



Sheena Johnson <sheena@mennohaven.com>

MH Musings: August derecho, guests, & pool. Fall Work Day is coming!

1 message

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August In Review



On August 10th a **derecho** (a widespread, long-lived, straight-line wind storm that is associated with a fast-moving group of severe thunderstorms) rushed across Iowa and Illinois. While we were not in the worst part of the storm, **numerous trees came down across the property**: by the hotel buildings, in the middle of the Girls'/West Cabin Village, across trails, and in yards.

God had his hand on us as none of the trees hit buildings or crossed the main drive ways. **Most notable the tree that fell in the cabin village**



We were blessed this month to be able to borrow an **electrical tracer** from Litwiller Farm Drainage to find a break in the electrical line that supplies power to the pavilion in our North Park Family Campground. (Did you even know that our campground has an official name?)

With the help of the tracer, the break was quickly found. The break was repaired and power restored. This is especially significant as the campground has had much more activity this summer as compared than typical summers. **Thanks Dave and Marc for**

surrounded but did not hit the water fountain (see photo above)! We are so thankful for God's hand of protection. Our prayers are with our friends in Iowa and Illinois who sustained property and/or crop damage.



lighting up our lives....well, the pavilion in this case. 😊



Normally in August we would be able to tell you about all the hundreds or thousands of people we served through our retreat ministry this past summer. This summer things have been turned upside down...not unlike life has been for many of us.

This summer our larger groups have rescheduled to 2021 for a variety of COVID related reasons. While we are disappointed they are unable to come, **one benefit is that this has allowed space for smaller family reunions and groups of friends bringing their families** out for the weekend. It has been wonderful to see friends and families be able to gather together, away from a screen, and be able to **experience God's natural environment in full definition!**

In the heat of August, **it has also been great to see the pool being enjoyed this month** by guest groups and by people coming to go swimming for a couple hours. We know that many local pools have been closed for the summer and so if we can be a resource for our local families, that makes us super happy!

The pool is open until September 13th. If you are wanting a place to come swim, we would love to have you come jump in.

Call 815-255-4649 to reserve your 2 hour time slot today.

Save the Date: Fall Work Day

Join us on Saturday, October 3rd for a day to help us prepare the facilities and grounds for winter. Meet at the Eagle Wing Activity Center for breakfast before heading off in teams to work on the morning projects. Projects may include: cleaning up downed trees after the derecho, splitting and stacking firewood, deep cleaning in Lakeview Lodge, Dorms, and Hotel Rooms, mulching in the Adventure Education Course. This is a family friendly way to volunteer as well as a way for high schoolers to get volunteer hours.



Gather for lunch and check out the newly renovated patio in front of the Dining Hall. You can even eat outside at the picnic tables. Projects continue in the afternoon and end around 4 pm. Come for all or part of the day.

Per current IDPH guidelines we kindly ask that you wear a face mask whenever you are inside a building - for work tasks and/or for meals. Our outside tasks should allow for adequate physical distancing. You also may find it helpful to bring your own tools such as chainsaws, rakes, gloves, etc.

RSVP for this event at mennohaven.com/work-day, by calling the office at 815-255-4649 or emailing sheena@mennohaven.com.



Thank You

We have been blessed by some wonderful friends who took time and volunteered this past August.

- * **Allyssa Burk** (staff family) - Grounds & Maintenance
- * **Augie Calsyn** (Via de Cristo) - Grounds & Kitchen
- * **Triston Crews** - Grounds
- * **Julie Kern** (Summer Staffer) - Kitchen
- * **CJ Yoder** (Lombard Mennonite Church) - IT work

Thank you for all your help the past month. We could not do what we do without faithful help from our volunteers.

Upcoming Programs

Fall Events

MH Learning Pods -

Sept 21 - Oct 16

Fall Work Day - Oct 3

Youth Leader Retreat

- Nov 13-15

IMCA Annual Business

Meeting - Nov 14

Downloadable
2020
Program Calendar

Click on the event name to find out more information

SAVE THE DATE

2021 Winter Retreats

Young Adult WR - Jan 8-10

High School WR - Jan 15-17

Junior High WR - Jan 22-24

2021 Summer Events

Rally Day - May 31

Family Camp - May 28-31

Cottontail Camp - June 20-23

Jr High Camp - June 27 - July 2

(includes Trailblazer & Adventure Tracks)

Blue Jay Camp - July 4-9

High School Camp - July 11-16

(includes Wilderness & Cardinal Tracks)

GrandCamp - August 1-5

Ways You Can Be Involved

Participate in events at Menno Haven.

Check out the Upcoming Programs and pick one or more you think would be fun to attend.

Plan your own Menno Haven

gathering with your favorite people.

Come for the day or overnight, on the weekend or mid-week. Let us do the cleaning and cooking so all you have to do is play and relax!

Work or do school from Menno Haven.

Use our wifi to do the work/school part as needed and then go screen-free and experience the outdoors - aaaahhhhhh!!!

Purchase an item from our [Amazon Wish List](#) or [downloadable Wish List](#) and have it sent to Menno Haven.

Pray - [click here](#) to join a group of people who commit to praying for Menno Haven and get regular updates for prayer requests - [Let's Rally in Prayer for Menno Haven!](#)

Give a financial gift. Your financial gift today will make a big difference in the ministry of Menno Haven. You can [donate here](#) or mail a gift to 9301 1575 East St, Tiskilwa, IL 61368.

[Donate](#)

[Serving as Backyard Missionaries \(Summer Staff\)](#)

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