

Greetings Friends,

We are thrilled to be back together at Midlands Mission Center's Doniphan Reunion! Our guest ministers for the week are Jim and Sharon Hannah (bio included below) who have a rich ministry in peacework, social justice and making Christ's mission their mission. We hope all will experience the blessings of community as we gather together.

REGISTRATION:

Camp begins on Wednesday, June 29th. We have worked with Doniphan staff and the pool will be open Wednesday 2:00-5:00pm and boating available 2:00-3:30pm if you and your family would like to come early and enjoy some swim/boat/fishing time together. Registration will be located in the lower section of the main lodge from 3:00pm-5:30pm. At that time, you will check-in to ensure we have all the registration forms, receive room assignments and have an opportunity to volunteer to serve throughout the week.

COVID-19 GUIDELINES:

There is inherent risk with any activity and reunion is no different. The good news is that the current context of case counts and hospital occupancy for the counties of which participants are travelling from and Ray County, location of Lake Doniphan Conference Retreat Center, is currently low/favorable. These suggested guidelines are dependent on that context continuing.

Suggested Guidelines:

- Those who are sick or have an active COVID-19 exposure are encouraged to remain home. Midlands will work through appropriate refunds, as needed.
- **24 hours prior to arrival at camp it is suggested that all participants take a rapid antigen test.** Free COVID-19 At-Home Tests can be ordered at www.COVID.gov/tests.
- Wearing a mask will be by choice.
- Visitors for evening services and outdoor activities are welcome due to the lower risk of outside activities. (Tabernacle is considered outdoors.)
- Visitors for activities held inside are discouraged unless a mask is worn by individual(s) or a rapid antigen test has been conducted within 24 hours.

LODGING:

Unless you hear from us before camp you have been assigned a room where you requested when you registered. Mary Lou Fillinger, Reunion Planning Committee, has been hard at work organizing these rooms. If you are staying in cabins or mini-lodges you will need to bring twin size sheets or other bedding. If you are staying in the main lodge you will need queen size sheets. The main lodge beds will have pillows and comforters on the beds when you arrive. If

you have any questions or additional requests please contact Mary Lou at cjlf@sbcglobal.net or by phone 816-792-0063.

If you plan to bring a camper or RV, the sites vary in size and levelness. There are some pull through sites. All sites have electrical hook-ups and a few are close to a yard hydrant for water. There are no full hook up sites, but there is a dump station on the grounds.

THINGS TO BRING:

There will be many opportunities to participate in activities both indoors and outdoors. Some items to consider bringing are: appropriate clothing, including swimsuit, sunscreen and bug spray, hat, sunglasses, towels for pool and towels for showering, outdoor clothes-line, bathmat, toiletries, campfire blanket, flashlight, swimming pool toys, fishing tackle, favorite indoor and outdoor games, toys and activities needed for quiet time and services, tennis shoes, rain jacket/umbrella, fan for your room, portable water bottle, and snacks you cannot do without.

We will have a youth hangout area between the tabernacle and lake with hammocks and outdoor games. If you have extra games or a hammock you would be willing to share we would welcome them.

MEALS:

Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be served each day with plenty to eat, including a salad bar. The canteen will be open in the evenings to purchase snacks. If you have a particular dietary need; please email Kat to make sure we have that request. khnatyshyn@cofchrist.org.

ACTIVITIES:

The reunion planning committee has planned many great activities. The schedule is included in this email, but take note we will be doing some community gathering activities instead of traditional youth classes. There will be a youth choir in the morning, but everyone will be welcomed back to the tabernacle for an all camp activity. We will still enjoy many of the traditional activities like swimming, boating, fishing, evening worship and campfire. Our Guest Ministers Jim and Sharon Hannah will be facilitating the adult class covering the reunion text material in the afternoon.

FINANCES:

Reunion is an expensive event. The Mission Center Leadership works hard to balance the desire to be accommodating so all feel welcome to attend with the desire to be good stewards of our financial resources. Put simply, the registration fees do not fully cover the cost of the camp. We depend on additional donations to cover the remaining balance. As you prepare to attend camp, please consider how much your family can contribute so that this meaningful and spiritual ministry may continue to bless all those who attend.

GUEST MINISTER BIOGRAPHY:

Sharon and Jim call themselves "Team Hannah." They were married 53 years ago, soon after graduation from Graceland, and within days moved to Independence, MO to help "establish the cause of Zion." In that connection, they have been invested in Neighborhood Councils, the Center Stake Peace Corps, Habitat for Humanity, the League of Women Voters, and the Children's Peace Pavilion. "The things that make for peace" are a primary focus of their life energy. They have served as co-chairs of the World Church Peace & Justice Team, are active in PeaceWorks Kansas City, and recently concluded an adult group on the topic of nonviolence. For the past seven years Sharon has helped prepare meals for the weekly Stone Church Neighborhood Dinner, and Jim has overseen the community garden, growing produce for that meal. Sharon has a masters degree in social work, with experience in hospital discharge planning, and as a victim/offender mediator with the Community Mediation Center. Jim has a master's degree in religion, serving twice as a pastor and retiring as editor of the *Herald*. The Hannahs served 17 years under World Church appointment, living in Sioux City, IA; Detroit, MI; and Lethbridge, Alberta. They currently attend the Walnut Gardens congregation, where they serve as co-chairs of refugee resettlement, and as members of the Community Engagement Team. They have two adult sons living in Omaha, Nebraska. They each serve Community of Christ in the office of evangelist.

THANK YOUs:

Serving as your Doniphan Reunion planning team: Greg and Judy Schieszer, Mary Lou and Charlie Fillinger, Debbie Runckel, Pat Cole, Jenny Lowndes and Kat Hnatyshyn.

There will be many more volunteers over the week to help foster moments of community blessing. Please be generous with your time and appreciation for all those willing to serve including Doniphan's staff.

If you have any questions prior to reunion please feel free to reach out to Kat Hnatyshyn at khnatyshyn@cofchrist.org or 816.506.6948.

Your Companions on the Journey,

Doniphan Reunion Planning Team