



**This week please remember the following people in prayer:**

Greg & Carol Graber and  
Irvin & Lucy Leichy

**Pray for those dealing with and recovering from medical issues:**

Steve Manning (Mary Jo Richard's brother),  
Gerald Freyenberger, Eileen Roth, Thomas Bennett (Cassie Graber's brother), Bob Speake (Martha Marsh's brother), Ann Blosser, Ollie Yutzy, Patsy Trussell, Lela Miller, Denise Nebel, Gerald Nebel, Kathryn Nebel

**Pray for our missionaries,** Jane and Jerrell Ross Richer and their children, Sierra, Naomi, Teresa, and Jordan. They are serving in the Pastaza Region of Ecuador. Pray for guidance as they support indigenous pastors and leaders in themes of creation care, economic justice, rights of women and children, and community development initiatives. The Ross Richers' home congregation is Waterford Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana. You can follow the Ross Richers at <http://twowaymission.net>.

**Central Plains:** We invite you to pray and fast on Tuesday for the Villatoro and Huesca families. Max & Gloria's brother-in-law, Alex Huesca, who is the pastor at Iglesia El Balsamo in Muscatine, Iowa, has also been deported. Pray for strength and wisdom for these families and all families in which husbands and fathers are separated from wives and children.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Asher and Lindsey Fast, serving through Mennonite Mission Network and Virginia Mennonite Missions, are helping to build the after-school program at the Mother Theresa Resource Centre in Botswana. They are also assisting in a local elementary school. Pray for wisdom and energy, and healing for Lindsey's back and neck.

#### **LAST SUNDAY**

**Attendance:** 129

**Offering:** Conference: \$2758; Home missions: \$192; MDS: \$250; Cemetery: \$100; Parkview: \$50; WACO ministerial: \$25; Sound system: \$450; **Sound System Project total-to-date:** \$5,050 of the \$32,000 goal.

**December 3, 2017**

*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.*

8:45 am: Prayer in the Prayer Room  
9:15 am: Sunday School for all ages  
10:10 am: Fellowship Time  
10:30 am: Worship

Worship Leaders: Troy & Cassie Graber  
Song Leader: Kathy Roth  
Piano: Abbey Shelman

**Gathering**

*WB 172 O Come, O come, Immanuel*  
Welcome & Announcements  
Call To Worship/Advent Lighting  
Opening Prayer

**Praising**

*WB 181 My soul proclaims with wonder  
I will come to you in the silence*  
Offering: Parkview (12/10 Home Missions)  
Sharing and Prayers

**Hear the Word**

Special music by Tim and Morgan Meyer  
Come and See Children's ~ Woodworker's Visit  
Scripture Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9 (OT p. 538)  
Nathan, "Hurry up already!"

**Response**

*WB 178 Come, thou long-expected Jesus*  
Communion

**We Are Sent**

Wisdom & Wonder  
Benediction  
*WB 318 Joy to the world (v.1)*

**TODAY**

*\*\*Please notice there is a table in the back of the sanctuary which  
has a sermon outline for you to pick up.  
Also, activities for the kids!\*\**

**Baskets for the Elders' Sharing Fund** are at the back of the sanctuary today. The Elders Sharing Fund is used at the discretion of the Elders to take care of special needs of individuals and families in the congregation and community.

•5:30 pm, Small Group at Larry & Vi Graber's Home

**THIS WEEK**

***MONDAY, December 4***

•2:00-7:00 pm, **Blood Drive.** Mennonite Women will host their annual blood drive in the fellowship hall. If you would like to sign up please contact Lori Miller, 319.759.1068.

***WEDNESDAY, December 6***

**Daytime Mennonite Women** - It is visitation day and the project is cookie and fruit plates. A soup lunch will be provided. In preparation for devotions, please consider this question, "Who has affirmed you? What changed in your life?" Scripture reference: Luke 7:1-10.

•6:00 pm – JYF at Wayland Mennonite – Supper provided with meeting follow. We will be doing an improv Christmas story and also wrapping Elder Christmas gifts! LIVE TO GIVE!

***THURSDAY, December 7***

•11:00 - Daytime Small group – Lunch at Tuscan Moon

**NEXT SUNDAY ~ 2nd Sunday of Advent ~ "Let it be so"**

•10:30 am – Isaiah 40:1-11, Nathan, "Flat Roads"

•5 pm – Promiseland/Xplore – Christmas Celebration!

**MYF News**

**TODAY, 3 pm** – Meet at the church to shop for a family for Christmas.

**Dec. 10** – WACO Music concerts at High School

**Dec. 17, 5 pm** – Bible study. Taylor & Lindsay have devotions & refreshments

**Families with children:** Advent At Home begins today! Download the free guide for Advent family worship at [www.anabaptistfaithformation.org](http://www.anabaptistfaithformation.org). "Yes! Let It Be!" will help you slow down with your children to ponder and prepare for what it means to receive Jesus.

