Adults Sunday School

Fall Salt & Light: The Soul of a Nation, Unit 3

Session 13: “David’s Coronation and Capture of Jerusalem”

2 Samuel 5:1-12

MYF

- **Dec. 6 –** Bible Study, MYF Room, 6PM
- **Dec. 13 –** Christmas Party, TBD



Remember in prayer this week: Bret West and Phyllis Hartzler

Pray for those dealing with medical issues: Tamara Zechin (upcoming surgery), Victoria Perez, Roni Stowers, Lois Klopfenstein, Erika Leichty Seymore, Toni Roth, Deb Roth, Sheldon Miller, Dick Yoder, Arlene Wenger, Roxanne Rogers (Kathy Yoder’s sister), Cindy Freyenberger Harms

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

CPMC Prayer Request As the conference ministers for all area conferences of MC USA gather in Savannah, GA this week, we pray for safe travels, formative conversations and much good fellowship.

MMN Prayer Request Charles Buller, who leads the Africa Leadership Coaching Network, a ministry of Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission, is planning a trip to Angola early next month to launch module two of the Leadership Coaching Certificate Program, after having a similar trip cancelled in August. Pray that this trip is successful.

LAST SUNDAY

Offering: General Fund $2,600; Home Missions $2,029; Missions $570



November 29, 2026

Advent: God's Dream

In this season of waiting, we are invited to dream with God:
to prayerfully imagine the world as God desires it to be,
and to act in ways that make God's dream reality.

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: Mattias Luitjens
Worship Leaders: Josh & Stephanie Miller
Song Leader: Tristan Luitjens

Gathering

"The Will To Dream"
Welcome
Advent Candle Lighting: Hope
Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

Praising

WB 178 Come, thou long-expected Jesus
WB 191 O little town of Bethlehem (v. 1-2)
Gravity of Love

Hearing the Word

Children's Time: Connie Zehr
Scripture Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:3b-6, 17-19 (p. 676)
Message: Keith Zehr "God Dreams of Hope"

Responding

Special Music: Hope Has a Name – Dana, Mattias, Tristan, Elyssa
Offering: Conference (12/6 Parkview)
Announcements, Sharing & Prayers

Sending

Benediction
WB 172 O come, O come, Immanuel (v. 1)

Thank you to Russ & Becky Yoder for serving as ushers today.

The nursery is available for children two and under.

NEXT SUNDAY

- Connie Zehr

SUGAR CREEK NEWS

Contact Information Books: Updated contact info should be sent to Katy in December for printing in January 2027!

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

- First Sunday of Advent
- Anointing: Feel free to come forward after the service!
- **9:00 AM:** Parkview Worship

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

- **5:00 PM:** Christmas Choir Practice (Adults), Sanctuary

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

- **10:00 AM:** Joint Christmas Program with Wayland Mennonite. Fellowship time at 9:15. *No Sunday School*.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14

- **5:30 PM:** Elders Meeting

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

- **9:00 AM:** Mennonite Women, Fellowship Hall
- **11:30 AM:** Lunch Bunch, Fellowship Hall
- **6:30 PM:** Church Council, MYF Room

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

- **6:00 PM:** Candlelight Service, Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

- **11:00 AM:** Parkview Devotions, Gerald Freyenberger

NOVEMBER 29, 2026
AREA NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CPMC: *You're Invited! Worship & Song Leaders' Retreat January 29-31:* "Sacred Encounters" is a special weekend at Crooked Creek Christian Camp (Washington, IA) for worship leaders, musicians, pastors, worship planners, committee members, and anyone in Central Plains Mennonite Conference interested in worship. This time of rest, renewal and resourcing for "Connecting with God & Connecting with Our True Selves" will be led by Janeen Bertsche Johnson, Campus Pastor at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, and musician Ken Rogers. Register at tinyurl.com/SacredEncountersRetreat or go to centralplainsmc.org/sacred-encounters.html for schedule and more details. For questions or help, contact ministry.coordinator@eastunionmennonite.org or stoddard.nicholas@gmail.com

CPMC is looking for a Conference Minister for Ministerial Leadership. This position gives leadership to the credentialing, pastoral transitions, and leadership development and training in Central Plains and serves as a pastor to the ministering persons of the conference. Interested individuals should contact Michael Swartzendruber, Conference Moderator, at mswartzendruber@gmail.com.

CCCC: *We are currently hiring* for a service oriented, highly motivated and dependable maintenance director to care for the grounds and facilities of our 300 acre camp. This role is a vital part of our mission of providing "Christ-centered programs, excellent facilities, and generous hospitality in a setting that celebrates God's creation." Visit our website for more information and how to apply: crookedcreekcamp.org/year-round-employment-opportunities.html

The 7th annual online auction fundraiser begins ends TODAY, Sunday, November 29 between 6:00-8:00 pm. We have a variety of exciting things, handmade items, meals in homes, gift certificates, and gift baskets! Check it out! mennoniteauctions.org/

Please join us for a NEW event here at camp on Sunday, December 6. Christmas Crafts, Cocoa & Cookies and Carols! A fun afternoon of crafting, enjoying cookies, and singing carols. The perfect way to get into the Christmas spirit. Registration is required for the craft portion. Visit our website for more information and to RSVP crookedcreekcamp.org/christmas-fun.html

Treat your family to something delicious this holiday season! We will be offering take and bake lasagnas to help make your holiday season easier. For more information and to order, visit our website crookedcreekcamp.org/take-and-bake-order-form.html. Orders are due December 14.

