



**This week please remember the following people in prayer** Hortensia Unternahrer, Sheldon & Lori Miller.

**Pray for those dealing with cancer:** Gary Garton (April Eichelberger's father), Perry Rich (Vernon & Jean Roth's grandson), Michael Stauffer (Dareld Stauffer's son), and Nicky Goehring (Mary Jo Freyenberger's sister).

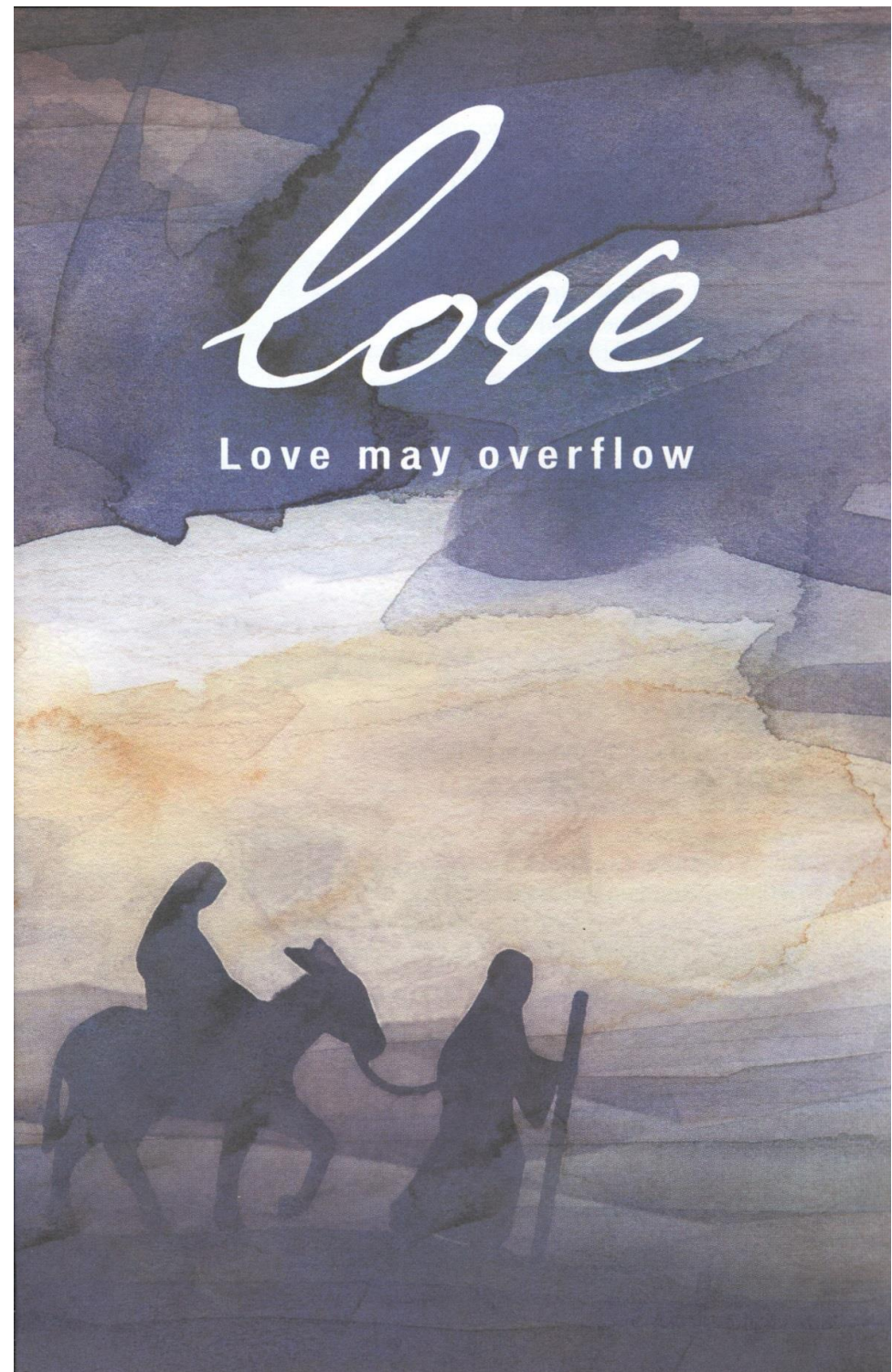
**Pray for those dealing with medical issues:** Denise Nebel, Gerald Nebel, Royce Roth, Doris Nelson, Kathryn Nebel, and Harold Miller.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Join Mennonite Mission Network in thanking God for the safety of five international workers based in Paris, France, during the November bombings. Pray for wisdom as French Mennonites and others discern how to respond to these tragedies and to the violence that occurs in other countries on a daily basis.

