



Ninnescan News

Empowered by Deep Peace

By Melissa Atchison

There is an AH-HA moment at Camp Mennoscah somewhere between supper on Wednesday and swimming on Thursday, when you receive a jolt: You realize that the week is nearly over! It's not the same as "hump day" when you are in the world of school or job, that day that you take a deep breath and see the weekend coming and know you'll probably make it. In the camp AH-HA moment you realize you really want the week to never end. Because something is different here. It's Deep Peace. In this Deep Peace God's Spirit has been shifting our insides around, changing the way we see the river and the sand and feel the wind, changing the way we look at the others we are living with at camp, changing the way we feel about God. It settles into our hearts/minds/souls there at camp. Oh, you can



certainly resist it if you dare to hold onto the world's way of hurry and noise and reasons. But if you are willing, the holy energy of Deep Peace gets into you and goes home with you. You need this energy to keep on seeing people and the rest of creation with God's grace. When we carry Deep Peace back out into the world, we have the power we need to be peacemakers. That AH-HA of God's peacefulness kicks in when we have a conflict with another person, when we see others in conflict and feel a nudge to help, when we notice how our lives are affecting the earth and other creatures, and we suddenly know what we can do about it. It can permeate everything you do, especially if you go back and get a good dose of Deep Peace at camp every summer!

Upcoming events you won't want to miss!

Family Weekend
Intergenerational weekend
June 30-July 1

Young Adult Weekend
Ages 18 and older
August 2-4

Camp Sing
August 11, 6:30 pm
Hoffnungsaus Mennonite



Work and Play Days
Time to get ready for winter
September 14 and October 5

Annual Meeting
Supper provided, all welcome
September 22



More information on these events or register by clicking "Retreats" under the Programs heading at campmennoscah.org

Courageous Cook: Les Schrag

By George Leary

When asked her thoughts of Camp Mennoscah, Leslie Schrag is quick to answer "Heaven on Earth!" She continued by saying Camp Mennoscah is her "happy place." There is a specific place in the drive to camp, turning onto K-14 from K-96, when she knows camp is close and a sense of peace fills her.

Les has been volunteering in the camp kitchen for 28 years, most of them as head cook, and it is not uncommon for her to volunteer for several weeks each summer. The upcoming 2019 season will have Les leading kitchen crews five different weeks! We may never know exactly how many camp meals she has prepared over the past 28 years, but with a little calculating we could estimate that she is responsible for serving 150,000 individual meals! Wow, that's a lot of cookies, rolls, and spaghetti!

One of her kitchen colleagues describes Les as organized, fun, and easy to work with. A camper also

said she was fun. He added that she likes to joke around and he looks forward to her being the camp cook when he is at camp. Camp Mennoscah is important to Les because she sees how camp is positively impacting so many lives. For example, she has read many faith statements from youth who feel closest to God while at camp. For her, this confirms that volunteering and supporting Camp Mennoscah is a mission well worth the effort.

Les is also quick to acknowledge others' volunteering. The entire camp program is dependent on so many volunteers and the group effort becomes contagious.



Les, Camp Mennoscah thanks you for volunteering in this important leadership position. Also, thanks for your most positive and fun approach to the work in the kitchen. You are appreciated!

Summer Youth Camps Are On The Way!

The first 2019 summer youth camp at Camp Mennoscah is about a week away! Camp staff are making final preparations, and we're sure you're making some, too. As you think about your camper spending time with us, here are a few things Camp Mennoscah does to help your camper have a meaningful week:



- Facilities and equipment are checked to ensure everything is working properly and safely.
- Campers learn about safety and camp rules on the first evening of camp.
- The summer camp curriculum creates opportunities for campers and staff to grow spiritually.
- Summer staff spend a week of orientation at camp preparing for their leadership roles, building relationships, and learning about working with children and youth.
- Weekly program staff organize the daily schedule, lead Bible lessons, help with other fun activities, and learn about working with children and youth.
- Cooks prepare tasty meals, including for those with dietary needs. A camp nurse cares for campers' health needs during the week.
- Activities, worship, and meal times strengthen our connection with God and foster friendships among campers and staff that may last for years to come.



We're looking forward to another incredible summer, and we hope you are, too!

Camp Mennoscah is A Part of Me

By Stephanie Gehring

Camp Mennoscah...how do you summarize what Camp Mennoscah is to you in 250 words or less? How do you put into words a place that has literally been a part of your life since you were like...ten years old?!

I began my adventure into what is Camp many years ago as a camper. We lived in the big city of Topeka, KS, so it was quite the journey to travel through the countryside to camp every summer...which my parents did faithfully. I couldn't wait to be there! It was here I remember becoming a Christian at campfire. Camping lasted as long as it could and then I headed to Bethel College. While there I decided I couldn't let camp go, so I applied for a summer staff position. I was lucky enough to be on summer staff for two years, doing various things such as music, art and maintenance. I was also lucky enough to work with some

awesome people, and we still have a sign up in the staff house (Scum Bags!). I also counseled during these years as well. I was still learning and growing, just in a different role.



