

# MENNONITE CAMPING ASSOCIATION

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## JOB OPENINGS

Swan Lake Christian Camp, Viborg, SD, is seeking a program director for planning and implementing winter and summer youth camps. This is a half time position with the possibilities of becoming a full time position depending the additional skills of the applicant. Contact Jerry Kroeker, executive director at 605-351-6338.

## TRANSITIONS

The Camp Mennoscah, Murdock, KS, Board of Directors announces the resignation of Michael Unruh from the position of Executive Director, effective July 1, 2020. "We are grateful for the leadership Michael has provided over the last four years, particularly in the areas of fundraising and development." Michael will begin a new ministry position as Campus Pastor at Bethel College where he will oversee the campus ministries and faith formation of the students.

The Camp Mennoscah, Murdock, KS, Board of Directors announces the retirement of Gardell Stucky from the position of Facilities Director, effective October 30, 2020. "We celebrate Gardell's part in Camp Mennoscah's ministry over the past 7 years and wish him all the best in whatever adventures are ahead."



## CAMP UPDATES

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

Twenty employees from S & T Bank in Indiana, Pa., volunteered at Laurelville for the United Way's annual Day of Caring program on October 9.

Volunteers and staff members tackled three huge painting projects, removed brush on a quarter mile of tree-lined road, and re-installed a beloved six-sided swing structure and grant-funded, all-ability swings and basketball hoops.

The \$4,573 in funding for the accessible playground equipment and basketball hoops was provided by the Westmoreland County Community Revitalization Fund of The Community Foundation of Westmoreland County, affiliated with The Pittsburgh Foundation.

"We are so grateful for S & T's help! This was another fun year of major accomplishments," said Executive Director Jeanette Lahm.

"What a beautiful day in so many ways, the weather, the fellowship-- including seeing some colleagues who have been apart for months as we work remotely -- and of course, making an impact in the community," said LaDawn D. Yeshe, S & T Bank, Executive Vice President and Chief Audit Executive.

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

*This summer, Hidden Acres was able to hire four summer staff (typically between 35 to 40 are hired). The staff were each asked write a short reflection on their time spent at camp this summer. This is the response received from Brittany Ratelband, aka, Rai.*

This summer was filled with newness, difficulties, many highlights, and close community for both camp as a whole and staff. Personally, there was a lot of opportunity for my individual growth, intentionality in my relationships with other staff members, time to be creative in the programs that I helped create and implement, and most impactful, the space to be in nature and in the presence of God.

Myself, along with the other three summer staff members, spent our days this summer outside doing various maintenance jobs, creating online content for Hidden Acres' social media platforms, and leading programs for our on-site camping families and our two-day LIT (Leaders in Training) program. Most evenings we had the opportunity to build relationships and lasting memories with one another. Often, we would walk around the roads and fields surrounding the camp's property, bake in the kitchen, or even go out for ice cream together (which is very different from a normal summer)! One of my favourite memories with our small staff team was being able to travel to the Bruce Peninsula at the end of the summer for a hike, swim, and beaver tails!

Though this summer was filled with highlights and unique opportunities, it was also tough with the limited direct contact we had with our campers. As a staff in previous summers, it was hard not to hear the constant sounds of children's laughter, balls bouncing in the gaga ball pit, or water splashing in Lake Laverne. However, I know and trust that God worked in different ways this past summer too; ways that exceed our knowledge, understanding, and expectation, and I am so grateful for that! We saw Him work through the smiling day visitors that said they were impacted through our online programs, the single moms' tears of gratitude from our Camp-in-a-Bag project, and the relationships built between our LIT's. It was an absolute honour and joy to be a part of the summer staff at HAC this year, and I have confidence that the Lord's hand will continue to bless this camp ministry in the weeks and years ahead.