

Adults Sunday School

Fall Salt & Light: The Soul of a Nation, Unit 1

Session 3: "God's Complicated Promise" Joshua 11:6-9, 16-23

MYF

- **Sept. 27** – Bible Study, 6PM
- **Oct. 10** – Can Sorting at Corey Farmer's shop, 10:30 AM

JYF

Wednesdays from 6-8 PM, Wayland Mennonite Basement

Join us for a meal, Bible study, and games.

This year includes 6th–8th grades for the first time!

To join, help out, or for more info, contact Pastor Josh Wenger
319-541-9307 or joshwenger88@gmail.com.



Remember in prayer this week: Brett Hesseltine, Brenna Graber, Corey & Renae Farmer, Brecken Achen, and Gerald Freyenberger

Pray for those dealing with medical issues: Roni

Stowers, Tiana Schlatter, Victoria Perez, Erika Leichty Seymore, Keith Zehr, Toni Roth, Deb Roth, Paul VonTersch, Sheldon Miller, Dick Yoder, Arlene Wenger, Roxanne Rogers (Kathy Yoder's sister), Cindy Freyenberger Harms, Lois Klopfenstein

Pray for those at Parkview: Opal Reschly, Anita Swartzendruber and Mary Henderson

Pray for the leaders and youth involved in JYF and MYF. Pray for God to bless the leaders with wisdom, understanding, and love for the youth they lead. Pray for God to bless the children and youth with willing hearts and the chance to be examples to others.

CPMC Prayer Request We pray for our sister churches in Nebraska: Beemer, Milford, Bellwood, Omaha Chin, Bethesda, Wood River, and First of Lincoln Mennonite Churches.

MMN Prayer Request The Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute (NARPI) introduced its new youth initiative, Beyond Borders, at the NARPI Summer Peacebuilding Training last month. Pray for the youth and young adults in this program as they engage in intercultural dialogue, mentoring, networking and self-care practices.

LAST TWO SUNDAYS

Offering: Missions \$2,254; Home Miss. \$1,477; General \$1,300



September 20, 2026



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Office Hours: Tuesday–Thursday, 9:30 AM–1:30 PM

Pastors

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September 20, 2026

We welcome all to this place
for worship of God and for Christian fellowship.
Let us worship God in spirit and truth,
reaching out to one another in Christ's love.

9:15 AM: Sunday School
10:10 AM: Fellowship Time
10:30 AM: Worship Service
Live Stream: <https://tinyurl.com/SCMLiveStream>
facebook.com/sugarcreekmennonitechurch

Prelude/Offertory: Kathy Yoder
Worship Leader: Bryce Shelman
Song Leader: Dana Oswald

Gathering

Welcome & Announcements
Preparation for Worship
Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

Praising

Praise Medley

Hearing the Word

Scripture Reading: Matthew 20:1-16 (p. 17)
Message: Pam Gerig Unruh, "How Do We Count?"

Responding

WB 150 Wonderful grace of Jesus
Offering: Home Missions (9/27 Hillcrest/CCCC & Loose Change)
Sharing & Prayers

Sending

Benediction
Doxology

Thank you to Garry & Lori Leichty for serving as ushers today.

The nursery is available for children two and under.

NEXT SUNDAY

- Keith/Connie Zehr

SUGAR CREEK NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Meeting: In order to have enough food, please sign up on the north bulletin board if you plan to attend the meal prior to annual meeting. We will have walking tacos. Thank you!

Birthday/Anniversary Calendar: Please add the following to the monthly calendar: Brett Hesseltine, Sept. 16; Jaelyn Hesseltine, Oct. 7; Justin Freyenberger, Oct. 31

Fellowship Time: To provide cookies for fellowship time, please use the link or contact Lori Leichty: bit.ly/4hvBEMt

JYF Meals: Sugar Creek has been asked to help provide some meals for Wednesday nights. We have not selected a month yet. If you are interested in helping provide food for approximately 15-20 students, please contact Lori Leichty.

