Mt. Gretna Campmeeting News



Property Ownership Committee Update

Submitted by Committee Chair, Kevin Burd

New Campmeeting Members

Please join us in welcoming new Members to the Campmeeting. Please introduce yourselves and share what you love about our community with the new owners of the following cottages:

- 209 Seventh Street
- 108 Fifth Street
- 209 Weaver Avenue
- 311 First Street
- 204 Fifth Street
- 505 Seventh Street
- 301 Bell Avenue
- 211 Boehm Avenue

Short-Term Rental Permits

Regarding short-term rental permits, of the 72 short-term rental permits available, as outlined in Rule 20 and the associated policy, 41 permits are currently granted in the community.

Short-term rental permit holders are reminded that West Cornwall Township (WCT) has created zoning ordinances regarding short-term rental units. It is your responsibility to comply with WCT permit requirements.

Cottage Resale Certificate

A Resale Certificate is required for all cottage sales/transfers. This ensures that the Bylaws and Rules & Regulations are given to the buyer, and that the buyer agrees that they are reviewed. This removes the risk from the Campmeeting and its volunteers. New Member Orientation meetings will be encouraged but no longer required.

Please contact us at homerentals@mtgretnacampemeting.org if you have any questions



Just a gentle reminder...

An invoice for the 2025 MGCA General Assessment was sent to MGCA Members in late 2024.

The 2025 MGCA General Assessment is due in full by June 30, 2025. This applies to Members paying their assessment in a single payment as well as individuals paying partial payments over the first six months of the year. Interest, penalties and an administrative fee will be added to the assessment balance if it is not paid in full by June 30.

A Member experiencing financial hardship that will prevent payment of the full assessment by June 30 should contact the Treasurer as soon as possible.

From Soil to Soul

In celebration of Earth Day 2025, heartfelt thanks go out to all the volunteers who rolled up their sleeves to help clean and refresh the Community Garden. Your time, energy, and dedication are what keep our shared spaces thriving.

A special thank you to Paul McMullen for lending his artistic talents to the garden with a beautiful art deco piece that now adds a unique touch. Together, we've made the garden not only cleaner, but more vibrant for all to enjoy.





Photos submitted by Pat Wilmsen

Welcoming the Season with Gratitude and Elbow Grease

From Ted Martin of the Tabernacle Association

A special thanks to everyone who participated in the annual Tabernacle Spring Clean-Up on Saturday, May 10. Volunteers were quick, efficient, and effective. The place was left spic-and-span, ready for the coming season. Nearby neighbors of the building could even smell the fresh and sudsy goodness of all the work throughout the remainder of the weekend. Volunteers are the lifeblood of this community, and once again our spiffy and clean Tabernacle proved just that fact. Our gratitude also goes out to the Board of the Bible Festival who joined in the work and to our Superintendent, Nate Godfrey, who made everything flow smoothly and does so much already to keep the building in prime shape. Bring-on the Season!

Campmeeting Memorial Program

The Campmeeting Memorial Program includes a variety of fixtures that enhance our community parks - 3-seater benches, 2-seater benches, and Adirondack chairs which can be placed in select areas within the Campmeeting.

Community members interested in sponsoring the purchase of a bench or chair will have the opportunity to have a memorial plaque affixed to the fixture. This sponsorship allows individuals to have input on the preferred location for the bench or chair, although final placement decisions will be made with community needs in mind.

Adirondack-style chairs are available for a sponsorship of \$195. Members interested in a bench should contact the MGCA Office for current prices.

Saplings (1-2 year old tree) are planted on an annual basis. If you would like to support our tree planting, you can do so by sponsoring a sapling tree with the purchase of a plaque. Currently there will be a plaque placed at an actual memorial tree. The long-term goal will be to have a centrally located plaque with leaves engraved with the memorial names.

If you would like to sponsor a larger tree (3-4 year old tree), that is also possible for a sponsorship of \$200. The sponsorship of a larger tree does not include a plaque. If you would also like a plaque, the contribution rate is \$50. Plaques are limited to the number of characters and lines. Information can be obtained by contacting the MGCA Office. Please note that once the centrally located plaque becomes available, the leaves will have a name only.

If you'd like to contribute to this community enhancement effort or have any questions, please reach out to the MGCA office.

Save the date: July 22, 2025

Amid the countless programs offered in Mt. Gretna this summer, there are two worth marking on your calendar right now. On July 22, award-winning author and ecologist, Dr. Doug Tallamy, will give two different talks (at 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.) explaining how we can take an active role in restoring biodiversity in our community. Dr. Tallamy has been featured in Smithsonian Magazine and his programs promise to be among the highlights of a weeklong nature-themed program series. For more information, see the details for July 22 under Chautauqua Summer Programs on the Community Calendar at mtgretna.org.

