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MH Musings: Oct & Nov Highlights & Upcoming Events

1 message

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October & November Highlights



October opened with our Fall Work Day. We had a great group of people who did a bunch of work around the entire campus....cleaning up fallen trees, clearing honeysuckle, grinding tree stumps, splitting wood, winterizing flower beds, cleaning out the ballfield shed, deep cleaning in the kitchen and replacing ceiling tiles in Lakeview Lodge. What a great crew!! Not only was a lot accomplished but we also had a lot of fun. **Check out these pictures to see what was done.**



Our guests this past October and November were the first to spot the new wildlife hanging around the Lakeview Lodge (see picture above). **One of our Menno Haven friends commissioned and donated a piece of art** to add a little bit of life and whimsy to the patio area just outside the Dining Hall. We have named this piece **Blaurock the Bunny** for George Blaurock, one of the 3 co-founders of Anabaptism. While Blaurock the Bunny is pretty cool to look at, he's also fun to climb on and celebrate your win after your church wiffleball tournament.

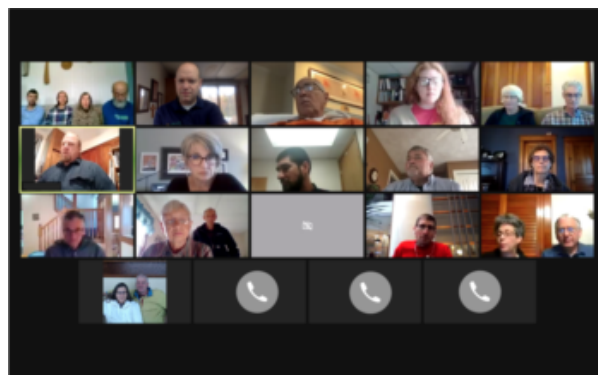


Volunteers have a special place in our heart and the **Lombard Mennonite Church youth group** are some of these volunteers. This youth group has been coming 1-2x a year most years since the late 1990s! It has been fun to see these youth grow up, become summer staffers, become sponsors to this youth group, and become leaders in their churches.

Thanks for all you did this past November - clearing autumn olive (an invasive bush) out of the prairie area we are working to restore, splitting wood, moving mattresses, and washing the boats/canoes before storing them for the winter. **Check out what they did here.**



Check out our Trading Post for new and sale items. We have **a new long sleeve t-shirt** (see above) designed by Hilary Rhodes and **a new ball cap**. **Check out these items in the Trading Post here.** We also did a reprinting of our **hooded logo sweatshirt in new colors** - black and forest green. It should be available online later this week. These may be great Christmas gift ideas for those friends and family who are hard to find a gift for.



Menno Haven's yearly Association Business Meeting took place this past November over Zoom once again. It was good to share updates from the Board and Ministry Team about all that has happened this last year. **To our Association Members - it was so nice to see your face, even if it was over a computer screen.** Thanks to all of you who participated. Hopefully next year we can meet in person!



You've been spotted - Thanks to this pretty cool kid for showing off his Menno Haven T-shirt at the Ark this past October with his mom (a past summer staffer) and grandparents (two of our wonderful volunteers)!

Employment Opportunities

Menno Haven is currently seeking applicants to join the ministry team in the role of Guest Group Coordinator & Food Service Manager. These positions are open effective immediately.

Guest Ministry Manager



This year-round, full-time position supports the planning and delivery of high quality retreats for all Menno Haven's guest groups. Specifically this position oversees the marketing and booking of guest groups and coordinating guests' needs before they arrive on site as well as managing the office including bookkeeping tasks. Excellent oral and written communication and organizational skills as well as basic computer experience are imperative. Prior office and/or customer relations experience is preferred.

Food Service Manager



This year-round full-time position oversees the operation of a full service kitchen including the hiring and supervision of cook's assistants, kitchen assistants and volunteers; menu creation; ordering; and dietary need accommodations. Interested candidates should have experience ordering, and preparing nutritious meals for groups (25-150 per seating). Prior experience with large quantity cooking is preferred and experience in a camp setting is helpful. The Food Service Manager helps exceed guest expectations of the overall camp experience by providing healthy, timely meals and a quality dining experience.

Salary, housing, and benefits are provided with these positions.

Candidates must have a strong commitment to serve Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, a heart for service and a deep commitment to Menno Haven's mission; as well as have a willingness to lead and mentor teens and young adults; willingness to lead and work with volunteers; and possess strong organizational, planning, interpersonal, and leadership skills.

Submit letter of interest and resume to Doc Johnson at execdir@mennohaven.com.

If you or someone you know is interested in a part-time or interim Guest Ministry Manager or Food Service Manager position until these full-time roles are filled, contact Doc. For more information, click on the link below.

[More Information on Employment Opportunities](#)

Come join us for our 2nd annual Christmas Family Getaway

We had such a wonderful time with families last year in our Christmas Family Getaway, we'd love for more to join us this year! This weekend is a great time to get away with family and friends to **enjoy camp in the winter** and **celebrate the best birth** that ever happened: **Jesus!** We will do some **classic Christmas activities**, hopefully have some **outside winter sports**, warm up around **the fireplace**, celebrate Jesus with **Christmas themed family devotionals**, and gobble up **delicious food** that you didn't have to plan for or make.

