

## Camp Mennoscah 2020-21 Annual Report

Greetings to you on behalf of Camp Mennoscah staff and board of directors! We have experienced great hope during the 2020-2021 year and discovered many blessings waiting. The challenges of the past year have not completely disappeared, but we are rejoicing in the many good things happening at camp.

**2020 & 2021 Summer Youth Camps:** 2020 was a quiet summer on campgrounds with in-person youth camps suspended. To continue a connection with the campers and staff, 406 boxes filled with camp-related activities, a tee shirt and devotions were sent out to campers and others. An additional 98 camp tee shirts were purchased, too. Camp Mennoscah's 2021 summer youth camps have been planned for limited in-person numbers. Guidance for youth camps has been constantly changing and staff worked with the state and local health departments to create a plan and guidelines to have a good balance of safety and fun. Boxes and tee shirts were received by 388 people from Western District Conference churches.

**Retreat Groups:** It has been a thrill to see smaller groups than usual enjoying the campgrounds. The outside spaces and small group tenting have been in more demand this past year and larger groups gradually started coming back for a day or weekend of retreat in 2021. Camp Mennoscah served 626 people from June-December 2020 and 537 people from January-May 2021, providing a sacred space to renew relationships.

**Financial:** Operating revenues in 2020 were \$491,893 and operating expenses were \$450,132 resulting in an unexpected surplus of \$41,761. This was the result of generous contributions and reduced expenses. The reduction of staff due to job changes and retirement were part of the surplus. The surplus has helped to prepare for the uncertainty and anticipated smaller camp and retreat numbers for 2021.

**Volunteers and staff:** So much can be done with the help of volunteers! In 2020, volunteers included maintenance, retreat staff, and 7 summer staff. The summer staff who were able offered to stay for an additional two weeks without the volunteer stipend—a blessing indeed! We are grateful for the many people who volunteered for summer youth camps before they were suspended. Camp Mennoscah reaches more people through the generosity of volunteers. Michael Unruh, executive director, moved to the campus pastor position at Bethel College in August 2020 and Gardell Stucky, facilities director, retired at the end of October 2020. Jordan Miller joined the staff full-time as the campus and facilities director in February 2021 and Olivia Bartel accepted the Executive Director position in September 2020. Deborah Dimmick, office assistant, is looking toward retirement and has reduced her hours

**Projects:** Camp Mennoscah continues to improve facilities to better serve you. Work on the Trail Bridge and campfire amphitheater renovations have continued over the past year. Both require more work, but are nearing completion. Work on the Dining Hall renovations was put on hold during 2020. Preliminary work to restart this project will begin soon.

Thank you to Western District Conference for supporting the ministry of Camp Mennoscah. Camp continues to be a place of connection—with God, nature, others, and self—and that would not be possible without the prayers, encouragement, volunteer efforts and financial support of Western District Conference and the congregations who are a part of it.



### Camp Mennoscah Staff

Olivia Bartel – Executive Director  
Jordan Miller – Campus & Facilities  
Deborah Dimmick – Office Assistant

### Board of Directors

Renetta Gooden – president	Scott Litwiller
Jill Litwiller – vice pres.	Jon Miller
Joan Entz – secretary	Eric Schrag
Kevin Wilder – treasurer	Michelle Shima
Mike Doerksen	Bonnie Swenson
Isaac Entz	