**Central Plains Mennonite:** Pray for Tim Detweiler who will be having surgery on Tuesday, December 8, to remove the cancerous nodule in his right lung. Recuperating time at home is expected to be between two to four weeks following surgery.

**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.

**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>.



**December 6, 2015**

*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 a.m.: Prayer in the Prayer Room  
9:15 a.m.: Sunday School  
10:15 a.m.: Fellowship Time  
10:35 a.m.: Worship

Worship Leader: Randy & Jan Shelman  
Song Leader: Nathan Luitjens  
Piano/Organ: Deb Roth



**Gathering**

STJ109 There is more love  
Welcome & Announcements  
Call to Worship  
Opening Prayer  
Lighting of Advent Candle- Matt & Jen Slagel Family

**Praising**

WB174 Blessed be the God of Israel  
STJ54 Longing for Light

**Hear the Word**

Come and See Children's Story  
Scripture Reading: Malachi 3:1-4 (pg. 692 in OT of pew Bible)  
Luke 1:68-79 (pg. 44 in NT of pew Bible)  
Message: Rachelle Luitjens "Freedom Bound: The Path of Mercy"

**Responding**

WB189 To Us a Child of Hope is Born  
Offering: Parkview (12/13 Home Missions)  
Sharing & Prayers

**We Are Sent**

Benediction  
O Come All Ye Faithful

Thank you Russ & Becky Yoder for serving in the nursery today.

**Dan Fisher and his elves will be making cheesecakes** once again for the Christmas season. The following flavors will be offered: white chocolate lemon, turtle and chocolate ganache. The cost is \$35 each (\$15 for ingredients and \$20 for donation). Pickup will be on Saturday, December 12 or Saturday, December 19 from 9-11 a.m. at Kalona Mennonite Church. The proceeds will go to Kalona Mennonite's International Student Aid Fund. Our current project is assisting Rudi Mucaj from Albania attend Goshen College. To place your order please contact Wanda Miller Beachy at 319-683-3983 or email at [beachydw@sharontc.net](mailto:beachydw@sharontc.net). The deadline to order is December 6. Thank you!

**SUGAR CREEK MENNONITE CHURCH**

**P.O. Box 146, Wayland IA 52654**

**Office Phone: 319-256-8811**

**Answering machine/Fax: 319-256-6061**

**Pastors Nathan & Rachelle Luitjens**

Home 319-254-2479

Nathan Cell 319-461-6505 ([nathanluitjens@farmtel.net](mailto:nathanluitjens@farmtel.net))

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**Elders:** Karen Meyer 256-8181 ([rmmeyer@farmtel.net](mailto:rmmeyer@farmtel.net))

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**Website:** [sugarcreekmennonitechurch.org](http://sugarcreekmennonitechurch.org)

## IOWA MENNONITE SCHOOL

**Iowa Mennonite School's Music Department** will present the annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2:30 pm in the school's *Celebration Hall*. The concert will include the vocal department as well as the Symphonic Band. All are under the direction of Josh Tyson; a free-will offering will benefit the Music Boosters.

**A Prospective Student Christmas Party** is taking place at IMS on Sunday, Dec. 13 following the annual Christmas Concert. Students in 6th-8th grade -- and any interested in transferring -- are invited to enjoy cookies and games with our student government leaders. It will last approximately an hour; families are also invited to participate. For more information, contact the school.

**Parkview Home is happy to** announce that we have opened a Low Stimulus Unit in our facility! It will allow a quiet, homelike atmosphere for our dementia/Alzheimer's residents offering close supervision and activities planned for their special needs. It will also benefit our other residents by ensuring them their privacy in that confused and wandering residents will not enter their personal spaces.

I would like to ask for much needed continued support for Parkview. Not just in this area, but for the entire facility. We still need furniture and various activity items, such as plastic dishes, pans, puzzles, etc. suitable for a dementia unit. We are also looking for things such as bedspreads, window curtains, cubicle curtains etc. for resident rooms. Our plan is to work at one room at a time to update each room.

The unit would not be possible if it were not for the caring community that has supplied man hours and money for help in developing this safe area. During this Holiday time I am hoping that you will remember our residents here at Parkview with any donations you feel you can give.

If you have any ideas or questions, please feel free to contact us here at Parkview.

Have a Merry Christmas,  
Sheryl Huffman, Administrator

## SUGAR CREEK NEWS

**S.E. Iowa MCC Meat Canning** December 14 &15. 12 volunteers are needed over the 2 days. Sing up for shifts on the North Bulletin Board. New location this year: Daniel K Yoder, 3344 320th St, Wellman, IA, or 2 ½ miles west of IMS School. For more information see Larry Graber.

**MYF has volunteered to have the service of Valet** Parking for the Sugar Creek church on days when the conditions are snowy, icy, or below 0. The MYF will be available at 8:45 AM on those Sundays.

