

This Sunday: Congregational Meal and Annual Meeting. The Meal is a fundraiser for Youth going to Annual Conference.

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MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

January 18, 2017

Worship with Us This Sunday,
January 22, 2017

The Scripture for this Sunday is Matthew 5:13-16. The title of the sermon is *The Chemistry of Witness*. Pastor Tim Schrag asks, "What 'flavor' do you bring into your social settings?"

The hymns are *Blessed Jesus, At Your Word* (HWB 13), *Blessed Savior, We Adore Thee* (HWB 107), *Beauty for Brokenness* (STS 115) and *You are Salt for the Earth* (HWB 226).



Prayers

Please pray for Pastor Jane Roeschley, Carrie Stalter and others who are traveling to Washington DC to bear witness to the need for respect for all women.

Please pray for increasing health for

- Bev Collin's niece
- Jordan Spacek

Please pray for Deb Hickman, as she responds to pleas for help from a needy child.

This Week at 805 S Cottage

Wed Jan 18	Peace & Justice Committee 5:15 pm Adult Christian Education Teachers 7:00 pm
Thur Jan 19	Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
Fri-Sun, Jan 20-22	Junior High Retreat at Camp Menno Haven
Sun Jan 22	Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Christian Education for Children 10:45 am Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am Congregational Meal 12:00 pm Congregational Meeting 1:00 pm Senior High Youth 5:00 pm Junior Choir 6:00 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm
Wed Jan 25	Adult Christian Education Teachers 7:00 pm
Fri-Sun Jan 27-29	Camp Friedenswald Retreat Senior High Retreat at Menno Haven



Serving This Sunday

Greeters	South: Mike and Stephe Company West: Emma King
Welcome Table	Mary Dyck
Ushers	Larry and Louise Reeser David and Abby Warfel
Worship Leader	Darvis King
Song Leader	Barry Weaver
Accompanist	Dorothy Loepp
Scripture	Adriene Lane
Children's Time	Darrel Miller
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Technology	Randy Zehr
Toddler Nursery	Emily Petri
Preschool Nursery	Lena Driscoll



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy 57th Anniversary to Paul & Lynn Chang on January 23.	Happy Birthday to		
	Vivian	Hubbard	23-Jan
	Aileen	Wilson	23-Jan
	Ben	Jablonski	25-Jan
	Emily	Petri	27-Jan



Congregational Meal and Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Mennonite Church of Normal is scheduled for Sunday, January 22 at 1:00 pm. The Annual Reports of MCN document is available for you at <http://www.normalmennonite.org/2016-annual-reports/>. If you would like a copy at the meeting, please print and bring along. An expanded agenda has been printed and is in your mailboxes. It includes the revised Vision and Mission Statement, for which the Board will be asking affirmation, and some questions that will help you participate in the “Hearing from the Congregation” agenda item. This expanded agenda is also available on the MCN website.

Preceding the meeting will be a congregational meal. The menu for this meal includes a macaroni and cheese bar, salad and dessert. This meal is a fund raiser to help with the expenses of sending our youth to Orlando for MCUSA Youth Convention 2017.

All are invited to participate in the meal and the meeting.

Women's March

Last Sunday Pastor Jane asked us to pray with her as she marches in Washington DC on Saturday, January 21, for respect for all women. She will carry the MCUSA flag (Pray for Peace, Act for Peace). See below for links to Women’s March at the MCUSA website. Additional MCNers are joining in sister events closer to home, and they invite others. Links below give information about sister events; if you would like more information about possible shared transportation, please contact Lynn Reha at lynnreha@gmail.com or 815-878-4529. All those involved seek your prayers.

MCUSA

<http://mennoniteusa.org/tag/million-women-march/>

Champaign

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/womens-march-champaign-il-2>

Peoria

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/peoria-rally-in-support-of-the-womens-march>

Springfield

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/springfield-call-2action-unity-rally>



All Church Winter Retreat

All Church Winter Retreat at Camp Friedenswald EVERYONE is invited to a weekend of fellowship and fun at camp, January 27-29! Friedenswald is a beautiful retreat in southern Michigan with comfortable, warm lodges to accommodate us. Opportunities for social time or solitude abound! Activities for the weekend include sledding, tubing, hiking, relaxing, eating, cross country skiing, reading, games, worship, fellowship, and more! More details and sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094faaa87-allchurch>

Additional news for Camp Friedenswald

From the Camp Friedenswald Newsletter *Six new cabins are taking shape!* Thanks to a relatively mild winter so far, progress continues to be made on renovations to the new Cabins, Guest House Lodge, and Chapel/Activity Center. It's exciting to see the renewed facilities as we continue to work towards a May completion date, just in time to welcome the first summer campers. You can follow our progress on [Facebook](#).

