



Service and Soccer: A Winning Pair

By Kevin Wilder



For the past three years, the Hesston College men's soccer team has started their August pre-season by volunteering at camps during the day and playing soccer in the evening.

The team chose Camp MennoScah this year. Coach Matt Gerlach states, "Volunteer work starts breaking down the walls of selfishness by putting others ahead of yourself. It also builds trust and a bond among those serving together, which is an important part of our team's identity."



Luis, a freshman defender, had this to say about the experience: "I enjoyed the ability to meet my teammates on a deeper level before we went full throttle on the season. This week allowed us to gel as a group and really get to know each other." Jonathan, a sophomore team captain and defender, added, "I enjoyed being part of a group of young men who were working together to benefit others."

Gardell was complimentary of the team's work: "It's always interesting to work with people you don't know, as work ethic and skills are unknown. I was impressed with their ambitions for future endeavors as I talked to each player. We did things that week some of them had never done before, and I was telling them, 'Do you know how long this would take me if I was doing it by myself?' The work they accomplished may not be a brand new building or playground, but I think it gave them a deeper understanding of what a good feeling it can be to contribute in a way many others can't. I hope it helped them from a teamwork standpoint as they played soccer this fall."

Coach Gerlach thought the facilities and Retreat Center worked great and "kick-started our team chemistry".

He chose camp because of Hesston College connections, the facilities, and location to practice fields west of Wichita. The young men painted a lot of Camp MennoScah red, cleared brush and trees, and also cleaned out and organized a shed. The week was a win for the team and Camp MennoScah!



Get Jelly and Zwieback on Giving Tuesday, December 3!



On Giving Tuesday, December 3 ONLY: If you give a new donation to Camp MennoScah of at least \$20 OR give \$20 more than you did in 2018, you'll receive a jar of sandplum jelly, made by Doris Unruh from sandplums harvested at Camp MennoScah! If you make that new donation at least \$100 or give \$100 more than you did in 2018, you'll receive a jar of sandplum jelly AND a dozen zwieback made by Neva Kaufman. There are only 30 jars and only 10 dozen zwieback, so give to camp on Tuesday, December 3!

Ways to give:

- [paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/2271849](https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/2271849) (PayPal adds an extra 1% to your donation!)
- www.campmennoscah.org ("Donate Here!" at the top of page, note "Giving Tuesday".)
- Send a check or cash, with "Giving Tuesday" in the note/memo.





Looking for a different way to give to Camp Mennoscah?



As the end of the year approaches, many Camp supporters are considering a tax-deductible donation. There are many ways to financially support Camp Mennoscah, but one way you might not know about helps camp, and you!



As a 501(c)(3) organization, Camp Mennoscah can accept highly-appreciated investments as a donation, in addition to cash donations. By donating certain

investments, you can avoid paying taxes on the growth of your investment, and Camp is able to turn your investment into cash, without paying taxes as well.

If you are thinking about giving to Camp Mennoscah this year and are looking for a way to preserve cash, consider donating investments instead. It might be a win-win for you, and for camp. If you're interested in taking advantage of this tax strategy, contact your financial advisor or Michael Unruh at Camp Mennoscah before the end of the year to find out more!



Look at what is happening. Join us!



Hymn Sing and Dessert Auction: March 1, 2020
Tabor Mennonite

Youth Volunteer Weekend: March 13-14, 2020
Camp Mennoscah

Men and Boys Retreat: April 3-5, 2020
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Retirees Retreat: April 20-22, 2020
Camp Mennoscah

Work & Play Day: April 25, 2020
Camp Mennoscah



Christmas Gathering for Volunteers on December 14 at 2:30pm!

Camp Mennoscah is hosting a gathering for all who have volunteered across the history of Camp Mennoscah. We invite you to join us for cookies, other snacks, and hot drinks in a winter-themed atmosphere. It's an informal time for playing games, wandering the camp grounds, and a silly gift exchange for those who choose. You are welcome to bring snacks, games, and family!



