

APRIL 26, 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: as all other schools in Iowa, will now remain closed for the rest of the scheduled school year. The spring sports season has been cancelled and a decision on the summer sports season will be made by June 1. As for graduation activities, they will not happen as scheduled on May 23-24. We hope to reschedule some sort of activity that will celebrate the accomplishments of our seniors at a later date. The closure brings a sense of finality for our students, in particular our seniors, that this year will not end normally. Please continue to pray for our school, but especially for our seniors, as we do our best to finish the school year well.

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

CCCC: Interested in learning more about the monastic lifestyle? Consider joining Michael Swartzendruber, pastor at Wayland Mennonite, for an extended weekend retreat May 14-17 at Crooked Creek Christian Camp for an experience of simplistic living and community. Due to Covid-19, space is limited. Contact mswartzendruber@gmail.com with any questions.

Early bird registration ends May 1st for summer camp. Sugar Creek will pay ½ of registration fees again this year for Sugar Creek kids.

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 Christian Formation Committee of Central Plains Mennonite Conference. We pray for wisdom and courage as they help us to be intentional and to think theologically about Christian formation for all ages.

Mennonite Missions Network: praises God for a Virginia Mennonite Missions team that helped build a community center in Peru. Pray for Elena and Freddy Buckwalter de Satalaya, jointly sponsored by the two agencies, and for the leadership team in Peru as they use the center for kids' activities and worship services.