



This week please remember the following people in prayer: Becky Gaffney and Phil & Barb Boshart

Pray for those dealing with cancer: Bob Hartzler (Orpha Yoder's brother)

Pray for those dealing with medical issues: Pauline Wyse, Martha Marsh, Lela Miller, Mercedes Ellard, Denise Nebel, Gerald Nebel, Kathryn Nebel, Gary Garton (April Eichelberger's

father).

Please pray for the MDS service trip members this week (March 11-18) as we work in Calaveras County, California. Calaveras County experienced devastating wildfires in September 2015 and we will be helping to build three new houses for families who lost their homes. Pray for safe travels and a great week of work and fellowship. The trip members are April Eichelberger, Gerald Freyenberger, Vi and Larry Graber, Cornell Hulme, Garry and Lori Leichty, Matthew Leichty, Rachelle and Nathan Luitjens, Maria and Mike Roth, Jackson Roth, and Ethan Spronk. Joining us from Saskatchewan will be Kathy and Gerhard Luitjens and Cheryl and Lloyd Schmidt.

Pray for Iglesia Menonita Centro Cristiana, the Hispanic church plant in Washington, as they witness, preach, and teach the Word.

Mennonite Mission Network: Oscar Siwali and Mennonite Mission Network's Dan and Kathryn Smith Derksen are working through Southern African Development and Reconstruction Agency to train peer mediators for mediation and peace clubs this month. Pray for the students who are using their school holidays for this training.

LAST SUNDAY Attendance: 103

Offering: Home Missions: \$3,708.32; Conference: \$2,500; Parkview Home Association: \$50; Education \$1,000; Iglesia Centro Cristiano (Wash.): \$200; Special Projects: \$200; MDS: \$500; Elder's Fund: \$485

March 12, 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: Tim & Lisa Graber
Song Leader: Kathy Roth
Piano: Lori Graber

Gathering

Video ~ He will carry you
Welcome & Announcements
Call to Worship
Opening Prayer

2nd Sunday of Lent
"We Wonder"

Praising

WB 70 *Immortal, invisible, God only wise*
WB 338 *I know not why God's wondrous*

Hear the Word

Come and See Children's Story with Stephanie Miller
Scripture Reading: John 3:1-21 (p. 71 NT)
Message: Marcia Yoder-Schrock, "Born from above"

Response

WB 332 *Blessed assurance*
Offering: Missions (3/19 Home Missions)
Sharing and Prayers

We Are Sent

Benediction
STJ 29 *You are all we have*

Easter 2017

The theme and focus of our Lenten season this year is Restore Us, OH GOD. Lent is the 40-day period in the Christian calendar that provides a chance to step back and create space, offering opportunities for reflection. It is a time to repent, to renew and to empty ourselves of what distracts us from hearing God's voice. Lent is often referred to as the wilderness, a space where the familiar is stripped away and we face our brokenness. Jesus began his journey in the wilderness alone. He was tempted, he fasted and he prayed. It is the prayerful desire of the worship committee that this season of Lent can also be a time of reflection, repentance and renewal for those worshipping at Sugar Creek. May we all prepare our hearts for the significance of this season.

Each week during Lent, our sanctuary will experience a transformation. The banner in the SW wall of the sanctuary is progressive; each Sunday another strip of fabric will be added. Its color representing our theme of being restored as we all venture through our respective wildernesses.

- Burlap: We hunger
- Purple: We wonder
- Blue: We thirst
- Green: We see
- Gold: We breathe
- Orange: We hope
- White: We LIVE!

The table display in front of the pulpit represents the wilderness. It too will change each week as the pastors will contribute to its progressive transformation, as a part of our worship experience.

And the cross serves as a weekly reminder of the purpose of the Lenten Season. It reminds us to prepare and to look forward in anticipation to Easter morning, and the events of the Easter weekend that CHANGED THE WORLD FOREVER.

Elder Selection - As many of you have probably heard, we are continuing in our elder selection process somewhat differently this year. There were 12 people who the elders and church council chair talked to about being nominated for elder. For a wide variety of good reasons, all 12 of those people declined to have their names stand for elder. The elders would still like nominations to come from the church and are inviting people to prayerfully consider and then talk with a person in the congregation who they think would make a good elder. If that person is willing to let their name stand for elder we invite you to bring that name to one of the elders. Thank you.

In preparation for Easter, Nathan will lead a Bible study: Jesus' Last Week. This Bible study will begin Wednesday, March 22 at 7 pm and run for five weeks. Make plans to attend.

If anyone would like to purchase an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one, please sign up on the north bulletin board by March 22. The cost of the lilies is \$11. Please turn your money into the church office or Wendy Scarff's mailbox. You may take them home after the Easter Service.

Sugar Creek Website – Our website is dated and needs to be rebuilt. If you OR someone you know could/would like to help with this, please let the church office know ASAP!

MARKETPLACE June 6-8, We are in need of **5 more** tribal leaders! Please contact Michelle Meyer or Lisa Graber if you are willing to serve.

You can nurture your children's faith at home this Lent and Easter with family worship. Find a free, downloadable guide at www.anabaptistfaithformation.org. For use between March 1 and April 16 (Easter Sunday), it includes a daily Bible reading, short litany, songs, hands-on activities and questions to ponder together.