Camp Mennoscah is a great place for your next gathering, party, small group retreat, or training!



There are spaces to fit a variety of sizes and needs--and all sorts of God's creation surrounding you. Plan now for spring, summer, fall, and winter! Call us at 620-297-3290.

December 6-8	Bluestem, Retreat Center, Main Camp
December 13-15	Bluestem, Retreat Center, Main Camp
December 20-22	Bluestem, Retreat Center, Main Camp
December 27-29	Bluestem, Main Camp

January 3-5	Bluestem, Retreat Center, Main Camp
January 10-12	Bluestem, Retreat Center, Main Camp
January 17-19	Bluestem, Retreat Center, Main Camp
January 24-26	Bluestem, Main Camp



We have weekdays available too!

January 30-February 2	Bluestem, Main Camp
February 7-9	Bluestem, Main Camp
February 14-16	Bluestem, Retreat Center, Main Camp
February 21-23	Bluestem, Retreat Center, Main Camp
February 28-March 1	Bluestem, Retreat Center, Main Camp

*Summer dates fill up fast.
Contact us at
office@campmennoscah.org
or
620-297-3290
and schedule your event
now!*

Memorial and Estate Gifts Reveal Love for Camp Mennoscah

Kathy Flickinger

Kathy Flickinger always had a soft spot in her heart for Camp Mennoscah. Throughout the years she told stories of her summers at camp as a youth and camping in tents on the west side of the river. This was before the cabins were built on the east side. After she was married and had children, she made sure her daughters also attended camp when they were old enough. Later on, she also enjoyed being a kitchen helper with head cooks, Neva Kaufman and Marjorie Stucky. She told us how much fun they would have in the kitchen preparing food and playing cards during their spare time. It was also common that the cooks would play pranks on one another. As Eden Mennonite Church youth sponsors, Kathy & Lee would take the youth to Fall Holiday at camp and would help in the kitchen, Kathy usually helping with food preparation and Lee washing dishes. Both Kathy and Lee would also typically attend Eden's annual church retreat each July.

When it came time to designate a memorial for Kathy's funeral service, it was easy to choose Camp Mennoscah because of how important it was to her and Lee. She enjoyed camp and always wanted to help provide a space for kids to have the same experiences she had. She also believed in service and saw this as something she could do to serve others. - Robin Schrag, daughter

Memorial gifts for Kathy provided kitchen supplies and support for the 2019 summer youth camping season.



Camp cooks, pictured L to R: Neva Kaufman, Kathy Flickinger, Marvin Stucky, Marjorie Stucky, Betty Stucky, Frank Nachtigal, and Helen Nachtigal.

Andrew and Elva Plett

Andy and Elva Plett loved being at camp and were big advocates of their daughters' participation as campers and in roles of leadership. I counseled as a college student and attend Alexanderwohl Mennonite's retreat. Ethel (Wedel) served recently as a camp nurse and often attended retreats with First Mennonite, Newton. Edith (Carr) and Susan (Krehbiel) also attended as campers growing up.



Andy and Elva Plett outside their duplex at Bethesda Home in Goessel, KS.

Our parents were Family Camp directors for a couple of summers in the 1960's. Our family lore has it that Andy came up with the idea of popping corn over the fire in the kettle and I believe that is where the long-standing tradition began. Elva served as one of the camp cooks for a week for several summers. This was a way she could serve and contribute to camp's mission.

In time, their grandchildren have attended and counseled at Camp Mennoscah: Derek Wedel, Bethanie Wedel, Katherine (Krehbiel) Goerzen, Jennifer (Krehbiel) Lehman, Amy (Brubaker) Kanagy, Neal Brubaker, and Erin Brubaker.

Current camp board member, Jim Yoder, added these comments: "In the 60's, Doris and I were on the Family Camp planning committee with Andy and Elva. They were a fun couple to know, and our relationship continued as years passed. I remember them as a fun couple to work with--energetic and willing to work on the tasks at hand."

