



Sheena Johnson <sheena@mennohaven.com>

---

## MH Musings: You are invited back!! May in Review

1 message

Sheena Johnson <sheena@mennohaven.com>

Reply-To: sheena@mennohaven.com

To: sheena@mennohaven.com

Sun, Jun 14, 2020 at 11:32 PM



---

## You are invited to return!!!

We are excited to announce that **we are now able to invite you**, our guests and friends **back to Menno Haven**. Per the Illinois Department of Public Health in Phase 3 of re-opening the state we are able to host **family households of 10 people or less to come and stay in any of our lodging facilities** (hotel, dorm rooms, cabins) as well as in the campground and RV park. This is the prime time to come and stay at Menno Haven. Many summers our facilities are already full but this summer, especially in June, we have many openings - mid-week and weekend. Contact Jon at 815-255-4649 or at [info@mennohaven.com](mailto:info@mennohaven.com) to check availability and reserve your dates today.

Please note our updated phone number: 815-255-4649

---

## May In Review



May has been a whirlwind of a month. It started with the knowledge that we would not be running our scheduled 2020 summer camp programs. We turned our attention to planning and preparing the Haven At Home Boxes and planning events to help us stay in touch with you, our constituents, and provide a taste of Menno Haven since you couldn't come here.



We had two fundraisers in May to help provide funding for the Haven at Home Boxes. The first was a Sunday Cool T-shirt Fundraiser. **We sold 105 shirts!!** If you purchased one of these shirts - thank you! Not only did you get a really great shirt but you also helped us to raise over \$600 towards the Haven at Home boxes and future summer programming! Above is a picture of one family who had 4 shirts sent all the way to Hawaii!! Thanks for showing your Menno Haven love!

Orders for the Haven At Home Boxes closed on June 2nd with **109 boxes ordered**. They will be sent out in June to campers from Illinois, Colorado, Florida, Missouri, Kentucky, and California. WOW!

**If you** ordered a box, donated for the boxes, ordered a t-shirt from our Sunday Cool fundraiser or are participating in our Virtual 5K to help fund these boxes, **THANK YOU!**



The **Virtual 5K** is the second fundraiser started in May for the Haven at Home Boxes. **Have you heard about the Flat Doc Challenge?** For every 250 km up to 1000 km Flat Doc completes (or for every 50 people who register) a group of donors have pledged to give \$500! **We are only 3 people away to meet the first 250 km goal.**

**We are accepting registrations through July 17th, the last day of the event.** We would love to meet each one of our 250 km/50 people goals. **Can you help us meet them?** Side note: We ordered extra shirts so if you register soon, you should still be able to get one of these newly designed shirts in your size!

Now that people can be together outside, you could even organize a group to run in your location or even schedule a day to come and run at Menno Haven!! Let's run so they can have fun! **[Click here to find out more information.](#)**

Thanks to **Everence** for sponsoring this event!



In May we wrapped up a large part of the **Dining Hall Patio Renovation**...finishing the concrete work and the ground work. Grass seed was planted and we're waiting for it to grow. In June we plan to paint the concrete wall that was under ground, pressure wash picnic tables and benches and gravel the driveway up to the patio.

We now have a great patio for outdoor seating by the dining hall. Interesting timing. Do you think God knew back in March when we were deciding to do this patio project how important outdoor seating for eating establishments would become this summer in light of COVID-19? We think so. **[Click here to check out the most recent photos.](#)**



On the guest group side, May was a sad month. **We were unable to host any groups through the end of May.** By the end of the month all of our June guest groups canceled for 2020 and rescheduled for 2021 as well as several groups throughout the summer due to financial, travel, or state restriction concerns all related to COVID-19. We are thankful that most have not asked for a refund of their deposit, but this still means our summer income is significantly impacted. Please keep us in your prayers about this.

As we said above, **June is the perfect month for individual families to take advantage of our open facilities.** Hiking, boating, fishing, and outdoor games are open to overnight guests as well as the Eagle Wing Activity Center. Contact Jon at 815-255-4649 or [info@mennohaven.com](mailto:info@mennohaven.com) to find out more information.



