



**2022**

**TEEN VOLUNTEER**

**Application Form**



Camps with Meaning  
is a ministry of  
**Mennonite Church Manitoba**

# What is Camps with Meaning?

[www.mennochurch.mb.ca](http://www.mennochurch.mb.ca)

**CAMPS WITH MEANING** (CwM) is the Camping Ministry of Mennonite Church Manitoba (MCM).

Camps with Meaning serves the MCM congregations and the larger community through facilities and programming (Camp Assiniboia and Camp Koinonia).

In our summer programming we reach out to kids and youth, as well as adults with mental and physical disabilities, from across Manitoba: inner-city to rural. We invite campers to a fun-filled week of activities, community and experiencing God's love. We reach out so that we can invite campers to life in Christ! At Camps with Meaning, **we are connecting campers to the Creator, to community, and to creation.**

## Summer Program Goals

We ask all our summer staff to help create an atmosphere conducive to:

...discovering and nurturing of a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ and commitment to Him and His way of life.

...affirming the worth of self and others, as well as developing skills in community living.

...developing an appreciation for the natural environment, learning responsible stewardship of it and responding in worship to the God who created it.

## Working at camp is awesome because...

**You'll grow!** Spending time at camp in ministry is a stretching and growing experience second to none!

**You'll develop skills!** You'll learn to work with children and youth through training and practice. You'll have chances to get trained and experienced in anything from wall climbing, sailboarding, ropes instructing, canoeing, etc. Please inquire about training opportunities when you apply!

**You'll create lasting friendships!** You'll meet new friends and spend the summer developing relationships that will last!

**You'll be building God's people!** God calls us to serve. Camp ministry, in any role, is a great way to respond in gratitude for what God has and is doing in your life. And you get to share that great news with many others.

**Camp work looks great on a resume!** It's true! Ask any employer. The skills in working with others, community living, development of the whole person and the many skills that camp work requires are signs of a person of integrity and good character.

## Teen Volunteer:

- Completed at least Grade 9
- Complete Teen Volunteer Training Week plus at least 1 week of Day Camp
- Work as staff in our Day Camp programs
- Work as support staff on the farm, in the kitchen, or providing childcare

Application Check-list

Deadline April 1, 2022

(but of course the earlier the better!)

☐ **Application Form**

☐ **Signed Lifestyle Covenant**

☐ **Signed Criminal Record Waiver Form**

☐ **Resume**

☐ **Write-up Answering Faith Questions**

- Please answer the questions about your faith, life story, and camp experience/goals!

☐ **2 Reference Forms**

- Please fill out the top box on the reference form and give it to a teacher or adult friend and a pastor who would be able to give a full and accurate reference. Relatives and immediate family should not be used. Please ask References to mail/fax/email completed forms in to the CwM office within One Week.

☐ **Support**

- Decide if you would like to volunteer more than just one week of your time at camp or if you would like to be sponsored.
- Home Church - Have a conversation with your church asking if they are willing to support you financially.

# Camps with Meaning Statement of Faith

(from Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective)

We believe in God the Creator of all, who has called forth a people of faith. We believe in Jesus Christ, the Word become flesh, crucified and resurrected for us. He is our Saviour from evil and sin, our peace and the exalted Lord of the church. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the source of redemption and life.

We who respond to Christ in faith are his church, the community called to proclaim and to be a sign of the kingdom of God, the new people sustained by Scripture and Spirit. Thus we continue the mission of Christ, making disciples, forgiving, restoring, baptizing believers, sharing the Lord's Supper, using our gifts in unity and love.

We commit ourselves to follow Jesus Christ, in his path through suffering to life. By grace we are being changed into the image of God, in which God created women and men. As faithful disciples, we hear Christ's call to life in the Spirit in relation with God, to chastity, stewardship, love for the enemy, to the practice of justice and peace.

## Important Program Information & FAQs

**When is Staff Training Week?** July 3-8, 2022

**When are the Day Camp Weeks?** July 10-15 and July 17-22 at Assiniboia; July 24-29 at Koinonia

**What is Day Camp?** It is for campers who have completed Grade 1-6. Campers arrive by bus or are dropped off directly at camp in the morning and leave in the afternoon. During their time at camp they go to activities and Bible alongside the overnight campers.