Andy and Elva understood the value of camp in a child's spiritual development, to say nothing of the value of relationships and wonderful fun.

- Marcia Brubaker, daughter

A gift from Andy and Elva's estate has contributed to upcoming dining hall window and door replacement, reducing debt from kitchen renovations, and sustaining Camp Mennoscah's long-term vision.



Sign up for Summer Staff!



It may not feel like summer, but we're diving head-first into recruiting for summer staff. We're looking for those 18 years old and older who want to spend the summer sharing their gifts and working with youth. Hone your leadership skills and sharpen your compassion and understanding while having a blast with all ages! Summer staff positions include crafts, grounds/maintenance, lifeguards, media, music, naturalist, and office. These positions receive a weekly volunteer stipend of \$250. Go to campmennoscah.org for more information and to apply!





Camp Mennoscah

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Get Ready for 2020!

The 2020 Catalog will be sent out in February but you can see the 2020 Camp Mennoscah event calendar now!

Go online at campmennoscah.org or contact us at 620-297-3014 or office@campmennoscah.org to request a copy!



Camp Mennoscah Wish List

We are grateful for all the gifts and prayers we receive throughout the year. Thank you so very, very much! It's scientifically proven giving makes you feel good! See the wish list below for some ways to make your happiness skyrocket. (We're serious, but also teasing you.) These items are available online or might be at a store near you!



Spikeball (5 sets)

Counselors and staff have been sharing theirs with us. Camp does not have any of our own.

Spikeball replacement balls

Even with the greatest care, sometimes balls are lost or broken.

Movers dollies (two 18" x 30" dollies)

Easier to move heavy things and easier on the staff.

Garden loppers (6 pairs)

For trimming trees and bushes along the trails.

Hatchet (2)

Another useful tool for maintaining trails, building campfires and fire for popcorn.

Chemical gloves (x-large)

A necessary item to handle pool chemicals.



Mennonite
Camping
Association



Volunteers to help plant the prairie landscaping around the kitchen and new entry in the spring. Designed by Katie Schmidt from Dyck Arboretum!

Mini food processor

Well, you know. For food prep.

Painter's tape

Used for everything. Something we can always use.

Velcro hook tape (only the hook side)

We use the hook on our traveling display of pictures. This roll will last for years!

Giant 4 in a Row game (either 3' or 4')

This game is similar to Connect Four, but huge and much more fun.

Globe light bulbs (3 bulbs per room)

For the vanities in the Retreat Center rooms.

Foldable sawhorses (2 sets)

For that instant extra table.



1948 - 2018



www.campmennoscah.org



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Sylvia Abrahams



Joyful Givers, Happy Hearts



By Olivia Bartel

Camp Mennoscah is a wonderful place to go to find happy, joyful children and youth. Research has also shown that giving makes people happy. This year we have doubly happy people! Over the next two issues we are thrilled to share about three churches whose children collected special offerings for Camp Mennoscah.

One of the churches, Hesston Mennonite Church in Hesston, KS, uses a blue globe bank from Mennonite Mission Network to collect offerings to support organizations with a connection to their congregation.



Camp Mennoscah was chosen this year for how our programming contributes to the spiritual growth and health of young people.

Clayton Gladish, a pastor at Hesston Mennonite, related his experience with this globe offering. One of Clayton's favorite parts of the service is watching the children bring their gifts to the front. "They do not show any fear in coming forward and are a beautiful example of truly

joyful givers...It's also fun to see them help each other reach into the globe or when someone drops their change."



The ages of the children who participate in this offering are 0 to 9 years old, which means many are not old enough to attend Camp Mennoscah. Yet the children hear about camp from those who have been there and been there and look forward to going themselves. Clayton says he's always excited to share about Camp Mennoscah when he comes back from his week as a camp pastor for Junior High I Camp. The children hear how important camp is to others.

Look for the Spring newsletter in March where we'll share how First Mennonite Church and Beatrice Mennonite Church in Beatrice, NE have given to camp!

Thank you for your support!



1948 - 2018