



**Mennonite
Church
of Normal**

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

Offering Christ's peace to hearts, homes, community and world

October 28, 2015

MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

Today's Chuckle

I saw a poster for a company offering free quotes, so I called them and asked for something profound.

The animals at the zoo started rioting. A porcupine was brought in to quell the uprising!

As a fruit, oranges are very a-peeling.

Happy Birthday!

Jordan Spacek 10/25
(Omitted last week)
J'ne Augspurger 10/29
Ramona Augspurger 10/31
Lynn Reha 11/01
Caleb Augpurger 11/03

Happy Anniversary!

Darvis & Shelly King (19)
11/02

Prayer Requests

Prayer is requested for:

*Health concerns for:

- *Cal Hubbard
- *Ken Shoemaker
- *Deborah Spacek
- *Joe Haney

*Al & Andi Tauber in their work at Emmaus Ministries

If you have a prayer concern for which you would appreciate the prayers of your church family, please call the church office at 452-6622 or email Lynn.

Partners in Healing

Mennonite Church of Normal join with other churches in the area to pray for various sections of Advocate Bro Menn

Worship with us this Sunday, November 1

Serving this Sunday

Greeters	South—Lee & Mary Alice Hertzler West—Rochelle Augspurger
Welcome Table	Elfriede Massier
Ushers	Steve Stenger; Need Volunteer Ryan Miller; Chellie Miller
Worship Leader	Marge Weaver
Accompanist	Dorothy Loepp
Song Leader	Cindy Ropp
Children's Time	Matt Hickman
Scripture	Shannon Unzicker
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Technology	Adam Augspurger
Toddler Nursery	Aaron Petri
Preschool Nursery	Abby Warfel

MCN Events This Week

Thurs Oct 29	Next Man's Bible Study 6:15 am
Sun Nov 1	Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am Worship 9:30 pm Christian Education 11:00 am Senior High Youth Group 5:00 pm Junior High Youth Group 5:00 pm Junior Choir 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Staff Meeting 9:30 am
Tues Nov 3	

Upcoming Events

Blood Drive Saturday, November 14, 8:00-12:00 at MCN. Please sign up in the Church Library or call the Church Office.

Our 12th Annual Alternative Gifts Fair:

- **Going, going, gone . . . !** Last chance to have a booth in our upcoming Alternative Gifts Fair, November 8 and 15. A great way to give free rein to your children's energy and creativity, and to help bring in the Kingdom. Call Roelie or Meredith about details. MCC and AGI catalogs are on the library table, for learning more about specific projects. See you at the Fair on November 8!
- **Project descriptions and shopping lists** for both MCC and AGI projects are now in your mailboxes. Fuller descriptions of individual projects are readily found in the complete catalogs on the library table.
- **My Coins Count** Children and Adults are encouraged to put their coins in the My Coins Count jar which will be available during the Alternative Gifts Fair Sundays. Did you know there is a video of the My Coins Count song by Lee Gustason Zook? Click [here](#).

Congregational meal & meeting November 15 Our Fall meeting will provide an opportunity

Medical Center and Advocate Eureka Hospital. This month MCN is asked to pray for the Medical Oncology Specialty 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.

Voice of the Day

Community means caring: caring for people. Dietrich Bonhoeffer says: "He who loves community destroys community; he who loves the brethren builds community." A community is not an abstract ideal. *Jean Vanier*

Conference Newsletters

[Click the link](#) to read the current *Heart, Soul, Mind & Strength*, IMC Conference Ministers Michael Danner & Kim Lltwiller's weekly message to IMC churches. Also, the latest copy of [Missonal Crossroads](#) is available. The CDC Focus is available [here](#) and the CDC Reporter [here](#).

Directory Update

Deborah Spacek new phone number (309)-310-9792

Periodicals Flyers were placed in mailboxes recently inviting you to participate in the group subscriptions for *The Mennonite*, *The Upper Room* and/or *Rejoice*. If you would like one or more of these subscriptions, please complete the form and return it with your payment to the Church Office by Sunday, November 1.

to review the proposed 2016 budget and affirm the committee volunteers proposed by the Leadership Selection Committee. There will be a meal after Sunday School. If your last name begins with A-N, please bring soup. If your last name begins with O-Z, please bring dessert. Bread will be provided. Also please bring own table service.