**Can I stay over at camp?** Teen Volunteers absolutely have the option of staying overnight at camp. You will be asked to assist with cleaning duties in the evenings. If you would prefer to stay at home during the Assiniboia weeks, you may catch a ride to camp on the bus that leaves from the CMU campus.

**Can I work more than 1 Day Camp Week?** Probably! The number of weeks available for individual teen volunteers to work will depend on the number of people in the program. Please indicate on your application form which weeks you would like to work. Staff will be placed with the big picture of the camping mission in mind.

**What will the interview be like?** The interview is an opportunity for your leader to get to know you and for you to get more comfortable with them! It's an opportunity to learn about what has motivated you to apply for the Teen Volunteer program. Depending on where you are from, this can be an in-person interview or over the phone.

**I've never gone to camp. Can I still work at camp?**

Absolutely! We love to welcome new people at camp. Please join us.

**Can I work more than just Day Camp weeks?**

We would love to have you work as a support staff – on the farm crew, in the kitchen, or providing childcare for our adult volunteers. This will depend on your availability and interest as well as our staffing needs.

## Financial Information

**Spirit of Service:** Camp work is "voluntary service" in that the remuneration received cannot match the effort required to perform faithfully. There are ways for summer staff to receive honorarium for their weeks of summer work at camp.

**Home Church Sponsorship:** The MCM churches gave birth to Camps with Meaning and continue to support it. Please ask your home church to sponsor your honorarium.

**Suggested Rate:**

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	RATE	SOURCE
Teen Volunteer	Completed Gr 9	\$120/week	Home Church



Camps with Meaning  
600 Shaftesbury Blvd  
Winnipeg MB R3P 0M4  
Ph: 204-895-2267  
Fax: 204-832-7804  
E: [camps@mennochurch.mb.ca](mailto:camps@mennochurch.mb.ca)  
[www.campswithmeaning.org](http://www.campswithmeaning.org)

2022  
**CAMPS WITH MEANING**  
Assiniboia \* Koinonia

**Due  
April 1**

Office use Only

CAR \_\_\_\_\_  
Police \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name in full: \_\_\_\_\_

Last

First

Middle

Preferred/Chosen Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street / Box

City

Province

Postal Code

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance No. (6 **AND** 9 digit) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday (mm/dd/year): \_\_\_\_\_ Gr completed (June of this year): \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of parent(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church attended \_\_\_\_\_ Member? (circle) yes no

Pastor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies/Dietary Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

**CAMPS WITH MEANING SUMMER SCHEDULE:** Please circle your availability.

**TEEN VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

Please select 1 or more weeks which you will be available to serve as Day Camp Staff or Support Staff following Training Week.

OFFICE USE ONLY	AVAILABLE	DATES
	Mandatory	Staff Training Week & On-Site: July 3-8
	Yes No	July 11-15 (Assiniboia)
	Yes No	July 17-22 (Assiniboia)
	Yes No	July 24-29 (Koinonia)
	Yes No	August 7-12 (other duties)

**HONORARIUM –**

- ☐ I understand that my training week is voluntary and I will not be paid.
- ☐ I wish to volunteer all of my weeks.
- ☐ I will approach \_\_\_\_\_ (***name of church contact***) at my church for sponsorship for \_\_\_\_\_ weeks at \$120/week for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. I understand that I will receive the amount of money that my church is able to give me.

# Camps with Meaning Staff and Volunteer Covenant

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am entering into an agreement with Camps with Meaning with a desire and expectation for a great summer of growth and fulfillment through service and ministry. I agree that by working at camp, **I will represent Mennonite Church Manitoba and its Anabaptist/ Mennonite theology to the best of my ability.** I agree to abide by the policies and expectations of Camps with Meaning, as outlined in the Camps with Meaning Summer Staff Manual, bearing in mind that the safety of all people in the community is of paramount importance.

**I understand that it will be hard work, requiring the kind of commitment that goes the extra mile.**

**I commit to being responsible for serving the needs of others, both campers and staff, and know that sometimes that will mean putting their needs ahead of my own.**

I am aware that living and working with other staff for an extended time can cause both healthy and unhealthy relationships. I commit to working through interpersonal issues directly with the other person, constructively and with openness, and trust that others will do the same for me. I believe that as a Christian community, **we are called to be responsible to the group**, accepting the disciplines of a community working towards a common goal.

