

Welcome to Mountain Homecoming

May 22-25, 2026



We look forward to “together-time” and your participation in many special opportunities.

Friday, May 22

3:00 – 4:00 **Tour of Mountain facilities**, especially those projects completed through the Capital Campaign investment of 2023-2026. Many people have used the word “transformation” to describe this impact, we look forward to sharing it with you. Meet at Main Office.

4:00 – 6:00 **Endowment Board Meeting**, open to all. Tree House

5:30 – 6:30 **Social Hour** – gathering of old and new friends as we celebrate one another and 46 years of The Mountain making a difference in the world. Great Room and deck of the Lodge

6:30 -7:15 **Dinner** in the Dining Hall

7:30 **Orientation, introductory activity, campfire, smores, connections** Firepit

8:15 **Blue Ghost FireFly** exploration – the blue ghost flies are in this area only between mid-May and mid-June, so this is your big opportunity to observe this unique insect which flies in a large group close to the ground, emitting a florescent blue light.

Saturday, May 23

8:00 **Breakfast** Dining Hall

9:00 – 9:30 **Morning Circle** – gathering to combine our voices and sing camp songs together. Tree House

9:30 – 12:00 **Meeting of the Board of Trustees**, open for the public to observe (other than executive sessions) The Commons

10:00 – 12:00 **The Storytellers’ Compass: Where in the World are We?**

With narrative way-finding, David Novak leads an exploration of The Mountain’s place in the world and our place on The Mountain. Why are we here? Where are we going? Please join us and be part of this conversation. Tree House

12:00 – 1:00 **Lunch** Dining hall

1:30 – 3:00 **Magical Thinking Becomes Magical Reality – Capital Campaign**

From seeds sown in 2021 to the transformations at The Mountain today, join the architects of the Capital Campaign and their Co-Magicians, The Endowment Board - making meaningful

change at The Mountain to bring change to our world. Donors have invested \$2.92 million toward our \$3.2+ million goal. We will celebrate what has been accomplished and consider next projects in the final year of the Campaign. Tree House

4:00 – 5:30 **Annual Meeting** – an update on the state of affairs of The Mountain, honoring departing Trustees, and welcoming new Trustees.

5:30 or when Annual Meeting ends **Social Hour** Gather to enjoy Mountain friends and the amazing view of Blue Valley Great Room Lodge and Deck

6:00 **Dinner** dining hall (save room for the dessert reception)

7:00 **Endowment Dessert Reception** Join us to celebrate the Mountain Endowment, now at \$850,000. Learn more about the Endowment and how engagement with the Endowment makes a long-term difference for this special place – all while enjoying desserts. Tree House

8:00 **The Wit and Wisdom of Mark Twain** Amazing things happen at The Mountain – Mark Twain will be joining us – facilitated by Rev. Ernie Mills in a dramatic presentation. Tree House

Sunday, May 24

8:00 **Breakfast** Dining Hall

9:00 – 12:00 **Meeting of the Board of Trustees** The Commons

9:00 – 9:30 **Morning Circle** – gathering to combine our voices and sing camp songs. Tree House

9:30 **Memorial Service** A special time to honor members of our Mountain community who have passed in the last 18 months, sharing with others as we tell the stories of our loved ones. Facilitated by Rev. Liz Weber. Meet in the dining hall parking lot to walk to the Memorial Garden. In case of inclement weather, an alternate plan will be announced.

11:00 **Sunday Service** Looking forward at The Mountain – building on the foundation of past and current successes, making The Mountain the best possible for all as we strive to enrich the lives of individuals and our wider world. Interactive, intergenerational service. Facilitated by Rev. Liz Weber Great Room of the Lodge

12:00 **Lunch** Dining Hall

1:00 – 4:00 **Meeting of the Board of Trustees** The Commons

1:30 – 4:30 **Many Hands Peace Farm** Tour of the farm. There will be information about various plants, the Food Forest, raised-bed demonstration garden, bio-char and compost initiatives, as well as current and future plans for the farm, upcoming workshops, and products produced and sold by the farm. Included will be information about grants supporting Many Hands Peace Farm, and our connection with the International Compassion Tree Project organization. Did you know that a goal of this project is to plant 7 billion trees worldwide (one for each person on Earth when the project was started in 2018), and the very first of the 7 billion trees in this project was planted in The Mountain's Food Forest during our Climate Justice

conference in 2019? There may also be an opportunity to dig in the dirt, helping with a garden project. Meet in the large parking lot at the farm.

5:30 Social Hour

Gather to enjoy Mountain friends and the amazing view of Blue Valley
Great Room Lodge and Deck

6:30 Dinner Dining Hall

7:30 An Evening with Lee Knight Lee is a talented musician and musicologist, who has been performing at The Mountain since the early 1980's. He will be sharing his stories and music, including various instruments of Appalachia. Great Room of the Lodge

Monday, May 26

8:00 Breakfast Dining Hall

9:00 – 9:30 Morning Circle Gathering to combine our voices and sing camp songs
Tree House

10:00 Volunteer Project To be determined based on who is interested in what kind of project supporting The Mountain; discussion about the possibilities will occur during the weekend.

Alternative activity – for those who enjoy more sharing of perspectives and thoughts about ourselves and our world, there will be an opportunity to gather and share those insights. Great Room of the Lodge

12:00 Lunch Dining Hall

Thank you for participating in Homecoming. Please check out our upcoming programs at <https://www.themountainrlc.org/events/> or come for a personal retreat <https://www.themountainrlc.org/planning-a-retreat/>

Be nurtured by so much that The Mountain offers to enrich lives.

Tell others about The Mountain, we don't want to keep this special place a secret!