

## October 18, 2020

# AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**C.R.O.P.:** Our annual WACO CROP Drive (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) and Canvas is now underway from September 27th to October 25, 2020. Our CROP goal for this year is \$30,775. Remember that 25% is distributed within our WACO Community for local needs determined by the WACO Ministerial Association. We appreciate you and want to thank you for your gifts - especially the gift of prayer which releases us to new possibilities. When a C.R.O.P. Canvasser calls or visits, please give generously. Donations of money and/or commodities are accepted.

**Wayland Youth Center:** Do you like to cook? Meals are needed. Please talk to Tamara if you are interested in providing meals for the Getting Ahead Classes on Monday evenings or food for the Wayland Youth Center on Tuesday evenings. The meals for Getting Ahead Classes will be served at 5:30pm at the Waymar Community Room. The youth center meets from 5 until 7pm on Tuesday evenings. Thank you so much for considering this important outreach opportunity in our community!

**WACO Community Food Pantries:** We are so blessed by two active food pantries now in our area. Individuals and families can receive food every Thursday. First and third Thursdays, Jenny Kaufman coordinates the efforts at the food pantry in the United Church of Crawfordsville. Her number is (319) 461-0532 if you would like more information. Second and fourth Thursdays, Donna Rinner coordinates the efforts at the food pantry in the Wayland Mennonite Church. Her number is (319) 591-0961 if you would like more information. Carol Kuhns will also have the Word Alive office open in the Wayland Mennonite basement on the second and fourth food pantry days. Please spread the word to people whom you know that might need some assistance at this time.

**Bethel Church:** We will be hosting a special meeting on Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 9am-2:30pm. Come and enjoy a refreshingly simple and incredibly practical day of teaching how to naturally and lovingly share the gospel out loud, with words. Cost \$25 per person (includes light snack & lunch). RSVP required by October 27<sup>th</sup>, call (319) 256-8531. If you have any questions please contact Chris Conrad or Pastor Curt at [curtkuhns@gmail.com](mailto:curtkuhns@gmail.com).

**CCCC:** Arts & Craft Retreat hosted by Crooked Creek Christian Camp. November 6-7 from 9:00am Friday until 3pm Saturday. Social distancing practices will be observed with private rooms for all and separate craft tables for each person. Space is very limited! Visit [www.crookedcreekcamp.org](http://www.crookedcreekcamp.org) or call the office at 319-653-3611 for more details. We look forward to seeing you soon!

**Hillcrest:** Harvest Party! Hosted by the Hillcrest Academy FFA on Oct 24 from 4:30-7:00 PM. All 5th-8th graders are invited for games, food, bonfire and other goodies. We'll be outside the entire time so please dress accordingly. Please contact Rebecca [rbeachymiller@hillcrestravens.org](mailto:rbeachymiller@hillcrestravens.org) to sign up.

Although this year will no doubt be anything other than usual, we are grateful for the opportunity to continue on-campus learning, every day. We just released a fantastic video that talks about the things we are doing to keep everyone safe while we continue to learn while nurturing and engaging one another in-person. <https://vimeo.com/467810380>

**Ten Thousand Villages Iowa City:** is seeking an outgoing, creative Executive Director. This person will be in charge of the retail store on the downtown Ped Mall. Responsibilities include staffing, purchasing inventory, and management duties. The desire is for applicants to be supportive of fair trade. Submit resume to Wendell Miller at [wendellm1951@gmail.com](mailto:wendellm1951@gmail.com).

**MCC:** MCC's Seed program has positions available now in Colombia, Guatemala and El Salvador! The Seed program is perfect for young adults (18-30) who value service, community, and cultural exchange addressing systemic issues like food insecurity and climate change through grassroots, community-based initiatives. For more information, visit [mcc.org/seed](http://mcc.org/seed) or email [abbyendashaw@mcc.org](mailto:abbyendashaw@mcc.org).

Mask ask! MCC is responding to a request from people on the Northern Cheyenne reservation in southeastern Montana for cloth face masks to help stop the spread of COVID-19. If you would like to sew masks, please use the following guidelines:

- Adult sized
- Use at least 2 layers of good quality cotton fabric (solid colors preferred)
- Elastic ear loops
- Nose wire/filter pockets optional

Please ship purchased or completed masks to the MCC Central States Material Resources Center (Attn: Kate Mast) at 121 East 30th Street, North Newton, KS 67117, or drop off in the 24 hour donation room at MCC by November 15th. They will all be collected and transported to Montana in time for the winter season. Questions? Please contact [katemast@mcc.org](mailto:katemast@mcc.org).

**CPMC:** Pray for CPMC ministry staff as they travel. May they be safe on the road and in each congregation.

**MCUSA:** In his blog, "Sharing our stories at Mennonite conventions," Curt Weaver, pastor of children and youth at Portland (Oregon) Mennonite Church, compares the Mennonite convention to a family reunion, where deeper, intergenerational and faith formative conversations happen. Read more at <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/mennocon-stories>

What does radical hospitality mean? Pastor Ulises Arenas of Iglesia Buenas Nuevas in San Juan, Texas, demonstrates the challenges immigrants face through three stories from his own South Texas community and asks us to dig deeper (*más allá*) to find understanding and answers. Read his blog, "Think '*más allá*' about the immigrants in your midst," here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/mas-alla>

Richard R. Aguirre, an administrator at Goshen College, talks about the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Latinos and challenges Mennonites to do more to help immigrants and refugees stay healthy and safe. Read his blog, "Like Good Samaritans, we must help immigrants through COVID-19," here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/immigrants-covid-19>

Please pray for the congregations in the Atlantic Coast Mennonite Conference, who will be gathering via video conference for their annual assembly on Oct. 24-25.

**Mennonite Missions Network:** Mennonite communities in Guatemala are suffering from COVID-19, many people have died. Deb Byler of Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for all, but especially for the pastors who pray with sick people. Pray for wisdom and God's protection so pastors can care for others without exposing themselves to the disease.