**WACO Elementary Santa Shop** -The Waco PTO will be hosting a Santa Shop again this year on Thursday, December 7 for the Elementary students. This is a great activity for the kids to shop for parents, grandparents, and siblings and learn how it really is better to give than to receive! To make this happen we are asking for donations of items for the kids to buy, gift bags, and gift tags. If you have anything you would like to donate OR if you would like to help out ☺...please contact Cassie Graber, Becky Yoder, or Michelle Meyer.

Dear members of Central Plains, your conference needs your financial support. Our recent brochure tells the stories of how we all benefit from sharing together in the mission of Central Plains Mennonite Conference. Together, we can do things that we cannot do by ourselves. Please consider a year-end gift and donate at [www.centralplainsmc.org/donate](http://www.centralplainsmc.org/donate) or P.O. Box 101, Freeman, SD 57029. We are so grateful for the strong support of our members!

### **CROOKED CREEK CHRISTIAN CAMP**

**Thank you** for the many ways you as a church community continue to support the ministry of Crooked Creek! Recently the shop was restored from a fire with more than 200 hours of volunteer help. The annual meeting was celebrated by 128 people raising \$10,185! Thank you for supporting camp ministry!

Welcome Center funding is making progress on our dash with \$83,900 left to raise in cash or pledges. Thank you for your gifts! You can also give online at [www.crookedcreekcamp.org/make-a-donation](http://www.crookedcreekcamp.org/make-a-donation)

Crooked Creek seeks a part-time Housekeeping Manager. Job description and application available at [crookedcreekcamp.org](http://crookedcreekcamp.org)

**SAVE THE DATE!!** Winterfest is coming on January 12-14. This is for ALL 6-8 graders! Plan to arrive at camp on Friday evening and stay through Sunday morning!

### **SUGAR CREEK MENNONITE CHURCH P.O. Box 146, Wayland IA 52654**

**Office/Answering machine/Fax Phone:** 319-256-6061  
Pastors Nathan & Rachelle Luitjens Home 319-254-2479  
Nathan Cell 319-461-6505 (nathanluitjens@gmail.com)  
Rachelle Cell: 319-537-1976 (rachelleitjens@gmail.com)  
Elders: Ron Scarff 256-2335 (ronscarff99@gmail.com)  
Mike Roth: 319-750-0932 (mroth@farmtel.net)  
Debbie Leichty: 319-750-1687 (leichtyd@farmtel.net)  
**Email address:** [sugarcreekmc@gmail.com](mailto:sugarcreekmc@gmail.com)  
**Website:** [sugarcreekmennonitechurch.org](http://sugarcreekmennonitechurch.org)

## **Your 'ALL REQUEST' Sermon Series**

*Do you have lingering questions about the Bible?  
Find a particular passage of scripture difficult to understand?  
Want to hear a sermon preached that you haven't heard lately?*

For the first six weeks of 2018, Nathan & Rachelle will tackle your Biblical questions, a sermon topic on your mind, or give insight into scripture you find challenging. We will call this series, "Your ALL REQUEST Sermons."

Write down your ideas or questions and place them, in the container in the foyer.

Please submit your requests by December 10.

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## **SUGAR CREEK NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Thank you for helping us during this very difficult time. Your kindness and concern for our family means so much to us. We appreciate all the love and support you have extended to us. God's blessing to each one. – Amy Richard Family

If you are planning to go on the Guatemala Service Trip on March 23-30, 2018, it's time to commit! Please submit a \$100 deposit and your date-of-birth. If you are unable to pay the deposit at this time, please talk with Nathan or Rachele. The deadline is 12/17.

Sugar Creek Church's monetary contributions to C.R.O.P. was \$10,245.00, with commodities the actual total was \$16,700.43. So sorry for the mistake. Thank you for your giving to this year's C.R.O.P. Drive. Thanks, Myrna Wenger

The Campbell Soup "labels for Education" program has ended. Our beloved Campbell Soup Collection Container is being retired. You no longer need to save the labels. Thank you for your years of dedication to this program.

**We would like to provide nursery service** during Sunday school and worship on Sunday mornings for children two or not yet going to Sunday school. If you are willing to occasionally serve in the nursery, please contact Maria Roth.

**The oil lamp by the organ is a prayer reminder** from the Committee on Peace and Social Concerns. It will be lit for every service as a reminder to pray for peace and for the people of our world who are caught in war and violence.

**In order to better provide care for those in the hospital** please contact one of the pastors or an elder if you or a family member are (or will be) hospitalized.

## **AREA NEWS AND EVENTS**

**Give God the glory!** This Thanksgiving, 14 churches and 47 volunteers coordinated to feed over 200 people with 20+ meals delivered to home bound individuals. Thank you to all of the cooks, volunteers and individuals that participated in this year's Community Thanksgiving Meal. Blessings! Alicia Lemon

**Southeast Iowa MCC Meat Canning** will be December 14th and 15th at Daniel K. Yoder's (3344 320th Street, Wellman). There is a sign-up sheet for volunteers on the North bulletin board. Deadline to sign up is NEXT SUNDAY, December 10th. Questions, contact Larry Graber. Thank you!