

Worship with us this Sunday, December 11, the third Sunday of Advent.

[View this email in your browser](#)



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

December 7, 2016

## **Worship with Us This Sunday, December 11 The Third Sunday of Advent**

The Scripture for this Sunday is Matthew 11:2-11. The title of the sermon is *Five 'Miracles'....And Number Six?* Pastor Tim Schrag asks, "Five miracles of 'healing' are listed in Matthew 11:5. Each is physical and individual and individual in nature. But what about the last 'sign' of that verse?"

The hymns are *Hark the Herald Angels Sing* (HWB 201), *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* (HWB 178), *O Come, All Faithful* (HWB 212).

**All Sharing and Prayer Requests to Pastor Tim During Advent** - Please write out or send by email to Pastor Tim all items for sharing and prayer for Sunday worship. There is no open microphone sharing during Advent.



### **Prayers and Condolences**

Our condolences to Jon Friesen and family upon the death of his father.

Prayers are asked for  
*Gail Fisher, who is recovering from knee replacement surgery*

*Abby Warfel, having surgery on December 8.  
Wilma Dyck's 103 year old sister who fell and broke her hip recently.*

---

## **This Week at 805 S Cottage**

- Wed Dec 7      Adult Christian Education Teachers 7:00 pm
- Thur Dec 8      Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am  
Pastor-Peer IMC Meeting 9:00 am  
Staff Meeting 2:00 pm
- Sun Dec 11      Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am  
Worship 9:30 am  
Children's Christian Ed 10:45 am  
Adult Christian Ed 11:00 am  
Junior High Youth Group 5:00 pm  
Senior High Youth Group 5:00 pm  
Junior Choir 6:00 pm  
Youth Choir 6:45 pm  
Adult Choir 7:30 pm
- Mon Dec 12      Mennonite Women 9:30 am  
Experience-Based Feedback: Church Board 6:30 pm
- Tue Dec 13      Worship Committee 5:00 pm  
Church Board 6:30 pm
- Wed Dec 14      Peace & Justice Committee 5:15 pm  
Financial Stewardship 5:30 pm  
Adult Christian Education Teachers 7:00 pm
- Thurs Dec 15      Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am  
Staff Meeting 9:30 am  
Outreach Meeting 5:00 pm  
Youth Ministry Committee 6:00 pm



---

## **Serving This Sunday**



- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Greeters       | South: Barry and Marge Weaver<br>West: Ardys Serpette |
| Welcome Table  | Linda Clemmons  |
| Ushers         | Darvis and Shelly King<br>Jonah, Emma, Evan King      |
| Worship Leader | Darrel Miller   |
| Song Leader    | Glenn Wilson  |
| Accompanist    | Chris Culbertson; Youth Musicians                     |

Scripture	Darrel Miller
Children's Time	Holly Zehr
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Technology	Adam Augspurger
Toddler Nursery	Miriam Kennell
Preschool Nursery	Lucy Unzicker

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday to

Philip	Brandon	11-Dec
Connie	Reeser-Hall	11-Dec
Owen	Kettering	12-Dec
Abby	Warfel	12-Dec
Amy	Arkell	14-Dec
Miller	Roberta	14-Dec
Julie	Musselman	14-Dec
Rebecca	Houtsma	15-Dec
Wilma	Dyck	17-Dec
Christopher	Haab	17-Dec
Tim	Kauffman	17-Dec



## Contemplative Coloring

All persons of *all* ages at *anytime* during Advent are invited to help us complete an extra-large set of coloring posters. They combine to form the entire Christmas story. Posters and coloring pencils will be available at the table in the atrium.

## Black Lives Matter

Black Lives Matter (BLM) of BloNo is holding a community meeting with Bloomington Police Department, Chief Heffner on **Thursday, December 15th at 7pm at Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church (801 W. Market, Bloomington)**. The BLM collective has been organizing in the community for several months, and has brought to light issues that people of color face when dealing with police in our community. On the 15th the group will present its agenda to Chief Heffner regarding police conduct, accountability, transparency, and will push for meaningful community policing practices. Everyone who supports Black Lives is needed in a show of solidarity! Can you be there on December 15th? Contact Sophie Charles or Henry Dick for more information.



