

Sign up NOW for August 7, 2016 for MCN Sunday at Camp Menno Haven. Use Sign up Genius or contact Leanne Schertz.

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MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

July 13, 2016

Worship with Us this Sunday, July 17

This Sunday during the sermon time, we will hear about the experience of MCN Youth at **Serving With Appalachian People (SWAP)**.

Our Scripture Focus this week and throughout the summer will come from the Bible Memory Passages which our children are studying.

Summer Adult CE classes continue this Sunday. The three classes which are offered are 1) the Uniform Bible Series led by Darrel Miller; 2) Taking Time for Jesus, led by Melika Hershberger, Angela Liew and Elsa Raab; 3) Strolling Sunday School led by Meredith Schroeer.



Please Pray For
Rachel Zehr, who continues to receive skilled care at Meadows
Darvis King's father
Healing for Andy Orrick
Gerry Schrock as she travels to Lusk, Wyoming with Mennonite Disaster Service
July 17-29

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur July 14 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
 Youth Ministry 6:00 pm

Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
 Worship 9:30 am

Sun, July 17 Children's CE 10:45
 CE for Adults 11:00
 Child Protection Meeting 12:00 pm

Mon July 18 Junior High at Midwest Food
 Bank 10:00 am

Wed July 20 Peace and Justice 5:15 am

Thurs July 21 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am



Serving This Sunday

Greeters	South: Esther Brown, Wilma Dyck West: Lotus Hershberger
Welcome Table	Marge Weaver
Ushers	Adam and Caleb Augspurger Ardys Serpette, Unzicker
Worship Leader	Mike Company
Song Leader	Barry Weaver
Accompanist	Youth Musicians
Scripture	Tshitshi Tshiseleka
Children's Time	Holly Zehr
Sermon	The SWAP Experience 2016
Technology	Caleb Augspurger
Toddler Nursery	Elsa Raab
Preschool Nursery	Shannon Unzicker
Summer CE for PreK-K	Chris Culbertson Marianne Israel
Summer CE for Grades 1-4	Shannon Unzicker Keith Unzicker

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Terry Wiebenga July 17
Lois Hochstetler July 18
Lee Hertzler July 20
David Voegtlin July 20
Rich Willmarth July 21
Glenn Busenitz July 22
Emma Lovellette July 23

Happy 17th Anniversary to Darin & Katie Driscoll on July 17.
Happy 6th Anniversary to Reuben & Courtney Yoder on July 17.
Happy 1st Anniversary to Ben & Caroline Roeschley on July 18.
Happy 57th Anniversary to Ron & Leanne Schertz on July 18.
Happy 21st Anniversary to Eric & Chellie Miller on July 22.

Staff Vacation

Pastor Tim will be out of the office on vacation beginning July 9.
He will be back in the office on July 19.



From Pastor Jane in Thorley, England

Hello, dear MCN,
Thursday noon I visited Eat Chat Pray, a noontime gathering for a simple soup lunch, conversation and prayer. It is intentionally not just for church women, but intended to be a welcome and safe place for no-church women to join in. It was delightful!

There are some vibrant prayer servants in this congregation and seeing them in ministry during Healing on the Streets last Saturday and at the Saturday Prayer Breakfast this morning was an inspiration for me. Healing on the Streets is held in downtown Bishop's Stortford during the busy Saturday shopping time. People passing by have an opportunity to pause and receive prayer, if they wish. As an observer, I was able to spend the morning as an intercessor for the SHOTS (Stortford Healing on the Streets) prayer servants. [The picture above is from that event on July 2.]

I've had the real honor of attending two small groups' meetings which they call Home Groups. I met some lovely sisters in Christ who share and care deeply for each other and for their faith.

The time here has included a wonderful array of visits to various ministries of this congregation. Little Worship and Messy Church are both ministries aimed to young children and their families, within the church and in the wider community. There is a real heart for sharing stories of faith with local families.

My two weeks as a guest with St. James the Great congregation in Thorley, England is coming to a close. I will be preaching tomorrow (writing this on Saturday evening), giving a brief intro to who are the Mennonites (am using Palmer Becker's What is an Anabaptist Christian?). Mark and I are on our way home on Wednesday.

I haven't yet met any Thorleys (haha), but we are meeting tomorrow with the local historian

to hear a few stories. I am so grateful to have been able to visit this charming region and, more importantly, to have had the privilege of seeing in person the way Jesus is made real in the Christian community here.