Meal Train: While Victoria Perez receives dialysis, let's show our love and support to the Perez family for a few weeks with some meals! Please use the signup: mealtrain.com/42wk15

Nursery Assistant: The nursery is available for children two and under during Sunday School and church. Helpers needed!
bit.ly/4j6GyRd

TODAY

- **9:00 AM:** Parkview Worship

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

- **12:00 PM:** Elders' Retreat at Lisa's

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

- **6:00 PM:** Annual Business Meeting. Light supper with the meeting to follow, Fellowship Hall.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1

- **6:30 PM:** Game Night, Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

- **2:00 PM:** Membership Meeting, Parkview

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

- **6:00 PM:** Worship Planning, MYF Room

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

- **9:00 AM:** Parkview Worship

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CCCC: As we look to the fall we have lots of exciting events coming up! Watch for more details coming later.

- Lunch and Lecture - Saturday, October 24 (Matt Miller will be sharing about his biking adventures)
- Fall Craft Retreat - November 6-8
- 7th Annual Online Auction Fundraiser - November 24-29 (Contact Heather heather@crookedcreekcamp.org to donate auction items)
- Christmas Crafts, Cocoa, Cookies, and Carols - December 6
- Take and Bake Fundraiser - December 21 and 22

Everence Financial: *Free Medicare workshops* Medicare education with you in mind! We'll cover enrollment details and deadlines, how Social Security impacts Medicare decisions, prescription drug coverage, and plans that supplement Medicare. Bring your questions and we will be happy to answer them. Refreshments and light snack will be provided. In-person workshops held at the Pleasantview Friendship Center (811 3rd St Kalona, IA) Sept. 21 - 5:30 p.m. and Oct. 19 - 5:30 p.m.

Gospel Echoes Team: The Gospel Echoes Team Prison Ministry be holding the Kalona Banquet on Wednesday, September 30, 6PM, at the Upper Deer Creek Church in Wellman. The evening will include a homestyle dinner, Gospel music and special guest, Chaplain Thomas Fortini. Tickets required; public invited! For complimentary tickets, contact Karla Neuschwander (319-328-8733). A free-will offering will be received for the ministry.

Hillcrest: *Apple Fritters* - For over 50 years, our beloved apple fritters have been a staple at the Kalona Fall Festival. Once again, the Hillcrest Academy PTO will be operating their historic apple fritter booth on September 25 & 26. We'd love to have you join us as a volunteer. If you're interested in working a shift contact Cindy Bontrager (cindybon14@gmail.com) or Kristen Rempel (kris10.rempel@gmail.com). And while you're at the festival, be sure to check out our musical groups who will be performing on Friday and stop and see our FFA students who will be helping Jim Yoder '67 grind corn and wheat meal at the grain mill.

Homecoming Weekend - Join us on October 16-17, 2026 for a weekend filled with fun, friends, and school spirit with events like the Joetown Classic and the Pork Supper. The annual Joetown Classic 5K run/walk is on Sat morning, Oct 17. We are doing t-shirts this year so make sure you sign up by Sep 30 to get a cool 80s style long-sleeved t-shirt! Also, this year we will be hosting only one 5K race/walk (no kid's race) and the race/walk won't be timed. But don't worry, the overall male and female winners will still receive the JC5K traditional pan of cinnamon rolls. Register now online at hillcrestravens.org/joetownclassic. The Pork Supper will take place from 4:30-7:00 PM on Sat, Oct 17, get your tickets from any junior Hillcrest student or online at hillcrestravens.org/porksupper.

Iowa Mennonite Historical Society: *Swords beaten into plowshares? And a peace dove?* Join us at the Fall Festival in the Kalona Historical Village Saturday, September 26, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM in the entertainment tent. Dr. Tom Meyers will give the history of the Conscientious Objector status as an alternative to military service for the Amish and Mennonites. Dr. Nyle Kauffman will share WWI & WWII stories of are men who served in the CO status.

