



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

March 15, 2017

## Worship with Us This Sunday March 19, 2017

The Scripture for this Sunday is John 4:5-30 and the title of the sermon is "Water, for all?" Pastor Tim Schrag invites us to, "Read verses 3 and 4 of John 4. Why did Jesus 'have to go through Samaria", when another route was available? What does that imply for us?"

The hymns are *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing* (HWB 12), *You Are All We Have* (STJ 29), *There is a Well* (STS 64), and *O Let All Who Thirst* (HWB 495)

Lenten Drama participants for this Sunday, portraying the story of *The Woman at the Well* are: Bess Desch, Claire Dyck, Wilma Dyck, Joe & Abby Warfel, Wayne & Lois Hochstetler, Deborah Spacek, and Joe Culpepper as Director.



## Prayers

A prayer vigil for MJ Sharp, UN Worker in Democratic Republic of Congo, graduate of Bethel High School in Goshen and Eastern Mennonite University will take place tonight from **9:00-9:30 pm**. MJ was kidnapped on Sunday, March 12. More information is available at <https://themennonite.org/daily-news/unity-nations-worker-mennonite-school-grad-kidnapped-drc/>

Please pray for increasing health for:  
Evelyn Bertsche  
Elsa Raab's daughter Katara and her baby

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## This Week at 805 S Cottage

Wed Mar 15            Bridge of Hope Neighboring Group 6:00 pm

Thur Mar 16            Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am  
Pie Baking 8:00 am  
Outreach Committee 5:00 pm

Fri Mar 17            Pie Baking 5:00 am  
Illinois Relief Sale 4:30 pm

Sat Mar 18            Illinois Relief Sale 6:00 am

Sun Mar 19            Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am  
Worship 9:30 am  
Christian Education for Children 10:45 am  
Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am  
"Relief Sale Celebration" Meal noon  
Junior High Youth 5:00 pm  
Senior High Youth 5:00 pm  
Junior Choir 6:00 pm  
Youth Choir 6:45 pm  
Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Tue Mar 21            Staff Meeting 10:30 am  
Church Board Retreat 6:00 pm  
Lenten Drama Group Rehearsal 6:30 pm

Thur Mar 23            Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am

Fri Mar 24            Bethel College Choir Concert 7:00 pm




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### Serving This Sunday

Greeters	South: Rick & Annette Harnish West: Mary Ann King
Welcome Table	Mary Dyck
Ushers	Mary Ann & Paul Watkins Emmanuel & Tawnya Kasongo
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Worship Leader	David Warfel
Song Leader	Wayne Hochstetler
Scripture	Scripture Drama Team
Children's Time	Pastor Jane Roeschley
Accompanist	Dorothy Loepp
Technology	Caleb Augspurger
Toddler Nursery	Lucy Unzicker
Preschool Nursery	Charlotte Hedberg





## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday to

Gerry Schrock March 19  
Anna Driscoll March 20  
Alexa Hoffman March 22  
Robert Kauffman March 25

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### 59th Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale, March 17-18, Interstate Center, Bloomington "Sharing God's Love and Compassion"

#### Important information:

- \*Put the unbaked pie crusts for the shoofly pies in the church refrigeration by 7:00 p.m. Thursday evening.
  - \*All baked goods, pies and all other items should be at the church no later than 9:00 a.m. on Friday.
  - \*If you ordered pie crusts from Arthur and haven't picked them up yet, they are in the freezer. Make your check out to Gerry Schrock.  
Still needed: Can you help?
    - \*Dutch Market: Friday, stocking, 6:30-9:00 p.m. - need 3 people
    - Saturday, checkout, 11:30-2:00 p.m. - need 2 people
    - Saturday: stocking, 7:00-9:00 a.m. - need 2 people
    - stocking, 9:00-11:30 a.m., need 1 person
    - 11:30-2:00 p.m., need 1 person
  - \*Chicken/Fish dinners serving line: Friday, 4:00-6:00 p.m., need 4 people
  - \*Pancakes & sausage serving: Saturday, 6:00-8:30 a.m. - need 4 people
- The Relief Sale needs many more people serving pancakes & sausage on Saturday from 6:00-8:30 a.m. and 8:30-11:00 a.m.
- Children under 16 yrs. of age cannot serve food but can help with cleaning tables.
- \*Meet the Mennonites: Friday & Saturday, need 5 people
  - \*Thursday: 10:00-2:00 p.m., need 8 people - hanging up signs at the Interstate Center
  - \*Thursday: 8:00-2:00 p.m., need 8 people - set up at the Interstate Center
  - \*Count your Coins bottle - bring your pennies, nickels, dimes & quarters!
- \*If you have a yard sign, please bring them back to church and put them in the library. They can be used next year again.
- Questions? Ask Roelie Homan or Gerry Schrock
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The Central Cluster is inviting you to attend a showing of BEFORE THE FLOOD, a documentary film addressing the topic of global warming, produced by Leonardo DiCaprio and sponsored by NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC at the Community Building (MRC) on Thursday, March 30, 7:00 PM.

Quoting from a recent review of the film "Climate change is happening and it's terrifying and it's a fact." But what is there to be done about it? That's one of the central questions of the documentary. DiCaprio is in nearly every scene, speaking with some of the world's top scientists and the individuals that have the power to do something about climate change. There are shots of locations all over the globe depicting first hand accounts of the effects of climate change.

There will be time for questions and discussion following the film led by two master naturalists from our church, Marcia Rossi and Jim Bortell.

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### Relief Sale Celebration Lunch

We will have a Relief Sale Celebration lunch following Sunday School on Sunday, March 19. All are welcome. No need to bring food or table service. Everything will be provided. We will have a simple lunch of sandwiches and finger foods. Donations will be accepted. Come and relax after all your hard work.

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### Upcoming Events

**March 17-18** Illinois Relief Sale

**March 24** Bethel College Choir Concert

**March 31-April 1** Illinois Mennonite Conference Annual Assembly

**May 5-7** Illinois Mennonite Conference Women's Retreat at Menno Haven

**June 22-24** Central District Conference

**July 4-8** Mennonite USA Assembly and Convention



Please save the date of April 1 for a Red Cross Blood Drive at Mennonite Church of Normal. Online Scheduling is available by clicking [here](#). A sign-up sheet is available in the MCN Library.

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### Bethel College Choir

The Bethel College Concert Choirs invites you to join them at the Mennonite Church of Normal on 7:00 pm Friday, March 24, for a benefit concert. All proceeds from a free-will offering will go to MCC Relief. An informal cookie reception will immediately follow the concert.

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## Directory Updates

Please note change of address for Erma and John Stutzman  
Their address remains the same except for the apartment number.  
2025 E. Lincoln St #2120  
Bloomington, IL 61701  
This takes effect on April 1.

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Menno Haven is looking for summer staff! Counselors, Lifeguards (we can train you!), Kitchen Assistants, Maintenance Assistants, Camp Medical Providers, and more! The summer season goes from June 11-July 25. See our website, or contact Jacob, for more details.  
[www.mennohaven.com](http://www.mennohaven.com) <<http://www.mennohaven.com>> 815-646-4344 <[tel:\(815\)20646-4344](tel:(815)20646-4344)>  
[program@mennohaven.com](mailto:program@mennohaven.com)

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**Help Needed: Child Care (here at Church) for Immigrant Head Start Families Learning English**  
Our Head Start classroom has 4 families that are new to the United States. The parents in these families could benefit from a class to learn English. A local organization, STAR Literacy, would love to provide it. A critical obstacle for these families is child care for their young children while parents are in class. We are currently exploring if we might have a roster of volunteers who would enjoy providing 60-90 minutes of child care once a week here at church for a small group of young children while the parents are in class. If you would like to learn more, please contact Pastor Jane. [jane@normalmennonite.org](mailto:jane@normalmennonite.org)

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Building Use  
**Hands All Around Quilt Guild**  
Sewing Mentoring Thursday, March 16, 6:00 pm

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## 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.



### Thought for the Day

“The deeper our faith, the more doubt we must endure; the deeper our hope, the more prone we are to despair; the deeper our love, the more pain its loss will bring; these are a few of the paradoxes we must hold as human beings. If we refuse to hold them in the hopes of living without doubt, despair, and pain, we also find ourselves living without faith, hope, and love.”

— Parker J. Palmer



### Today's Chuckle

Kids today don't know how easy they have it. When I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV to one of nine channels.

A good time to keep your mouth shut is...when you're in deep water.