



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

Russ, Becky Eli, Eivan Yoder & Drew and Chloe Butler

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

Melanie Stutzman, Ron Scarff, Dick Yoder, Wini Wilt, Ermadine Boshart, Steve Manning (Mary Jo Richard's brother), 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 the leaders and children and youth involved in Promiseland, Xplore, JYF, and MYF.** Pray for God to bless the leaders with wisdom, understanding, and love for the children and youth they lead. Pray for God to bless the children and youth with willing hearts and the chance to be examples to others.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** Mark and Mary Hurst of Mennonite Mission Network serve as resource people and pastors with the Anabaptist Association of Australia and New Zealand. Pray for them as they build relationships with people seeking God and a way of living that centers on Jesus' justice and shalom.

## LAST SUNDAY

**Attendance:** 96

**Sound System Project total-to-date:** \$11,860 of the \$32,000 goal.

**SOUND SYSTEM FUNDS UPDATE:** Between now and March 11, all donations made toward the sound system will be matched up to \$10,000.

# “A RAINBOW COVENANT”



## February 18, 2018

**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 Leichy: 319-750-1687 (leichtyd@farmtel.net)  
**Email address:** sugarcreekmc@gmail.com  
**Website:** sugarcreekmennonitechurch.org

**February 18, 2018**

*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: Randy & Jan Shelman  
Song Leader: Kathy Roth  
Piano: Tamara Zechin

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent – Between Me & You**

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

*WB 46 I sing the mighty power of God*

*WB 48 All creatures of our God and King*

Offering: Home Missions  
(Home Missions 2/25/18)

*Sharing & Prayers*

*Confession & Assurance*

Scripture Reading: Genesis 9:1-17

*\*Excuse children for children's church*

Nathan, "Rainbow Covenant"

*StJ 84 Jesus, offered up as bread*

Communion

Benediction

*Between Me and You*

**THE GIFTING AND CALLING OF AN ELDER**

On Sunday, **March 4**, we will begin the nomination process to select a new Elder for our congregation. Each congregational member will be asked to suggest a person to serve as Elder for a three-year term. When we call a person to serve the church in an area of leadership we entrust to that person both authority and responsibility. If we call upon the direction of the Holy Spirit we can expect the blessing of God upon that person and the church.

Let us carefully consider who God might be calling to this task, asking God through prayer to guide our minds toward the one individual He has chosen. **Continuing Elders are Mike Roth and Debbie Leichty. Ron Scarff is not seeking another term.**

I Peter 5 and I Timothy 3 provide some Biblical and practical things to consider as we make our choice. Please read these passages and spend some time in prayer asking for the Lord's leading on your nomination.

**AN ELDER SHOULD:**

1. Love God and the church.
2. Follow the example and teachings of Jesus in daily life.
3. Listen to the Holy Spirit and exhibit the fruits of the Spirit.
4. Be a member of Sugar Creek Mennonite Church.
5. Have a commitment and an understanding of the wider Mennonite Church
6. Forgive easily and quickly.
7. Care about people, is sensitive to needs, and is a good listener.
8. Have a willing and humble heart, filled with wisdom.  
(I Peter 5)
9. Have a positive attitude and sees positive possibilities.
10. Have the trust and respect of the public and the church. (I Timothy 3)

*Thank you to Dana & Reece Oswald for serving in the nursery today!*

**You are invited** to an informational meeting/training for Safe Families for Children, a volunteer organization whose mission is "to keep children safe and families intact." The training will be held at Lower Deer Creek on Saturday, March 3, 2018, from 9 - Noon. Safe Families volunteers temporarily host children and provide a network of support to families in crisis while they get back on their feet through the service of host families, family friends, and family coaches. The organization's goal is to bridge the gap for families before DHS services are necessary or to fulfill a need that is unmet by other social service agencies. Please RSVP to the Lower Deer Creek church office at 656-2076 if you are interested in attending. Come and learn more about this opportunity to offer Biblical hospitality to children and families in crisis.

**Touring Choir.** The IMS Touring Choir has begun its local tour. The next concert is on **Sunday February 25** at 9:30AM at Washington Mennonite Church. The public is welcome at all events.

### TODAY

•**5:00 pm**, Promiseland/Xplore

### THIS WEEK

**WEDNESDAY, February 21**

• **6 pm**, JYF Game Night!

### NEXT SUNDAY ~ SUNDAY, February 25, 2018

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent - Between Me & You*

•**10:30 am** – Nathan, "Abraham's Covenant"  
Scripture: Genesis: 17:1-17

•**2:00 pm - Promiseland/Xplore** – Bowling at Fun City! You will receive a note this evening (2/18) with details on this event! Drivers are needed!

