

From Mennonite Mission Network (MMN):

- Take the plunge into a year of exploration, discipleship, and service with **Journey International**. We are currently accepting applications to join the work of the local church in England, Indonesia, and Tanzania. For more information, visit www.MennoniteMission.net/JourneyInternational or contact John Murray at JohnM@MennoniteMission.net

From Pleasantview Home:

- Pleasantview Home's **Aging Well program** in April will feature the Heritage Digital Collection by Laura Michelson. Laura is a graduate research assistant working with the *Kalona Community Heritage Project*. All are welcome to attend the **Tuesday, April 3rd meeting at 2 PM** in Pleasantview's Friendship Center; and are also welcome to bring their own electronic devices as a way of engaging in the program. Please contact PV at 656-2421 for further information.

Veterans for Peace Chapter #161 will **honor Dr. Martin Luther King** on the 50th anniversary of his death. Two of his speeches will be read continuously at the Clinton Street entrance to the Pentacrest on **Wed., April 4, 10 AM-6 PM**. Readers & listeners welcome!

Join us and our Honorary Family, the Walker-Bryant Family, for the **19th Annual Iowa City Hospice Walk for Dignity, Sun., April 22, 1 PM at Willow Creek Park**. Funds from the Walk generate vital support for our exceptional end-of-life care, available to all regardless of ability to pay. A Time of Remembering will take place at NOON, with children's activities and refreshments starting immediately following the service, and the 1 or 3 mile Walk routes beginning at 1 PM. For more information visit www.iowacityhospice.org/walk-for-dignity or call 319-351-5665.

Upcoming area high school FINE ARTS events:

- Apr. 11 7:30 PM City High Cathedral Concert, St. Mary's Catholic Church, (Zoe, Andre)
Apr. 20-22 *Little Shop of Horrors* (musical), City High (Zoe Miller)

CALENDAR

Wednesday	3:15 PM Mission Commission 5 PM Quilting 6:30 PM MYF @ FMC 7 PM Worship Commission
Thursday	1 PM Peace Knitters 7 PM Torre Fuerte worship
Friday	8 PM Prayer with Torre Fuerte
Saturday	1:30 PM Quilting
Sunday	9:30 AM Worship: proclaimer, Terry Zimmerly 10:45 AM Christian Ed.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY: April 1, 2018

Birthdays

Wednesday	Bryson Dean
Thursday	Cathy Gingerich, Amy Hershberger
Friday	Joshua Miller, Lily Miller
Saturday	Robin Gingerich, Ed Johnson, Jackeline Portillo

Fundraising continues for the CPMC Max and Gloria Villatoro Family Fund. Our goal is to raise at least \$6000 by May 20th. You may contribute by a check to FMC in our regular Sunday offerings with "Villatoros" on the memo line. Your contributions in support of the family are greatly appreciated! --Mission and Stewardship Commissions

April 8 we will begin a **4-part worship series**, *Body and Soul: Healthy Sexuality and the People of God*. This is an opportunity for us to grow in recognizing ourselves and our neighbor as created in God's image, loved by God, and capable of being faithful and joyful stewards of God's gift of sexuality. The April 8 worship focus: God has created us sexual beings and healthy sexuality begins with celebrating our bodies as God's good creation.

If you would like to explore baptism or become a member of the First Mennonite Church Iowa City, please talk to one of the pastors or contact the church office (338-0302 or firstmenno@msn.com) if you have not already done so. We will offer a baptism preparation class and have a new member orientation beginning after Easter.

A **quilt for the Pleasantview Home sale** is in frame downstairs in the Sinape Classroom. **ALL experienced and beginners** are welcome to come and quilt next **Wednesday evening, April 4 at 5:00** and/or **Saturday afternoon April 7 at 1:30**. Contact Shirley Oswald or Donna Darby if you need a ride.

Attention all candy, chocolate and fudge makers! The Worship Commission needs your help for the April 15 worship service. If you are willing to make some treats, please contact Colette Hostetler for details.

Miguel, Maria, Junior, Jackeline, and Fernanda Portillo want to express their thanks to the First Mennonite congregation for the many kindnesses given them. They'd like to prepare a **meal for everyone on April 15**, not to raise funds for their living expense, but rather as a gift. They'll make pupusas, and another Salvadoran dish which they've never made for us before. All are invited to dine in the Fellowship Hall at **NOON April 15**. If you do wish to leave a tip, it will benefit our church's general ministries such as Mennonite Mission Network, Iowa City Shelter House, Crisis Center, and others.

Adults are invited to Prairie Lights bookstore on **Wed., April 11 at 6 PM** to hear Julia Whicker read from her just released (April 3) novel, *Wonderblood*, a dystopian fantasy. "So many kind people asked me about my book while we

attended First Mennonite that I wanted to share the news with anyone who would be interested in attending the reading!” Julia, her husband John Eicher and daughter Colette, attended FMC while she wrote this book.

