



This week please remember the following people in prayer:

Phil and Barb Boshart, and Dale and Pud Swartzendruber

Pray for those dealing with

cancer: Perry Rich (Vernon & Jean Roth's grandson), Michael Stauffer (Dareld Stauffer's son), Nicky Goehring (Mary Jo Freyenberger's sister) and Tim Detweiler.

Pray for those dealing with medical issues: Denise Nebel, Gerald Nebel, Royce Roth, Doris Nelson, Kathryn Nebel, Gary Garton (April Eichelberger's father)

Mennonite Mission Network: Nathan Penner, former Mennonite Voluntary Service director, accepted a position as senior strategy specialist at Habitat for Humanity. Praise God for Nathan's three years of leadership, and pray for wisdom for current director, Neil Richer.

Promiseland, Xplore, JYF, and MYF Pray for the leaders and children and youth involved.

Central Plains Mennonite: Pray for the Central Plains Conference Board as they meet March 3 to work on financial shortfalls and budgeting for next year.

SUGAR CREEK MENNONITE CHURCH

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February 21, 2016

*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
10:10 a.m.: Fellowship Time
10:30 a.m.: Worship

Worship Leader: Mark Graber
Song Leader: Kathy Roth
Piano/Organ: Lori Graber

Gathering

WB 398 I Love to Tell the Story
Welcome & Announcements
Call to Worship
Opening Prayer

Praising

WB 598 A Wonderful Savior
WB 336 When Peace Like a River
Offering: Home Missions/Loose change
(2/28 Home Missions/Loose change)
Sharing & Prayers

Hear the Word

Come and See: Children's Story:
Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35
(pp 153 & 58 of NT in pew Bible)
Message: Nathan Luitjens: Finding light in the dark

Responding

Communion
WB 453 Let us Break Bread Together

We Are Sent

Benediction
As you go out from here

Thank you to Paul and Annette Von Tersch for serving in the nursery today.

THE GIFTING AND CALLING OF AN ELDER

Today, 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 Pam Gerig Unruh and Ron Scarff. Karen Meyer (who has fulfilled Royce's term) 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)

Sugar Creek News

At-Home Family Lent Devotionals available: Research shows that the best way to pass faith to children is through family worship. Nurture your family's identity as Christ-followers by using these daily scripture readings and activities:
<http://www.commonword.ca/SelectDownloadFormat/43/18139>.

Ruben and Idella Chupp through TourMagination are leading a trip to Israel in October. Brochures are available on the shelf under the north bulletin board for those interested.

WACO Vocal Concert - February 22 - 7 p.m. The WACO junior and senior high choruses will perform in concert on Feb. 22 in the HS gym. The choruses will combine to sing the final song, "He Never Failed Me Yet." Mrs. Koch invites any adult who would like to join in singing in the finale to attend a rehearsal at 5:45 p.m. before the concert that evening. Admission to the concert is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students. Activity passes will be accepted.

J-POG (Just Peace Outreach Group) invites you to hear Erica Littlewolf and Karin Kaufman Wall. Erica and Karin work for Mennonite Central Committee and will describe both the scriptures and current realities used to support the Doctrine of Discovery. Join us Sunday evening, February 21, 2016, at Iowa Mennonite School, at 6 p.m. for a finger-foods potluck and conversation (please bring your own table service) at 7 pm for the presentation. For more information call Roger Farmer at 319-653-2547 or email Jane Yoder-Short at wilmajane17@gmail.com

Monday, February 22, 2016 from 6 pm-8 pm: An opportunity for more discussion with Erica and Karin (see above) will take place at Geyer's Farm, 1259 Rohret Road, Oxford, IA. RSVP to Anna at 319-325-6609. Cost is \$10 (includes pizza).

Kalona Mops Fundraiser Meal, Sunday, February 28, 2016, 11:30am-1:30pm at Kalona Mennonite Church. Free will donation.

Parents- during the month of February all children in Kindergarten-12th grade will be taught lessons from the Circle of Grace curriculum. We are teaching Circle of Grace so that children will know what their own Circle of Grace is, God's love within that circle, and appropriate boundaries to keep them safe. If you have any questions please contact Rachelle.