### **MYF NEWS**

TONIGHT - 5 pm, Movie Night,

Feb. 25 - 5 pm, Bible study, Braden has devotions & snack

### SUGAR CREEK NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**Children's Church** - During Lent we will be offering children's church to kids (3<sup>rd</sup> grade and younger). Children will be excused during the service to go to the MYF room. We hope this is a special time for them as we prepare for Easter.

**Families with children:** This Wednesday is the first day of Lent and the beginning of "Between Me & You," a free, downloadable guide for family worship from February 14 through April 1, Easter Sunday. Pick and choose the activities that work best for your family. Find it at [www.anabaptistfaithformation.org](http://www.anabaptistfaithformation.org).

**Sugar Creek Website** - We are looking for 3-4 individuals who would be willing to meet periodically and work together to develop a new website for the church. The meeting time would be minimal but it would require input on design (web surfing ☺) and gathering content for our site. Please be in touch with Lisa Graber if you are interested or have any questions!

Don Roth recently moved to Pleasantview Home in Kalona. Please remember Don, Arline and his family in your prayers through this transition. His address is: Pleasantview Home, 811 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Kalona, IA 62356.

We are planning an adult choir to sing a few selections for Easter Sunday. If you are interested in joining, please contact Tawnya Achen, Deb Roth or Kathy Roth.

Thank you, Sugar Creek Mennonite Church, for giving \$30,421.42 to Mennonite Mission Network in 2017! Your donations, prayers, and enthusiastic participation play a vital role in our global church. Together, we were able to share a message of hope in a broken world.

If you are willing to serve in the nursery, please sign up at Sign up Genius or contact Maria Roth at 319.750.4125. Thank you!  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e4fa8ac29a5fb6-sunday>



### **New Books To The Library:**

A Shiloh Christmas (Shalom Readers Club Book)  
God Gave Us Christmas

Kisses From Katie (a story of relentless love and redemption)  
Life's Template (memoirs of a tentmaker) by Wes Richard.

### **AREA NEWS AND EVENTS**

**Furniture Coordinator:** Word Alive Christian Outreach Ministries is currently receiving numerous donations of bigger furniture items and appliances. These items are needed by many families in our community. In order to reach these families more effectively, we are looking for two different resources. First, we need some space where we can store bigger items until we can work out delivery details. Second, we need someone who would be willing to coordinate the furniture ministry by receiving phone calls about donations and working out the details for delivery. If you would be willing to volunteer in either of these areas, please call or text Tamara at [319-217-2456](tel:319-217-2456). Thank you!

**Summer Lunch Program:** WACO Ministerial Association is currently seeking two individuals who would be willing to coordinate the summer lunch program. The first position would require serving as the family and volunteer contact person for the actual summer lunches. The second position would require packing and distributing summer back packs. If you have interest in either of these positions, please contact Tamara at [319-217-2456](tel:319-217-2456) as soon as possible. Thank you!

**Just this reminder!** The Annual Iowa MDS Meeting will be held at Lower Deer Creek, Mennonite Church on March 4, 2018. The beginning time will be 2:00 p.m. ending at approximately 4:00 p.m. There will be a time of fellowship with coffee and cookies after the meeting.

**Women of Central Plains:** You are invited to "Sister Care: Equipping Women for Healing Ministries" at the Leadership Center in Aurora, Nebraska, on March 3-4, 2018. Sister Care seminars provide women with tools for ongoing personal healing, for recognizing and celebrating God's grace in their lives, and for responding more confidently to the needs of others. Sister Care is a ministry of Mennonite Women USA and will be led by Rhoda Keener, former director of Mennonite Women USA, and Carolyn Heggen, psychotherapist. For more information or to register online, visit: [FMCLincoln.org/WomensRetreatSisterCare](http://FMCLincoln.org/WomensRetreatSisterCare) or contact First Mennonite Lincoln Church member Carol Knieriem at [carolknieriem@hotmail.com](mailto:carolknieriem@hotmail.com) or [402-366-6598](tel:402-366-6598).

WHAT : VBS PEACE LAB

WHERE: Sugar Creek

WHEN: JUNE 4-8 (mornings)

WHY: Teach kids about the love of Jesus!

NEEDED: Anyone willing to share the love of Jesus with children! Prayerfully consider taking time to help! Talk to Lisa Graber or Jen Slagel if there is an area you are interested in helping with!