As a member of this community of faith and service, I commit to nonviolence and will not participate in abusive (sexual, emotional, or physical) forms of contact and/or verbal behavior with campers or staff. I will work to ensure that my language is upbuilding to those around me at all times, and will be especially conscious not to use derogatory or inappropriate language in the presence of campers. I will not use alcohol, tobacco and/or illicit drugs on camp premises and I will not view pornography or participate in sexual intercourse outside of marriage on camp premises.

**I will be sensitive to the needs of campers**, spoken or unspoken, and work to make the camp environment one where everyone feels safe. As a role model, I will discourage the expression of ridicule among campers and counselors. I will not tolerate bullying or harassment in any form. **I will encourage the abilities and positive aspects of each person.**

I will be conscious about how I represent myself, Camps with Meaning, and Mennonite Church Manitoba through my actions in public and on social networking sites. I am aware that **I will have a profound effect on the campers** and will conduct myself in a manner worthy of being a summer staffer and a faithful member of God's community.

**I will expect to have fun.**

I have read the expectations described on this form and have been given opportunity to ask questions on items I did not understand. **I certify that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge and that misrepresentation and/or failure to abide by camp policies, as interpreted by the DCDs, Associate Program Director, and/or Director of Mission, may be grounds for my dismissal.** I willingly enter this covenant for the duration of my summer employment with Camps with Meaning, understanding and accepting the reciprocal benefits and mutual responsibilities that it entails. I hereby agree to abide by the policies of Camps with Meaning.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## SKILLS PROFILE

Please indicate any activity in which you have skills or interest.

**Activity Areas:**

- ☐ Archery                      ☐ Nature  
☐ Crafts                         ☐ Guitar Playing  
☐ Initiative Tasks              ☐ Planning Special Events  
☐ Other                            ☐ Worship Planning and Leading

**Other Areas**

- ☐ Storytelling              ☐ Skits  
☐ Rainy Day Activities  
☐ Leading Large Group Recreation

Musical Instruments Played \_\_\_\_\_ Level of Proficiency \_\_\_\_\_  
 Swimming Level \_\_\_\_\_

**Certifications:** (please attach copies of any certificates you possess)

- ☐ NLS (Date Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_; Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_)  
☐ Bronze Medallion (Date Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_; Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_)  
☐ Bronze Cross (Date Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_; Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_)  
☐ CPR (Date Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_; Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_)  
☐ First Aid (Circle Level: A, B, or C; Date Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_; Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_)  
☐ Wilderness First Aid (Date Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_; Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_)  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_; Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_)  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (Date Achieved: \_\_\_\_\_; Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_)

**1. RÉSUMÉ:** Please attach 1 to 2 pages (only) in which you include the following information:

- a) Camp history, including years and camps attended as a camper and worked as a staff person.  
 b) Educational history, including grade or year you are presently in, academic average.  
 c) Employment history, including volunteer positions. Give name, address and phone number of employers.

**2. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:** Please answer the following questions clearly, giving examples where possible:

- a) What is your faith story? (How do you picture God and talk to God? How would you describe your relationship with God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit? How have you grown and changed over the years in those beliefs? What questions do you have?)  
 b) How is your faith reflected in the way you live and relate to others? (ie. prayer, decision-making, etc.)  
 c) What is your relationship to and participation in the church?  
 d) What are some personal challenges you expect to face in this position?  
 e) What experience do you have working with children?

**3. References**

List 2 references who know you well enough to give an objective evaluation of your character, abilities, and work habits as they apply to working with children. Try to include each category of reference listed below. If such persons are not available, please indicate whom you have submitted.

Give each reference a copy of the appropriate Reference Form (make copies as needed) and **ask them to email, fax, or mail the form directly the Camps with Meaning office within one week.** Provide below:

	Name	Phone #
Pastor/Youth Leader	_____	_____
Employer/other Adult	_____	_____

Finally, you're almost finished! Please complete the following:

**SELF-EVALUATION:** Underline all appropriate comments--be honest. Add statements if the ones listed do not accurately describe you. Don't let this scare you. There is not one correct way to answer. Evaluate yourself and then use the information as a springboard for growth and improvement. We are not looking for perfect people but for honest people who are growing in their faith.

