

New Year's Day Worship Regular time (9:30 am)  
No Christian Education

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MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

December 28, 2016

Worship with Us This Sunday,  
New Year's Day 9:30 am (Regular Time)

The Scripture for this Sunday is Matthew 2:1-12. The title of the sermon is "...and all Jerusalem with him." Pastor Tim Schrag comments, "There are several themes here. What do to with 'wise men from the East'? Once again, more dreams! And the threat to the Messiah from a threatened political ruler. A very fascinating text, indeed."

The hymns are *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (HWB 194), *Angels We Have Heard on High* (HWB 197), and *Oh, Beautiful Star of Bethlehem* (STS 32) and *O Come, All Ye 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.

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This Week at 805 S Cottage

Sun Jan 1	Worship Service 9:30 am NO Christian Education
Mon Jan 2	Church Office Closed
Tues Jan 3	Pastoral Council 6:00 pm



Wed Jan 4

Adult Christian Education Teachers 7:00 pm

### Serving This Sunday

Greeters	South: Rick and Annette Harnish West: Nathan Miller
Welcome Table	Hazel Yoder
Ushers	Mike and Stephanie Company Eric & Chellie Miller
Worship Leader	To Be Announced
Song Leader	Glenn Wilson
Accompanist	Elsa Raab
Scripture	To Be Announced
Children's Time	Holly Zehr
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Technology	Randy Zehr
Toddler Nursery	Chellie Miller
Preschool Nursery	Duane/Stephanie Nester



### Birthdays and Anniversaries

**Happy 49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Larry & Louise Reeser on January 6<sup>th</sup>**

<b>Happy Birthday to</b>		
Eric	Miller	1-Jan
Albert	Tshiseleka	1-Jan
Grant	Zehr	3-Jan
Rebecca	Perry	3-Jan
Mary Alice	Hertzler	7-Jan



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### Spending Plan Update

The Financial Stewardship Committee would like to thank you for your donations and especially note the fact that our December income exceeded expenses by approximately \$13,000. However, we still have a year-to-date deficit of approximately \$16,600. Please consider giving an additional donation. If you are able to do so, bring your check to the church office by Friday at 2:00 pm, or date your check December 31, 2016 and bring it on Sunday. We would ask that everyone prayerfully consider their response to this, knowing that God's blessing will be with us.

### STAR Literacy Volunteer Meeting

Sheila Diaz, Literacy Coordinator of the STAR Literacy Program will present information for volunteers from MCN who may be interested in tutoring community residents. These community

members are studying English as an Other Language or preparing for the GED Test. The meeting will take place on January 5 at 7 pm at MCN and is open to all who are interested.

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### The 2017 Relief Sale

The Sale board is looking for a new treasurer for the 2018 Sale. We would like someone to be able to train with the current treasurer at the 2017 sale. Please contact Dennis Kennell if interested [dk@speednet.com](mailto:dk@speednet.com).

For those churches who make pies we have a suggestion to help with pie crusts. There is business in Arthur that will make the pie crusts for \$1.00 a piece. The pie tins do need to be dropped off and picked up. The board is offering to help coordinate the drop off and pick up of pie tins. Below you will find information about this service. Your church would be responsible for paying for each pie crust. If this is something you are interested in, please contact Dennis Kennell at [dk@speednet.com](mailto:dk@speednet.com).

#### [Beachy's Bulk Foods](#)

259 N CR 200E  
Arthur IL 61911  
[217-543-3447](tel:217-543-3447)

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### Moro Moro Scholarship Fund

The [Moro Moro Scholarship Fund](#) is a fund that my late father started to benefit children from his hometown in rural Bolivia. I would be honored if you took a minute to read over the good work going on there. You can click on the link above or there are few extra copies are on the table in the narthex. Many Blessings! - Doug Valverde ([dougvalverde@hotmail.com](mailto:dougvalverde@hotmail.com))

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### Would You Like to Help Out?

The Church Board has openings for persons to serve on some important committees. We have openings in two areas: Everence Advocate, and Leadership Selection Committee. The Everence Advocate position is the connection between our congregation and Everence, the churchwide program agency which offers insurance and financial stewardship tools. The Leadership Selection Committee chooses persons to fill the committees which are constitutionally mandated. If you have questions or interest in filling any of these roles, please contact Lynn Reha at [church@normalmennonite.org](mailto:church@normalmennonite.org), or Wayne Hochstetler at [hochwayne@icloud.com](mailto:hochwayne@icloud.com). Thank you, Wayne Hochstetler, Congregational Chair.

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### MCC Material Resources Drop-off Location

Thank you for your faithful donations of kit supplies, comforters and blankets for Mennonite Central Committee to distribute around the world. We are grateful to Metamora Mennonite Church (1393 Mennonite Road in Metamora) for agreeing to serve as a new local drop-off location, replacing the former location in Congerville. Materials can be dropped off between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon, Tuesday through Friday. Please call Michelle Burns at 309-367-4892 to let her know you are coming. More information about after office hours will be forthcoming. For more information about kits and comforters, visit [mcc.org/kits](http://mcc.org/kits). Thank you for your part in bringing comfort and dignity to families facing disaster or crisis. Jennifer Steiner, MCC Great Lakes Communications Coordinator

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## 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

Go where your best prayers take you. *Frederick Buechner*



## New Year's Chuckle

### A NEW YEAR PRAYER FOR THE ELDERLY

God, grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, The good fortune to run into the ones that I do, And the eyesight to tell the difference.

Deer readers, my gnu years resolution is to tell you a gazelleon times how much I caribou you! Sorry. Bad puns. Alpaca bag and leave. *Greg Tambyln*