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MH Musings: April Recap & Summer's Coming!

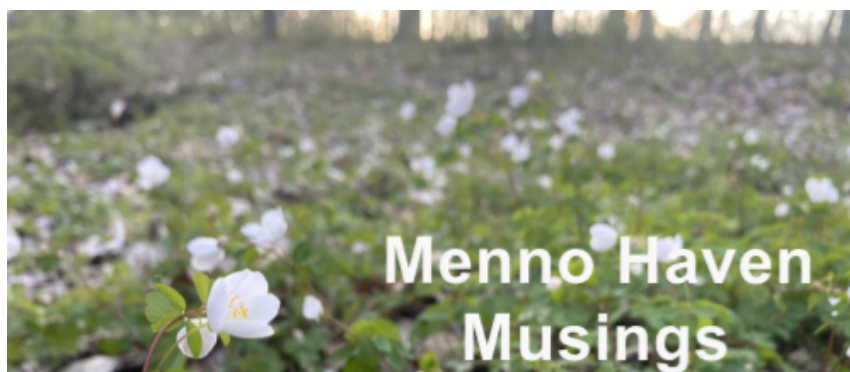
1 message

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April - a month of planning and preparations



April has been a month of looking ahead towards summer. **We are working on hiring summer staff (we still could seriously use your help with this - see note below).** We finalized our plans for Rally Day and the 5k/2k to raise funds for camper scholarships (hopefully you got an email about that last week and are planning to come on May 31st to our Open House). Preparation of the facilities for summer started in full swing. The pool was prepped and ready to be painted and filled. Touchless water fountains were installed around camp with key locations having water bottle filling stations as well. Our prayer is all who come here this summer will drink deeply of the Living Water Jesus offers us.



The Spring Work Day, on April 24th, helped to jump start preparations for summer as well.

Volunteers and staff did our first spring clean of the cabins; modified the bunk bed arrangement in the cabins per covid recommendations; split and stack firewood, repaired the wood shed at Green Cathedral and filled it with firewood in preparations for campfires, and mulched in the cabin villages. Volunteers also shut down the boiler in EWAC, did electrical work around camp and welding work on our tractor implements. **Click here to see everything that was done.** What a great group of volunteers! We are so blessed.



It is always good to see people on site, spending time in God's creation, creating memories and enjoying this place. In April we were so happy to host a family campout, a church campout and a pastor taking a personal pastoral retreat. **We love serving people!**



Mid April **Ashley, Doc, Sheena and family** had a great time attending **Cazenovia's Mennonite Church's annual camp fundraiser day**. During this day Cazenovia folks raise money to send their youth and families to Menno Haven. Any extra funds they don't use, they give to our camper scholarship fund. What a great way to show campers they are loved and cared for!



Ashley and Sheena had a great time visiting **Second Story Teen Center** at the end of the month to share about Menno Haven's summer camp and job opportunities. Here are some youth sporting their new Menno Haven gear.

If you would ever like us to come share at your church or your organization about Menno Haven and our ministry here, let us know.



You've been spotted - Look at these sharp kids sporting their Menno Haven spirit in their school pictures. We love it!!



Egg Watch - Baby goslings have been spotted. Such cuteness!!

Come celebrate the beginning of summer with us Rally Day - May 31st

May 31st come join us for a day of fun, food and fellowship as we celebrate the beginning of a new summer camping season!! We've been waiting a long time for this. Experience what Menno Haven has to offer - hiking, fishing, boating, lawn games, open gym - and check out what has happened since you've been here last.

Start the morning off on the right foot (or left - your choice) by participating in our **9th annual 5k Trail Run/2k Walk**. "Run (or walk) So They Can Have Fun" as the monies raised by this event will go towards our camper scholarship fund to provide need based scholarships for campers. Make sure to **register by May 19th** to reserve your free t-shirt. All participants will get a racing bib and a finisher's medal.



Participate in our **Summer Program Dedication at 11 am** as we meet and pray for the persons who will be leading the campers through a summer focusing on how God remains faithful throughout all the Even Ifs of life.

This year in place of a potluck noon meal, **Menno Haven will be providing the entire BBQ chicken meal for you.** Get your taste buds ready for a delicious BBQ chicken sandwich with toppings and yummy sides. You don't even have to bring table service. We have it all covered. We just need you to [RSVP here](#) so we make sure prepare the right amount of food.



Stay in the afternoon and try out the climbing wall, the swimming pool, a jam session (bring an instrument to play along), and a hayrack ride.

[Click here for Rally Day details](#)

[Click here for 5k/2k details](#)

Let's help each other!

