

### Adults Sunday School

Nathan, Keiran & Tristan Luitjens Ecuador Sharing Fellowship Hall

### MYF

- **TODAY** – Bible Study, 6-7:30 PM
- **12/7** – Bible Study, 6-7:30 PM
- **12/14** – Christmas Party, last meeting until after Christmas!

### JYF

Fall JYF is coming to an end December 3. Until then, we will continue to meet Wednesdays from 6-8PM in the Wayland Mennonite Church Basement. December 3 will be our fall finale and Christmas Party. Thank you to everyone that has volunteered your time, food, or funds and we look forward to another season starting January 2026!



**Remember in prayer this week:** Kelly Huston and Phyllis Hartzler

**Pray for those dealing with medical issues:** Cindy Freyenberger Harms, Jane Miller (breast cancer), Carmen Martinez (Maria's sister), Keith Zehr (pancreatic cancer), Dineal Armenta (Roni's sister), Lois Klopfenstein, Opal Reschly, Pauline Wyse

**CPMC Prayer Request** As the conference ministers for all area conferences of MC USA and MC Canada gather in Austin, TX, we pray for safe travels, formative conversations and much good fellowship.

**MMN Prayer Request** Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Jonah and Memee Yang, as they offer trainings in Southeast Asia that focus on discipleship, equipping youth and families, and holistic community building. Pray for Jonah, as he teaches Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Journey Missional Leadership Development program, and for Memee, as she works with women, using the Sister Care curriculum.

### LAST SUNDAY

Offering: Home Missions \$3,856; General Fund \$1,050



HOPE IN THE FURNACE

## **November 30, 2025**

### *1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent - Hope*

Today's trials include stories of injustice, poverty, and tragedy from our lives, communities, and the larger world.

While we wonder how long we must wait, we tell amazing stories of hope and of a God who saves.

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

**Prelude/Offertory:** Mattias Luitjens

**Worship Leaders:** Mike & Maria Roth

**Song Leader:** Creek Band

### **Gathering**

Welcome & Announcements

Advent Introduction

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

### **Praising**

*Here I Am to Worship*

*WB 178 Come though long-expected Jesus*

### **Hearing the Word**

Children's Story: Connie Freyenberger, Daniel 3:1, 8-30

Advent Candlelighting Litany

*There is More Love Somewhere, v. 2*

Message: Pam Gerig Unruh, "Be Amazed: But Even If"

### **Responding**

*WB 172 O come, O come, Immanuel*

Offering: Conference & Loose Change (12/7 Parkview)

Sharing & Prayers

### **Sending**

Benediction

*Sending Song*

Thank you to the MYF for serving as ushers today.

## **NEXT SUNDAY**

- Pam Gerig Unruh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

### **SUGAR CREEK NEWS**

**Baptism/Membership Class:** Please speak with Pam if you are interested in baptism or becoming a member of our church!

**Christmas Box:** WACO Elementary PTO has a box in the foyer for donations of new items to be used at their Santa Shop, where students are able to purchase presents for their family members. There is a list of suggested items on the box. Please have donations to the box by December 8. Thank you!

**Fellowship:** Please see the signup to provide cookies for fellowship time, or contact Lori Miller:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E45AEAB2DA0FA7-50902927-sugar#/>

**MCC Christmas Giving:** This Christmas season, we are partnering with MCC to make a difference for families around the world. Through MCC Christmas giving, you can honor the values and pastimes of your loved ones. At the same time, you'll be choosing gifts that share treasured resources in communities where they're needed. Learn more through the posters and ornaments we've hung in the foyer, or visit [mcc.org/share-joy!](http://mcc.org/share-joy!)

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **TODAY**

- **9:15 AM:** Nathan, Keiran & Tristan Luitjens Ecuador Sharing during Sunday School, Fellowship Hall

#### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 3**

- **9:00 AM:** Mennonite Women, Fellowship Hall

#### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7**

- **9:00 AM:** Parkview Worship
- **4:00 PM:** Christmas Program Play Practice, Sanctuary
- **5:00 PM:** Adult Choir Practice, Sanctuary

#### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14**

- **9:15 AM:** Fellowship Time, no Sunday School
- **10:00 AM:** Joint Christmas Program with Wayland Mennonite, at Sugar Creek

**NOVEMBER 30, 2025**  
**AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Concert:** Bad Angle Events is bringing back Authentic Unlimited for a Christmas concert. They were recently named the 2025 Bluegrass Vocal Group of the Year by the International Bluegrass Music Association. Come enjoy their rich harmonies and skillful instrumentation, Saturday, Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m. in Celebration Hall on the campus of Hillcrest Academy. Tickets available at [BadAngleEvents.org](http://BadAngleEvents.org)

**CCCC: Online Auction** – Our 6th annual online auction fundraiser closes today! Items will close at various times between 6:00 and 8:00pm, so be sure to note when your favorite items are closing to get your last minute bids in! Thanks for supporting Crooked Creek in this way! <https://mennoniteauctions.org/>.