Spark, a women's Bible study to rediscover the joys of being created in God's image and to nurture your own creative spirit, will meet during Lent on Monday nights at 6:30pm. Questions? Ask Pam Gerig Unruh or Rachelle Luitjens.

March 13 5:00 pm, Sugar Creek will support Torre Forte Church by worshipping with them. We encourage a great turn out including all ages. Car pools will leave the church at 4:00pm.

March 20 5:30 pm is the next ING night. Come find out what March madness means Sugar Creek style.

THIS WEEK

Today Feb 21 - Rachelle preaching at Washington Mennonite
Today, Feb 21 - 6 p.m., Promiseland and Xplore
Monday, Feb 22 - 6:30 Spark: women's study

NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday, February 3rd Sunday of Lent- Communion

LAST SUNDAY

Attendance: 108

Offering: Home Missions:\$2150; Missions:\$3867.25; Elders fund: \$360; Loose change \$58.97

Church Office News: Wendy Scarff and Pam Gerig Unruh (on an interim basis) as well as Nathan and Rachelle will staff the office Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-noon

Sugar Creek MYF News:

Today, February 21, 6pm: Bible Study
Devotions & Snack- Matthew

Sunday, February 28, 6 pm: Bible Study,
Devotions & Snack-Bryce

Youth Escape 2016 July 15-17 Be sure to check out the video on the Youth Escape 2016 Facebook page or on the Youth Escape 2016 page at www.centralplainsmc.org.

Crooked Creek Christian Camp

Coins for Camp is in February! Join with other churches collecting coins for camp that will go towards purchasing a new camera to take photos and videos. We plan to post a fabulous picture slideshow after each week long camp with highlights from that week.

February 21: open gym at the Activity Center 3-5pm. The climbing wall will be available, if interested please call the camp office.

February 22: open gym for parents and young children (Pre-K and younger) 10am-12pm.

The High School Retreat : April 2-3, Crooked Creek - one night of games, worship and wolfing down food! See your sponsors for more information. Read more at www.crookedcreekcamp.org.

Other News

February 21, at 7pm Elim's Arrival at Bethel This upbeat band has a passion for the Lord. Their music time will lead into a time of ministry. Their chosen theme for this ministry year is revival. Their prayer is that they will encourage individuals and churches. You can learn more about them at: <http://theelimarrival.com/>

Feb. 27, Saturday- MCC Central States Board and Staff annual Community Engagement Event at Tabor College chapel, Hillsboro, KS. 8:30-10:45 am. The event is focusing on Mass Incarceration. Please RSVP: 316.283.2720.

Sunday, March 6, Wellman Mennonite Mush Fry 11:30-1:00
Join us for this old fashioned meal of fried mush, sausage, liverwurst, scrambled eggs, tomato gravy and applesauce. Proceeds will benefit the MYF and WMC mission projects.

Saturday, March 19: 4th Annual Parkview Home Fundraiser banquet, 6:30 p.m. at Bethel Mennonite Church. Reservations need to be returned by March 4th.

Mennonite Schools Choir Festival, Apr. 8-10: Please consider how you might be involved, as the IMS community hosts 450+ students (13 schools). There will be a need for hosting students, as well as assistance with the concert itself, serving food, etc. Please contact Larry Swartzendruber at 656-2073 with questions or for further information.

June 3-15, 2016, Central Plains Fellowship and Learning Tour to Ecuador. Eight people from Central Plains will join two people from the Colombia Mennonite Church to visit two areas of Ecuador: the rain forest where we will learn from the indigenous people about their faith and sustainable living practices and Quito where we will get to know members of the Mennonite churches and their work in peace education and refugee assistance. Direct questions to Joetta Schlabach, jschlabach@faithmennonite.org. Applications are due by the end of March. Details and an application form: <http://www.centralplainsmc.org/upcoming-trips.html>.

Monday, Feb. 29 at 7:00 pm at Iowa Mennonite School (Celebration Hall): Interested 8th-grade students, potential transfer students, and parents are invited to an evening of information and getting acquainted at Iowa Mennonite School. In addition to meeting faculty members and other families, there will be opportunity to receive course and financial information, as well as receive tours and ask questions. Please contact the school (656-2073) for more information.