

August 30, 2020

AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hillcrest: Shuttle Drivers Needed | Hillcrest Academy is in need of shuttle drivers for the 2020-21 school year. We are still looking for someone to drive our 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 at rbeachymiller@hillcrestravens.org or (319) 656-2073 x20 with questions or if interested.

MCUSA: Save the date for MennoCon21! Join Mennonite Church USA as we gather at the Cincinnati Convention Center on July 6-10, 2021 for worship, community and faith formation.

“Breaking the taboo of money talk, we can...come up with creative ways to bring financial freedom,” writes Beryl Jantzi, director of Stewardship Education for Everence, in a recent blog on the role of ministry in addressing financial needs. Read more: <http://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/preaching-good-news-and-financial-freedom-aphesis/>

Voices Together, the new Mennonite songbook being launched this fall, features a rich variety of music including camp songs, contemporary music sung at Mennonite conventions and contemporary music sung in African American communities. Committee member Anneli Loepp Thiessen discusses the selection process in her blog, “Worshiping in contemporary styles.” <http://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/worshipping-in-contemporary-styles-popular-musical-idioms-in-voices-together/>

MCC: Mennonite Central Committee is accepting donations to support people in need of food and other assistance in Beirut, Lebanon. A massive explosion on Aug. 4 destroyed the country’s main port and silos filled with grain and worsened an existing economic crisis. You can donate online at mcc.org/beirut-response, by calling (888) 563-4676 or by sending a check earmarked for “Beirut response” to MCC, 21 S. 12th St., Akron PA 17501.

MCC is in need of school kits to fulfill requests from our partners around the world! Complete kits and/or supplies (find a full list of items at mcc.org/kits) can be shipped to MCC Central States (121 E. 30th St. North Newton, KS 67117) or dropped off in the 24-hour donation room at MCC. If you would like help unloading, please contact Kate at (katemast@mcc.org, (316) 804-8432) to schedule a drop off time. Thank you for your continued support of MCC!

Mennonite Central Committee is looking to fill several essential positions in the U.S. and around the world. We hope you’ll consider applying or give encouragement to someone else who might be interested in serving with MCC.

Canner Operator: MCC is looking for new canner operators! This two year service term is unique and offers the opportunity to travel around the U.S. and Canada, working as a team while meeting new people! Check out <https://mcc.org/get-involved/canning> for details!

Director of MCC U.S. National Advocacy and Program: Are you a team leader ready to provide vision, develop strong relationships with diverse groups and engage in policy advocacy? MCC is currently looking for the Director of MCC U.S. National Advocacy and Program. The director is a senior management position in MCC U.S., responsible for the overall leadership and coordination of advocacy and national program. Find out more and apply at mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/director-mcc-us-national-advocacy-program

UN Office Program and Communications Coordinator: Are you, or someone you know, passionate about advocacy and raising the voice of the grassroots on a global level? MCC is currently searching for the UN Office Program and Communications Coordinator. The position carries significant advocacy, research, analysis, writing, speaking, networking, and event planning responsibilities, as well as office administration. Application deadline is Sept 7, 2020. For more information or to apply please visit mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings/mcc-un-office-program-communications-coordinator

Seed Program: Hola! Estas interesado(a) en aprender o practicar tu español? MCC is looking for young adults for its Seed programs in Colombia and Guatemala/EI Salvador which offer experiential learning and formation focused on Reflection, Service and Peacebuilding. Application deadline is October 19, 2020. For more information or to apply, please visit <https://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings>

MDS: Please pray for those impacted by Hurricane Laura. This storm has created widespread damage throughout Western Louisiana, Eastern Texas, and other parts of the south. MDS is closely monitoring the situation and is preparing a response. We anticipate sending an assessment team to the area when it is safe. The team will determine the short and long-term responses.

MDS is accepting financial donations for Hurricane Laura recovery efforts. You can give online or by check and make payable to: Mennonite Disaster Service, 583 Airport Road, Lititz, PA 17543. Designate "Hurricane Laura" on the memo line.

Word Alive Christian Outreach Center: Getting Ahead, our Bridges Out of Poverty is now receiving applications for this coming season of learning. Attached, I have provided applications which they will need to submit. We WILL operate with a reduced group size to insure the ability to provide social distancing so signing up as soon as possible is important. Who should attend Getting Ahead? Those struggling with generational poverty or financial instability and those who have a burden for those who struggle with such battles. Learning where they are coming from helps us know better how to help make a difference. Deadline for Applications is August 31, 2020. First session will be Monday, September 14, 2020.

Financial Support is critical to the success of Getting Ahead. We estimate that we will need \$4500 to meet all the budget needs for this year's Getting Ahead. If you wish to support this year's initiative again, or for the first time, please send your check to Word Alive Ministries at PO BOX 236, Wayland, IA 52654.

CPMC: Curious about church planting or re-planting? Join the next Sent Network cohort and learn how to explore, equip, and be sent to spread the word of God! Visit MennoniteMission.net/SentNetwork to learn more and save your spot!

We continue to pray for those who are most vulnerable in our communities in this strange time, as in all times. May God open our eyes to the possibilities for love and for protection of the least of these among us--and may we be willing to heed God's call.

Mennonite Missions Network: Thank God for how the youth of the Barcelona Mennonite community in Catalonia are flourishing in their spiritual growth despite pandemic restrictions. Pray for Alisha and Joshua Garber, serving with Mennonite Mission Network, as they explore best practices to mentor and teach online.

Service Adventure has open spots for the 2020-2021 term beginning this fall. If you are interested in taking a gap year to serve, live in community, and grow spiritually, contact SusanN@MennoniteMission.net or apply online at MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure