

Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace
program at MCN at 7:00 PM Sunday, May 14.

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MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

May 3, 2017

Worship with us this Sunday, May 7

The sermon title is *Resurrection Signs* and the scripture is Acts 2:42-47. Doug Luginbill, Conference Minister for Central District Conference, will present the sermon.

Prayers

Suzie Lane, spouse of Jennifer Dyck, Wilma's daughter, has been diagnosed with ALS. If anyone would like regular updates please let Wilma know and she will share a link with you.

Please pray

*For Women's Retreat at Camp Menno Haven this weekend.

*That Immigrant families will feel welcome in Bloomington/Normal.

*For the family and friends of Father Thomas Shea, who passed away on April 24, 2017.

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thurs May 4	Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am Outreach Committee 5:00 pm
Sun May 7	Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Christian Education for Children 10:45 am Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am Junior High Youth 5:00 pm Senior High Youth 5:00 pm
Mon May 8	Mennonite Women 9:30 am
Tues May 9	Staff Meeting 10:30 am Worship Committee 5:00 pm Wellness Committee 5:30 pm Church Board 6:30 pm Christian Education Committee 7:00 pm
Wed May 10	Peace & Justice Committee 5:00 pm Pastoral Council 6:30 pm
Thur May 11	Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am Pastor-Peer IMC Meeting 9:00 am Youth Ministry Committee 6:00 pm



Serving This Sunday

Greeters	South: Ben & Caroline Roeschley West: Joe Warfel
Welcome Table	Marcia Rossi
Ushers	Darvis & Shelly King Jonah, Evan & Emma King
Sermon	Doug Luginbill
Worship Leader	Joe Culpepper
Song Leader	Glenn Wilson
Scripture	Abby Warfel
Children's Time	Cindy Ropp
Accompanist	Denise Hedberg
Technology	Nathan Valverde
Toddler Nursery	Miriam Kennell
Preschool Nursery	Claire Dyck

Blood pressures will be taken this Sunday in the Nurse's Office.



Birthdays



Paul Chang 5/7
Mary Jantze 5/7
Larry Reeser 5/7
Mike Evans 5/8
George Wiman 5/9
Blessing Hickman 5/9
Debbie Stenger 5/10
Claire Liew 5/12



Summer Sunday School Volunteers Needed

The Christian Education committee is looking for help with the children's Sunday School experience this summer in order to give our fabulous year-round teachers a much-deserved break! Volunteers can use the curriculum plan and activities provided for their day or choose to follow their own plan and "theme" with stories, songs, games, crafts, etc. of their own choosing (possibly centered around another culture, another area of interest, music, nature, etc.). We will be happy to find an assistant to assist with crowd control and

back up for anyone that would like to have that on their teaching day. Please visit the link for available slots...we would welcome you signing up for any amount of days you are willing to do! Thank you for your

help! <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094faaa87-summer>



Summer Worship Special Music, Fresh Flowers and Favorite Hymns

You are invited to sign up for one or more Sundays this summer to: provide special worship music, vocal or instrumental, to bring fresh flowers for in front of the pulpit, or to request a favorite hymn. Use this link to sign up www.SignUpGenius.com/go/8050A4BA4A92BA57-special



Student Update

MCN Students are going far! Emma Lovellette is attending Parkland College, and she is grateful for the support she received through the recent “Care Box” from the SMAP Committee. Meredith Satchwell, Goshen College student, is headed to Peru for her SST. Caitlin Haab is headed to China on a Bluffton College Cross Cultural Experience. Adriene Lane is graduating from ISU in May and heading to Ecuador to teach English in the Fall. Congratulations to each for their successes. Our prayers go with them.



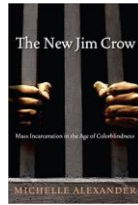
Hygiene Kits

Keeping clean is an important part of remaining healthy, but families who have fled their homes because of disaster or war often struggle to afford these necessary supplies. Hygiene kits also are given through schools or orphanages to encourage healthy habits for children. Last year 57,640 hygiene kits were shipped to Jordan, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Syria, Serbia, Democratic Republic of Korea (North Korea), Honduras, Lebanon, Ukraine, Iraq, Canada, Ethiopia and the US.

Thank you for limiting your generosity to the items listed. Due to strict regulations some countries have on the expiration date of toothpaste, MCC no longer asks for toothpaste to be donated with the kits. Instead, MCC will provide the toothpaste with the kits when they ship.

Return the filled bags to the church and place them in the red bucket. Or, if you would prefer, you can just purchase the supplies and Mennonite Women will fill the bags.

