

DECEMBER 27, 2020

AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Word Alive Ministries: A newsletter with updates on the ministries that have been started in our community to help people in need is posted on the south bulletin board.

We are also seeking drivers to put on a call list so when people in our community need a ride to Dr. visits, appointments, etc. we can call you when needed. If you can be available or have questions, please call the Word Alive number at 319-201-9630 and give us your name and number. Or you may call Arlene Wenger (our Transportation Director) at 319-931-0011. Thanks and God Bless You. Sue Freyenberger, Word Alive Administrator

The Refuge House: in Olds is in need of your help. This ministry cannot survive without you. If you can give a onetime donation or give on a monthly basis, please contact the Word Alive Office at 319-201-9630 with donation info or questions you may have. Thank you and God Bless You! Sue Freyenberger, Word Alive Administrator.

Hillcrest: Visit Day! Mon, Jan 18 (8:00 AM-3:15 PM) 8th graders and transfer students, come shadow a Hillcrest student and see what we're all about! You'll get to sit in on a variety of classes, experience chapel and eat lunch in our cafeteria. Parents, we'll pay for your student's lunch and feel free to stop by to chat with our administrative team when you drop off your student in the morning. To sign up go to hillcrestravens.org/5-8events. Face masks will be required.

MCC: Free resource from MCC - Learning about generosity! Help children learn about generosity with MCC printable worksheets including activities, a story, a craft to make and Christmas gift ideas that benefit global neighbors with colorable greeting cards, find it all at mcc.org/generosity. Explore the full list of Christmas giving options from MCC at mcc.org/christmas.

A memorable, meaningful and unique MCC gift to give this Christmas! Grab a piece of MCC history to use in a modern day Mennonite feeding station - your home! Get one for yourself and order more for family and friends. Hang it on the wall in your kitchen or dining room, display it on a shelf or use it as a serving tray! Remember the kitchen at your church, too. Each tray was uniquely handcrafted by an artisan in Siberia using Siberian hardwood. The tray is 16" in diameter and 2" deep. Suggested donation per tray is \$150. Full details and pictures are available at <https://mcc.org/feeding-station-tray>.

CPMC: December 27: Now that the carols are sung, the cookies digested, and the pine branches wilted, are you looking forward and thinking, "What a long, cold winter we have ahead of us?" Don't fret! The Christian Formation Committee of CPMC is here to help! We've planned a series of webinars to help us connect, learn, play and pray together across our conference during this long cold winter. Join us for:

Remembering Your Story: Creating your own spiritual autobiography, Tuesdays, Jan. 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9.

Creating Together: imaginative art as a spiritual practice, Third Thursday of January (21), February (18), and March (18)

Lenten Spiritual Practices, Tuesday, February 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

For more information about each of these webinars and the zoom links, visit our website, centralplainsmc.org

MCUSA: Christmas Season is here! Beginning December 25, we are in what is called the “Christmas Season” in the Christian year. So instead of packing it all up, make the most of these 12 days that bring us from Christmas to Epiphany with Bible readings, resources and suggested activities in the 2020 Advent at Home Guide. Download it here:
mennoniteusa.org/resource/advent-at-home

Do you miss The Mennonite? Subscribe to PeaceMail, the only source for all the news and blogs from Mennonite Church USA in one, easy-to-read, weekly email.
mennoniteusa.org/peacemail [Download slide here]

Learn more about Mennonites Against Militarism, a movement to reinvigorate the collective voice against the destructive powers of militarism, in a recorded webinar from the Peace and Justice Support Network, Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Central Committee.
<https://www.pjsn.org/mennonites-against-militarism/resources/Learn-more-about-Mennonites-Against-Militarism>

Anabaptist History Today (AHT), a collaborative storytelling project that captures life in 2020 through an Anabaptist lens, was awarded a grant for its work from Villanova University’s Lepage Center. Mennonite Church USA, an AHT partner, invites you to read more about this exciting digital archive project. mennoniteusa.org/news/aht-grant/

Mennonite Missions Network: Seeking the Beloved Community: From Racism to Reconciliation. As part of God's reconciling work, we are called to dismantle racism and build relationships across racial divides. On Saturday, January 23, 2021 from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. EST, Mennonite Men will be hosting a meeting, open to all genders, with members of Seeking the Beloved Community, a group of Black and White men in Elkhart, Indiana, who have been engaged in this work for seven years. A number of these are pastors and members of Mennonite congregations. To register, go to: <https://seekingthebelovedcommunity.netlify.app/>

Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer are in the North American portion of their two-way mission. They will not be able to return to Ecuador in January, as they normally do, due to travel restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Pray for them as they communicate electronically with congregations in Ecuador and the United States.