CONFERENCE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

J-POG (Just Peace Outreach Group) invites you to hear British actor and playwright Michael Mears dramatize the courage it took to be a conscientious objector 100 years ago during World War 1 in Great Britain. Michael Mears portrays a gallery of characters from war resisters to army generals in a highly original piece of storytelling that describes military conscription, which was called *This Evil Thing* by conscientious objectors. Join us at 7 PM on Sunday evening, **April 15 at IMS** for this dramatic presentation. Questions? call Roger Farmer at 319-653-2547 or Jane Yoder-Short at wilmajane17@gmail.com.

The **2018 Iowa City Crop Walk** will start at 1105 Gilbert Ct. at 1:30 PM **NEXT SUNDAY**, April 8. **Bob and Joshua Miller** are our FMC team coordinators and are looking for more walkers. It’s not too late to join the group! Current walkers include: Miguel & Maria Portillo, Ben Hing, John Halder, and Joey Krabill. Write a check to CWS/CROP and give it to a walker you’d like to sponsor, or donate online at: www.crophungerwalk.org/iowacityia/Team/View/59402/First-Mennonite-Church.

From Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS):

- A new free **Anabaptist Prayer App** makes *Take Our Moments and Our Days* [prayers for Ordinary Time and Advent through Pentecost] available to Apple and Android users in an easy-to-navigate format, as close at hand as your digital device. Visit <http://www.amsb.edu/publishing/anabaptist-prayer-book> for more information and links to Apple and Android versions.

From Central Plains Mennonite Conference (CPMC):

- **Youth ages 16-22**, connect with Central Plains mission partners in Quito, Ecuador, by joining a **Youth Venture team!** There are a few spots left on the team traveling there for a two-week trip in June. Come and see how God is at work in the Mennonite church in Quito and among the Cofan tribe in the rainforest. Visit www.MennoniteMission.net/YouthVenture for more information. Inquire this week before the trip fills up.

From Crooked Creek Christian Camp:

- Please consider joining us for **Spring Cleaning** this April. We’re looking for volunteers to help clean, landscape, organize and MORE! Go online to sign-up for a date and time that works for you!
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FAFA62EA7FB6-spring>

From Iowa Mennonite School:

- **The IMS Operating Board** wishes to announce that the search process for a Principal will soon be underway. It will be a careful and diligent search and

likely will not be concluded prior to the beginning of the next school contract year. Therefore, Dwight Gingerich will serve as the Interim Principal for the 2018-19 school year. Dwight’s long history with IMS and his current role on the Administration Team will allow the school to continue moving forward during the search process. Please be in prayer as the search committee is formed and for those who will be considering the Principal position. We will inform constituents when the committee is named so that suggestions for potential candidates can be given to the appropriate people.

- **The Touring Choir** leaves for the MSC Choral Festival hosted by Eastern Mennonite School in Harrisonburg, VA this week. Follow along on social media using the hashtag [#MSCCHORALFESTIVAL](https://twitter.com/MSCCHORALFESTIVAL) and watch the performance live streamed starting at 2 PM CT on **Sunday April 8** online or at IMS in Celebration Hall.
- **Our FFA** hosts their annual **Farmer's Feed** on **Friday April 13** from 7-8 AM. Please come and bring your farmer friends! There will be plenty of food! Goodwill donations will be accepted.
- **Prospective Student Skating Party**, **April 13** from 6:30-8:30 PM at the Wellman Skating Rink.
- Rehearsals are underway for the **Children’s Dramas** to be performed on **Saturday April 28 at 7 PM and Sunday April 29 at 3 PM** in Celebration Hall. Featuring fresh tellings of the old stories of Hansel and Gretel, 3 Little Wolves (and the big bad pig) and Mushkil Gusha, students bring to life a few important life lessons. No admission charged -- donations for the IMS Drama Dept are welcome.

From Mennonite Central Committee (MCC):

- **The Iowa Mennonite Relief Sale** is in immediate need of 2 individuals (or 1 couple) to serve on the Food Committee. This is a 3-year term; primary responsibilities include overseeing the organization and implementation of food booths. Anyone interested please contact Lowell & Mary Yoder at [319-656-3715](tel:319-656-3715), or Joe & Carrie Schmidt at [319-471-0531](tel:319-471-0531).
- **Healthy Sexuality & the Church:** Mennonite Central Committee is offering 3 free webinars this spring for churches who want to learn more about how to encourage healthy sexuality and healthy masculinity among members, and how to address sexualized violence within their congregation. The webinars will be led by church leaders and others with expertise in the topics. For the first webinar, *Healthy Sexuality in Our Congregations*, Kathrine Goerzen and Benjamin Reynolds will lead the discussion focusing on what role the church can play in fostering and supporting healthy views of sexuality. Join the live webinar **on your own on April 11, 2-3 p.m. CST, or join others from FMC as we view the webinar and discuss the topic together during Christian Ed hour on Sunday, May 6.** Learn more and register for the webinars at mcc.org/wwso. Contact Karla with questions.

Attendance 3-25-18	182
Offering	\$3,996.75 General Fund