Mark arrived on Wednesday and we've enjoyed lots of local walking, including a picnic today in Thorley Woods. Our hostess has been especially gracious, providing me/us with a two lovely days out to national heritage estates and gardens.

Last Sunday I had the honor of attending the Ordination of the new curate at St James, Ruth Atkinson. It was held at the diocesan cathedral at St. Albans. (St Alban was the first British martyr, in 300 A.D.). Singing Be Thou My Vision in these grand cathedrals has been a trip highlight for me.

Sending love, Pastor Jane



What is on the church sign?! Last week a new game for smart phones called Pokémon Go was made available for download. Since then, thousands of people have downloaded the app. Pokémon Go is a virtual scavenger hunt in which players hunt for 151 different Pokémon, small cartoon creatures made popular with a trading card game of the same name. Rather than lounging on a couch, players must physically walk around the real world to find Pokémon to capture. Different and more Pokémon appear depending on your location and when you are there. Pokémon Go is a combination of a game, and the real world, interacting in what is known as "augmented reality." Our church sign is a Pokéstop, a location at which players can interact with their smartphone to collect virtual items for gameplay. The images on the sign are readily recognized by Pokémon fans and serve to welcome them to our physical location which also has a role in the game. One parent in our congregation was delighted at how the game has her child getting out and exercising, and upon seeing the sign said, "What a cool church!"



Camp Menno Haven Sunday [Sign up HERE!](#)

On August 7, starting at 10:00 am, we gather at Camp Menno Haven for **worship** and fun activities. We hope everyone can join us. There is no worship planned for 805 S Cottage that day.

Activities include the pool being open for swimming, open gym at the Eagle Wing Activity Center, and use of canoes and kayaks on the lake, which is also available for fishing. We ask

everyone be responsible for their food costs, which are as follows: adults \$11, children ages 4-10, \$5.50, children ages 3 and under, free. (If these costs are prohibitive, please notify the church office, as funds are available.) **Please let us know that you are coming by going to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044babab2eab9-menno> OR calling (309-696-5399) OR emailing (schertz2@mtco.com) Leanne Schertz OR writing your name on the sign up paper on the Atrium Bulletin Board.**

We hope that you can come!

Leanne Schertz for Fellowship Committee

Want a longer Camp Menno Haven experience? Try tent camping on Saturday, August 6. Have extra time for activities, cook your supper and sleep under the stars near other MCN'ers. The Culbertson family has volunteered to answer questions about this wonderful camping experience. We hope you will try it!

THANK YOU Central, Northeast, Southwest & North Main Cluster Volunteers for helping maintain flower beds! A number of volunteers from different Clusters have helped maintain the flower beds around the church. Those sections are looking GREAT! More assistance is needed; please contact Lynn or your Cluster Leader if you can help.



Quilt Purchase for Relief Sale

On Saturday July 30, we will be going to the Amish Sale in Wisconsin to purchase Quilts for the MCC Sale next March. Those persons who wish to donate to this project, may do so now, and before the July 30 date. The church purchases quilts at this sale and are able to donate them to the Mennonite Relief Sale in March, where they are sold for a larger profit. Questions call Larry or Louise Reeser. Thank you in advance for giving to this project. Donation checks may be made out to the Mennonite Church of Normal.



Fun in the Sun park dates (informal gatherings for play and fellowship) are here. Come for any/all times you can! Click this link for more information and to sign up.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094faaa87-funinthe>

School Kits



School kits are Mennonite Central Committee's (MCC) most requested item. They are given primarily to refugee and displaced children, helping students and teachers add some normalcy to disrupted lives. 25,513 were shipped last year to Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Ethiopia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon, Burundi, Ukraine, Haiti, Russia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), U.S., Serbia and El Salvador.

If you would like to help, take a cloth bag (s) available in the Atrium, specially prepared by MCN Mennonite Women and fill it with

- 4 spiral or perforated notebooks (8.5" x 10.5", 70 sheets)
- 8 unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, flexible plastic; indicating 30 cm and 12")
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large pencil eraser

Return full bags to the Red Tub in the Atrium. MCN Mennonite Women will deliver them.

