

**July 19, 2020**

## **AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Crowded Closet Thrift Shop is open!** Join over 100 volunteers who are serving this summer. Shop, donate, and volunteer locally to support Mennonite Central Committee. Volunteer team is needed to serve customers on Saturday, August 1st. Ready to join us? Call 319-337-5924 or email Christine at [crowdedcloset.volunteer@gmail.com](mailto:crowdedcloset.volunteer@gmail.com).

**Hillcrest:** Shuttle Drivers Needed! Hillcrest Academy is in need of shuttle drivers for the 2020-21 school year. There are two routes available: Washington route AM and PM on Mon and Wed and Iowa City route PM Mon-Fri. This shuttle is essential in providing transportation for students to and from school. Please prayerfully consider if you are able to help in this mission. Contact Rebecca Beachy Miller [rbeachymiller@hillcrestravens.org](mailto:rbeachymiller@hillcrestravens.org) or (319) 656-2073 x20 with questions or if interested.

**Back to School:** As we discuss ways to engage our students and nurture our community in safe and meaningful ways, we ask for prayers of guidance as we work together to develop plans for returning to school this fall. And look for our Back to School plan to be marketed the coming week.

**Mennonite Museum:** The Iowa Mennonite Museum at the Kalona Historical Village is now open afternoons. Because of decreased museum attendance and the cancellation of the Kalona Fall Festival a significant amount of our typical fundraising has been lost. We do have several cases of apple butter made at last year's Fall Festival to sell. By the pint or by the case, our apple butter makes a nice gift for family and friends. Stop by the museum afternoons to review stories of our area Mennonite-Amish History and pick up some apple butter for friends.

**MDS:** The July edition of On the Level is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue, you can read how MDS volunteers helped Minneapolis residents clean up following the protests in the wake of the death of George Floyd. You can learn how MDS volunteers are racing the clock to restore homes in Alaska and bring wildfire survivors home. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/2ChyxXQ>

**MCUSA:** Melanie Neufeld and her husband are pastors of Community Ministry at Seattle Mennonite Church, seeking justice, change and protection for unsheltered people. Get a first-hand look at their ministry in Melanie's blog, "The prick of compassion." <http://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/compassion/>

Imagine planting a peace church amid a pandemic and nationwide protests – that was the backdrop for Mennonite Church USA's newest church plant in New York. Read more about the Brooklyn Peace Center: <http://mennoniteusa.org/news/nyc-peace-witness/>

Catch up on all the news, blogs and events from Mennonite Church by subscribing to PeaceMail, a weekly e-newsletter. Check out the latest issue and subscribe here: <http://ow.ly/K5Z150Afsnm>

**CPMC:** Studying the Bible, prayer, fellowship and accountability are important Christian practices that happen in Sunday School for all ages. Pray for those who are organizing faith formation programs for the next school year and for those who will lead and teach, especially in these uncertain and unprecedented times.

**Mennonite Missions Network:** Praise God for Mennonite Mission Network's short-term service programs that help young people deepen their faith and broaden their cultural perspectives. Pray for program directors as they plan for the coming year with so many unknowns.