**Thank you to all who participated in Operation Christmas Child.** The Primary and Jr. Departments along with our church family sent 74 boxes to needy families around the world. THANK YOU for supporting this project.

**A huge thank you to all of the volunteers** who made the WACO Community Thanksgiving Dinner a big success for 2015. We had plenty of food for the feast and we served around 130 people who were all so grateful to have a wonderful meal provided for them on Thanksgiving. Our delivery ministry picked up a lot this year and it was a blessing to enter people's homes and let them know that they were not forgotten for this holiday. We give thanks for each of the churches in our community and the powerful ways that you spread God's love!

### TODAY

**Today, Sunday, December 6**

- **4:30 PM Jr Department** Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal
- **6:00-7:00 PM Promiseland/Xplore**

### This Week

**Monday, December 7**

- **2-7 p.m.** Sugar Creek Blood Drive All blood donors should eat and be well hydrated prior to coming at their appointed time.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, December 13**

- **8:50 a.m.** Jr Department Christmas Program sing at Parkview
- **10:30 a.m.** Jr Department Christmas Program
- **10:30 a.m.** Primary Department will sing as part of the Christmas Program



**It's time to sign up for Spring Electives!** This spring Christian Education will be offering 2 elective classes: *The Heart of Christianity* taught by Matt Slagel and *Sacred Pauses: Spiritual Practices for Personal Renewal* taught by Jen Slagel and Rachelle Luitjens. For those who do not want to participate in an elective The Builder will also be available for Sunday school classes. Sign up is available in the foyer. Books are available to look at now.

### LAST SUNDAY

**Attendance: 132**

**Offering:** Conference \$3,347; Home Missions \$660; Elder's Sharing Fund \$530; Missions \$50

## Sugar Creek MYF News

**Today, 12/6: Bible Study 6 PM** in the MYF Room, Hunter in charge of snacks and devotions.

**Sunday, 12/13: Shop for Family Meet** at church at 4:30 PM

**JYF Mystery Supper on Wednesday, December 16th,** 6:44pm at Wayland Mennonite church. All WACO 7th and 8th graders are invited. RSVP to [myrnajoy@gmail.com](mailto:myrnajoy@gmail.com) or text 3194616644.

**JR Department** will be going to Parkview on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> before the morning worship service. Please meet at Parkview Home at 8:50. Teachers will bring kids back to the church.

**Primary Department will be singing** as part of the Christmas Program on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

**The Turkey Grill Committee is distributing** \$12,675 of proceeds following the 2015 Old Threshers Reunion. There were a total of 166 shifts worked; making each shift worked netting \$76 to be donated. The following amounts were distributed:

Missions -- \$859  
CCCC -- \$1504  
Home Missions -- \$2900  
MYF -- \$5049  
Parkview -- \$1611  
Student Aid Fund -- \$752

A big thank you goes out to all who worked and contributed despite all the heat this year. This 5 day project isn't possible without many willing volunteers.

**Thank you to everyone for your total donations** of \$19,973.07 to this year's WACO C.R.O.P. Drive.

**Sugar Creek Families! Advent is the perfect time** to model faith at home with your kids. Download the FREE Advent Family Devotions. Find prayers and activities to use from November 29 through January 9 at <http://tiny.cc/adventathome>. An early childhood supplement makes these useful even for families with preschoolers.

**For anyone who would like to write and encourage** Tommy Morris, his address is: Thomas Morris #6713563 N.C.F., 307 S. 60th Ave West, PO Box 218, Newton, IA 50208.

**First Annual Christmas Tree Walk** at Bethel Mennonite Church. Wednesday, December 9, 6:00-8:30 pm. This is a come and go event. A donated canned good will get you into this event.

**Mennonite Central Committee Central States is accepting applications for a Director of Programs.** The Director of Programs will be responsible for the direction and oversight of all of MCC Central States Programs. This position is expected to connect with constituent churches and groups, as well as like-minded organizations to provide information about MCC. This position is open within the Central States Region. Find more details at [serve.mcc.org](http://serve.mcc.org) (look for Director of Programs -CS) or email Heidi Huber, Human Resources Coordinator, at [heidihuber@mcc.org](mailto:heidihuber@mcc.org).

**High school seniors: Don't miss out on receiving** one of our top scholarships! A Goshen College achievement scholarship could save you and your family tens of thousands of dollars on a nationally-ranked Anabaptist-Mennonite education. Dec. 15 is the priority application deadline for eligibility. Apply now at: [goshen.edu/dec15](http://goshen.edu/dec15)

**Crooked Creek Christian Camp** Each year camps fall fundraiser is intended for facility improvements. Our goal is \$32,805 to improvement the pavilion (summer camp), house and tractor. Thank you for your gifts and support in providing excellent facilities for guests to enjoy in a setting that celebrates God's creation.