



This week please remember the following people in prayer:

Dan, Melanie, Laura, Michael, Bob & Maverick Stutzman and Caleb and Shelby Gardner.

Pray for those dealing with medical

issues: Benjie Roth, Lucinda Gill (Tamara Zechin's mom), Linda Unternahrer, Kathy Yoder, Dick Yoder, Gerry Widmer, Maddie Yeager, Tom Simpson (Donna Delzell's brother), Tim Detweiler, Sheldon Miller, Lydia Rotzinger and Cindy Harms (daughter of Gerald & Mary Jo Freyenberger).

Please pray: for the McDougal family as they mourn the loss of Chris McDougal, church administrator for Christ Community Church in Des Moines. He passed away unexpectedly the evening of Thursday, Dec. 12th at his home. Chris is survived by two young adult sons, Tanner and Mason. Other family members include his brother, Kent, former pastor of Christ Community Church, and his niece, Kelsey Guckenberger, current pastor of the congregation.

Central Plains: Pray for the Executive Conference Minister search process, for Spirit-led wisdom and discernment for both the search committee and potential candidates.

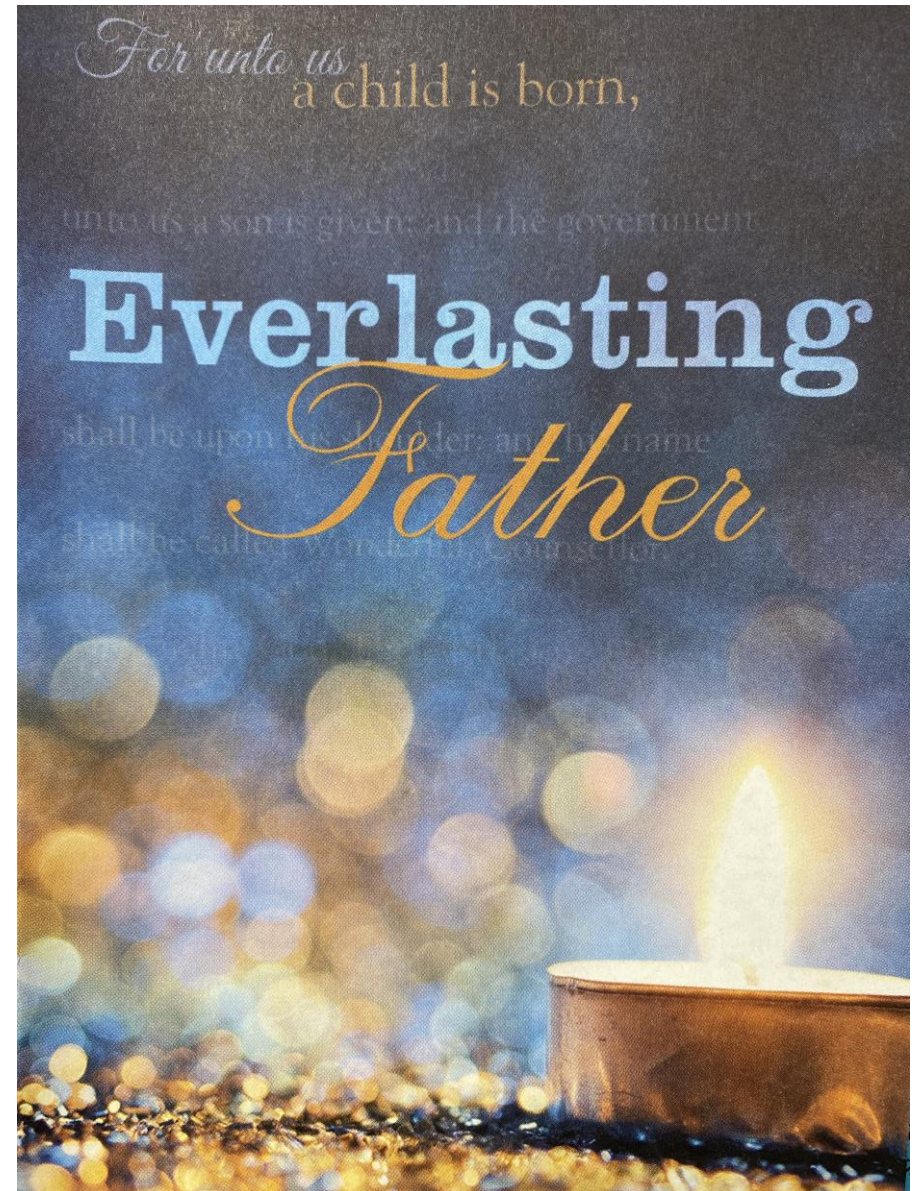
Mennonite Mission Network: Pray for peace in Burkina Faso. When armed protest groups ambush symbols of Western opulence and colonialism, like hotels and gold mines, civilians get caught in the crossfire. May the Mennonite Church in Burkina Faso live the way of the Prince of Peace through word and deed.

LAST SUNDAY

Attendance: 182

Offering: Missions: \$4,048; Home Missions: \$1,100;

Parkview: \$150.



Dec 22, 2019

We welcome all to this place
for worship of God and for Christian fellowship.
Let us worship God in spirit and truth,
reaching out to one another in Christ's love.