**T-Shirts** - Our new t-shirt designs by Erin Ramer make great Christmas presents for \$25 each! The Heron pays homage to “Hank the Heron,” a beloved fixture around the pond, available in green or citrus. The Wildflowers t-shirt celebrates *Wetland Way* and the prairie at Crooked Creek, available in berry and navy. Order here: [crookedcreekcamp.org/CCCC-t-shirts](http://crookedcreekcamp.org/CCCC-t-shirts)

**Casseroles** - Let us help you make your Christmas a bit easier this year! We're offering two kinds of take and bake breakfast casseroles, a hashbrown casserole and a cranberry french toast casserole. We will prepare and freeze the casseroles, all you need to do is pick up and bake them. Pricing and order form is on our website: <https://www.crookedcreekcamp.org/take-and-bake.html> Orders are due by December 8. Pick up dates will be December 15 and 16. Thanks for your support of Crooked Creek in this way!

**Hillcrest: Youth Open Gyms** - On Sun, Dec 7, and Jan 11 from 3:00–4:30 PM, K-5th graders (only) will participate in a variety of activities led by Beau Risley (Hillcrest PE teacher). Please bring a water bottle and wear clean running shoes. Sign up at [hillcrestravens.org/4-8events](http://hillcrestravens.org/4-8events) the Saturday before each open gym.

**Fall Visit Days** - Ever wondered what a day at Hillcrest Academy is like? Join us on Mon, Dec 1 8:00 AM - 3:15 PM, when prospective students in 6th -11th grade are welcome to visit Hillcrest Academy for the day. Lunch will be provided. Incoming 6th graders will have a special visit days after Christmas. Sign up at [hillcrestravens.org/4-8events](http://hillcrestravens.org/4-8events).

**EARLY BIRD Coffee** - Start the holiday season right with a warm cup of Early Bird Coffee! This smooth, medium roast developed alongside Ambrosia Coffee Roasters, is available in 12oz bags (whole bean or ground) and makes an effortless and thoughtful Christmas present. Pair it with our classic Early Bird diner mug for the ultimate gift set. Place your order now at [hillcrestravens.org/earlybirdcoffee](http://hillcrestravens.org/earlybirdcoffee).

**Iowa MCC Meat Canning Event:** Volunteers needed! December 8-9, 2025, City of Kalona Maintenance Building, 717A Avenue. Our goal is to raise \$38,000 to process 13,500 lbs. into 9,000 cans of meat. Please note that we will need volunteers for three days (setup is Saturday afternoon, canning Monday & Tuesday). Sign up today! [signupgenius.com/go/30E044DAEAC28ABF58-59717906-2025](http://signupgenius.com/go/30E044DAEAC28ABF58-59717906-2025) or contact Sylvan Schlabach 319-461-3417. Please send your contribution to: Iowa Mennonite MCC Relief, PO Box 234, Kalona, IA 52247

**MCUSA:** Join the great Menno Give this #GivingTuesday. Mennonite Church USA Executive Board, Mennonite Mission Network, and MennoMedia are joining together in this special event promoting the work of Anabaptist faith formation, education and mission. Your contribution of any size will make a lasting difference. Support The Great Menno Give here: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YM1N/campaign/C-156XK>

**MMN:** Mennonite Mission Network is offering anti-racism grants for underfunded ministries and agencies in the United States managed by Asian, Black, Hispanic, Indigenous or other People of Color groups who are engaged in peacebuilding, social justice and anti-racism efforts. Apply by January 31 at [MennoniteMission.net/Peace/Anti-Racism-Grants](http://MennoniteMission.net/Peace/Anti-Racism-Grants).

**Swedesburg:** We are now selling tickets for this year's smorgasbord! “Smörgåsbord” is on Thursday, December 4, 2025 at the Parish Hall, 201 Academy Ave. Tickets are available from the Swedesburg Evangelical Lutheran Church office, or the Swedish Heritage museum office. For more details, contact the Church office at 319-254-2216 Tuesday-Friday or the museum at 319-254-2317. The museum will stay open late on smorgasbord night for tours and selling items in their gift shop. Be sure to visit the museum as well as the smorgasbord! Swedesburg looks forward to welcoming you!