



NATURAL LINKS

MENNONITE CAMPING ASSOCIATION

JOB OPENINGS

CAMP UPDATES

Little Eden Camp, Onekama, MI, is looking for a part-time to full-time office manager. The role of the office manager is to provide leadership for the day to day operation of the office, supervising staff and volunteers, facilitating responses to customers and constituents, registering guests, processing guests check in and out, filing and record keeping, distributing newsletters, brochures and other forms of communication. To read the job descriptions for the position and the qualifications required, please go to the employment page at littleeden.org. If you are interested in being considered for the position, please send a resume to admin@littleeden.org.

Spruce Lake, Canadensis, PA, www.sprucelake.org

Spruce Lake's new Youth Campus is going up quickly since work began September 18th. Two areas of eight cabins each (for a total 16) are being built at their Wilderness Camp site so youth ministry can take place year-round. For more details and to watch the webcam, go to <https://www.sprucelake.org/give/>



AMBS

Pastors & Leaders Conference

Strategies for Peacemaking
February 19-22, 2024

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) Pastors & Leaders is an annual gathering of pastors and those who hold leadership roles in local congregations, chaplaincy contexts, regional churches, denominational settings, not-for-profits and community organizations.

We live in a time of polarization and division. How do we find our calling as a peace church in the world today?

This conference will focus on tools for peacemaking — building our capacity to tend to our inner work; address conflicts within our churches; and lead people to action on big issues such as climate change, immigration and political division.

The conference will be held in person, with livestreaming and Zoom connections also available for those at a distance.

For more info and to register: <https://ambs.edu/pastors-and-leaders-conference/>

Camp Friedenswald, Cassopolis, MI, www.friedenswald.org

Camp Friedenswald was honored for their efforts in the area of waste management and recycling at the recent Cass County Conservation District's annual meeting. Over the past number of years Camp Friedenswald has sought to make operational changes (everything from compost to staff wages) to enhance the resilience of the organization. Read at: <https://friedenswald.org/sustainability/>



Amy Huser,
Sustainability and
Outdoor Education
Director and
Jonathan Fridely,
Facilities Director

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

May we who have knelt
at the manger
always have room
to hold within ourselves the Christmas Child.

So may Emmanuel -
God with us and for us -
be once again
incarnated in the world.

May we who have gazed
on the face of God
learn to live fully,
and to share freely
all that we have and are.

by Pat Bennett



Binational gathering information on page 2



NATURAL LINKS

MENNONITE CAMPING ASSOCIATION

2024 MCA BI-NATIONAL GATHERING

Mark your calendars and prepare now to join us:

MARCH 11-14, 2024

at [Camp Squeah](#) in Hope, British Columbia

Keynote speaker, April Yamasaki

April Yamasaki is an ordained pastor, editor, and author of *Sacred Pauses*, *Four Gifts*, *On the Way With Jesus*, and other books on living life with faith and hope.

She currently serves as resident author with Valley CrossWay Church, which is a liturgical worship community; edits the quarterly devotional magazine *Rejoice!*; continues to write both online and in print publications; and often speaks in other churches and settings. She blogs on faith, life, and ministry at [AprilYamasaki.com](#) and [WhenYouWorkfortheChurch.com](#). Her next book is a collection of sermons to be released in 2023.

April holds a Master of Christian Studies from Regent College. She was happily married to her high school sweetheart until his death last year from cancer-related complications. Though grieving, she is grateful for a wonderfully supportive family and church community, good work, good friends, and God's mercies new every morning.



Travel subsidies still available!

Amount available:

USA: Twenty-eight \$250 individual travel subsidies, totaling \$7,000, are available for the Camp Squeah Bi-National.

Canada: Six \$250 individual travel subsidies, totaling \$1,500, are available for the Camp Squeah Bi-National.

Who is eligible:

Any staff or board member of a member MCA camp.

Any non-member individual or family member is welcome (and encouraged!) to register and attend, but are not eligible for a travel subsidy.

Details:

- **NOW**, through January 1st, **individuals** may apply for one \$250 travel subsidy.
- **Up to 3 staff or board members per camp** will be granted the subsidy.
- After January 1, any remaining subsidies will be available for any additional staff or board members to apply, from any member camp, including those who have already received 3 subsidies.
- Subsidy checks will be handed out at the Camp Squeah gathering, or email transferred (Canada) on March 11.

How to apply:

Contact Sean McConaghay at mennonitecamping@gmail.com.

**REGISTER BY
MARCH 1st**

Please register online

**or call Camp Squeah to register
over the phone:**

27915 Trans-Canada Hwy,
Hope, BC V0X 1L3

info@squeah.com | 604-869-5353

Rate and lodging info in registration link.

DECEMBER 2023

WWW.MENNONITECAMPING.ORG