8:45 am: Prayer in the Prayer Room
9:15 am: Sunday School
10:10 am: Fellowship Time
10:30 am: Worship

Worship Leader: Randy and Jan Shelman
Song Leader: Kathy Roth
Piano/Organ: Jonah Miller, Elyssa Graber & Gavin Slagel

Gathering

Music Video: Lauren Daigle, "Noel"
Welcome
Focus Statement - Lighting of the Advent Candle – Brenna Graber
Call to Worship
Opening Prayer

Praising

WB 212, O come, all ye faithful
WB 181, My soul proclaims with wonder
WB 191, O little town of Bethlehem
Special Music: Connie Freyenberger, Tamara Zechin
& Roni Stowers

Hearing the Word

Scripture: Luke 1:5-15, 57-80 (NT pg. 43)
Message: "Prayers and Promises"

Responding

STJ 13, My soul is filled with joy
Offering: Home Missions (12/29 General/Loose Change)
Announcements
Sharing and Prayers

Sending

Benediction
"O come, let us adore Him"

Thank you to Sheldon & Lori Miller for serving in the nursery today. The nursery is available during Sunday school and church for children 2 years of age and younger.

MYF News

• Sunday ~ December 22 & December 29 - NO MYF -
Christmas Break!

NEXT SUNDAY- 5th Sunday of Advent

• Nathan Luitjens, Mark 1:1-20 (NT pg.27)

SUGAR CREEK NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Church Council: ALL CHURCH ANNUAL CELEBRATION!!!

January 12th following the church services. Mark your calendar and look for more information next week in your mailbox.

Extension Committee: THANK YOU for giving so generously to families in our community. The special offering total for grocery gift cards was \$965. We were able to put a \$30 gift card in each family basket. We also gave Jenny \$5 gift cards to hand out to individuals and families who come to the food pantry but did not participate in the Sharing Christmas Program. We blessed so many people for this Christmas season!

Mennonite Women: The Jan. 8th project is Sewing Kits. Devotions- "A Voice Within: Crippled Sister and Julia" (Luke 13:10-17). There will be sack lunch and dessert provided.

AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pleasantview Home: There is an employment opportunity for RN/LPN's. If interested, you can find detailed information located on the Pastors Bulletin board.

World Alive: Dana Oswald is still looking for a few items: 3 twin beds and 1 electric stove. You can reach Dana at (641) 660-1221 or email at oswaldd1973@gmail.com.

Keep us Warm Project: We found out about a local family who lost everything in a house fire. We are looking for clothes: boy 3T, women's medium and men's medium and large. Please let Tamara know if you have any clothes that you can donate by calling or texting 319-217-2456. Thank you!

Winterfest 2020: Will be held on January 3-5 at Crooked Creek Christian Camp. All kids in 6th-8th grade are invited. Register online at crookedcreekcamp.org.

Mennonite Central Committee: Thank you for your generous giving to Mennonite Central Committee in 2019. Your gifts help MCC continue work in 53 countries working on 648 projects and impacting countless people. If you're looking for a last minute Christmas gift keep MCC Christmas giving projects in mind or collect school kit supplies with your family (mcc.org/kits)! Check out mcc.org/christmas for online giving options. Contact our office in North Newton, KS for giving in-person, 316.283.2720

Crowded Closet: We've had a historical year. We give thanks to God for the successful shop relocation and record setting sales of 2019. For the first time in our 41 year history, we celebrate over \$1 million dollars of sales in one year. Be a part of blessing the lives of others through the ministry of Crowded Closet. Connect at the Closet in 2020! Shop tours every Tuesday at 2pm in January and February. Contact Christine at crowdedcloset.volunteer@gmail.com to learn more about serving MCC at Crowded Closet.

The Mennonite Historical Society of Iowa: We are pleased to introduce Gloria Yoder as our new Director. Gloria begins this assignment in January, 2020. As our Director she will lead and oversee the work of the Mennonite Museum in Kalona.

Hillcrest Academy Christmas Concert: Merry Christmas from the students and faculty/staff of Hillcrest Academy. We are thankful for our community who holds us up in prayer and financially. Your care and generosity is truly appreciated. May the Christmas message of hope and love fill your life with joy and peace.

Central Plains: We're better together! This summer, Amanda Bleichty, Conference Minister for Christian Formation, encourages your youth group to step out of your comfort zone, to say "YES" to new relationships, and to learn about discipleship as you take a service/mission trip with another youth group from our conference. Find out more about the "Youth Mission Together" project or explore being matched with another CPMC group at our website, www.centralplainsmc.org/youth-mission-together or contact Amanda at amandableichty@centralplainsmc.org

MCUSA: But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people." Luke 2:10. The Mennonite Church USA staff wishes you joy this Christmas, as we work together to continue sharing the good news of Jesus every day. For ideas on Christmas home worship and a free coloring page, download "Waiting and Wondering," this year's Advent At

Home booklet for families and people of all ages, at <http://mennoniteusa.org/resource/advent-at-home/>.

Menno Snapshots: What does it mean to be a "community church?" Pastor Danilo Sanchez distinguishes between churches that go into the community and those that invite the community to come in. Read his inspiring blog about how the Ripple congregation embraces its neighbors at: <http://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/community-shows-up-at-your-door/>.

Today we offer anointing for:

Healing –

- Physical, emotional, or spiritual brokenness and pain

Struggling with something in your life –

- Longing to be set free from something that seems to have you trapped
- Dealing with a difficult decision
- Dealing with relationships in your life that are causing you pain
- Difficult situation that you don't know how to deal with

Looking forward to something new in your life –

- New opportunity or relationship that you are excited about
- You feel God is calling you to try something and you need God's strength and wisdom for the task.

If you would like to be anointed, please go forward after the service.

