

MAY 10, 2020

AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CCCC: After many discussions and prayers, the staff alongside the board of directors have made the very tough decision to cancel our 2020 summer camp programming. This was not a decision we made lightly as we tried to think through how we could safely carry-out camp, but couldn't find a way that could ensure the health and safety of our campers and staff which is of utmost importance to us.

We are disappointed and saddened that we won't get to celebrate our 40th anniversary with regular summer programming, our ministry and the reason we began 40 years ago, but we know this is for the best. If you have already registered your child for summer camp, you will be refunded in full. Though we're saddened by this decision, please know we are working on a NEW way to experience and enjoy camp this summer. More information and details to come.

Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale: Thank you for your continued support of MCC as we strive to share God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ, especially during these uncertain times. If you have the means to help ensure the work of MCC for the next 100 years, please donate. Donations can be mailed to Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale at PO Box 234, Kalona, IA 52247 or through the PayPal account on our website <http://www.iamccreliefsale.org>.

Mennonite Central Committee has worked for 100 years in the midst of dramatic changes before and we continue to do so in this pandemic. From healthcare and hygiene to food relief, peacebuilding and advocacy efforts, MCC continues to care for the vulnerable in this time of increased need. Learn how MCC is well-positioned to address COVID-19 threats and, find information about MCC's key international and local priorities, COVID-19's impact on MCC operations and ways you can help at <https://mcc.org/covid-19-updates>.

Join the Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale in supporting Mennonite Central Committee with a SOCIALLY-DISTANT 5K RUN or WALK! We invite you to walk, jog, or run a 5K for MCC with us on June 6! Simply go to www.iamccreliefsale.org/5k-trail-runwalk.html to register and begin finding friends to sponsor you! Cost to register is \$25, finding sponsors is optional. A special limited edition t-shirt will be sent to anyone who raises over \$500 in sponsorships.

Mennonite Historical Society of Iowa: Twice a year we send out a 2 page newsletter to all the Mennonite churches to update everyone. Usually it is printed and sent with museum guides or volunteers. Because the museum is not open, guides and volunteers are not here and many churches are not meeting in person. Instead, we have attached a PDF copy of our newsletter and hope it finds you all well.

MCUSA: is offering free videos for ministry leaders. Topics include Technology Best Practices (series), Virtual Tools for Real Youth Ministry, Financial Resources Through the CARES Act, Rituals Around Death and Dying and more. <http://mennoniteusa.org/leadership-development/webinars/>

Chances are that we may still be socially distancing to some degree for a while. The team of The Corinthian Plan, Mennonite Church USA's health plan for church workers, provides some creative ideas for those at-home days. <http://mennoniteusa.org/activities-ideas>

Mennonite Central Committee: even amidst this global pandemic, continues to work as safely and fully as possible in over 50 countries around the world. COVID-19 continues to spread and the challenges facing our neighbors next door and around the world keep growing. I have an announcement and a prayer to share with you today, we hope you'll share both with your congregation this Sunday, May 10.

COVID-19 Update: MCC Central States in North Newton continues to be closed to the public through the month of May, however material resources donations can be left in the 24-hour donation drop-off room at any time. If you would like fabric to sew into comforters, please contact katemast@mcc.org and she can either deliver it or set it out in the donation room for you. We have LOTS of pre-cut squares available. Join us in caring for those who are most in need in our changing times. Monetary donations are being accepted at donate.mcc.org to support water, food, hygiene and health programs around the world.

Crowded Closet: Temporary Closure continues as of May 7th 2020. The Crowded Closet Thrift Shop acknowledges the Governor's proclamation permitting reopening. However, we believe an extended closure is advised at this time out of concern for the safety of our volunteers and our community. We continue to actively monitor the situation and plan for our future re-opening.

Hillcrest Academy: is planning for Commencement Activities to be on Sunday, June 14 at 4:00 PM. We are working through the logistics of an outside ceremony, a virtual ceremony, or the possibility of our traditional ceremony. More details to follow. Please continue to pray for our school, but especially for our seniors, as we do our best to finish the school year well.

Pleasantview Home, we love our community and would love to have Kalona-area CNAs, LPNs, and RNs join our team! Go to www.pvhome.org to apply.

New Life House: Attached is a picture of our handwritten newsletter. Thank you all for your prayer and support. We appreciate your intercession for us and look forward to the days ahead.

CPMC: Pray for the Board of Central Plains Mennonite Conference. We pray for wisdom and courage as they discern the best ways for Conference to continue supporting and encouraging and resourcing each local congregation for ministry.

Mennonite Missions Network: Service Adventure is still happening in the fall and there are plenty of openings! Check out MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure to learn more and sign up!

We are is still taking MVS applications for the 2020-2021 year. Please visit MennoniteMission.net/MVS for the most up to date unit and placement information

We request prayer for mothers around the world, especially those who struggle to provide life's necessities for their children. May we share what God has given us, acknowledging that we are all part of God's one family.