

BEARING FRUIT

Washington Mennonite Church
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 To help with worship, please visit: tinyurl.com/WMCWorship

This Week at Washington Mennonite						
Sunday Apr 7 th	Monday Apr 8 th	Tuesday Apr 9 th	Wednesday Apr 10 th	Thursday Apr 11 th	Friday Apr 12 th	Saturday Apr 13 th
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worship Service (9:30am) Centro Cristiano (5pm) 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fellowship Hall in Use (7pm) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday Kitchen (UP Church)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birthday - Cindy Widmer 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birthday - Lexi Widmer
Upcoming Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 27 – Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner 						

Washington Mennonite

- **Offering for 3/31:** \$2,875.00
- **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. They will be traveling to Goshen, IN for the MSC Choir Festival on April 5-7 and their first local concert is on Sunday, April 14 at 6:00 PM at Lower Deer Creek Mennonite Church. Check out the entire schedule and find a livestream link to the festival concert at 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.

- **Host Family** - Hillcrest Academy is looking for a family to host a World Link foreign exchange student during the 2024-25 school year. Hosts can be single or married with young children, no children, teenagers, or grandchildren. Students are selected based on their leadership qualities and academic performance and the program provides the student's medical insurance, pays school fees and expenses, and gives the student a monthly allowance. Please contact the local coordinator Holly Beinhart at 641-295-5003 or hollybeinhart@gmail.com for more information or if you are more comfortable contacting the school, please email Rebecca Beachy Miller at rabeachymiller@hillcrestravens.org.

- **Bus Drivers** - Hillcrest Academy is in critical need of shuttle and bus drivers. As we continue to add more grades, we have more kids who need transportation whether it's from Iowa City or Washington or to extracurricular activities. Please contact Rebecca Beachy Miller at rabeachymiller@hillcrestravens.org to learn what you need to do to become a driver.

- 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, 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 your sister churches in Montana: Ashland Christian Fellowship, Lame Deer, White Chapel and White River Cheyenne Mennonite Churches.

Mennonite Organizations

- **Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request:** The deadline to apply for Mennonite Mission Network's two-week Youth Venture programs is April 15. Pray that young people who would like to spend two weeks this summer making friends in Benin, for ages 15-22, or South Korea, for ages 18-22, and people of all ages who are interested in learning more about injustice in the United States, will find a way to participate.

- **MC USA Announcement:** On April 15, 2024, at 2 p.m. ET/11 a.m. PT, join Karla Stoltzfus Detweiler, MC USA's climate justice coordinator, for the second of four webinars in MC USA's "Learn, Pray, Join: Climate Justice: Seeking Shalom" initiative. This webinar will explore how we can live in resistance to a culture that spoils our home and causes disproportionate suffering for people of color, while also living in hope-filled engagement that nurtures life for all people and all of creation. Panelists will include Andrew Hudson, pastoral intern at Covenant Mennonite Fellowship; Sibonokuhle Ncube, co-regional director for Africa and Europe at Mennonite Mission Network; and Sarah Werner, communications coordinator for Central District Conference. Register here: mennoniteusa.org/webinar/registration-climate-april15

View the PowerPoint slide here: mennoniteusa.org/april-15-climate-webinar View the PDF here: mennoniteusa.org/april-15-webinar-pdf

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>