Surprise Luncheon Our annual surprise luncheon is December 6 following Sunday School. What is a surprise luncheon? You sign up to host a small group for dinner or attend as a guest. The surprise is that you find out on Sunday, December 6, where you will be for dinner. So, please sign up to host or attend the Surprise Luncheon by completing the flyer in your mailbox by November 30th. Please turn the completed flyers in to Connie Reeser-Hall or the Church Office. *Fellowship Committee*

Mennonite Disaster Service Trip early December? Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is looking for a church group of volunteers for Dec 6-12 for home re-building following tornados in Pilger, Nebraska. Gerry Schrock is interested in going along as cook if others are interested. Anyone else interested and able to go? Please contact Pastor Jane immediately (by Nov 1).

Opportunities to Serve

Cradle Needed. Emmanuel Kasongo and Tanya Kimbembe will be welcoming a new baby to the family in early November, we think a little sister for Theresia. If anyone has a cradle they could borrow, please contact Pastor Jane.

Might God be Calling You? Service Opportunities. Nurturing our children's *Christian education* and being a church that *worships* and *fellowships* together are valued congregational priorities here at MCN. There are key opportunities to serve in each of those areas of our church life. Might God be calling you? Shelly Nester King would love to talk further with you!

Items of interest from Illinois Mennonite Conference

Day of Discernment The Illinois Mennonite Conference is sponsoring Day of Discernment 2015 on November 7 from 9am-3pm at the Tremont Community Center in Tremont, IL. The focus is *We actively seek the Holy Spirit's guidance!* The presenter/facilitators are Kristin Jackson and Amos Shakya from Living Water Community Church. Please let Lotus Hershberger know if you are interested in attending. A flyer with additional information is posted on the Entrance Bulletin Board.

And this announcement from Illinois Mennonite Conference: Attention young adults (college age and up)! We had a blast at our last gathering and want to invite YOU to our next one! Meet new friends, connect with old! Saturday, November 21 at 5:00pm we are meeting at the Mennonite Heritage Center located between Germantown Hills and Metamora. Come at 5 to engage in a stimulating Bible Study or come later to join in the meal and fellowship afterwards. If possible, please bring a simple side dish to go with the chili meal (and a Bible!). Don't forget to join our Facebook page! Fellowship of Anabaptist Young Adults. Email questions to AYAFellowship@gmail.com Mennonite Heritage Center: 675 IL-116, Germantown Hills, IL 61548-- Jacob.Landis@jacob.landis.11@gmail.com

The importance of planning ahead Find out about the importance of planning ahead for the potential costs of long-term care. Everence is presenting a seminar, *Long-term care: What is your plan?* Nov. 16, 2:00 pm or 7:00 pm, here at Mennonite Church of Normal. Additional dates and locations this fall are Nov. 19 at First Mennonite Church of Morton at either 2:00 pm or 7:00 pm and Nov. 10, 10:00 am at Maple Lawn in Eureka. This is a great opportunity for families to receive information needed to make informed decisions about long-term care insurance. You are welcomed to bring friends and loved ones to this informational gathering. Contact the Grieder Agency at (309) 376-4312 or john.grieder@everence.com for more information or to reserve your spot.

Of Special Interest

Creches for the Sanctuary Sconces. Might you have a Christmas Nativity Scene that is small enough to sit safely on a side sconce in our sanctuary? If so, would you allow us to use it this Christmas season (Nov 29-January 4)? They can be as simple as Mother/Father/Child or be the traditional entire scene. Eight are needed. Please let Pastor Jane know.

Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale The Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale is quickly approaching.

The Relief Sale Board has been working diligently on next year's sale and we wanted to share some information. The 2016 Illinois Relief Sale will be March 18-19, 2016 at the Interstate Center in Bloomington. Once again, the board is challenging each congregation to donate at least five items to the auction. With the upcoming holiday season approaching, we encourage you to prayerfully consider purchasing items for the sale. Your hard work and dedication continues to make the sale a success.

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Pastor Matt Hickman
Youth and Family Life
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Pastor Jane Roeschley
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