

**APRIL 19, 2020**

**AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Cradle of Hope Bottles:** Thank you to everyone who has already brought their bottle back to the church. So far, we have raised \$382.45! Do you still have a donation to bring in? Please return bottles if possible by the end of April. You can put them in the baby bath tub in the foyer. You can fill them with change, cash or checks made payable to Cradle of Hope. Thank you so much!

**Hillcrest:** Back on March 25<sup>th</sup>, Hillcrest Academy implemented a Continuous Learning program for our students to continue being engaged in home-based learning. We have also created a place on our website and social media channels where our students, faculty/staff, and alumni & friends can use the hashtag #hillcrestunited and share about how they are staying connected during this unprecedented time. People are taking notice. Be sure and tune in to KCRG Channel 9 on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10pm to hear the news story they are doing about our school and our online learning program.

**LDCMC:** The Priscilla Shirer simulcast "Going Beyond" that was being hosted at Lower Deer Creek on April 25th has been cancelled.

**CCCC:** Unfortunately, due to the number of cancellations we've also taken a hit financially and of course welcome donations.

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.

**CPMC:** After several weeks of careful deliberation and communication with the local host committee in the Twin Cities, we have made the difficult decision to cancel our in-person Annual Meeting for Central Plains Mennonite Conference this year. Given the continuing uncertainty around COVID-19, we simply do not believe it is wise for us to plan an in-person gathering. Alternative arrangements are in the works and we currently plan to have a condensed delegate session via Zoom on June 20 so we can worship and engage in the work of the conference virtually. Additionally, we invite all CPMC congregations to designate June 21 as Conference Sunday. We will provide resources for congregations so that we may celebrate and share together in similar worship experiences across the conference. Watch for more details as we plan for the virtual annual meeting and conference-wide worship for June 20-21.

Pray for the work of the Outreach and Service Committee of Central Plains Mennonite Conference. We ask for wisdom and courage as they lead by example and encouragement into new ways of thinking about and doing God's just work in our ever-changing world.

**Mennonite Missions Network:** Many Mennonite Mission Network partners live in areas where most public activity has stopped due to the outbreak of the COVID-19. JCS International in Mongolia asks for prayer for all people throughout the region, and that Christians would have a strong testimony of love and comfort during this time of intense fear.