If you know someone who doesn't have plans this summer...



... and would like to develop their resume, build their leadership experience, increase their sense of wonder, have a chance to pull away from their regular routines and take a summer to catch a bigger vision for their life - all while having a ton of fun....invite them to apply at Menno Haven today.



--> **If you like to organize, plan, and lead...** apply to be a program assistant and help Ashley lead the campers and summer staff through an amazing summer.

--> **If playing with campers & teaching them about Jesus sounds exciting...** apply to be a male head cabin counselor or a female head cabin counselor.

--> **If swimming and lake life is your idea of fun...** apply to be a lifeguard.

--> **If you enjoy cooking and baking...** apply to be a kitchen assistant.

--> **If computers and talking on the phone is more your thing...** apply to be an office assistant.

--> **If you get life from serving others and talking with people...** apply to be a hosting assistant.

--> **If you like working outside and learning how to fix things...** apply to be a maintenance assistant.



While kids need a week of camp, **our young adults and older teens can greatly benefit** from a whole summer of unplugging, focusing on others, and reconnecting to their Creator.



Here is what two recent summer staff had to say about their summer at Menno Haven. "I went to Menno Haven expecting to change lives, but it was the kids and the staff who changed mine!" "Being at Menno Haven was the most fun I've ever had, but more importantly it was the most meaningful, being able to see God work throughout the camps."

Make a difference in campers' lives, your life, and in the life of the Menno Haven ministry - [apply today](#).

[Click here to apply & for more info](#)

Family Camp is where it's at!

For those of you who were able to join us last year for our Family Camps, they were a ton of fun. They really renewed our passion to create events for families to get away together and explore! And they convinced us that you wanted events like this too.

We're excited to bring back our Memorial Day Weekend Family Camp and have families break in the Menno Haven grounds for the summer camp season. This weekend is the perfect blend of structured and free time to allow flexibility for different families.

Head to our Family Camp page for pricing, pictures from previous events, and the link to register your family!

[More Information & Register Here](#)



Thank You

We have been blessed the past April by many faithful friends who gave of their time helping prepare the grounds and facilities for summer.

- * **Augie Calsyn** (Via de Cristo) - hauling mulch, tractor work, & painting
- * **Jim & Linda Schrock** (Cazenovia MC) - installing water bottle filling stations
- * **CJ Yoder** - computer, networking, and internet
- * **Work Day Volunteers:** Deb Borys; Greg, Irene Borys & family; Allyssa Burk; Augie Calsyn; Robin Campbell; Dave Colter; Tiffany Cox; Karla



Upcoming Programs

Summer Events

Family Camp - May 28-31

Rally Day - May 31

5k Run/2K Walk - May 31

Cottontail Camp - June 20-23

Sports Camp - June 23-25

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

Help set up the tipi* and get a night free stay for you and your family in the tipi! What a cool memory maker.

Help set up a large tent * as an additional outdoor space for gatherings.

Help do final prep of cabins for summer camp * Move mattresses, repair screens, do final cleaning.

Guest Host * Help host weekend or weekday groups and learn more about our retreat ministry.
Available dates are:

Detweiler; Eldon & Marilyn Eigsti;
Bob Erck; Seven Figgars; Donna
Grove; Joe Grove; Hal Gustafson;
Caleb Johnson; Ed & Esther
Johnson; Lydia Johnson; Andy
Koresko; Kate Kortemeier; Dan
Litwiller; Jessica, Weldon, & Baylor
Litwiller; Jim & Linda Schrock; Jan
Stewart; Tom Sutter; Randy & Carroll
Tumblin; Marge Weaver; Ken Wolf;
and Dana Wolf

We are so thankful and we would not
be able to minister to our guests
without volunteers!

Fall Events

Men's Retreat - Sept 10-11

Fall Work Day - October 2

Association Business Mtg - Nov 13

Downloadable
2021
Program Calendar

***Click on the event name to find
out more information***

- * June 11-13
- * June 16-20
- * June 20-24
- * June 25-27
- * July 2-5
- * July 15-17
- * July 24-25
- * July 30-Aug 1

**Talk with high school and college-
aged youth you know about being
a summer staffer during 2021.**

Your word-of-mouth advertisement
would be greatly appreciated!! Or
pass on names to Ashley by
emailing
program@mennohaven.com.

* Email sheena@mennohaven.com
or call the office at 815-255-4649 if
you are interested in helping with
any of these activities.

Donate

Serving as Backyard Missionaries (Summer Staff)

Wish Lists

Menno Haven Camp & Retreat Center

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