



**Mennonite
Church
of Normal**

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

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

November 11, 2015

MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

Today's Rain Riddles

What is the king's favorite kind of precipitation?

Hail! And the queen's? Reign.

When does it rain money?
When there is a change in the weather.

How do you wrap a cloud?
With a rainbow.

Happy Birthday!

Tran Tu 11/12
Jane Roeschley 11/13
Lloyd Combs 11/15
Jack Brandon 11/16
Barbara Gillespie 11/18

Happy Anniversary!

None this week

Prayer Requests

Prayer is requested for:

*Health concerns for:

- *Cal Hubbard
- *Deborah Spacek
- *Jerry Musselman
- *Lora & Russ Oyer

*Meghan Reha MCC volunteer in Bangladesh.

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

Worship with us this Sunday, November 15

Serving this Sunday

Greeters	South—Barry & Marge Weaver West—Ryan Miller
Welcome Table	Dorothy Loepp
Ushers	Connie Reeser-Hall; Darvis King Adam Augspurger; Caleb Augspurger
Worship Leader	Jane Roeschley
Accompanist	Chris Culbertson & Youth Musicians
Song Leader	To Be Announced
Children's Time	Nancy Fisher
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Technology	Adam Augspurger
Toddler Nursery	Chellie Miller
Preschool Nursery	Jonah King

MCN Events This Week

Wed Nov 11	Peace & Justice 5:15 pm
Thur Nov 12	Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am IMC Pastor-Peer Meeting 9:00 Red Cross Blood Drive 8:00 am Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am Alternative Gifts Fair Worship 9:30 pm Christian Education 11:00 am Congregational Meal 12:15 pm Congregational Meeting 1:00 pm Relief Sale Board 2:30 pm Senior High Youth Group 4:00 pm Junior High Youth Group 5:00 pm Junior Choir 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm
Sat Nov 13	Everence Long Term Planning Seminar 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Sun Nov 15	Staff Meeting 9:30 am Undoing Racism Conversation 7:00 pm
Mon, Nov 16	
Tues Nov 17	

Upcoming Events at 805 S Cottage

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

Congregational meal & meeting this Sunday November 15 Our Fall meeting will provide an opportunity to review the proposed 2016 budget and affirm the committee volunteers proposed by the Leadership Selection Committee. There will a meal after Sunday School. **If your last name begins with A-R, please bring soup. If your last name begins with S-Z, please bring dessert.** Bread will be provided. Also please bring own table service.

Alternative Gifts Fair Sunday is the final day of our Alternative Gifts Fair. Our very best

Adult Day Services 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

Faith is a place of mystery, where we find the courage to believe in what we cannot see and the strength to let go of our fear of uncertainty.
Brene Brown

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 [Missional Crossroads](#) is available. The CDC Focus is available [here](#) and the CDC Reporter [here](#).

Building Use

Head Start Parent Meeting Wednesday, Nov 18 5:30-7:00 pm

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 22th**. Please turn the completed flyers in to Connie Reeser-Hall or the Church Office.

thanks to the Jr. High S. S. class led by Laura Dick, to Madeline Baumgartner, and to the Brandon, Nichols, Warfels and Zehr families for their wonderful booths. Shopping lists for both MCC and AGI projects are still available on the cashiers' tables, together with cards to send recipients. MCC and AGI inserts with a description of your gift will be in shoppers' mailboxes in about two weeks, in plenty of time for Christmas mail. Our thanks to all for joining with us in this fun project which sends gifts of caring and hope around the world.

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](#).

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.

Third Tuesday Conversation on Undoing Racism, 7 pm, Nov 17. We will continue the conversation with two articles by contemporary Mennonite writers. John Powell, *Hope is a Decision* -- <http://mennoworld.org/2015/10/12/columns/hope-is-a-decision/> Regina Shands *Stolztfus*, *Summer of Grief* -- <http://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/the-summer-of-grief/>

Homebuilders The next meeting is November 22 at the MRCommunity Room.

Thanksgiving Meal will take place at MCN at noon on Thanksgiving Day, November 26. Please sign up for your part in this potluck meal on the Atrium Bulletin Board. Any questions? Please see Marge Nester.

Calling all musicians young and old! We want everyone who plays an instrument and wants to play Christmas hymns to join us for two practices December 5th and December 12th and performing in Church December 13th. (Times TBA) Open to wind instruments, percussionists, and strings alike. We want everyone who has a passion for playing with other musicians ages junior high and up to come! If interested please talk to or email Lydia Hedberg, Alena Culbertson, or Wesley Hershberger.

Brass Advent Choir The Worship Committee is seeking musicians for a Brass Choir on December 20. The choir will play in the Atrium prior to church. If you are Jr. High or older and wish to participate, please contact Randy Zehr. Randy can be reached by e-mail at rkzehr@hotmail.com.

Items of Interest

Ron Ropp was honored at the November Mennonite Church of Normal Wellness committee meeting for 30 years of Leadership and faithful service to the committee. Establishing the role of the Parish Nurse, creating *God's HMO* and playing a major role in *Death Preparation Manual* are just a few of Ron's major contributions.

Volunteering with Faith in Action Last Sunday in worship Kay Reimer and Linda Clemmons were presented a regional Everence Volunteer Award for their work at Faith in Action of Bloomington-Normal, a national organization that helps seniors remain in their own homes. To learn more about this organization, see this 1 minute Youtube clip. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_zbSdrl6Xk To learn more about Faith in Action locally, see their website at <http://public.bnfia.org/> Information about volunteering can be located there or by calling 309-827-7780.

Does sexualized violence concern you? If so, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) U.S. invites you to participate in an online survey about this issue. Your answers to the open-ended questions will be used to guide MCC U.S. in its creation of trainings and resources for pastors and leaders in the faith community. Log on to mcc.org/wwso to complete the survey by the end of December. *Jennifer Steiner MCC Great Lakes Communications Coordinator*

Fellowship Committee

Advent Choir You are invited to join the Advent Choir (high-school age and up) who will sing during the first 4 Sundays in Advent. We would love for you to join us, even if you cannot be present for each Sunday that we sing. We have a great time making music together! Rehearsals are 7:30-8:30 pm in the sanctuary.

Give Away Interested in some tropical plants? Contact Ruth Haney at 309-531-0218

Thanks I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards when I was recovering. I am off crutches now. *Joe Haney*

New Address for Russ & Lora Oyer Martin Health Center Building B Rm. 120 2025 E Lincoln Street Bloomington, IL 61701

From Phil Dick in Bethlehem We made it to Bethlehem, but with the 8 hour time difference, didn't get much sleep Monday night. We heard a great presentation today from an Israeli man from Zochrot and visited Rachel's Tomb that is surrounded by 12 foot walls and the smell of tear gas.

Events Beyond 805 S Cottage

Maple Lawn's Service Auxiliary is holding a **HOLIDAY BAZAAR** on **Friday, November 13, 2015 from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM** in **Maple Lawn's Memorial Hall**. There will be home décor, specialty gifts, stocking stuffers, home wares, fashion accessories, family games, sporting goods, toys, books, bake sale and much more. The event open to the public will center around the theme "Twas The Night Before Christmas". Delightful story line vignettes will be featured at the bazaar. Proceeds go toward project needs around the Maple Lawn campus.

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

Pastor Tim Schrag
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Pastor Matt Hickman
Youth and Family Life
matt@normalmennonite.org

Pastor Jane Roeschley
Worship and Lay Ministries
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