*Thank
you* 

Thanks

“When God needs physical arms and voices to give comfort, God does it through those here who follow their God-given urges. We have experienced that over and over in the past couple of weeks as we have mourned the sudden death of my father, and we thank you! We have read your cards, felt your hugs, heard the care and concern in your condolences, and it has warmed us. Sincere thanks to all of you. *Lois and Wayne Hochstetler*”

Now What?

Here's a link that provides a great story to follow up on the January 1 sermon, *Now What?*
<http://www.leslieleylandfields.com/blog/>

Meals for Sunday Night Youth Meetings

Each Sunday night, supper is provided for our junior and senior high youth as a way to bolster fellowship. Might you consider providing a meal? You can sign up to provide food for both groups or just one. The high school group with adults has around 18 people at meals; the junior high group with adults has around 10-12.

Follow this link to sign up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0448acab2aa1fd0-dinner1>

Save the Date for Central District Meetings

You are warmly invited to gather with your CDC brothers and sisters in any of the upcoming Regional Gatherings that best fits with your schedule. This is a time for worship, fellowship, and a taste of our annual meeting in June. If you have not met Doug Luginbill, our new conference minister, this is a wonderful opportunity to do that. We particularly invite congregational leaders and young adults to attend, along with pastors and previous delegates. Please know that anyone is welcome to participate.

Feb 25 @ Southside Fellowship (Elkhart, IN on the AMBS Campus)

Mar 4 @ First Mennonite Church Urbana (Champaign/Urbana, IL)

Mar 11 @ First Mennonite Church Wadsworth (Wadsworth, OH)

Regional Gatherings start with coffee and tea at 9:45 am, and conclude at 3:00 pm.

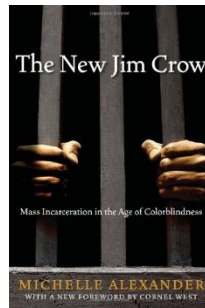
Hospitality Volunteers

From Louise Reeser In 2016, many of you served as Hospitality Volunteers. Thank you very much. We are making the schedule for Ushers, Greeters and Welcome Table beginning in March of 2017 I will consider your name to be continuing from 2016, unless I hear otherwise from you. If you have not been on the previous schedule for 2016, but would like to participate in 2017, please let me know. I will be finalizing the list in the next several weeks. Contact Louise Reeser -826-3423 or email at reeserfarms@gmail.com.



Welcome Sign

This sign welcomes neighbors no matter where they are from. Our electric sign has a version of this message on it. If you would like to have a copy of this sign in a metal stand for your yard, please contact Cindy Ropp. They are available for \$10.



The New Jim Crow Adult Elective. 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. Amy and David will draw on their experiences as local educators, in order to historically contextualize Alexander's thesis, and to better understand both the limitation and potential of the language we use to discuss systems of racism. The class will work to establish a Biblical imperative to respond to Alexander's call to take action on this human rights issue. Class participants need to have a copy of the book and must read a 20-page assignment each week before class. Books may be purchased at Barnes & Noble (approx \$20), online at [Amazon](#) (used approx \$14) or check with Pastor Jane.



Clean Car Opportunity

Tired of winter grunge on your car? Ryan Ulrich does expert car cleaning and detailing. You can call or text him at 309-3606917, or e-mail him at ryanu81@gmail.com



When the Unthinkable Happens

The registration deadline for Hesston College's 2017 **Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series** conference is a month away. The **Feb. 17 to 19** conference will cover the topic "When the Unthinkable Happens," and will discuss how congregations and communities can prepare for and respond to trauma. Don't miss out; [register now](#). Lynn Reha is attending and would be glad to share transportation.



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

“Evil may so shape events that Caesar will occupy a palace and Christ a cross,” ... “but that same Christ will rise up and split history into A.D. and B.C., so that even the life of Caesar must be dated by his name. Yes, ‘the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.’”
Dr. Martin Luther King, quoting Theodore Parker



Today's Punniest

I became a professional fisherman, but discovered I couldn't live on my net income.
I studied a long time to become a doctor, but didn't have any patience.
I tried to be a musician, but eventually found I wasn't noteworthy.
I attempted being a deli worker, but anyway I sliced it, I couldn't cut the mustard.
I tried being a chef - figured it would add a little spice to my life, but just didn't have the thyme.