Cluster Activity Invitation

Please join the East Central Cluster (Barry and Marge Weaver, leaders) for fellowship, food, and a performance of PETER AND THE STARCATCHER at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival on Sunday, July 31. The play is a prequel to PETER PAN and has musical numbers and piano and percussion accompaniment throughout. The production will appeal to all ages (just make sure children can sit for an hour - intermission - and then another hour). Bring a dish to share for our potluck picnic on the Ewing grounds at 6:00 p.m. before the play begins at 7:30 p.m. in Ewing Theatre. We will provide plates, napkins, utensils and cups and a few drink options. If we have 10 or more in attendance Janet Wilson will arrange for a group rate (20% off) for the tickets. The rates with the 20% off + the facility charge for Sunday evening are:

Silver Section - Adults \$15.00; Students/Seniors - \$12.00

Gold Section - Adults \$22.00; Students/Seniors - \$19.00

Platinum - Adults \$30.00; Students/Seniors - \$27.00

(Platinum Plus - Mennonites are too frugal for these tickets)

To get the 20% group rate, all the tickets have to be in the same section. We could do one group of 10 in Silver and one group of 10 in Gold etc. Email Janet Wilson at jmwilso4@ilstu.edu and say which section you want to sit in.



Building Use

Ropp Reunion 10:30 am Saturday, July 16

Mennonite Central Committee Sponsored Event at MCN: Loss of Turtle Island

Loss of Turtle Island event: You're invited to take part in the Loss of Turtle Island participatory learning experience at Mennonite Church of Normal (805 S. Cottage Ave.) on Sunday, August 28. This interactive activity depicts the historic relationship between European settlers – including Mennonites – and the Indigenous nations, the original inhabitants, of the land we now call the United States of America. The learning experience begins at 3:30 p.m., followed by a potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Krista Dutt at 312-623-4227 or KristaDutt@mcc.org. More information at mcc.org-il-turtle-island.

Innovation Disruption : Can the Church be Good News for LGBT Youth?

September 23-24, 2016 at Menno Haven Camp & Retreat Center

This event is for pastors, youth pastors, youth volunteers, parents, grandparents, friends and anyone else who engages LGBT (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgender) youth. At Innovative Disruption you will learn about adolescent development - which is applicable to understanding all teens - and the unique pressures that LGBT youth face, as well as practical ways to accompany youth as they move closer to Jesus.

Our presenter is Chris Schaffner, founder of Conversations on the Fringe. He's been working with hurting children, teens, and adults for over 20 years. He is a sought after conference speaker and blogs at conversationsonthefringe.com <<http://conversationsonthefringe.com>> . Chris is a regular presenter at the Youth Specialties National Youth Workers Convention, Faith Forward Conference, and Group's Simply Youth Ministry conference. He wrote a recent article for the Summer 2016 edition of Group magazine entitled 7 Keys to Counseling LGBT Kids. Check it out to get a taste for Chris' approach."

Mennonite Church USA

Blog series: Returning Veterans, Returning Hope. Check out this blog series featuring people, congregations and organizations in Mennonite Church USA who are working with veterans who have experienced the trauma of war. Ken Landis shares about SHELTER44, a ministry of Watertown Mennonite Church and New York Mennonite Conference with a goal of connecting people from nearby Fort Drum with the Mennonite community. Nancy Shebeneck of Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Gainesville, Florida, writes about what returning veterans need from the church. A six-week Sunday school curriculum from the Peace and Justice Support Network, a partnership of Mennonite Mission Network and Mennonite Church USA, explores how the church can play a part in veterans' healing journeys.

See: <http://mennoniteusa.org/?s=returning+vets>

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 Inpatient Unit at Advocate Eureka Hospital.



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

"You never know what may cause them. The sight of the Atlantic Ocean can do it, or a piece of music, or a face you've never seen before. A pair of somebody's old shoes can do it.... You can never be sure. But of this you can be sure. Whenever you find tears in your eyes, especially unexpected tears, it is well to pay the closest attention. They are not only telling you something about the secret of who you are, but more often than not God is speaking to you through them of the mystery of where you have come from and is summoning you to where, if your soul is to be saved, you should go next."
Frederick Buechner



Today's Punnniest

What did the hat rack say to the hat? You go on a head, I'll stay here.

Archeologist: A man whose career lies in ruins.

Did you hear about the snake who gave birth to a bouncing baby boa?

California smog test: Can UCLA?