AREA NEWS AND EVENTS

Bridges Out of Poverty- A Southeast Iowa Initiative, in partnership with the Fellowship Cup, will host a community member Bridges Out of Poverty training on March 18 at the First Pres. Church in Mt Pleasant. Bridges Out of Poverty was developed by Dr. Ruby Payne (Murray Krabill's daughter) 19% of our population lives in poverty. 28% of our children live in poverty. This training challenges views on poverty and helps the middle class to better understand generational poverty. Additional info can be found on the North bulletin board.

Spring meeting of the Crowded Closet Association will be held Monday, March 20, 7:00pm at Upper Deer Creek, 3369 320th St, Wellman. All volunteers and interested persons are invited to attend and learn of the latest happenings at the Closet. Church reps are the link between Crowded Closet and your congregation. We could not function without your support. Know you are a valued part of this mission! Hope to see you there.

Your 2017 Peace Mug Nominations – Know someone who has exemplified Christ's way of peacemaking? Nominate them for the annual Peace Mug Award at Central Plains Mennonite Conference's Annual Meeting! Send your nomination to Peace & Justice Task group member Jane Yoder-Short (wilmajane17@gmail.com) by Wednesday, March 15. Please include their name, contact information, and a simple description why you're nominating them.

Selah: Breathe 2017. A ladies retreat to Refresh, Renew, Refocus will be held March 31- April 1 at Crooked Creek Christian Camp. The popular speaker, Kendra Smiley is an author, passionate about helping others "Make the Next Right Choice." For more information and registration go to www.selahretreat.com or check out the poster on the North bulletin board.

The Parkview board is planning a Potato Bar Fundraiser on April 23rd, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Parkview Lower Level Family Room. Please come join us for food and fellowship.

IMS - March 18 - Turkey Steak Supper & 'Journeys', an informal farewell concert by pianist/teacher Susan See featuring short piano works and stories from her musical journeys over the years. All are welcome. There will be a freewill offering for the Music Boosters. The concert will be in Celebration Hall at 7:30PM (after the Turkey Steak Supper).

Do you enjoy mentoring young adults and living in community? Service Adventure is looking for unit leaders for our Colorado Springs, Colo. and Jackson, Miss., units. The two year term begins late July. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Susan Nisly at SusanN@MennoniteMission.net or visit us at www.MennoniteMission.net

Parkview Home in Kalona, Cook FT days and PT evenings.

Looking for a caring compassionate person with a special talent and a love for cooking. Shifts available are 5 am.-3 pm and 1 pm-8:30. Experience is a plus but we're willing to train the right person who is hard working and willing to learn. Full-time position is eligible for health, dental, vision, life and retirement benefits.

Also looking for **part time evening dietary** help, must work at least 1 to 2 nights a week, every other weekend and every other holiday. This would be ideal for high school students or others looking for income or purpose, someone who enjoys working with the elderly. The hours would be 3:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Additional daytime hours may be available in the summer.

Pick up an application in our lobby at 811 3rd Street, Kalona, Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. or apply online www.pvhome.org

CROOKED CREEK CHRISTIAN CAMP UPCOMING EVENTS

Sugar Creek is the winner of "Make a Splash!" Thank you for all the coins contributed in the month of January. Keep a look out for a party announcement.

Summer Camp registration will be open this Wednesday **March 15**.

High School Retreat is **April 1-2** (11am-12:30pm). Join us as Kevin Wilder (psychology professor from Hesston College) leads us in conversation on the topic Body Mind and Soul: Living and Loving. For more information or to sign up visit crookedcreekcamp.org and go to High School Retreat.

Summer Camp Staff: It's not too early to start thinking about your summer plans. Join the Crooked Creek staff for a life-changing experience! Applications online NOW. crookedcreekcamp.org

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TODAY

We are glad you are worshipping with us today as we are blessed to have Marcia Yoder-Schrock share with us. She and her husband John live in Donnellson, Iowa and have one adult son Isaac. She is also a sister to Mahlon & Stan Yoder. Marcia has recently retired as pastor after 33 years of pastoral ministry, serving the last 4 ½ years at Zion Mennonite Church in Donnellson, Iowa.

THIS WEEK

Church Office Hours - Due to Spring break and service trip there will be limited office hours this week. Please feel free to email or leave a message at the church with any announcements or questions you may have. They both will be checked daily. Thank you.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

•No JYF – Spring Break

JYF will be going to SkyZone on Friday, March 24, 1:30 pm. Meet at Wayland Mennonite Church. Adult drivers needed. Bring \$5/person. Must be registered with SkyZone prior to leaving.

•Seven Bible Study – 7 pm at Heather Freyenberger's – Chapter 3

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

No Council Meeting this month

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 19

•Message: Nathan, Scripture: John 4:5-42

MYF NEWS

March 12 & 19 – No MYF – Spring Break

March 26 – Bible Study – Makenzie has snack & devotions

SUGAR CREEK NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Thank you for the prayers during my sister's illness and passing. Also, thanks for the many acts of kindness ~Mary Jo Freyenberger

Nathan and Rachelle will be attending Annual Leader's Retreat in Schuyler, NE on March 19-21.

If a need arises during the next week please contact Pam Unruh.

Join us for a time of worship, celebrating Rachelle's ordination on Sunday, March 26 at 3:00 pm with fellowship to follow.