

Intergenerational Adult SS Class

Led by Pastor Kent McDougal

- **TODAY** – The Theological Foundations of Worship: The Trinity and Worship
- **Dec. 11** – The Theological Foundations of Worship, cont'd

MYF News

- **TODAY** – Bible Study, DARE TO BE... 5-7 PM@SC Church
- **Dec. 11** – Christmas Party, 5-8:30 PM @Roth Retreat, white elephant gift exchange

JYF News

- **Dec. 7** – Lesson: Christmas, 6:30-8 PM, Wayland Basement



This week please remember in prayer Cary, Nancy, Lindsey & Meredith Roth and Taylor & Derrick Thornton

Pray for those dealing with medical issues: Lucy Leichty (infection in her knee), Dale Swartzendruber (declining in health), Carol Long (cancer treatments), Myndell Boshart, Cindy Freyenberger Harms (cancer treatments), Pauline Wyse, Thomas Bennett, Jean Letts, Martha Marsh

In order to better provide care for those in the hospital, please contact the pastor or an elder if you or a family member are (or will be) hospitalized.



The oil lamp is lit every service as a reminder to pray for peace and for the people of our world who are caught in war and violence.

CPMC Prayer Request We give thanks for all the relationships in our congregations and in our conference that sustain us, guide us, and help us to see the Kingdom of God!

MMN Prayer Request Cassidy Bush, Anna Lubbers, Rachel Miller and Eli Reimer make up Mennonite Mission Network's San Francisco (California) Mennonite Voluntary Service unit. Pray for them as they join First Mennonite Church of San Francisco in ministries that work toward reducing poverty and homelessness and promoting social justice, education, and health.

LAST SUNDAY

Offering: Home Missions \$2,000; Conference \$1,225; General Fund \$650; Missions \$20



December 4, 2022

Advent: The Process of Restoration

Restoration is a labor that happens over time through God's effort and our participation.

9:15 AM: Sunday School

10:10 AM: Fellowship time

10:30 AM: Worship

Live Stream: <https://tinyurl.com/SCMLiveStream>
<facebook.com/sugarcreekmennonitechurch>

Worship Leader: Tim Graber

Song Leader: Anita Swartzendruber

Piano/Organ: Tristan Luitjens

Gathering

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Call to Worship

Advent Lighting Liturgy – Corinne Slagel and family

WB 172 O Come, O Come, Immanuel (v. 1 & 2)

Praising

Prepare Ye the way of the Lord

Confession of Sin

WB 151 Marvelous grace of our loving Lord

Hearing the Word

Children's Story: Russ Yoder

First reading: Isaiah 11:1-10 (OT p. 496)

Gospel reading: Matthew 3:1-12 (NT p. 2)

Message: Kent McDougal, "Preparing for a Savior from Sin"

Responding

STJ 54 Longing for Light (v.1-3)

Offering: Parkview (12/11 Home Missions)

Announcements, Sharing & Prayers

Baby Dedication: Nora & Ivy Leichthy

Today Earth Is Singing

Sending

Benediction

STJ 105 Don't be afraid

Thank you to Sheldon & Lori Miller for serving as ushers today.

NEXT SUNDAY

- Kent McDougal, 3rd Sunday in Advent, Matthew 11:2-11

SUGAR CREEK NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

CROP: The WACO CROP Committee and Church World Service sends their thanks for your church's contribution to this year's Drive. Your church donated \$13,891.40, and because of your generosity, donations exceeded expectations. The grand total of cash and commodities was \$46,317.10 and is the largest amount given since 1982! Monies will be used to help those who need it most globally, nationally, and locally, where 25% is given to WACO Ministerial to distribute here at home. A huge thank you to the CROP Captains, Canvassers, and all Donors. God bless you.

Fellowship Time: Please use the signup link to provide cookies during Fellowship time, or contact Michelle Meyer. Thank you!
signupgenius.com/go/4090e45aeab2da0fa7-sugar4

MCC Meat Canning: There are still slots open to volunteer for meat canning in Kalona: one for setup Dec. 7 at 1 PM, one for Dec. 8 at 1:15 PM, and three for Dec. 9 at 1:15 PM. See the north bulletin board in the foyer to sign up; questions to Larry Graber.

TODAY

- **5:30 PM:** Christmas Choir practice in the sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

- **9:00 AM:** Mennonite Women, Fellowship Hall. Visitation Day; each bring 2 dozen cookies. Bring a sack lunch – dessert is cookies! Devotions: Sisterhood of Vulnerability

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

- **4:00 PM:** Christmas Choir dress rehearsal in the sanctuary; includes *all* primary and junior department children!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

- **6:30 PM:** Church Council Meeting

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

- **10:00 AM:** Coffee in the fellowship hall
- **10:30 AM:** Christmas Program, with Wayland Mennonite

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

- **11:00 PM:** Wayland Mennonite Christmas Eve Service

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

- No Sunday School
- **9:45 AM:** Coffee & Cocoa in the Foyer
- **10:00 AM:** Christmas Day Worship Service

DECEMBER 4, 2022
AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Crooked Creek Christian Camp: The CCCC Online Auction is coming soon! Items will be on display for preview at the CCCC Retreat Lodge, December 2 and 5 from 9AM-4PM and December 3 from 10AM-2PM. Bidding for the auction opens December 6 at 11AM and closes December 11 at varying times; each item will have its ending time listed, and will display a countdown to closing.

First Mennonite Church: You are invited to hear Weldon Nisly report on his service with Community Peacemaker Teams (CPT) in Iraqi Kurdistan since 2017. The CPT team accompanies and advocates for the people of Iraqi Kurdistan who are targeted by Turkey and Iran's cross-border bombardment or by the Kurdish government for their nonviolent opposition to war and political oppression. Please join us at 7 pm on MONDAY, December 12, 2022, at First Mennonite Church, 405 Myrtle Ave, Iowa City, Iowa for Weldon's report. For more information, please contact Nyle Kauffman at 319-936-2430 or Roger Farmer at mennoroger@gmail.com

Hillcrest: DID YOU KNOW?! In designing the *middle school program at Hillcrest Academy*, there is a major focus on creating a classroom environment where each student feels known and loved by their classmates, teachers, and God. With that safe and stable foundation established, deep learning can then occur.

After the *Hillcrest Academy Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 11 at 3:00 PM* in Celebration Hall all 5th-8th graders are invited to stay for the *Christmas Party* following the performance. We'll have crafts, games and treats. Hosted by Y-Co (student body government). Sign up hillcrestravens.org/5-8events.

Save the date! The annual *Alumni Night* event will be on *Tuesday, December 20* with JV boys starting at 4:30 PM. Prizes will be given away throughout the varsity games. There will also be alumni and student activities during the halftime of the varsity games and you don't want to miss something new we have planned.

Holiday Concert: The Ted Yoder Band will be performing a holiday show on December 17, 2022 in Celebration Hall on the campus of Hillcrest Academy. Ted is a national champion on the hammered dulcimer and will be accompanied by marimba, bass, and percussion. Come and experience this refreshingly unique show. Tickets at badangleevents.org

MCC: *MCC's Buckets of Thanks* are filling up, but keep the supplies coming, we've got A LOT of buckets to fill! After making your donation of relief kit supplies to MCC, make sure you sign up to track MCC's next shipment of relief kits as it travels the world! You will receive updates at each check point, including when the kits reach their final destination to be distributed by an MCC local partner in Jordan to Syrian refugee families and vulnerable Jordanians. Donate all the items in a relief kit or pick just a few items to donate – all items are helpful and necessary to complete a relief kit bucket. Kit supplies can be dropped off or shipped to: MCC Central States, 121 E. 30th St., North Newton, KS 67117. Find out more at mccbuckets.org.

MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton critically low on inventory: An MCC kit cannot be shipped until every single item for the kit is assembled, but some supplies are so low that kits cannot be processed for shipping. You can help by helping to fill the following needs: New infant onesies and sleepers (3-12 month sizes); shampoo (20 oz or more), thin sanitary pads (28 count minimum) and dark colored bath and hand towels. Buy online and ship it to MCC or bring item to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30th St, North Newton, KS 67117). Questions are always welcome, please contact katemast@mcc.org or 316.283.2720. A full list of MCC kit contents can be found at mcc.org/kits.

Free resource: *Learning about generosity with MCC!* Make talking about generosity with your children easy by using this free resource. The printable worksheets help kids explore the basics of generosity at an elementary school level. The resource contains downloadable worksheets, activity ideas, a story about how generosity makes a difference, make-your-own bookmark craft and alternative Christmas gift ideas. Click here to sign up: mcc.org/free-resource-learning-about-generosity-mcc.

MCC Sale: On January 23 at 7pm at the Kalona Mennonite Church, a special meeting will be held to hear the ideas that come from you for a new avenue to raise funds for Relief. If you don't plan to attend in-person please share your thoughts with a board member or your congregational representative and encourage their attendance at the meeting. Please remember that our current sale was started by people who used what they were passionate about to raise funds for others. How passionate are we to help others? We will see you on January 23!

MCUSA: The denominational Advent at Home worship guide is now available. The guide is designed for families and people of all ages, offering weekly Scriptures, background information, prayers, activities and rituals around this year's theme from Leader magazine, "Restoration is Near." Look for it here: mennoniteusa.org/lentathome

The African American Mennonite Association (AAMA), a recognized racial ethnic group of Mennonite Church USA, and Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, Virginia, have teamed up to provide scholarships for Black ministry leaders interested in completing EMS' new graduate certificate in faith-based peacebuilding. The deadline for the spring semester is Dec. 31, 2022. Learn more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/aama-ems

Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) Executive Board staff has posted the new "Guidelines for Developing Organizational Resolutions and Church Statements in Mennonite Church USA" on the MC USA website. The guidelines are effective immediately and apply to proposed organizational resolutions or church statements submitted for consideration by the 2023 Delegate Assembly (Kansas City, Missouri, July 7-8, 2023). Learn more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/resolutions-process

Read a prayer of lamentation about mass incarceration by writer Kayla Berkley. The prayer is part of Mennonite Church USA's "Learn, Pray, Join: Mass Incarceration" initiative, which examines the injustices in our criminal legal system through an Anabaptist lens. Read the prayer here: mennoniteusa.org/complacency-prayer-incarceration

As members of Mennonite Church USA, let us look ahead to the new year and to focus on living into our Renewed Commitments to follow Jesus, witness to God's peace and help our communities experience transformation. Your financial gifts to Mennonite Church USA help to equip and empower our conferences, congregations and our diverse body of believers to tell the transformative story of the birth, life and resurrection of Jesus Christ. MennoniteUSA.org/give