Thanks to All

Heartfelt thanks to Superintendent Nate Godfrey and members of the Community Activities Committee for their hard work in organizing and executing an absolutely delightful Annual Picnic and Pig Roast. The food was exceptional, the weather was picture perfect, and the crowd couldn't have been more congenial.

A special thank you goes to Campmeeting residents Dale and Marie Martin whose sponsorship of the event made the evening possible. We appreciate your generosity and support of Campmeeting.





Photos submitted by Marie Martin

Flame Awareness

With spring in full bloom, the air is filled not only with the fragrance of flowers and trees but also with the enticing aroma of hamburgers sizzling on grills and marshmallows toasting over fire pits. As we eagerly anticipate spending time outdoors, it is important to remember to be mindful of open flames in the Campmeeting area.

Please note that charcoal or gas grills, along with any other open-flame cooking devices, are prohibited from use on combustible covered porches.

Fire rings, fire pits (permanent or portable), and deck/patio heaters are permitted. It's important to ensure that these devices have a properly fitting spark screen cover over the open flame and they should not be operated on porches for safety reasons.

Before setting up a fire pit, take a moment to survey your surroundings. Ensure there are no trees or foliage nearby that could catch fire from sparks. Remember, fire safety is everyone's responsibility.

For further details, please consult Rule 2 in Campmeeting's Rules and Regulations available at https://mtgretnacampmeeting.com/Files/OfficialPublications/RulesandRegs2024.02.pdf. Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining a safe environment for all.

MT. GRETNA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

2025 HOURS OF OPERATION

- Monday through Friday 10 A.M. to 12 P.M.
- Tuesday and Wednesday 6 P.M. to 8 P.M.
- Saturday and Sunday 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

- Monday evening book reviews occurring weekly between June 2 and July 28 7 P.M.
- Children's programs on Wednesdays between July 9 and August 13 10 A.M. to 11 A.M.
- "Date with a Book" beginning in June Keep an eye out for more details



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Mt. Gretna Library | 2025 | Mondays, 7 - 8 PM

June 2: All the Colors of the Dark by Chris Whitaker | Led by Nicole Roberts

June 9: The Measure by Nikki Erlick | Led by Marcie Lloyd

June 16: Confronting the Presidents: No Spin Assessments from Washington to Biden by Bill O'Reilly & Martin Dugard | Led by Kevin Wells

June 23: The Barn: The Secret History of a Murder in Mississippi by Wright Thompson | Led by Tim Nieman

June 30: A Call to Farms: Reconnecting to Nature, Food, and Community in a Modern World by Jennifer Grayson | Led by Susan Wood

July 7: A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail by Bill Bryson | Led by Pat Allwein

July 14: Mindhunter: Inside the FBI's Elite Serial Crime Unit by John Douglas | Led by Paul McMullen

July 21: This is How it Always Is by Laurie Frankel | Led by Lynne Davies

July 28: How to Age Disgracefully by Clare Pooley | Led by Jamie Cecil

Traffic Safety Enhancements Coming to Campmeeting Grounds

As reported at the April Board Meeting, the Buildings & Grounds Committee is updating the traffic restriction devices throughout the Campmeeting to better serve our visitors and guests. Bollards will be installed throughout the summer months.



2025 Bible Festival Programs		
Date	Programs and Information	
Sunday, June 1	Jess Zimmerman & Family - 7 p.m. Nashville recording artist Jess Zimmerman will be joined by her family.	
	With roots in Lancaster and Lebanon counties, the family's faith and music have a firm foundation in the Holy Spirit, and they lift praises to our Creator. Freewill offering will be received.	
Saturday, June 7	Handbell Festival - 7 p.m. Under the direction of Dr. Shawn Gingrich, Hershey, Pa., ringers from the area will ring the praise and glory of God. Freewill offering will be received. New for 2025 is the date in June. This event is normally later in the summer, but has been moved forward this year. Don't miss out on this favorite program.	
Sunday, June 8	Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster - 7 p.m. Choral singing by children and youth to glorify Jesus Christ. Rosemary Blessing, Artistic Director. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by J.O.Y. Book Store, Schaefferstown	
Friday, June 13	Program - 7 p.m. "Discipleship Dilemmas." Speaker: Cynthia Moore-Koikoi; United Methodist Bishop for Eastern PA and Greater NJ Conference. Freewill offering will be received.	
Sunday, June 15	Andy Roberts with the Four Piece Quartet - 7 p.m. The Four Piece Quartet plays reimagined jazz arrangements of "sunday standards" and uplifting contemporary pieces. Their latest recording, "All Things" is available on most streaming services. Freewill offering will be received.	
Friday, June 20	Program - 7 p.m. "Demonstrating Jesus' Kingdom in Friendship with Muslim People" Speaker: Jonathan Bornman; Christian-Muslim Consultant, Eastern Mennonite Missions. Freewill offering will be received.	
Sunday, June 22	New Holland Band - 7 p.m. Formed in 1929 and the second oldest municipal band in the nation, the New Holland Band will play patriotic and spiritual music. Fred Hughes Jr Music Director. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Cornwall Manor	
Friday, June 27	Program - 7 p.m. "Discipleship Dilemma: Confronting Racism in the Way of Jesus." Speaker: Drew Hart; Author and Associate Professor of Theology, Messiah University. Freewill offering will be received.	
Sunday, June 29	Ken Medema - 7 p.m. Ken Medema is a gifted musician who creates an experience that is not only interactive but truly unique. His heart is full for music, connection, and relationships. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by James & Elaine Gibbel, David & Pam Reist, Susanne Schaudel and Anonymous	
Sunday, July 6	National Christian Choir - 7 p.m. Founded in 1984, the choir is called to glorify God through a unique ministry of music. This is a patriotic themed concert "God and Country." Directed by Kathy Bowman, Gettysburg, Pa. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Rhoda Long, Realtor, Berkshire-Hathaway Homeservices.	

