

# BEARING FRUIT

Washington Mennonite Church  
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 To help with worship, please visit: [tinyurl.com/WMCWorship](http://tinyurl.com/WMCWorship)

This Week at Washington Mennonite						
Sunday Apr 14 <sup>th</sup>	Monday Apr 15 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday Apr 16 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday Apr 17 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday Apr 18 <sup>th</sup>	Friday Apr 19 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday Apr 20 <sup>th</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Worship Service</b> (9:30am)</li> <li>▪ Fellowship Hall in use (PM)</li> <li>▪ Centro Cristiano (5pm)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Kitchen/ Fellowship Hall in use</li> </ul>					
<b>Birthdays -</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jon Widmer</li> </ul>						
<b>Upcoming Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ April 27 – Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner</li> </ul>						

## Washington Mennonite

- **April Coins for Camp** - In addition to our regular WMC ministry offerings, donate your extra change this month for Crooked Creek Christian Camp's annual *Coins for Camp* special offering. This year's fundraiser will be used to purchase swimming pool toys, life jackets, lanterns for each cabin, and freezer safe tubs for summer camp food. As a challenge incentive, our congregation can earn a 2 hour pool or activity center party if we raise \$450 or more by the end of April! (You raised \$712.68 last year and \$527.24 in 2022! Wahoo! Go WMCers!)

- **April Second Hour: Serving & Learning** - An all-adult Sunday school will meet in the Sanctuary this month from 11:00-11:45 with opportunities to hear about the experiences of those who served or learned with one of our Mennonite service agencies this winter! On 4/14 (*a date change*) Carol, Becky & Jon will share about their Civil Rights - Racial Justice Pilgrimage. On 4/21 we'll hear from winter MDS & SOUP volunteers Merle, Gay, Mary Lou & Roger F., Cindy & Tim W. On 4/28 there will be a learning & serving opportunity on "the church & immigration."

- **Turkey Steaks** - We need 10 pies and 5 workers from Washington Mennonite to help with the Turkey steak supper at Hillcrest on Saturday, April 20th. Our shift is from 4:15 PM to 5:45 PM. Then you can sit down and enjoy your turkey afterwards. Thanks! See M&M.

- **Holy Humor Sunday, May 5** - To celebrate the joy of Easter Resurrection (God's big practical joke played on death), the Church has an ancient tradition of a humorous Sunday during the Eastertide season. Begin thinking of what *you'd* like to contribute to this worship service of lighthearted skits, jokes, stories and music.

- **Visitation & Funeral for Roger Roth** - Sunday afternoon, May 5 in Washington Mennonite Church's building. Visitation with family from 2:30 to 4pm and Memorial service to follow at 4pm.

- **Pastor-Congregation Review** - Every three years the Elders are encouraged to facilitate a ministry review of the pastor and congregation. With guidance from CPMC Conference Minister for Ministerial Leadership, Susan Janzen, the WMC Elders (Andrea Nussbaum, Jared Widmer, Cindy Widmer) will be preparing a simple survey tool and asking for your responses later this month to help assess the ministry strengths and growth areas for pastor and congregation.

- **WMC Spring Cleanup Day 5/11** - Save the date for Saturday, May 11 from 8am to noon. Come help tidy up our space indoors and out.

- **If a \$3,300 Tree Falls in the WMC Forest...** To steward our church land & neighboring buildings, Council has determined that we will need to remove the large soft maple along our eastern property line. Part of the tree fell last winter and the clean up was paid for by donation. Having a tree service safely

bring down the remainder this spring will cost \$3,300 which we do *not* have in our WMC "Annual Blueprint." Council plans to have some kind of free-will offering later this spring for those who are willing to help contribute for this above-budget project.

