

MAY 3, 2020

AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cradle of Hope Bottles: Thank you for making a huge change with your change! At this point, our church has raised \$540.10 for Cradle of Hope Bottle Campaign. If you still have bottles to return to the church or if you would like to make a donation, please do so as soon as possible. You can bring coins, cash or checks made out to Cradle of Hope to the baby bathtub in the church foyer.

CCCC: The early bird registration deadline of May 1, 2020 will no longer be in effect. The early bird prices will remain effective for the remainder of the 2020 camping season. If summer camps get postponed or canceled, you may request a refund of paid fees or donate your submitted payment to camp.

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.

MCUSA: Mennonite Church USA has released a statement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that denounces anti-Asian racism and provides tips and resources for helping us recognize and counter racism in our community. Read more at: <http://mennoniteusa.org/statement-anti-asian-racism-covid-19/>

Learn, Pray, Join

Interested in serving God through creation care? Discover how a small congregation strengthened its ties with each other and its community through earth-friendly spiritual practices in "Taftsville Chapel: A sustainable model for creation care." <http://mennoniteusa.org/news/taftsville/>

Struggling with the "new normal" of working from home? Michael Danner, associate executive director of Mennonite Church USA, offers helpful advice and scheduling techniques in his blog, "Tips on working from home." <http://mennoniteusa.org/work-from-home>

Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale: Hey kids! Since we can't collect coins during our church service for Mennonite Central Committee and the Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale, we're asking you to collect coins at home with the MyCC Giving Calendar. You and your parents can print off the calendar and follow the fun ways to add coins to your piggy bank, can or whatever you want to use to collect them! Later this month you'll find out more about the people of Burkina Faso and how your coins will help them to grow crops for their families and community. Also, be on the lookout for more activities!

While it may seem ambitious, the Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale is proposing a goal of \$65,000 that we would like to raise for Mennonite Central Committee this year. \$65,000 is approximately half of what we raised and gave to MCC as a result of the 2019 Relief Sale. In the midst of the pandemic, MCC has seen the cancellation of many relief sales and the closure of nearly all of its thrift stores across North America - despite these closures, their work does not stop. Please help us in ensuring the work of MCC for the next 100 years. Donations can be mailed to Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale at PO Box 234, Kalona, IA 52247 or through our PayPal account. Thanks and be well, Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale Executive Board.

CPMC: Are you searching for hope? Let us help. Like @MennoniteMissionNet on Facebook to catch the Hope Series. See our Facebook banner for the streaming schedule.

Mennonite Missions Network: During these trying times, our thoughts go out to you and your congregation as you navigate the ever-changing landscape caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We pray for you and ask that you continue to pray for us and God's mission around the world. Due to the current mandates to remain in our homes, we have decided to send Beyond Faith in Action to you electronically rather than the usual printed version. You can link to the online version in your church e-mail newsletter at:

<https://www.mennonitemission.net/resources/publications/beyond/Faith>

MMN administrators request prayer for wisdom in continuing God's ministries of healing and hope in ways that do not expose personnel and partners to undue risks of exposure to COVID-19. All travel and in-person public gatherings have been canceled or postponed. Ministry continues through online connections.