

## God's People Gather to Worship

"For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" Esther 4:14

### For our guests

- The guestbook and name tags are at the Welcome Table, as well as a small gift for our first-time visitors.
- There is opportunity for introduction of guests during the pre-service time.
- Large print hymnals and hearing devices are available. Ask a greeter or any one of the ushers.

### Caring for our children – Professionally-staffed child care is offered beginning at 9:20 am.

- **Toddler Nursery** for newborns through age 2, including a nursing nook, and crib room.
- **Preschool Nursery** for ages 3-5 (Pre-K), in Room 11.
- **Children's Time** during worship. Children are invited to come to the platform.

### Following Worship

- **Christian Education** for adults begins at 11:00 am. See the classes listed below.
- **Caring and Sharing** time is available in the center Fellowship Area.

Christian Education	
<b>Children</b>	
10:45 am	
Gather 'Round (ages 3-1st)	Room 11
<b>SHINE Curriculum</b>	
Nursery	Nursery
3 & 4 year olds	Rooms 13 & 14
Grades K-1	Room 11
Grades 2 & 3	Room 12
Grades 4 & 5	Room 9
Grades 6-8	Room 8
<b>Adults &amp; Teens</b>	
Discussion and Input Tim Schrag, Facilitator Classroom 4	
Peeling Away the Layers Melika Hershberger, leader, NW Under Mezzanine	
Lectio Divina and Contemplative Response Elsa Raab, Jane Roeschley, Leaders, Pastor Tim's Office	
Bible Study Darrel Miller, Leader Conference Room	
High School Study Jon and Janelle Friesen Leaders, Rooms 5 & 7	

Mennonite Church of Normal	
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Tim Schrag, Senior Pastor tim@normalmennonite.org	
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Lynn Reha, Administrative Assistant lynn@normalmennonite.org	
Get connected! For more information on any of the following ministries, contact the office.	
* Junior & Youth Choirs	* Area Clusters
* Junior High Fellowship	* Mennonite Women
* Senior High Fellowship	* Book Studies
* Young Families	* Homebuilders
* Women's Bible Studies	* Seniors Events
* Next Man's Bible Study	* Parish Nurse

## Order of Worship January 29, 2017

Community Life	Pastor Tim Schrag
Scripture Focus	Lynette Miller
<i>Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:3</i>	
Prelude	Dorothy Loepp
Call to Worship	
*Hymns	Glenn Wilson
<i>What is This Place</i>	
<i>Sing Praise to God Who Reigns</i>	
	HWB 1
	HWB 59
*Prayer	
Children's Time	Chris Culbertson
Offering	
Sharing and Congregational Prayer with Lord's Prayer	
*Hymn	<i>God of the Bible</i>
	STJ 27
Scripture	Esther 4:6-16
	Caroline Roeschley
Sermon	<i>God Among the Godless</i>
*Hymn	<i>The Lord Lift You Up</i>
	STJ 73
*Benediction	
*Postlude and Dismissal	

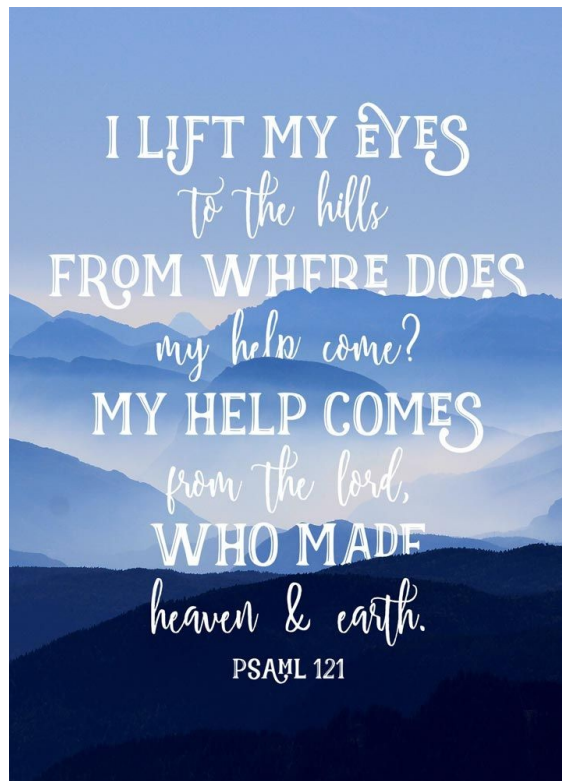
*\*Please stand as you are able.*

*Parents/Caregivers, please note that Children's CE dismisses at 11:45.*

*Please remember to silence your cell phone.*

## Weekly Calendar

Today	Pre-Service Prayer	9:00 am
	Worship	9:30 am
	CE for Children	10:45 am
	CE for Adults	10:45 am
	Junior High Youth	5:00 pm
	Junior Choir	6:00 pm
	Youth Choir	6:45 pm
Thu Feb 2 Next	Man Bible Study	6:15 am



## Two New Adult Christian Education Classes begin February 5, 11:00-11:45.

- 1) **What did Jesus Mean: Difficult Passages from Jesus and Paul** This class will examine sayings of Jesus that are difficult to understand. The class will be led by Darryl Miller and will meet in the Conference Room. It will meet throughout February; beginning in March the Uniform series will start again.
- 2) The New Jim Crow Based on Michelle Alexander's book, [The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness](#), this class runs Feb-early May and is led by Amy Reiman and David Harnish. *The New Jim Crow* presents the compelling case that mass incarceration, a form of social control that disproportionately affects people of color, is the most urgent civil rights issue of our time. Class participants need to have a copy of the book.

**59th Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale, March 17-18, Interstate Center, Bloomington.** "Sharing God's Love and Compassion!" Put the dates on your calendar. The Distress Supper will be on Thursday, February 9, at the Roanoke Mennonite Church at 6:00 pm. Anyone is welcome. If you would like to go, call Roelie Homan, 662-6426.

### MCN Spending Plan Status

Thank you for your offerings.

December Income \$74,511.16

December Expenses \$45,696.87

2016 Income \$505,846.55

2016 Expenses \$507,475.78

Attendance on Jan 22 was 185.



# Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of  
Mennonite Church USA

**January 29, 2017**

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