**Christian Faith:** understand the faith well; have questions about faith; am confident in my faith;  
am confused about faith matters

**Sharing my Faith:** effective; depends on people I am with; weak; enjoy sharing my testimony;  
find it difficult to share my testimony

**Spiritual Life:** steady and growing; up and down; am an inspiration to others; lean on others; study the Bible;  
seldom read the Bible; apply Biblical principles

**Christian Character:** The following "fruit of the Spirit" is evident in my relationships with people:  
love; joy; peace; patience; kindness; goodness; faithfulness; gentleness; self-control

• The fruit I need to work on most is:

love; joy; peace; patience; kindness; goodness; faithfulness; gentleness; self-control

**Church/Youth Group Involvement:** attend regularly; attend irregularly; tithe regularly; actively involved;  
limited involvement; not involved

**Role of Family:** love my family; contribute to my family's well-being; have no family; respect my parents;  
my family supports my Christian faith and life; am in a right relationship with my parents/siblings;  
have inadequate emotional support

**Role of Friends:** have several close friends; have one close friend;  
have no close friends, my emotional support comes from my family

**Social Life:** friendly; am a loner; need considerable privacy; outgoing; shy; lean on others; drift in and out of friendships;  
get along well with others; have difficulty making friends; contribute to others

**Emotional Stability:** stable; irritable; anxious; peaceful; easily discouraged; occasional depression;  
difficult to control my temper; nervous; control my emotions; never show emotions

**Personality:** introvert; extrovert; optimist; pessimist; creative; initiator; aggressive; easy-going; critical; encourager;  
sense of humour; well-disciplined; poor personal discipline; submissive to authority; cooperative; uncooperative

**Work Habits:** enjoy work; procrastinate; complete my assignments; lazy; let others do it whenever possible;  
follow instructions carefully; ignore instructions; sloppy; perfectionist; do just enough to get by;  
take pride in my work; on time; often late; a quitter; rarely give up; dependable; irresponsible

**Leadership Ability:** With peer group:

a follower; a pace setter; accept responsibility when asked

• With children:

exceptional; comes naturally; enjoy leading children; have never tried but would like the opportunity

**Physical Health:** rugged; average; tire quickly; frequent colds; on medication; health problems; allergies

**The Outdoors:** enjoy it; avoid it

Comments on your self-evaluation:

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## CAMPS WITH MEANING

Assiniboia - Koinonia

600 Shaftesbury Blvd, Winnipeg MB R3P 0M4

Ph: (204) 895-2267, Fax: (204) 832-7804;

E: camps@mennochurch.mb.ca; [www.campswithmeaning.org](http://www.campswithmeaning.org)

### CONFIDENTIAL REFERENCE for SUMMER STAFF (leadership, activity leaders, counselors, SLTs, TVs, etc.)

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability based on your knowledge of the applicant and the job. Note the staff qualifications and job description overleaf. Please return to Camps with Meaning within one week.

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Info: (Home Phone) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell Phone) \_\_\_\_\_

(Email Address) \_\_\_\_\_

1. How long and under what circumstances have you known the applicant?

2. Have you seen the applicant working with children or teens in a leadership role? If so, in what context?

3. To the best of your knowledge, please comment on the maturity level of the applicant (i.e.: ability to make responsible decisions, ability to deal with stress, ability to build/maintain positive relationships with others, degree to which applicant is influenced by peers, degree to which applicant influences peers, etc.)

4. What special contributions will the applicant bring to the camping ministry?

5 To the best of your knowledge, does the applicant possess characteristics or display behaviours that would be areas of concern which may compromise their ability to contribute positively to the camp community (e.g.:

substance use, proclivity to child or sexual abuse, areas of personal growth where significant improvement is needed, etc.)? If so, what are they?

**This form is for: AN EMPLOYER, A TEACHER, A MENTOR or AN ADULT FRIEND**

**(page 2)**

6. Please rate the applicant on the characteristics below using the following scale:

A) Strongly possess trait

B) Possess Trait, but could use improvement

C) Does not possess this trait

D) I don't know

CHACHARACTERISTIC	RATING	COMMENTS
Communication skills	A B C D	
Theological insight	A B C D	
Integrity	A B C D	
Relationship skills	A B C D	
Dependability	A B C D	
Initiative	A B C D	
Creativity	A B C D	
Use of time	A B C D	
Self confidence	A B C D	
Team work	A B C D	

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## OUR PURPOSE

**Camps with Meaning** is a ministry of the congregations which make up Mennonite Church Manitoba. It serves these congregations and the larger community by providing facilities and Christian programs in settings close to nature. We strive to create an atmosphere conducive to:

1. The discovery and nurture of a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ and commitment to Him and His way of life.
2. Affirming the worth of self and others, as well as developing skills in community living.
3. Developing an appreciation for the natural environment, learning responsible stewardship of it and responding in worship to the God who created it.
4. Our beliefs and practices arise from our Anabaptist perspective on the Christian faith. Our primary goal is to further the Kingdom of God.