Update for New Jim Crow Sunday School Class



1) Opportunity to serve: we are seeking participants from *The New Jim Crow* Sunday School class to help set up a letter-writing campaign. This will be coordinated with Peace and Justice Committee. As we near the end of our Sunday School, we would like to create an opportunity to send postcards and letters to relevant governing officials regarding multiple facets of mass incarceration. If you are interested, please e-mail Amy Reiman at a.reiman98@gmail.com

2) In case you were absent, there are some additional readings for the final two weeks of the Sunday School Class.

May 7: Please read [Social Justice is a Christian Tradition, Not a Liberal Agenda](#)

May 7: Please read [We must have Truth Telling to have Racial Justice](#)

May 14: Please read Drew Hart's chapter "Where do we go from here." More copies available at Sunday school.

3) May 21, Michelle Cook, of the Jobs Opportunity Program will be presenting to our group about the reentry program she facilitates here in our community. She will be sharing out some volunteer opportunities for us, as well. This will be our final Sunday School for this book study.

Heart and Soul Choir Concert

Saturday, May 13 at 4:00 pm

Heart and Soul Choir is a Decatur-based choir for people with special needs, led by Don Martin (former Youth Pastor at Mennonite Church of Normal). They will present a concert at MCN.

Welcome Back, Pastor Matt!



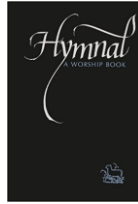
Pastor Matt Hickman is currently finishing up his internship, will soon graduate from Lincoln Christian College with a Master's Degree in Clinical Counseling, and will be returning to Mennonite Church of Normal on Monday, May 8.



Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace

At the invitation of the Outreach and Peace and Justice Committees, there will be a Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace program at MCN at 7:00 PM Sunday, May 14. This is being coordinated by Jonathan Brenneman, a Mennonite Church USA Voluntary Service Worker whose assignment it is to educate members

of Mennonite Church members about peace opportunities in Israel/Palestine. The speakers will be Steve Sherman representing [Jewish Voices for Peace](#), and [Jonathan Kuttab](#), a Palestinian Mennonite Human Rights Lawyer. Please use the links to [Jewish Voices for Peace](#) and [Jonathan Kuttab](#) for more information.



New Hymnal “Heart Song” Survey. There will be a new Mennonite worship hymnal released in 2020. The team working on it welcomes input from anyone about “songs close to your heart” that you would like to see in it. Complete this survey. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MWSC_Heart_Song

Looking for a Ride

Doug Valverde would like to know if anyone is traveling to the Lancaster area of Pennsylvania this summer or anytime soon. If you are, would you have room one way for extra rider/driver (me)? Call or text 309-433-3957.

Camp News



Menno Haven The 2017 Women's Retreat, "Made in the Image of God", is May 5-7. Scheduled to speak is Asia Frye, an AMBS ministry candidate who will be coming to us from Hillsboro, KS. In addition, Kim Litwiller from East Peoria MC will be leading worship and Janice Yoder from First Mennonite in Morton will be our song leader. Participants can choose to attend either one, two, or all three days of this retreat. Last year's retreat, with over 100 women in attendance, was a wonderful time of worship and reflection, and the planning committee is excited for the biblical insight and encouragement that Asia is preparing for us. Forms can be found on the table in the narthex. Thank you. --Shannon Unzicker

Camp Friedenswald We need your help to get ready for summer! Join us Saturday, May 13 from 9 am - 4 pm, for a special Volunteer Day at Camp Friedenswald. Help us move back into the renewed facilities and to make final preparations for summer. A variety of tasks will require a range of skills, including yours! [Register online](#) or by calling 269-476-9744. Overnight accommodation available.



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.

Voice of the Day



...to follow God does not often mean traveling with certainty about where God will lead us. Rather, following God propels us to be present to the place where we are, for this is the very place where God shows up. *Jan Richardson*



Building Use

Hands All Around Quilt Guild

6:30 pm Salad Supper May 4

Prairie Chapter of Wild Ones Monday, May 8

5:30 pm Board Meeting

7:00 pm General Meeting

Piano Tuning May 10 1:30 pm

Today's Chuckle



Laws of the Natural Universe

- Von Fumbles Law: When one wishes to unlock a door but has only has one hand free, the keys are in the opposite pocket.
- Yale Law of Destiny: A door will snap shut only when you have left the keys inside.
- Sorry Law: Your insurance will cover everything but what has happened.
- Cheney's Second Corollary: When things seem to be going well, you've probably forgotten to do something.
- Destiny Awaits Law: When things seem easy to do, it's because you haven't followed all the instructions.
- Law of Gravititas: If you keep your cool when everyone else is losing his, it's probably because you have not realized the seriousness of the problem.
- Einstein's Law of Persistence: Most problems are neither created nor solved, they only change appearances.