

MENNONITE CAMPING ASSOCIATION

Natural Links

JOB OPENINGS

CAMP UPDATES

Spruce Lake and Pinebrook, Canadensis, PA, two thriving retreat, conference & youth ministry centers in the Pocono Mountains, are seeing a full-time, year-round, Day Camp Manager. He/She will serve at Spruce Lake Day Camp starting in the Summer of 2020 and assist in development and implementation of the NEW program for Pinebrook Day Camp opening in summer of 2021. This person will oversee and manage the Pinebrook Day Camp Staff and program. Additionally, this individual will serve at Spruce Lake as an Outdoor School instructor and an Adventure Program facilitator in non-summer months. To apply or for more information to go sprucelake.org.

Spruce Lake Retreat, Canadensis, PA, www.sprucelake.org



“I’ll be in tomorrow, Lord willing.”

These were Jana Atwell’s last words to one of us Thursday morning, January 2, 2020, when she called in sick that day. In God’s mysterious way, our friend Jana was called home to be with the Lord, instead.

We are sad and shocked by Jana’s sudden death, even as we know she loved God

deeply and is freely enjoying his presence now.

God gave Jana a special love for his creatures and a unique niche here at Spruce Lake as a licensed falconer, raptor handler and avid bird-watcher. She loved sharing her vast knowledge of birds, animals, plants and the night sky with others. Animals seemed to respond to her gentle spirit and touch.

Jana worked at Spruce Lake since 1991, when she joined the Outdoor Education staff. In recent years she was the caretaker and lead naturalist in our Nature Center, and was a favorite host and driver for guest wagon rides through the woods.

In addition to the family’s memorial, a community service to honor Jana’s life will be held at Spruce Lake on Sunday, February 9, 2020, at 3:00 PM, with refreshments following. The service will be led by the pastor of Paradise Valley Baptist Church, where Jana was a faithful, active member.

We welcome your prayers for Jana’s family, Spruce Lake staff, her church, fellow falconers, and others who knew her in the local community. Like a bird, she is gone ... we will miss her.

CANADIAN MENNONITE

Reminder: Canadian camps may submit a story or article to the Canadian Mennonite magazine summer camps edition until February 3, 2020 by emailing submit@canadianmennonite.org.

DEEP FAITH CONFERENCE

Hello, you fabulous Mennonite Faith Formation Leaders! I look forward to seeing you at the [Deep Faith conference](#) at [Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary](#) (AMBS) March 2-5, 2020. Deep Faith is the annual conference I’m planning for you, Mennonite Church faith formation leaders, and I’m doing so this year in collaboration with the AMBS Pastors and Leaders gathering. The church and the seminary are together planning one conference on the theme, Shaping Faith in a Digital Culture. [Registration is open until February 17.](#)

We’ve been putting together a great set of workshops for you to choose from! Folks have really come through with practical and relevant topics for you. A sampling:

- A digital media rule of life
- A new online worship resource to accompany the new hymnal

- Helping people out of addiction to online pornography
- Making peace on social media
- Online dating
- Praying with the Anabaptist app

Presenters are AMBS professors, curriculum creators, pastors, practitioners and regular people trying to be faithful to Jesus in a digital culture. [Check out our whole list of workshops here.](#) You’ll have FOUR opportunities to attend these great sessions! [Register here.](#)

See you soon!



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SAVE THE DATE

MENNONITE CAMPING ASSOCIATION BI-NATIONAL CONFERENCE

MARCH 23-26, 2020

Spruce Lake Retreat Canadensis, Pennsylvania



Celebrating 100 years of Mennonite Camping

Every MCA camp has its own beginning story, its own founders, its own special location, however one thing remains the same for everyone: each camp was created as a safe place for guests, especially children, to learn about the good news of Jesus.

Come to the MCA 2020 Bi-National Conference as we celebrate our common vision of the last 100 years.

The conference will include opportunities for professional and personal growth, as well as time to nurture relationships among your team members while relaxing in the Pocono Mountains. Come and learn, play and fellowship together as we celebrate sharing the good news of Jesus for 100 years.

Information on workshops and speakers will be available shortly.
[Register NOW by clicking here.](#)