## Crooked Creek Christian Camp

- Join us May 4 for **CC Wild Mud Run and Walk**, our annual fundraiser to benefit our Summer Camp Fund. Don't want to run? New this year, we will be adding a walk for those who want to experience nature without the mud and obstacles. A free will donation lunch will take place at 11:30. For more information and to register visit our website: <https://www.crookedcreekcamp.org/ccw.html>

- **Help give our summer camp cooks a head start** by participating in one of our **Summer Camp Prep Days**. Join us May 11, 13, and 14 from 8:30-12:00 to make cookies, chop vegetables, and cook ground beef. Sign up here: <https://www.crookedcreekcamp.org/summer-food-prep-days.html>

## Hillcrest Academy

- **Touring Choir** - The Hillcrest Academy Touring Choir will be performing several concerts on campus and in local churches. Their first local concert is on Sunday, April 14 at 6:00 PM at Lower Deer Creek Mennonite Church. Check out the entire schedule at [hillcrestravens.org/touringchoir2024](http://hillcrestravens.org/touringchoir2024). The public is welcome at all performances.

- **Farmer Feed** - The annual Farmer Feed will be on Friday, April 12 from 6:30-8:00 AM. The FFA students will be serving pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, coffee, milk and juice in the cafeteria. There is a freewill donation benefiting the Hillcrest Academy FFA.

- **Turkey Steak Supper** - The Hillcrest Academy Alumni Association with help from the TWP Optimists will host the annual Turkey Steak Supper fundraiser meal on Saturday, April 20 serving from 4:30-7:00 PM in the gym. The entire meal consisting of marinated turkey steak, baked potato, baked beans, salad, dinner roll, and pie/ice cream will be available for dine-in or takeout. A freewill donation will be taken with the proceeds going towards supporting student scholarships and programming.

## Central Plains Conference

- **The Sower Prayer Request:** Pray for those gathering for the Annual Leaders Retreat next weekend. May it be a time of rest and renewal with ministry colleagues from around the conference. at Freeman Academy and Hillcrest Academy.

## Mennonite Organizations

- **Earth Day Soft Plastic Recycling at MCC!** April 22 is Earth Day and we invite you to start a new habit of recycling all soft plastics (plastic bags, bread bags, any plastic packaging that you can stretch) at MCC Central States in North Newton! This is a NEW and ONGOING recycling project that we are highlighting for Earth Day. Volunteers will be on hand on Monday, April 22 at the warehouse to take your soft plastic recycling and answer your questions. But going forward, you can bring your soft plastic recycling to MCC any time, placing them in the marked bin outside the warehouse. Questions, please contact [duaneunruh@mcc.org](mailto:duaneunruh@mcc.org).

- **May 26-31: Restorative Justice Peace Camp for young adults (Chicago, Illinois)** - This peace camp will dive into creative ways to implement justice in local communities. Learning from experienced restorative justice practitioners in Chicago, we will witness incredible ways that transformation is possible through restorative justice. Register today! [mcc.org/events/restorative-justice-peace-camp](http://mcc.org/events/restorative-justice-peace-camp)

- **Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request:** JCS International, a Mennonite Mission Network partner in Mongolia, requests continued prayer for herder families, as they struggle to survive this year's dzud (winter disaster), which has caused suffering across 90% of the country, with more than two million animal deaths. Pray that transportation routes will open, so aid can be delivered to remote areas.

- **MC USA Announcement:** Mennonite Church USA honored seven community elders at its 11th Hope for the Future Conference, Feb. 9-11, 2023, in Dallas, Texas. Read more about the seven honorees here: [mennoniteusa.org/news/hftf24-honorees](http://mennoniteusa.org/news/hftf24-honorees)

## Area Announcements

- **"The Inside Singers," a 30 minute documentary film about the Oakdale Prison Choir**, is scheduled to be shown as the 2nd of 3 short films at 3 pm on Saturday, **April 20, 2024**, at Art Domestique, 118 South Iowa Avenue, Washington, Iowa. The Oakdale Prison Choir practiced and performed inside the Oakdale State Prison in Coralville, Iowa. Roger Farmer, Tim Widmer and other local Mennonites sang in this choir for several years and also attended the choir's concerts. This choir was an inspiring experience and also provided an important rehabilitation opportunity for choir members. You are invited to watch this film when it is shown at Art Domestique, and also view the three minute introductory trailer at <https://vimeo.com/169192145>

- The MCC sale on Memorial Day is no longer being held. **Sugar Creek Mennonite Church in Wayland, will be hosting a meal fundraiser to benefit MCC on May 22, 2024** from 5-7pm. A free will donation will be accepted.