## **Christmas Eve**

The Fellowship Committee invites you to bring a plate of Christmas cookies to share to the Christmas Eve Service on December 24 at 6:30 pm. Please bring your own plate and then take any leftovers home at the end of the evening. Sharing cookies will enhance our visiting after the Worship Service.

---

## **MCC Great Lakes Soil to Table Learning Tour to Haiti**

MCC Great Lakes (Mennonite Central Committee) has 3 openings for the March 18-26 SOIL TO TALE Learning Tour to Haiti. Cost is \$1000 plus airfare. Some assistance with fares is available. For more info contact MCC Great Lakes, 574-534-4133. MCC's work in Haiti has deep roots. On this tour meet Haitian farmers, marketers and cooks. Climb the steep mountain paths to see a local fruit tree nursery, visit a peanut processing cooperative, smell coffee beans roasting on an open fire and learn about profession food preparation from youth in a vocational culinary program. Learn about the impact of food policy and purchasing choices on Haitian farmers and cooks, and how to advocate for change. Tour led by Paul and Rebecca Shetler Fast. The tour will include project visits, hands on tree planting and cooking demonstrations.

---

## **Bridge of Hope Family.02**

Home Sweet Home Ministries has given MCN the invitation to again become part of the move to housing stability for another family through a 2-year monthly experience of neighboring. No longer using the terminology of "mentors", the church relationship is now one of "neighbors" -- regardless of how far apart we live. What a great connection to a compelling Biblical idea! We hope to begin in January.

Might God be nudging you to become part of our Neighboring? It will be an enriching way to put your faith into action. We are looking for 6-8 persons (men and women, all ages) to give an evening a month for 2 years to help be "neighbors" to a single parent and kids as they strengthen their lives. See this link for an introduction of Bridge of Hope Neighboring.

<https://youtu.be/C1Xqn9mr1aI>

Interested persons please talk to Pastor Jane.

---

## **MCC Great Lakes**

Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes is seeking a Program Director. The person who fills this role will be responsible for the direction and oversight of MCC Great Lakes programs. The Program Director is expected to connect with constituent churches and groups, as well as partner organizations, to work together and advance the mission of MCC. This position also explores ways to further develop relationships between program staff and partnerships within the Great Lakes region to reflect the commitment to diverse constituent churches. To see a full job description and apply, visit [mcc.org/gl-program-director](http://mcc.org/gl-program-director) or contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133.

---

## Sowing Sisterhood

This latest volume of the Illinois Mennonite Women Newsletter features articles on the Housewarmer Project and Gratitude. Select this link to go to the [Sowing Sisterhood Newsletter, Volume 6](#).

---



## Housewarmer Project

The Mennonite Women USA Housewarmer Project continues to donate quilted wall hangings to Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) to give to homeowners when their home is completed and a dedication takes place. MDS is hard at work rebuilding after flooding in West Virginia, Detroit, Michigan, Lafayette, Louisiana, a typhoon in Saipan, and will soon begin rebuilding after wildfires in California. We are getting very low on quilted wall hangings. If quilting is your gift, please consider sharing. See the link below for more information."

<https://mennonitewomenusa.org/housewarmer/>

---



## 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 Advocate Addiction Recovery Unit. 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.

---

## 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

*My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty one has done great things for me and holy is his name. Mary, Mother of Jesus, in the Gospel of Luke 1: 46-49*

---



## Ways to Annoy Your Roommate During Christmas

Claim you were a Christmas tree in your former life. If s/he tries to bring one into the room, scream bloody murder.

Go to the mall with your roommate and sit on Santa's lap. Refuse to get off.

Paint your nose red and wear antlers. Constantly complain about how you never get to join in on the games.

Make conversation out of Christmas Carols. (e.g., "You know, I saw mommy kissing Santa Claus underneath the mistletoe last night.")

Sing: "All I want for Christmas is my roommate's two front teeth..."

Give your roommate the gifts from the twelve days of Christmas song.

Build a snowperson with your roommate and place a hat on its head. When it doesn't come to life, cry hysterically "it didn't work!"

---

Christmas is weird. What other time of the year do you sit in front of a dead tree and eat candy out of your socks?

---