

JULY 11, 2021

AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Life House: You have heard of the Christian author and lecturer C S Lewis from his “Chronicles of Narnia”, “Screw tape Letters” “The Four Loves” etc. You are invited to the World Premier of “Born Blind” – a play based a short story of his and to see two short additional live Christian theater pieces AND see visual art for display and sale! The plays carry the Christian themes of ‘Light’, ‘reality’ and ‘healing’ through metaphor and drama.

The New Life House – a Christian home in South-East Iowa for blessing and mentoring women in life transitions- will be celebrating its 5th anniversary this summer. New Life House has helped over 25 women from Henry County and throughout the area since its beginning. It is presenting a visual art and live theatre show as its first major fundraiser- titled “Three 2 See” - held on July 15th, 16th and 17th at 7 pm at the Heatilator Performing Arts Center in Mt Pleasant (located on East Monroe in the old high school). Tickets are \$10 at the ticket booth or pre-sale. Contact newlifehouseia@outlook.com for early tickets and get added to the list before the limited reserved seating fills up! Participants from 11 local churches are involved in this project.

Hillcrest: Hillcrest Academy Golf Benefit! It's that time of year for the annual Hillcrest Academy Golf Benefit! This year's event is on Saturday, July 17 at the Kalona Golf Club. For details, to register, or to be a sponsor check out hillcrestravens.org/golfbenefit.

Pray For Hillcrest Academy! The Hillcrest Academy Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) invites you to pray on campus with them during the next board meeting on Monday, July 12 at 7:00 PM. There's something extra powerful about praying on site, but if you can't make it out to the school, please join them in praying (from wherever you are) on that date and time.

MCC: As you know, our Iowa MCC Relief Sale has weathered through COVID-19. We thank each of you who have helped make this year a success even though it was not the sale that we are used to having. With that in the background, we are planning an Annual MCC Relief Sale Meeting on July 13, at 7:00 pm at the Kalona Mennonite Church open to all who are interested in the future of the sale. Please take time in advance of this meeting to ask the Lord how we can do our part in meeting the needs of others less fortunate than we.

CPMC: Pray for the work of our camps, Swan Lake Christian Camp and Crooked Creek Christian Camp, as they creatively share God's creation.

MCUSA: The Colombian Mennonite Church (IMCOL) is the most recent recipient of the Mennonite Church USA's Justice Fund grant, which is used to dismantle racism and build peace. Colombia has experienced continual political unrest for more than half a century, and the grant will be used to support Justpaz, an IMCOL ministry aimed at promoting nonviolence. Read more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/colombian-church/>.

Support Mennonite Church USA congregations that are working toward social justice by donating to the Justice Fund. Right now, Allegheny Mennonite Conference is offering a matching grant if we can raise \$15,000. Donate here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/justice-fund-matching-grant/>.

In preparation for the Climate Ride, a cross-country bicycle ride put on by the Center for Sustainable Climate Change, Sierra Ross Richer reflected on what it means to be lost in nature, both literally and metaphorically. Read about her journey to “Overcoming ‘Lost’” here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/overcoming-lost>.

Contemporary Worship Music (CWM) takes a prominent role in the Voices Together songbook. For many congregations, CWM may be an unfamiliar way to worship. In their blog, “Featured resource: A guide to Contemporary Worship Music in Voices Together,” Benjamin Bergey and Anneli Loepp Thiessen help churches understand how to use this resource. Read more here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/guide-contemp-music-voicestogether>

Mennonite Mission Network: In Bangladesh, India and Nepal, Community Health Evangelists (CHEs) have received special permission from their governments to work, despite COVID-19 travel restrictions. Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for the CHEs, who care for the sick and share the good news of God's love throughout Asia.

