

Sunday morning has a revised schedule to accommodate a reception for high school graduates and the close of the True Story Christian Education series.

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MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

May 18, 2016

Worship with us this Sunday, May 22

The sermon title is *A Story of Hope* and the Scripture is Romans 8:24-32. Pastor Tim Schrag asks, "Is the glass half full, or half empty, as you survey the world in which we live? Why do you say that?"

Scripture Focus We begin our worship service with a Scripture Focus each week that comes from the congregational study of the Bible in which we are currently engaged. Each worship service is based on the lesson from the previous week's Sunday School study.

A Word about our Worship Visuals Quilters have named blocks after Bible stories for generations. The Bible was the primary literary resource in many early American homes, providing inspiration for nineteenth century quilters, who mostly used scraps and outgrown clothing beyond repair to sew covers to keep their loved ones warm. Throughout our True Story study series, a variety of quilt blocks representing Bible stories or themes will be presented. Here is a description of the visual display for y 22.

Alpha

This antique 4-patch block is geometrically fascinating and exquisitely named. Alpha, the first letter of the Greek alphabet, is symbolic of the root of all things. But the name also readily brings to mind the expression "alpha and omega," beginning and end. We have come full circle, from creation out of chaos to a new heaven and earth. Praise be to our Creator, Lord and

Savior!

- Revelation 22:13

Schedule for Sunday

We have much to celebrate on Sunday: the True Story Christian Education Series, High School Graduates, and Fine Arts Displays. Here is the slightly adapted schedule:

9:00 am Pre Service Prayer
 9:30 am Worship
 10:30 am Worship ends
 10:30 am Children's Christian Education (CE) begins
 10:30 am -10:50 am High School Graduates Reception
 11:00 am True Story Classes
 11:30 am Children and Adult CE ends. Parents please pick your children promptly.
 1:30 pm Fine Arts Event
 5:00 pm Senior High Youth Group

Prayer Requests

The physical, mental and spiritual well-being of refugees
 Families who are dealing with members being deported
 Rochelle Augspurger's nephew Drew as he deals with numerous losses
 Praise for healing for Cal Hubbard
 Surgery for Aldine Combs on May 25 (note change in date)

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Wed May 18 True Story Leaders 7:00 pm
 Thur May 19 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
 Sat May 21 Cemetery Work Day
 Sun May 22 See Schedule above
 Thur May 26 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am



Serving This Sunday



Greeters	South: Eric & Chellie Miller West: Ardys Serpette
Welcome Table	Kristen Sand
Ushers	Lotus Hershberger, Mark Roeschley Roger and Linda Clemmons
Worship Leader	Holly Zehr
Song Leader	Wayne Hochstetler
Accompanist	Denise Hedberg
Scripture	Mary Dyck
Children's Time	Matt Hickman
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Technology	Randy Zehr
Toddler Nursery	Carrie Stalter

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Chris Culbertson 5/22
Andrew Jablonski 5/22
Guilford Zook 5/23
Sam Ponnou-Delaffon 5/25
Jonah King 5/25
John Bertsche 5/28
Lynn Chang 5/28
Roger Clemmons 5/28
Roy Jiles 5/28



Congratulations to Doug & Jenell Ulrich on their 41st anniversary on May 24.

Congratulations to John & Evelyn Bertsche on their 58th anniversary on May 26.

Congratulations to Cory & Chris Culbertson on their 21st anniversary on May 27.



You are cordially invited to attend the 50th wedding anniversary open house for Roger and Linda Clemmons which will be held at the church on Saturday, May 28 from 1-3 pm. An invitation is posted on the Atrium Bulletin Board. A light lunch will be served so please sign up by May 22 if you are planning to come.



Fine Arts Event

You are invited to attend the MCN Fine Arts Event, Sunday, May 22, at 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary. This event celebrates the talents of our children and young people in a variety of

forms, including music, visual arts, and others. Joins us for this special occasion! Refreshments will be served. Contact Cindy Ropp with any questions.



Groundskeeper Needed

We are in critical need of a person to tend to the grounds around the building. We have one volunteer to take care of the canopy flower beds (thanks, Elfriede), but we have immediate need for someone to tend to the other flower beds. Are you feeling called to this? We would welcome your taking on all or part of this responsibility to help the church grounds look their best. If we have no responses by June 1, we will look to hire someone. Please contact any member of the Financial Stewardship Committee—Doug Ulrich, Rick Yoder, Linda Clemmons, Adam Augspurger or Gail Fisher.

Emergency Preparedness

The McLean County Health Department is conducting a survey to help map where vulnerable individuals live within McLean County. This information is crucial in their planning for relief and aid during disaster and emergency situations. The Wellness Committee strongly encourages your participation in this quick survey, to better ensure all people can access care during an emergency. The survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MCHDFNMapping> or paper copies are available on the Entrance Table and can be returned to Leah Roeschley's mailbox.



Kitchen Items

Several clear plastic pitchers are missing from the kitchen. Also, two roasters have been misplaced. If you have information about the disappearance of these items, please contact Pastor Matt Hickman.



Food Forest

A new Food Forest is opening this Saturday, May 21st, on Bloomington's far west side, to serve this under-served area. Location: West end of W. Illinois St. in Bloomington, 2 blocks west of the Boys and Girls Club at 1615 Illinois Street. Bring rakes and shovels anytime from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. to help set up raised beds and plant berry bushes and vegetables. For more details: Facebook: West Bloomington Active Garden

Partners in Healing

Mennonite Church of Normal joins with other churches in the area to pray for various sections of Advocate Bro Menn Medical Center and Advocate Eureka Hospital. This month MCN is asked to pray for the Surgical Unit at Advocate BroMenn.



Please call the church office if you or someone in your family is hospitalized. Due to HIPAA regulations, persons may be hospitalized for several days before your pastors are aware of a need for pastoral care.



Conference Newsletters

[Central District Conference \(CDC\) Focus](#) The CDC Focus is now available in this online format. Just click the picture of the newsletter or the title. A copy is available on the Entrance Bulletin Board. Also available is the [CDC Reporter](#) .

[Click the link](#) to read the current IMC Weekly: Illinois Mennonite Conference (IMC) Conference Ministers Michael Danner & Kim Litwiller's weekly message to IMC churches. Also, the latest copy of [Missional Crossroads](#) is available.



Voice of the Day

Every time God forgives us, God is saying that God's own rules do not matter as much as the relationship that God wants to create with us. *Richard Rohr*



Building Use

May 19 6:00 pm HAAQG Mentoring

May 25 12:30 pm Illinois Mennonite Conference Meeting



Today's Weighty Chuckle

My goal for 2016 was to lose just 10 pounds. Only 15 to go.

I don't mean to brag but.....I finished my 14-day diet in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

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