Sunday, July 13	Cumberland Flutes - 7 p.m. Cumberland Flutes is a community flute choir comprised of many talented musicians from the Southcentral PA area. Formed in 2017, they started performing in August 2022. Conductor Jocelyn Goranson is an award-winning soloist and adjunct instructor of applied flute at Messiah University and Dickinson College. Freewill offering will be received.
Sunday, July 20	Hymn Sing - 7 p.m. Congregational favorites from the Celebration Hymnal led by Bob Kettering and Dr. Rod Shearer. Freewill offering will be received.
Sunday, July 27	Choir Festival - 7 p.m. A mass choir of over 100 volunteer singers from the region will present an inspiring program of varied styles of sacred music. Linda Tedford, guest conductor. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Loser's Music. Concert made possible by the Estate of Douglas Troutman.
Sunday, Aug. 3	Lancaster British Brass Band - 7 p.m. 28 instrumentalists from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and New Jersey playing brass, winds and percussion instruments. Directed by Dr. Stephen Arthur Allen. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care.
Sunday, Aug. 10	Jazz Ministers Big Band - 7 p.m. Under the direction of Keith Wiley, 18 accomplished musicians who find a common spiritual mission in sharing the gift of music through the Christian worship or concert experience. The JMBB draws on a variety of musical selections that are frequently based upon standard Christian hymns and Gospel favorites. Freewill offering will be received.
Sunday, Aug. 17	Susquehanna Chorale - 7 p.m. One of the premier choral groups in the nation makes its traditional late summer appearance. Directed by Linda Tedford. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Traditions of Hershey.
Sunday, Aug. 24	QuintEssentially Brass - 7 p.m. This quintet with engaging personalities and sparkling instrumental performances ends another season. Freewill offering will be received. Sponsored by Arthur Funk and Sons.

Friday Programs: Seminars on a variety of topics will be held Friday afternoons, from 2 p.m.-5 p.m., in the Mount Gretna United Methodist Church. Pre-registration required - see our website <u>MtGretnaTabernacle.org</u> for registration link.

SUMMER ORGAN CONCERTS at the Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church - 7 p.m.		
Wednesday, June 4	Shawn Gingrich, First United Methodist Church, Hershey, Pa.	
Wednesday, June 11	Ethan Draper - Lebanon Valley College, Organ Scholar at Market Square Presbyterian Church, Harrisburg, Pa.	
Wednesday, June 18	Eddie Zheng - Juilliard, Assistant Organist at Saint Ignatius of Antioch Episcopal Church in New York as well as Associate Organist at Eglise St. Jean Baptiste and Guest Organist of The Riverside Church	

Visit our website for updates - MtGretnaTabernacle.org or our FACEBOOK page.

Think Before You Release: The Environmental Toll of Balloons

Balloons have long been used as party decorations or released en masse during one celebration or another. They may look nice at the moment, but what happens to those balloons that float away? Unfortunately, they eventually land somewhere else. When they do, they litter the habitats of animals that may mistake them for food and eat them or get entangled in the strings attached to them. Despite the danger balloon litter poses to wildlife, millions of balloons are intentionally released every year. To avoid any of these issues, including balloons becoming entwined in our trees, please do not release any balloons into the air.

June Trash & Recycling Pick-Up

Regular trash and recycling collection will occur throughout the month of June.

If you are ever uncertain if "this week" is a recycling week, just check the "Calendar of Events" on the MGCA website at: https://mtgretnacampmeeting.com/local.shtml#calendar. Recycling and trash pickups are clearly listed.



Are You Connected to News & Info in Campmeeting?

