

APRIL 12, 2020

AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parkview Home: wants to keep the residents safe and healthy; therefore, they will not be allowing visitors at this time. Thank you for your understanding.

The Cradle of Hope: Some of you have brought back your bottles. This week, we took another donation of \$189.03 to Cradle of Hope. Since we will probably not be gathering together this month, Tamara will come every week to collect the bottles that are returned to the baby bathtub in the foyer. Cradle of Hope was required to postpone their annual banquet until October 3, which supplies a huge amount of their funding. For this reason, now more than ever, they need donations and every penny counts. If you would rather write a check, please make it out to "Cradle of Hope." Thank you for being so generous!

Crowded Closet: Is temporarily closed as of noon on March 16, 2020. We continue to monitor the effects of COVID-19 in our community, and we will reopen when it is safe to do so.

MDS: has canceled all summer projects due to health and safety concerns related to COVID-19.

The Lighthouse Center needs: They serve as a crisis shelter and short-term housing for as many as 27 or so residents every single night in Washington, IA. These are men, women and children, including infants, who are homeless for a variety of reasons. When they arrive at the Lighthouse, they receive love, food, and warm and safe place to stay, and they also receive life giving words of hope through the message of Christ.

To help sustain the great demands of the center, Darren as worked with others to open The Master's Hand Thrift Store. Praise God that the store is doing very well -- BUT that has created a new demand. They need support staff to help operate the store. They need volunteers from churches to sign up and jump in. Stocking shelves, sorting donations, and more is needed. To get details on what you can do at the store, call the Lighthouse at (319) 653-5871.

MCUSA: "Staying healthy and hopeful" is the theme of Mennonite Church USA's resource website for responding to COVID-19. The continually updated site includes COVID-19 prevention tips and information, resources for at-home worship and a video message from Executive Director Glen Guyton. Select content provided in Spanish and Indonesian. <http://mennoniteusa.org/resources-covid19> (Download a PPT slide for congregational display.)

Mennonite Church USA is calling congregations to unite in prayer around COVID-19. We invite you to speak and share this intentional prayer. <http://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/a-prayer-for-covid-19/>

Lent is a time of purposeful turning toward God. Remember God's faithful, loving presence and connect with the Rock of our salvation using the free, downloadable Lent At-Home 2020 Worship Guide. <http://mennoniteusa.org/resource/lent-at-home-2020/>

MMN: Looking for a non-traditional pastoral role? Become a unit leader in Service Adventure, a gap-year program for ages 17–20 from Mennonite Mission Network. Unit leaders, at least 24 years of age, serve as mentors to the young adults in the household. An opening is available at the Service Adventure unit in Jackson, Miss. This is a two-year term beginning in July 2020. Learn more by contacting: SusanN@MennoniteMission.net.

LDCMC: On Sat. April 25th, a live simulcast of Priscilla Shirer will be held at Lower Deer Creek Mennonite Church from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Priscilla, daughter of pastor Tony Evans, is an author, a popular Bible Study leader and conference speaker. Plan to join us at this FREE event called "Going Beyond" and be inspired and challenged in your walk with Jesus. Talk to Connie Knepp (319-331-2547) or Dorothy Miller (319-325-9357) if you have any questions. For registering click here: <https://forms.gle/CYk3DNus9THDz8UL6> or go to <https://ldcmc.org/> and click on 'Events' and 'Going Beyond LIVE'.

MCC: As we celebrate the new life given to us through Jesus' resurrection this Easter morning, we can't escape the realities of COVID-19. In a time of uncertainty and social distancing, we offer you a selection of resources that MCC has prepared over the years for congregations, families and individuals. We pray for the many who are dealing with COVID directly and the many others who are impacted by our collective attempt to stop the spread of this virus. From prayers to recipes and cooking videos, from coloring pages to videos that give you a glimpse of life across the world, we hope we are able to offer something that may encourage or nourish you in an extraordinary time. mcc.org/covid-19-resources.

Easter greeting from MCC Executive Director, Ron Byler,
<https://mcc.org/stories/rons-easter-message-video>

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CCCC: With the unknown circumstances of COVID-19 we at Crooked Creek are also making changes. All of our guest groups for the month of March have been cancelled and we are working with them to reschedule. We will monitor the situation and let our April groups know if any changes need to occur. Unfortunately, due to the number of cancellations we've also taken a hit financially and of course welcome donations.

Crooked Creek Wild, originally scheduled for May 2, 2020 has been postponed. A future date is being worked out and we are looking forward to the run.

We are still excited for summer camp and hope you'll take the time to register your campers!

If you're looking for great places to practice social distancing, we have plenty of trails and wooded space to walk and a prayer labyrinth to enjoy.

Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF): is seeking a half-time Executive Director to start between May and September 2020 who is committed to Anabaptist values and the mission of MHF, has proven skills in administration, communication, and networking, and has an intergenerational compelling vision for MHF. Interested persons are invited to send a resume and statement of intent, including the broad strokes of your vision and thoughts about a strategic plan, to president@mennohealth.org. More information at www.mennohealth.org.

Central Plains: Pray for your sister churches in South Dakota: Sermon on the Mount in Sioux Falls and Bethany, Hutterthal, Salem, and Salem-Zion in Freeman.

Mennonite Missions Network: Join Mennonite Mission Network's personnel and partners throughout the United States and in 54 countries around the world in proclaiming the good news of Jesus' love and victory over the grip of evil in our world.