



NATURAL LINKS

MENNONITE CAMPING ASSOCIATION

JOB OPENINGS

Laurelville, Mt. Pleasant, PA, is seeking an energetic, responsible intern to join their team. This is a 1 year internship (with option to apply for a 2nd year) focused on hosting and connecting with groups, learning how the organization runs, and providing Christ-like hospitality. Email steve@laurelville.org for more information.

Laurelville is also hiring for seasonal positions for more info or to apply: <https://laurelville.org/about-us/employment/>.

SOCIAL MEDIA

MCA now has two new ways to stay connected:

Facebook: search for Mennonite Camping Association

Instagram: [mennonitecamping](https://www.instagram.com/mennonitecamping)

Like, share, join the conversation!

MCA VIDEO

A new, short video has been created for all MCA camps to use for their summer camp recruiting purposes.

The video can be found on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com), the [MCA website](https://www.mennonitecamping.org), Instagram and the [MCA Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/mennonitecamping).



CAMP UPDATES

Camp Deerpark, Westbrookville, NY, www.campdeerpark.org

We had a Valentine's Day like none other at Camp Deerpark. Leonard Mow and Katrina Maendel celebrated their marriage with a small group of family and friends. After the marriage ceremony in the chapel the wedding party moved to the dining room where Deborah Bontrager had prepared a wonderful meal. There will be a larger outdoor reception in May.

Leonard has been on staff here at Camp Deerpark for more than two years and has been a tremendous asset to the construction of the Promise Center. Katrina joined us in October and has been serving as a house cleaner and our media communications person. For now the couple will be living on the hill in the staff village.

by Ken Bontrager, director



MCA VIRTUAL GATHERING

Mennonite Camping Association Virtual Gathering

March 23-24, 2021

FREE TO ALL MCA MEMBER CAMPS, STAFF & BOARDS!!

**Speaker: Jim Loep Thiessen
Worship: Sam Stucky**

More details and registration on page 2



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MENNONITE CAMPING ASSOCIATION

MCA VIRTUAL GATHERING

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US VIRTUALLY!

MARCH 23 & 24, 2021

SPEAKER & WORSHIP LEADER



Jim Loepp Thiessen is a dad, spouse and espresso-based coffee drinker. He has been a pastor for 30 years, and his ministry included starting a new church. His life has been positively impacted by church camps, less so by actual camping! The question that

Jim ponders is what God might be saying to us in this unique season, and how that might impact camp ministry.



Sam Stucky is a Pittsburgh native who graduated with a music degree from Bluffton University in 2016. He is a member of Pittsburgh Mennonite Church in Swissvale and leads the contemporary worship band at Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church. He

grew up going to camp at Laurelville and was a counselor/director for 6 years. When he's not singing worship music, Sam spends time writing, recording, and performing his own music in and around Pittsburgh, spending time outdoors, or working/climbing at the rock climbing gym.

COSTS

FREE TO ALL MCA MEMBERS!!

What are you waiting on, register now!!

To register:

<http://www.mennonitecamping.org/mca-2021-virtual-gathering.html>

SCHEDULE

Tues, Mar. 23 (all times in EST):

2:00pm - Greetings, Introductions and Zoom Instructions

2:30 - Worship (includes a short break)

3:30 - Breakout Sessions

4:30 - End the day

Wed. Mar. 24 (all times in EST)

2:00pm - Greetings & Icebreaker/Game

2:30 - Worship (includes a short break)

3:30 - Peer Groups*

4:30 - Send-off

**Peer groups include: Executive Directors/ Board Members, Program Directors/Staff, Office Managers/Staff, Housekeeping Staff, Maintenance/Facilities Staff, Cooks/Kitchen Staff*

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Subject to change and addition

Creation care & sustainability for your camp
Jon Fridley & Amy Huser, Camp Friedenswald

COVID: How do we do this safely?
Brandon Bergey, Bethany Birches

Quick & simple cooking to share with campers
Adam Voth Unruh, Crooked Creek Christian Camp

Healthy Boundaries & Camper Safety and Q & A for LGBTQ Safety & Advocacy
Anna Groff, Dove's Nest and Scott Litwiller, pastor & Dove's Nest board member



2018 Bi-national: Camp Friedenswald



2016 Bi-national: Laurelville

FEBRUARY 2021

WWW.MENNONITECAMPING.ORG