

# BEARING FRUIT

Washington Mennonite Church  
 washmenno.weebly.com - washingtonmennonitechurch@gmail.com  
 To help with worship, please visit: [tinyurl.com/WMCWorship](http://tinyurl.com/WMCWorship)

This Week at Washington Mennonite						
Sunday Apr 21 <sup>st</sup>	Monday Apr 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Tuesday Apr 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Wednesday Apr 24 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday Apr 25 <sup>th</sup>	Friday Apr 26 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday Apr 27 <sup>th</sup>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worship Service (9:30am)</li> <li>Centro Cristiano (5pm)</li> </ul>						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?</li> </ul>
			Birthday - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Myron Graber</li> </ul>			Birthday - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lucian Wilson</li> </ul>
<b>Upcoming Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 11 – Church Clean-Up Day (8am-12pm)</li> </ul>						

## Washington Mennonite

- Megan (Miller) Wiebersch will graduate with her Master of Divinity from AMBS on April 27. She is currently completing a chaplain residency at Methodist Hospital in Des Moines. When that is finished in August, Megan will be eligible to become a Board Certified Chaplain.

- 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 4/21 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."

- 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.

- 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!)

- Pastor-Congregation Review** - Every three years the Elders are encouraged to facilitate a ministry review of the pastor and congregation. If you didn't receive an email with the survey, please contact the church office or grab a paper copy from the foyer. We'd like all surveys to be returned by May 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you! - the WMC Elders

- 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

- As summer approaches, we are still without a food service manager, yet have a full calendar of guests at the Retreat Lodge. That means that we need YOU! **Gather your friends,**

**Sunday School Class, cousins, or your college roommates to come cook for a weekend.** We'll provide the menus, recipes and food--all you need to do is prepare and serve it to our thankful guest groups (without whom we wouldn't be able to offer Summer Camp). It will be fun! For more information or to volunteer, contact Amanda Bleichty or Heather Bender at 319-653-3611.

- 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 theme, 'Lead with Love' encompasses the call for connection in a world much in need of Jesus' love. Their performances touch on themes of rising to God's calling and carrying His light in all situations. You will hear varied selections of spirituals, contemporary Christian, jazz, and maybe even a song about coffee! Their next local concert is on Sunday, April 21 at 7:00 PM at Wellman Mennonite Church. Check out the entire schedule at [hillcrestravens.org/touringchoir2024](http://hillcrestravens.org/touringchoir2024). The public is welcome at all performances.

- **Kids Night at the Soccer Pitch** - On Monday, **April 29** at 5:00 PM bring the whole family to watch the Hillcrest Ravens take on Highland. 5th-8th graders will get in free with their passes, along with one guest. There will be giveaways for kids of all ages. 5th-8th graders can sign up to play soccer during the halftime varsity game. Please sign up at [hillcrestravens.org/5-8events](http://hillcrestravens.org/5-8events).

## Central Plains Conference

- **The Sower Prayer Request:** Pray for the work of the Outreach and Service Committee of Central Plains Mennonite Conference. We ask for wisdom and courage as they lead by example and encouragement into new ways of thinking about and doing God's just work in our ever-changing world.

## Mennonite Organizations

- **Have questions about the conflict between Israel and Gaza? What is the geopolitical situation and whose interests are involved? Who benefits from potential breaches of international law in the Middle East? How do we respond?** As someone who lives in Canada, Nathaniel De Avila has traveled through the Middle East multiple times and met with many organizations. He has carefully considered the issues. **Mennonite Action** invites everyone to hear De Avila on Tuesday, **April 23** at 7 pm in room A of the Iowa City Library. Come with your thoughts and questions.

- **All are invited to Crowded Closet's Spring Association meeting.** Please plan to attend & hear about Crowded Closet. **May 20th**; 6:15pm at Crowded Closet.

- **Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request:** Mennonite Mission Network praises God for Alfonsina and José Oyanguren's two decades of ministry in the Argentine Chaco and for the exciting audio and visual ministries they are developing. Pray for the Christian radio programs, which help the Toba-Qom people better understand the biblical message, and for the impact that the Jesus Film is having in communities in the Chaco.

- **MC USA Announcement: Menno Snapshots** - Spiritual director Lester Lind of the Mennonite Spiritual Directors Network reflects on the beginning of his calling and career as he prepares to retire. Read his reflections here: [mennoniteusa.org/reflections-calling-career](http://mennoniteusa.org/reflections-calling-career)

## Area Announcements

- 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.

- **Michael Zahs' presentation** at the spring Mennonite Historical Society meeting can be seen on YouTube using this link: <https://youtu.be/QfizWshzyiY>

- **Senior Dining is coming to Pleasantview in Kalona!** Noon meals on site in the brand new Friendship Center, as well as the delivery of Meals on Wheels to the Kalona community, will be available starting Wednesday, May 1; from that point forward, meals will be served and delivered every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, at 12:00 noon. Guests should call the front desk at 319-656-2421 to reserve a spot or receive a meal. Cost is \$10 for anyone living on the Pleasantview campus, and \$12 for community members. Cash only to begin with, until our point-of-sale system is available; menus will be available through emails or by checking in the Friendship Center. Please call with questions or to receive more information!