The price for this event is \$115/person or \$325 for a family of 3 or more for a Friday night - Sunday afternoon of fun.

**** Our registration deadline has been extended to Wednesday night, December 8th ****

Don't delay to register and reserve your space!



[Click here for More Info](#)

2022 Youth Group Winter Retreats

Check-In Time: 7pm on Friday.
For more info, check mennohaven.com



MEET OUR SPEAKERS

**JAN 7-9
YOUNG ADULT**
Cyneatha Millsaps

**JAN 14-16
HIGH SCHOOL**
Thavisith Mounsithiraj

**JAN 21-23
JUNIOR HIGH**
Kim Litwiller

Are the young adults, high schoolers and/or junior highers in your life ready to make more Menno Haven memories? It's been 5 months or more since they have rekindled their faith here and it's time to come back!

We have a great line up of speakers ready to encourage your youth in their faith development and Christian identity. Check out the [Winter Retreat page](#) for information about the speakers, topics, price, deadlines, etc. We are so excited to be able to provide a time and space for youth and young adults to be able to engage and recreate with other youth and young adults who share their faith.

Just a reminder that **all youth attending High School or Junior High Winter Retreats must have chaperones or adult sponsors**. We ask that you bring at least 1 chaperone for every 5-10 youth and that each gender has at least 1 chaperone. If you are coming to the **Young Adult Winter Retreat**, you can **come on your own or bring a group of young adults with you**.

****The deadlines to register for these events are two weeks before the start date.****

More Info about Winter Retreats



Thank You

We have been blessed the past October and November by many faithful friends who helped to fill in the gaps left by open positions. You are appreciated more than you can know!

* Fall Work Day Volunteers:

Jay Bachman, Lyle Bohnert, Mark Crandall, Eldon Eigsti, Marilyn Eigsti, Bob Erck, Hal Gustafson, Caleb Johnson, Esther Johnson, Lydia Johnson, Kate Kortemeier, Scott Largent, Adam Litwiller, Baylor Litwiller, Danielle Litwiller, Jessica Litwiller, Kevin Litwiller, Lisa Litwiller, Weldon Litwiller, Paul Mellen, Julie Musselman, Evan Richards, Elias Rose, Jim Schrock, Linda Schrock, Ginny Veeder, John Veeder, Marge Weaver, Simon Zehr

* **Augie Calsyn** (Via de Cristo) tree clean up, hauled mulch, moved boats & mowed prairie

* **Bob Erck** guest hosting & maintenance

* **Hal Gustafson** (Via de Cristo) - reframed cooler & freezer outside air units



Upcoming Programs

2021 December Events

December Family Getaway -
December 17-19

*** 2022 Events***

Young Adult WR - January 7-9
High School WR - January 14-16
Junior High WR - January 21-23

Spring Work Day - April 23
Women's Retreat - May 13-15

Summer Family Events

Family Camp - May 27-30
Rally Day with 5k/2k - May 30
Summer Staff Reunion - June 30-July 3
GrandCamp - July 31-Aug 4

Summer Youth Camps

Cottontail - June 12-15
Sports - June 19-23
Junior High - June 26-July 1
(with Trailblazer & Adventure Tracks)
Blue Jay - July 3-8
High School - July 10-15
(with Cardinal & Wilderness Tracks)



Ways You Can Be Involved

Talk with the high school and college aged youth you know about being a **summer staffer during 2022**. Encourage them to **check out our summer staff page** for what to look forward to during their summer at Menno Haven.

Summer Staff Recommendation Grant -

If your family recommends a new summer staff member to Menno Haven and that staff is hired, **your family will receive a \$150 grant** towards your child's 2022 MH Youth Summer Camp registration fee. **Click here for more details about this grant.**

Show your support for Menno Haven while buying things for others and yourself. If you choose to purchase items from Amazon.com this year, **click here to find out how Amazon can donate 0.5% of your purchase price to Menno Haven** (Illinois Mennonite Camp Assn Inc) with AmazonSmile.

Start your Christmas shopping early. **Check out our Trading Post** for one-of-a-kind Menno Haven apparel and gear.

- * **Dan Litwiller** (Hopedale Mennonite Church) - stump grinding, landscaping lake wash out
- * **Evan Richards** (Lombard Mennonite Church) guest hosting
- * **Donna Roth** (FMC of Morton) kitchen
- * **Jim Schrock** (Cazenovia MC) water heater maintenance
- * **Lombard Youth Group & Sponsors**

We are so thankful for your help! We would not be able to minister to our guests without volunteers like you!

**Downloadable
2022
Program Calendar**

Click on the event name to find out more information

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

Give a financial year-end gift by mailing in a gift or [donating online](#).

SPREAD THE WORD about our open Food Service Manager and Guest Ministry Manager positions.

Help in the kitchen as dishwashers or as cook's assistants.

* January 3-7, 14-16, 21-23

Guest Host - Help host weekend or weekday groups and learn more about our retreat ministry. Thanks to those who have already signed up to help!

Available dates are:

* January 3 - 7

PRAYER - Keep praying for our ministry team as we are short 2 out of 5 full-time positions. Pray for us as we serve in new capacities AND pray for God to lead the right persons to us for these positions. Email sheena@mennohaven.com if you would like to be put on our prayer team.

Email Sheena Johnson, Volunteer Coordinator, at 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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