

JUNE 26, 2022
AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alumni Reunion: Did you volunteer at Camp Menno Haven for a summer in the past 50+ years? Join the Staff alumni reunion at Menno Haven June 30 - July 3, 2022. Registration and details at mennohaven.com. Some folks are connecting on Facebook through the group - Menno Haven Staff Reunion. Join us for the entire time, a day, a meal, whatever works for your schedule. Do you have friends, family, or former church members that might not see this announcement? Reach out and pass it on that we want to see them again!

CCCC: We can still use some volunteers to help out in the summer kitchen! Check out our open shifts: signupgenius.com/go/10c0c45a9a729a3fdcf8-2022

Hillcrest: Middle School Update | In March 2021, the Hillcrest Academy Operating Board began exploring the possibility of adding a middle school. Since the survey in 2021, there continues to be community interest in adding a middle school option to Hillcrest Academy. The Hillcrest Operating Board is in an ongoing conversation with others and is still exploring the details it will take to add a middle school. The next step in this process will be to form a middle school committee which will include community involvement and members from the Operating Board. The Operating Board is seeking a member of the community to head up this committee. If interested, please contact Beth Swantz (bswantz@hillcrestravens.org). Please pray with us for discernment and guidance on the journey ahead for this project.

Come support the Hillcrest Academy softball and baseball teams as they take on WMU on *Kids Night at the Ballpark*, Tuesday, June 28. Students in grades 5 through 8 get into the game for free with their passes along with one adult. We'll have freebies for kids of all ages. Go Ravens!

Save the date for *The Annual Hillcrest Academy Golf Benefit*. This year's event is on Saturday, July 16 at the Kalona Golf Club. For details, to register, or to be a sponsor check out hillcrestravens.org/golfbenefit.

MCUSA: Glen Guyton, executive director for Mennonite Church USA, laments the violence that has taken place in the recent months. "I know that our church is not immune from the same hatred and rhetoric that may have inspired some of this weekend's violence. It bothers me even to consider that those elements may be creeping into some corners of our historic peace church." Read more of his reflection here: mennoniteusa.org/must-take-action-not-beyond-hate

As many graduates are journeying on to a different place, many times outside of their original communities, it is important to find the balance between support and being overbearing. "Our greatest gift is offering relational support and creating a safe space for questions and wonderings, as our youths' worldviews expand." Learn more from Sarah Neher, director of faith formation and congregational life at Rainbow Mennonite Church, as she provides guidelines for supporting our youth: mennoniteusa.org/supporting-graduates-faith-journey

As part of Mennonite Church USA's Learn, Pray, Join: Welcoming EveryBODY initiative, Matthew Yoder, pastor of Grace Mennonite Church, reflects on why he believes that the Accessibility Resolution is so important to him personally. "Thanks to generous friends, evolving technologies and accessible spaces, [my grandfather] is able to continue to pursue his passion of worshipping God and serving the church." Read more of his story here: mennoniteusa.org/accessibility-key-ongoing-faithfulness

As part of Mennonite Church USA's Learn, Pray, Join: Welcoming EveryBODY initiative, Shepherd Heart, a ministry of the Pacific Southwest Conference shares suggestions on preaching about disabilities. "Accessibility is about more than accommodation. How we preach about disability is profoundly important." Read their guidelines here: mennoniteusa.org/when-preaching-on-disability