Crowded Closet: *Share the sounds of the season at Crowded Closet!* We're inviting musicians, soloists, duos, and small groups to share their musical gifts and help create a welcoming community filled with the joy of the season! Join us for Sounds of the Season, December 10–23, with 30-minute performance opportunities at 11 a.m. and noon on select days. Help us share Christ's love and compassion through music with our shoppers, volunteers, and staff. Interested in performing? Sign-up at tinyurl.com/ccsoundsoftheseason, or contact the Volunteer Office at crowdedcloset.volunteer@gmail.com or call/text 319-800-5574.

Hillcrest: *GIVING TUESDAY* is a global day of generosity celebrated each year on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. It encourages people to give back by supporting the organizations, causes, and communities that make a difference in their lives. For us at Hillcrest Academy, it's an opportunity to invite our alumni, families, friends, and supporters to make a donation and help advance a particular vision. This year's Giving Tuesday initiative for Hillcrest Academy will support the FIRST FLIGHT CAMPAIGN, the opening chapter of our vision for a renewed Hillcrest campus. This campaign begins with something you can see, touch, and cheer for: a new Outdoor Field Complex Building. Check it out and donate at hillcrestravens.org/support/.

MCC: *Give back on Giving Tuesday DOUBLE the joy!* On Tuesday, Dec. 1, your online Christmas donations to MCC will be matched up to $198,500. Go to mcc.org/Christmas on Giving Tuesday to find gifts that will spread hope and joy around the world. You can help us reach our goal and glow knowing that each dollar you give will be doubled all day!

MCC Webinar, The Global Journey of Secondhand Clothing: Lessons from Kenya on Wednesday, Dec. 9 from 12-1pm. Join this lunchtime webinar to learn about the global secondhand clothing trade. Sarah Fleming, MCC Central States Thrift Coordinator will share about her recent trip to Kenya with the MCC Textile Salvage Working Group. Find out more and get the link to join us on Zoom at mcc.org/secondhand-webinar.

MCUSA: *2026 Advent at Home is now available* - Prepare for the celebration of Jesus' birth with "God's Dream," MC USA's 2026 Advent at Home worship guide. The guide offers a simple way to gather with friends,

family, neighbors or a small group around scripture, prayer, conversation and song. Published by MC USA and MennoMedia, the 2026 Advent at Home guide was created in collaboration with The Soil and the Seed Project. Learn more and download here: mennoniteusa.org/advent-at-home-2026/

Guyton to conclude role as MC USA executive director - Mennonite Church USA Executive Director Glen Guyton will conclude his role on Dec. 31, 2026, and will not seek renewal for a fourth term. On Jan. 1, 2027, he will begin a new role as president and chief operating officer of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Executive Board will oversee the transition process and keep the church informed as plans develop. Read more here. mennoniteusa.org/news/guyton-complete

Successful appeal clears the way for MC USA to again seek protection for churches in "sensitive locations" lawsuit – MC USA and its 26 co-plaintiffs won an important ruling on Oct. 20, 2026, putting them on the path toward injunctive relief in the "sensitive locations" lawsuit, Mennonite Church USA et al., v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, et al. The case will return to the lower court, where MC USA and its co-plaintiffs can again ask for a preliminary injunction to protect their congregations while the lawsuit continues. Read more here. mennoniteusa.org/news/successful-appeal/

Leaders set three priorities for Reimagining MC USA - Board members and senior leaders from the MC USA Executive Board and its agencies, Mennonite Mission Network and MennoMedia, met near Philadelphia on Oct. 8, 2026, to identify three priorities for the next two years of Reimagining MC USA: equipping congregations for change, strengthening a united peace witness and building a more connected church. Read more here. mennoniteusa.org/news/priorities-for-reimagining-mc-usa/

Open enrollment for The Corinthian Plan - Did you know? MC USA offers comprehensive health coverage for pastors and staff. Review the plan, request a quote and join this mutual aid ministry. Learn more at www.TheCorinthianPlan.org

Where does hope grow? - Ingrid Friesen Moser, wellness coordinator for The Corinthian Plan, shares how an evening spent weeding a community garden reminded her that community dispels loneliness, renews hope and supports the well-being of pastors and congregations. Read "Community is where hope grows" here: mennoniteusa.org/community-is-where-hope-grows/. The Cultivating Pastor Wellbeing checklist is a tool all MC USA churches can use. Download it here. https://bit.ly/4zUIaTg

MMN: *Want to stay connected to the heart of the mission in a powerful way?* - Subscribe to Mennonite Mission Network's Prayer Vine, a monthly newsletter featuring daily prayer requests for our workers, participants, and partners. Thank you for joining us in prayer! Visit MennoniteMission.net/Prayer to subscribe and explore all our prayer resources. Together, let's lift them up together!

Swedesburg Lutheran: The 84th Swedesburg Lutheran Church Smorgasbord is on Thursday, December 3, 2026. Seating times are 5 p.m., 6 p.m., and 7 p.m. All proceeds go towards missions. Tickets are on sale! Smorgasbord Tickets:

- Tickets purchased from November 3rd through the 13th will be $20.00.
- Tickets purchased from November 14th through the 25th will be $25.00.
- Tickets purchased from November 26th through December 3rd will be $30.00.
- Tickets purchased at the door require exact change or a check.

Direct ticket orders to the Swedesburg Evangelical Lutheran Church (Tuesday through Friday) by phone at 319-254-2216, by exact cash or check only. Tickets are also available by cash, check or credit card at the Swedish Heritage Museum at 319-254-2317.