

September 6, 2020

AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Crowded Closet: Crowded Closet Thrift Shop serves the community and supports Mennonite Central Committee. We need you! Join as a volunteer, shopper, or donor. Now scheduling small groups for safe service events together. Volunteer openings for Cashier, Retail Assistant, Fabric & Craft, Donation Receiving, and Adult Clothing teams. Come for a visit to experience how we are staying safe at the Closet. Contact Christine at crowdedcloset.volunteer@gmail.com to schedule your visit.

CCCC: During this time of uncertainty, we have had many cancellations of guest groups and this has resulted in a substantial income loss for the camp, over \$104,000. To offset these losses we received many donations and had a breakfast casserole bake sale. We have seen the generosity of many and we are grateful.

Even after these fundraisers, the camp still feels the impact from the loss of funds. We are very excited to announce for the first time, the camp will be hosting an online auction. Do you have something you would be interested in donating? We would be thrilled to receive it! The auction will go live in December in a virtual event. Send an email to Saralyn at saralyn@crookedcreekcamp.org or Heather at heather@crookedcreekcamp.org with any questions or to let us know of items or services you would like to donate! We look forward to you joining us for this exciting new event.

Everence: Everence is hiring! We are looking for an energetic, customer service-oriented person to join the Kalona office as a Client Services Representative, as we seek to help people integrate their faith with their finances. This position provides administrative assistance and marketing support for Financial/Stewardship Consultants, giving excellent service to clients and staff. It includes a particular focus on education and support for senior adult and those approaching retirement. For more information or to apply, visit <https://www.everence.com/about-everence/careers/current-positions> or call 656-4242.

In addition, we would welcome your tapping the shoulder of persons you believe would fit well with the mission of Everence and the church. Feel free to also provide referral names to either Kent Blossom or me. Thanks in advance for your assistance in spreading the word. We appreciate your support for our mission! Joyfully -Lyle

Hillcrest: Shuttle Drivers Needed! Even though classes have begun, Hillcrest Academy is still in need of shuttle drivers. 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: In an open letter to the denomination, Michael Danner, Mennonite Church USA's associate executive director of Church Vitality, invites fellow white Christians to "engage in proactive, deliberate efforts to oppose and dismantle racism in all of its forms." Read more: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/letter-danner>

During September, Mennonite Church USA invites you to focus your attention on what it means to offer hospitality to immigrants by engaging in its new "Learn, Pray, Join" initiative – Immigration Justice: Radical Hospitality. <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/immigration/>

Join Mennonites across Mennonite Church USA in a "Common Read," a shared reading experience focused on specific books written to nurture Christian faith in this cultural moment. Signs of Life: Resurrecting Hope Out of Ordinary Losses by Stephanie Lobdell is the Common Read book chosen for September. Learn more: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/common-read/>

MenoTicias is a new Spanish-language digital newsletter of MC USA and Hispanic Ministries of Mennonite Education Agency, formerly Meno Acontecer, launching this month. Subscribe: <http://eepurl.com/hb2FGT>

Please pray for the Executive Board of Mennonite Church USA who are meeting virtually on Sept. 11 and 12.

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/El 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: Building Bridges will be back in session this Fall in Wayland. If you are interested in attending the class, or in helping us by providing home cooked meals or tender loving child care... please contact Crystal Boulton at (913) 620-0947.

Class will begin on September 14th with supper at 5:30pm. We request a light meal for 9 people. Class will meet every Monday evening for approximately 16 weeks.

CPMC: Pray for your sister churches in Montana: Ashland Christian Fellowship, Lame Deer, White Chapel and White River Cheyenne Mennonite Churches.

Mennonite Missions Network: Mennonite Mission Network's Service Adventure participants began their assignments in the Jackson, Mississippi, unit this week. Pray that God will provide wisdom for Debbie and Rick Lee, new unit leaders, and for all as they transition into community living and learning.

