

Adult SS Classes

- Discussion led by Kent: "The Narrative Structure of Worship," Fellowship Hall
- Salt & Light led by Ledru & Connie Freyenberger; southwest classroom by the sanctuary

MYF News

- **Mar. 3 & 4** – IF Gathering for girls at Roth Retreat
- **Mar. 4** – Boys hang out at Oswalds
- **Mar. 5** – OFF

JYF News

Grounded: Wisdom for Real Life from Proverbs & James
JYF meets from 6:30-8PM in the Wayland Mennonite Church Basement. Upcoming dates:

- Mar. 22
- Apr. 5
- Apr. 19



This week please remember in prayer Jeremy, Jami, Kylie & Ayla Miller, and Corey, Renae, Maddie & Ryker Farmer

Pray for those dealing with medical issues: Garry & Lori Leichty (upcoming procedures), Martha Hernandez (CPMC - Ramiro's wife, pancreatic cancer), Jane Miller (hip surgery recovery), Carol Long (cancer treatments), Cindy Freyenberger Harms, Pauline Wyse, Thomas Bennett, Jean Letts, Martha Marsh

To better provide care for those in the hospital, please contact 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 & violence.

CPMC Prayer Request Pray for the staff of Swan Lake Christian Camp (SD) and Crooked Creek Christian Camp (IA) as they begin to prepare for the summer camping season.

MMN Prayer Request Participants from three MMN Service Adventure units are in Newton, Kansas, for five days of fellowship, during which they will share the importance of service with potential participants. A similar event will be held in two weeks in Elkhart, Indiana. Pray that current and future participants will grow in their commitment to active faith through these events.

LAST SUNDAY

Offering: Home Missions \$1,322; General Fund \$625; February Coins for Camp \$392.40

SECOND
SUNDAY IN

Lent

SHAPED BY NEW BIRTH

JOHN 3:1-17

March 5, 2023



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Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 9AM-1PM

Interim Pastor

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Elders Office Hours: Wednesday, 9-11AM

March 5, 2023

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.

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: Lisa Graber

Song Leader: Anita Swartzendruber

Piano/Organ: Kathy Yoder

Offertory Music: Elyssa & Deedra Graber

Gathering

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Worship – Lighting of the Christ Candle

MH 532 To God be the glory

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

Praising

WB 353 Lord, listen to your children

Confession

MH 594 We have heard the joyful sound

Hearing the Word

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a (OT p. 7)

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 (NT p. 118)

Gospel Reading: John 3:1-17 (NT p. 71)

Children's Story: Jeri Yoder

Message: Kent McDougal, "Theological Meltdown"

Responding

In My Life, Lord Be Glorified

Offering: Missions (3/5 Home Missions)

Mission Moment: MYF Service at Crowded Closet

Prayers of the People

Sending

Benediction

STJ 73 The Lord lift you up

Thank you to Larry & Vi Graber for serving as ushers today.

NEXT SUNDAY

• Kent McDougal, John 4:5-42, 3rd Sunday in Lent

SUGAR CREEK NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Adult Sunday School Book Study: The new class discussion led by Kent begins March 19, studying from the book, "Life on the Vine: Cultivating the Fruits of the Spirit." Copies are available in the foyer.

Elder Nomination: Continue to pray for those considering the call in the continuation of the elder selection process.

Fellowship: Please use the sign up link or contact Michelle Meyer to provide cookies for fellowship time. Dates are available March-May. signupgenius.com/go/4090e45aeab2da0fa7-sugar5/63243276#

Getting Ahead Meals: Classes started on February 13 at the Parkview Home basement and are held every Monday for 18 weeks. Each church was asked to be a part of this endeavor by providing meals for the participants prior to their class each Monday evening. Meal time is at 5:45 and class begins at 6:30 PM. We are asked to provide for the month of April. The meal should serve the 5 participants. Please let Lisa Graber know if you can help out with this. Thanks!

Thank you: We would like to thank our church family for all the food, text messages, and visits during the time that Jane was laid up. God bless you all, it helped a lot. ~Jim & Jane Miller

Virtual Viewing Audio: We're aware that the audio during parts of worship, specifically when we're praising with music, is not ideal for those joining virtually. However, we haven't figured out a sensible way to correct these issues without sacrificing the integrity of the audio for those attending in person. If you miss the pleasing sound of praising God with music, please feel free to join us in person! – The Sound Committee

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

• **6:00 PM:** Elders Meeting

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

• **9:00 AM:** Parkview Worship

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

• **7:30 PM:** Church Council Meeting, MYF Room

MONDAY, MARCH 27

• **9:30 PM:** Worship Planning, MYF Room

MARCH 5, 2023
AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cradle of Hope: The Annual Banquet is coming up! Tamara and Kevan Zechin are hosting a table at the banquet and would love if you could join them. The banquet is April 15 at FCOC. Seating begins at 5:30 PM and the banquet begins at 6PM. Tickets are free, but there will be an opportunity to give at the end. Cradle of Hope is a valuable ministry in our community and this banquet is especially important as they plan to open a Mother's Home. Please contact Tamara if you are interested in attending the banquet.