Three summer staff arrived at the end of May. We are so excited to have Tanner Liestman, Shelby Frederick, and Tyler Campbell here through the month of June, maybe longer. These staff are



What a different Rally Day this year - no BBQ chicken, no amazing potluck, no program announcing the beginning of the summer season, and no gathering of friends on the patio. It was a sad



currently helping to put together the activities, videos, and resources in the Haven at Home Boxes as well as helping with various program, office, and maintenance related tasks.

day. The earth cried that day (it rained A LOT!) We missed you.

We posted a video on Facebook on Rally Day to connect with you. In case you missed it, [here is a link to the video of Doc, Ashley, Jon & Sheena sharing updates on how you can still be involved with our ministry this summer.](#)

## Summer Program 2020 Update:

You already hopefully know that we will not be running our scheduled 2020 Menno Haven programmed summer camps this year. Above we talked about the Haven At Home Boxes. You can also check out our [Haven At Home page](#) for activities like the **June calendar** shown below ([haga clic aquí para ver el calendario en español](#)). Keep checking the [Haven At Home page](#) for new content.

Now that Illinois is in Phase 3 of reopening, we are working on more new and exciting ways to provide summer programming for you and your families....AT Menno Haven. We're not quite ready to make an official announcement but we hope to soon. Be watching your inbox, on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or [Twitter](#).



In the meantime, just a reminder to **take advantage of some of the Virtual Events on Facebook or Instagram**. The Hikes take you around various trails on the property. The Campfires are a time to relax around a campfire with us. You can even request your favorite Menno Haven songs! The Worships on Sundays have fun motion songs for the child in all of us, a short devotional and finish with some additional singing. If you haven't checked out these events, try it. We would love it if you'd join us!



## Thank You

We have been blessed by some wonderful friends who took time and volunteered in May.

- \* **Allyssa Burk** (The People's Church) - Grounds & Maintenance
- \* **Tyler Campbell** (Summer Staff Volunteer) - Maintenance
- \* **Caleb Johnson** (Staff Child) - Maintenance & Program
- \* **Lydia Johnson** (Staff Child) - Program
- \* **Abbie Kaser** (Kern Road Mennonite Church) - Spanish translation
- \* **Ken Wolf** (Bridge @ Beans) - Welding & Chain Saw Work
- \* **Paul Yoder** (Christ Community Church) - Haven At Home Boxes

Thank you for all your help the



## Upcoming Programs

**Virtual 5K** - June 21-July 17

### Fall Events

**Fall Work Day** - October 3  
**Annual Association Meeting** - Nov 14

### Cancelled Events due to COVID-19

**Cottontail Camp** - June 21 - 24  
**Jr High Camp** - June 28 - July 3  
(includes Trailblazer & Adventure Tracks)  
**Summer Staff Homecoming** - July 2-5  
**Blue Jay Camp** - July 5 - 10  
**High School Camp** - July 12 - 17  
(includes Wilderness & Cardinal Tracks)  
**GrandCamp** - August 2-6



## Ways You Can Be Involved

**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!**

**Register for the Virtual 5K** and invite a friend to join you.

**Participate in one of our Virtual Programs - Hikes, Campfire & Worship** on Facebook and Instagram. Check out the calendar above for times.

**Purchase an item from our Wish List** and have it sent to Menno Haven.

### **Help with Maintenance Projects**

As of right now we are able to have people volunteer as individuals or in groups of 10 or less. If you have an interest in construction, electrical, plumbing, vehicle, and grounds related

past month. We could not do what we do without faithful help from our volunteers.

Downloadable  
2020  
Program Calendar

activities, we can find a job for you. Call for details.

**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.

---

\* If you would like to participate in any of the above activities or have any questions about them, contact Sheena at 815.255.4649 or [sheena@mennohaven.com](mailto:sheena@mennohaven.com).

---

Donate

Serving as Backyard Missionaries (Summer Staff)

Wish List

### Menno Haven Camp & Retreat Center

9301 1575 East St Tiskilwa IL 61368  
815.255.4649

[info@mennohaven.com](mailto:info@mennohaven.com)  
[www.mennohaven.com](http://www.mennohaven.com)

[Click here to unsubscribe from this newsletter](#)

