

MAY 17, 2020

AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cradle of Hope Bottle Campaign: A huge thank you to our church family for your generous donations that totaled \$614.23! We took in all of these offerings so that the Cradle of Hope could continue educating and supporting families, even during the COVID crisis with Zoom classes. This project is officially done, but if you still have donations, please bring them to the baby bath tub in the church foyer.

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. Our goal is to raise \$65,000 for MCC this year - half of what the Relief Sale raised last year. 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>.

The Quilt Committee of the Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale would like individuals and churches to please hold onto their quilts until next year. If we can all work together in this way, the sale should be ready for a good year in 2021! Thank you!

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. <https://youtu.be/U2LMa3PybvM>.

Hillcrest Academy: It's time to start registering for Hillcrest Academy Summer Camps! We have a great lineup this year including art, culinary, drama, volleyball, basketball, soccer and writing camps. Visit our Summer Camps page for more information about each camp and to get registered. New this year! Registration and payment for all camps will be done online! Check out our registration page where you can register one student for multiple camps.

We will continue to monitor the risks and safety guidelines surrounding COVID-19 and will keep you updated with any changes to the camp schedule. If any camps are canceled after payment has been received, full refunds will be provided.

MCC has several upcoming opportunities for webinars: Tuesday, May 19 at 2 p.m. EST: “Asylum” free immigration webinar. In the continuing six-part webinar series on immigration and border realities, MCC staff and partners from around the country will provide current information and educational tools to understand asylum. In recent years thousands of people have fled persecution and arrived to the U.S. to apply for asylum. Asylum seekers must navigate a difficult and complex process that can involve multiple government agencies. More information and registration, along with recordings of past webinars, at mcc.org/immigration-webinar-series

Wednesday, May 20 at noon EST: “From hearts to hands: Material Resources” free Facebook live webinar. Featuring stories from MCC staff around the world about how resources like comforters, kits and canned meat make a difference. Join us on MCC’s Facebook page (facebook.com/MCCpeace) for a livestream where we’ll hear directly from MCC workers in Ukraine, Jordan and Canada.

MCUSA: Mennonite Education Agency asks that we join in prayer for our Anabaptist-Mennonite schools and colleges, especially during this time of uncertainty and change. This month’s Prayers for Faith & Learning focuses on students. To subscribe: <http://mennoniteusa.org/prayers-faith-learning>

Learn, Pray, Join: “To us, experiencing climate change is beyond record-breaking heat, another drought, a dying polar bear, a wilting garden. It is growing up while watching the future burn.” Take a moment and view climate change through the eyes of a young person in Lyn Hur’s blog, “Grieving for the world’s future” at <http://mennoniteusa.org/grieving-worlds-future>

Menno Snapshots: This isn’t the first time an epidemic interrupted church life. Travel back in time with history professor Steve Nolt to learn how the polio epidemic devastated the Shenandoah Valley in 1917 in his blog, “An epidemic that complicated Mennonite Church plans a century ago.” <http://mennoniteusa.org/1917epidemic>

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.

CPMC: Pray for your Conference Ministers, Nathan Luitjens, Susan Janzen, and Amanda Bleichty as they work with the conference committees to support, resource, and encourage congregations for local ministry.

Mennonite Missions Network: 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, MS. This is a two-year term beginning in July 2020. Learn more by contacting SusanN@MennoniteMission.net.

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

Join Mennonite Mission Network in praising God for Noelia Fox’s recovery from COVID-19 and protection for Brian and their three daughters in Spain. Pray that God will provide as the family reconfigures their English-language school due to closure during the pandemic.