Those times gave me the courage to be a Director of a Pre-Junior Camp with another summer staffer. Since then I have served on the Camp Board, cooked for camps and have been the music leader at countless Women's Retreats with my quartet, The Cousins Four.

Camp Mennoscah is a part of me...it has led me to be who I am and my faith has grown with every experience I've had there. I love what Camp offers to everyone...God's wonder, love, happiness, fun and endless possibilities! No matter where you are at in life, there's always time to come play in the sand!



Judy Morris, Custodian

I grew up in Manson, Iowa, and followed both my older sisters, attending Hesston College. I work at Hutchinson Regional Medical Center as the EEG technician and sleep technologist. My husband, Kerry, is a social worker. We settled in the Murdock area 29 years ago. My children are Jacob; Trevor and wife, Sara; Brooke and fiancé, Colby. I enjoy piano, being part of the worship team at church and working for Cheney schools as an accompanist. I love to cook, read, garden, walk, and spend time with family and friends. My sons have fond memories of attending Camp Mennoscah, and I'm very happy to be part of the staff as the custodian!

New Faces at Camp Mennoscah

Joan Entz, Board Member



I joined the Camp Mennoscah board last fall. I am from Newton and my family includes my husband, Alan, and our kids Ethan, Schyler, and Camryn. We attend First Mennonite Church in Newton and I just started a new job as the office manager for Mojo's Coffee in North Newton. I was raised in Henderson, NE, and loved going to Swan Lake Christian Camp. The passion that I had for Swan Lake is the same passion I see in my kids for Camp Mennoscah. So when asked to consider being on the camp board, it was an easy decision. Camp Mennoscah has made a huge impact in my kids' lives and I feel honored to give something back to camp.

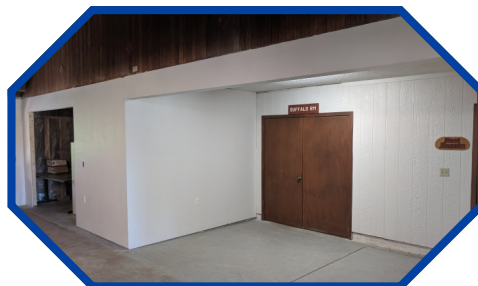
Welcome to the Camp Mennoscah staff and board, Judy and Joan!

Volunteers Have Been Busy in the Dining Hall!

Over the past few months, Jim Yoder and other volunteers have been busy creating a new storage space and nearly finishing the new welcome area. They have spent time framing, drywalling, painting, and installing fixtures. Six fans (four ceiling, two wall mount) were installed to improve air circulation in the kitchen. Big thank-yous to all who have helped with this part of the project! The next step will be replacing the dining hall windows and doors, to take place this fall.



The new welcome area inside the covered entrance is nearly complete.



The north wall of dining hall was removed to create a storage space and make the dining hall more open.



As a final step to the kitchen renovations, four ceiling fans were added, along with two wall-mounted fans, which you can see in the background.



Camp Mennoscah

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Murdock, KS 67111

Go Green!
Contact us at
office@campmennoscah.org
to receive the newsletter
by email!

Non-Profit
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Camp Wish List

Thank you for your generosity in supporting our ministry!

- [Rubbermaid food storage containers](#)
- mattress pads, twin/full/queen, good quality (Thrift store finds are great!)
- [Perplexus game](#)
- [Foursquare balls](#)
- [Spikeball](#)
- [glass measuring cups, larger sizes](#)
- [metal measuring cups and spoons](#)
- [small salad bar tongs](#)
- [pizza cutter](#)



Additional items are listed on our website.

2019 Summer Staff: Camp Weather

"Camp is like a ray of sunshine: it's really hot."
-Kyle Flickinger
Lifeguard



"Camp is like a `nader (tornado): it strikes hard and fast, it's a whirlwind of a time and is very short!"
-Seth Rudeen, Naturalist



"...is like a roll of dice: who knows what's going to happen next."
-Ellie Bradley,
Crafts



"...will make you wonder whether you are still wet from your shower or if you are just already sweating."
-Anna Lubbers,
Lifeguard



"Camp weather is like a 4.0 student: they both average in the 90's!"
-Kendrick Weaver,
All Around/Office



"If God is the potter and we are the clay, then camp is the kiln."
-Jeff Kauffman,
Grounds/Maintenance



"...is like the last week of school: it can be crazy and unpredictable, but you enjoy it anyway!"
-Addie Regier, Music

"...is like putting cold pizza in the microwave, it heats up real quick."
Karina Brandt,
Office



"...is like a week with program director Derek Klingenberg: unpredictable but always exciting!"
-Hannah Unruh,
Lifeguard



www.campmennoscah.org