## JOB DESCRIPTION SUMMARIES

### QUALIFICATIONS FOR ALL STAFF:

- an active Christian faith, with a lifestyle that reflects this
- high standards of personal integrity
- understanding of & agreement with camp aims & program philosophy
- rapport with campers and peers
- ability to anticipate and engage campers' interests
- physical stamina and physical capability to perform the duties assigned
- spiritual and emotional maturity
- genuine love and concern for children
- willingness to serve and to perform tasks beyond those assigned

### DAY CAMP COUNSELORS:

- lead activity groups of up to 10 campers and/or lead activities for campers
- assume responsibility for the health and welfare of campers entrusted in his/her care
- assume responsibility for leadership and guidance to the campers in daily living, including the building of community in the group
- interpret the Christian faith to the campers through living and learning experiences and encourage spiritual growth
- serve as a positive Christian model to campers in language, actions and attitudes
- organize and lead daily devotions with the cabin group

**ACTIVITY LEADERS:** Will instruct children in one of the day camp activities in a safe, responsible, engaging manner: ie. crafts, archery, games, etc.



## CAMPS WITH MEANING

Assiniboia \* Koinonia

600 Shaftesbury Blvd, Winnipeg MB R3P 0M4

Ph: (204) 895-2267, Fax: (204) 832-7804;

E: camps@mennochurch.mb.ca; [www.campswithmeaning.org](http://www.campswithmeaning.org)

### COVER LETTER

#### Instructions to Staff:

- Please provide this form to your Pastor, Youth Pastor or Youth Sponsor. (If you are unable to find someone in such a role, please contact the camp office.)
- **Please fill in the blanks below before handing this form to your reference.**
- Please explain your request to meet with your reference, plan a date & time when you hand this form to them.
- NOTE: Your application will not be considered complete until this reference has been completed.

Dear Pastor, Youth Pastor or Youth Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_:

name

\_\_\_\_\_ is applying to work at Camps with Meaning this summer. All staff are required,  
Applicant's name

as part of the application process, to meet with a leader in their congregation.

This meeting will serve several purposes. Firstly, it serves as a reference for this staff person. It is also intended to help camp staff make connections with the congregation which is sending them into this ministry. We want this to provide you with an opportunity to hear about their passion and excitement for the camp ministry. And, hopefully, this meeting will help the staff person to sense the support from home as they prepare to go to camp.

This meeting does not need to be a formal time of filling out forms and collecting information. Rather, it can take the shape of a conversation in which you encourage the staff person to share their summer ministry vision with you. I have included in this letter a list of topics you might choose to cover in conversation, but you are not limited to this list. Please take this opportunity to explore with this staff person.

Please Note: The application of the staff person will not be considered complete until you have submitted the attached reference note. Feel free to contact this staff person and plan a time to meet. Thank you for your willingness to help, and I look forward to hearing from you. The applicant can be reached at: \_\_\_\_\_.

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- serve as a positive Christian model to campers in language, actions and attitudes

**ACTIVITY LEADERS:** Will instruct children in one of the day camp activities in a safe, responsible, engaging manner: ie. crafts, archery, games, etc.

**Instructions for completion of this form:**

This form can be used in one of two ways. Following your conversation with the applicant, either:

1. Complete the following and email/mail/fax it to the Camps with Meaning office

**OR**

2. Phone or email your comments/endorsements of the applicant to the Camps with Meaning office. (e-mail to [camps@mennochurch.mb.ca](mailto:camps@mennochurch.mb.ca) or phone 204-895-2267)

**Possible discussion topics:**

- Recent spiritual growth and development
- Struggles/challenges in the past year, faith related, other
- Motivation to work at camp
- How can the church support you?
- What might you bring to the church after your summer ministry experience?

**Pastor's Comments:**

Please use the space below to comment on the suitability of the applicant to participate in camp ministry. Note any significant concerns or joys.

--

Do you recommend \_\_\_\_\_ to be a part of the camp ministry this summer?  
(applicant's name)

Yes? Comments:

No? Comments:

Name of Person Completing Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Person Completing Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Role of Person Completing Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_