Acres, New Hamburg, ON, [www.hiddenacres.ca](http://www.hiddenacres.ca)

Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp and Retreat Centre is excited to announce the hiring of its new Program Director, Emily Taylor. Emily is new to Hidden Acres but has been a life-long camper, LIT and staff member at another camp in Ontario. Emily says “This job has been an answer to prayer. It is such a special and unique thing to get to be part of creating a fun, safe and welcoming space for people to come to year after year, where they can experience God through nature, relationships and worship. I am so excited to get to be part of what God is doing at Hidden Acres, to join this incredible community in serving and building the Kingdom. I am so thankful for the warm welcome I have received from the HAC community.”