CPMC: Please think about young people in your congregation who have demonstrated Jesus's way of love and peacemaking. This year the Central Plains Peace and Justice Task Group is doing the Peace Mug Award a little differently. We are seeking young nominations for the Conference's Peace Mug. We are looking for an emerging peacemaker. This can be anyone in their teens and twenties that you have seen doing small acts of peacemaking and kindness or who has spoken out in the face of injustice. Whom do you see as an emerging peacemaker in your congregation? Send names and a brief description of why you are nominating them to Jane Y-S (wilmajane17@gmail.com). We need them by Wednesday, March 22!

CCCC: The CCCC board welcomes Amanda Bleichty to join the CCCC staff as a co-director with Heather Bender so they can take a collaborative approach to managing the Camp. Both Heather and Amanda have unique skill sets and we are excited about them working together to further the Camp's mission. Please join us in welcoming her to Crooked Creek's staff.

Crooked Creek Wild annual challenge-course mud run is coming up May 6, 2023. A free-will donation lunch will follow the event. The purpose of CCW is to raise money for the Summer Camp Fund which provides funds for families who may not otherwise be able to afford the cost of camp, summer staff stipends, and other special summer camp activities. Register before April 14 to secure your official CCW t-shirt!
crookedcreekcamp.org/ccw.html

Crowded Closet: Crowded Closet Thrift Shop in Iowa City is bursting with anticipation of spring! Help is needed with the generous growth in material donations and bustling customer service. Volunteers transform thrift items into global relief, development, and peace. Sign up to serve this week where needed most: <https://tinyurl.com/5n7cpwkz>. To learn more, contact Christine Maust Beachy, Volunteer Coordinator, 319-337-5924 or crowdedcloset.volunteer@gmail.com.

Hillcrest: Save the date for the Hillcrest Academy spring production of *The Show Must Go On*. The original playscript written by Andrea K. Farrier will be performed in Celebration Hall on March 24 and 25. Look for more details soon.

The Hillcrest Academy Compassion Club is hosting a blood drive on Monday, March 20 from 7:30-11:30 AM to benefit ImpactLife. Each donation saves 3-4 lives! Appointments are required. New donors, as well as regular donors, are welcome. Please sign up online, call the office (319-656-2073), or email Leanne Bender (lbender@hillcrestravens.org) to set up an appointment.
login.bloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/111985

Our summer camps are now open for registration! Please note that some camps have a capacity limit. For more information and to sign up: hillcrestravens.org/summer-camps-2/

Iowa Mennonite Historical Society: The Mennonite and Kalona Historical Societies are hosting a soup supper (sit down or drive thru) on March 10th, 11-1 and 5-7:30 at the Kalona Village Welcome Center. Crackers, roll and dessert will be served along with your choice of chili, cheesy potato, or cheesy broccoli soup. Your free will donation will be much appreciated.

March 31, 2023 will be an Appraisal Day for Quilts (for a fee) at the Kalona Historical Village Welcome Center. To schedule an appointment, please contact Charleen Richtsmeier at quilter47.cr@gmail.com or 641-847-2879. You can also direct questions to Nancy Roth at the Kalona Historical Village at 319-656-3232.

MCC: *Put your faith in action by volunteering with SWAP this summer!* MCC's SWAP (Sharing With Appalachian People) home repair program provides short-term service and learning opportunities for churches, school and university groups, families, other groups and individuals. Now is the time to make your summer plans and sign up! More information and registration at swap.mcc.org or (606) 634-4418.

MCUSA: Mennonite Central Committee and Mennonite Church USA are partnering in a year-long focus on alternatives to the current prison system and mass incarceration. A four-part webinar series, "Beyond

Incarceration,” will be followed by learning tours across the U.S. Register for the learning tours here: mcc.org/get-involved/events/pipeline-prison-learning-tours Register for the webinar series here: mcc.org/get-involved/events/beyond-incarceration-webinar-series

Registration for MennoCon23 is now open. Mennocon23 will be held in Kansas City, Mo., July 3-6, immediately followed by the Mennonite Church USA Delegate Assembly and the new Youth & Young Adult Climate Summit. Register here: convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration/ View a downloadable printer-friendly flier here: mennoniteusa.org/mennocon-flyer-print-friendly

Change and transformation is a constant in life. For Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, Mennonite Church USA’s denominational minister for Peace and Justice, relationships have been an important part of the transformation in her own life and have sustained her throughout those changes. Read more of her reflections here: mennoniteusa.org/change-and-transformation