A Bowl of Soup and a John Deere Tractor? November 2, 2026 Larry Miller presents a book talk on "Larry's Ride from Farm to Finance: A Country Boy's Journey" and will be available for signing. 6:00 PM soup supper, donations accepted; no carry-out. Kalona Mennonite Church.

MCC: Sign up to participate in the Conscientious Objection: understanding the legacy and what it means today webinar, Tuesday, October 6 at 7 p.m. CDT/6 p.m. MDT. This webinar will provide space to reflect on what it means to be a Conscientious Objector (CO), remember its history, learn about how to declare CO status, and how to connect with MCC Central States and other churches around the topic of CO. Register at mcc.org/co-today and contact beckyteiwes@mcc.org for more information.

MCUSA: *Waging Peace: A Militarism Summit* - Join Mennonite Church USA on Nov. 6-7 in Leola, Pennsylvania, for "Waging Peace: A Militarism Summit," a two-day gathering to explore faithful responses to war, political polarization, nationalism and violence through an Anabaptist lens. High school youth attend free when accompanied by a youth pastor or sponsor. mennoniteusa.org/militarism-summit/

Explore a story of conscientious objection - What can we learn from the experiences of Mennonites who have chosen conscientious objection to military service? In his Menno Snapshots blog, "The cost of conscience: My

father's peace witness," MC USA Archives Coordinator Devon Miller shares his father's story and reflects on the legacy of conscientious objection. Read the blog here: mennoniteusa.org/cost-of-conscience/

What does it mean to "hold space" for someone? - In her Menno Snapshots blog, spiritual director Jane Hooper Peifer explores what it means to "hold space" for someone living with deep trauma. She reflects on how compassionate presence, listening and trust can help create room for healing. Read "A 'holding space' story" here: mennoniteusa.org/holding-space/

MMN: *Ready to put your gifts to work and make new friends?* Mennonite Mission Network's SOOP program (Service Opportunities with Our Partners) is calling your name! Choose from 60 locations, flexible terms that fit your life, and opportunities open to adults 25+ and families of every age. Housing and meals are sometimes included — because who doesn't love a little free room and board with their adventure? Roll up your sleeves and checkout MennoniteMission.net/SOOP to learn more.

Let us turn your group's next trip into something unforgettable! Book your Just Peace Pilgrimage for 2027 and step into stories that still shape the world today. Together we'll walk in solidarity, open our eyes to the beauty and struggle of life, and come home changed. Choose your adventure: Civil Rights Pilgrimage, Christ at the Borders (Arizona), Underground Railroad. Perfect for congregations, Sunday school classes, youth groups or any crew ready for more than just another outing. Visit MennoniteMission.net/JustPeace to explore the journeys and lock in your dates. Your group's most meaningful trip yet, is waiting!

The future's calling... and it's not waiting around! Registration for the 2027-28 terms of Service Adventure and Mennonite Voluntary Service kicks off in October. Whether you're fresh out of high school, just wrapping up college or somewhere in that exciting in-between, there's a spot with your name on it. Ready to leap into the next chapter? Head to MennoniteMission.net/Serve and start exploring.

Upper Deer Creek: A Soul Care Conference with Dr. Rob Reimer will be hosted at Upper Deer Creek Church on November 5-7, 2026. Dr. Reimer's book "*Soul Care*" and his conferences have helped thousands to lose lifelong pain and struggle, to gain a new life of freedom and fullness in Christ. More details and registration are found at renewalinternational.org/upcoming-events. The Early Bird price of \$130 is available until September 1, regular price is \$155. Three lunches are included in both prices. We hope you'll pick up his book to read, and join us at the conference.

Zion Mennonite Church: You are invited to our anniversary weekend September 26-27, 2026! Join us as we celebrate 175 years of worship, faith, fellowship, and community in Donnellson, Iowa. Historical tours, a presentation, grill out supper, fellowship, worship service, lunch, and hymn sing — all centered around remembering God's faithfulness through 175 years of Zion Mennonite Church. To view the schedule and RSVP, visit zionmennoniteiowa.org/175.html. We look forward to gathering with friends, family, former members, and neighbors for a special weekend together.