

We hope you can join us for the Christmas Eve Service Sunday evening, December 24 at 6:30 pm.

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MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

December 20, 2017

Worship with Us this Sunday, December 24

The sermon title is *Expectancy!* and the Scripture is Luke 1:26-38. Pastor Tim Schrag comments, "We will think together about what difference being 'expectant' makes."

Prayers

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set your people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

Charles Wesley

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur Dec 21	Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
Sun Dec 24	Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Service
Thur Dec 28	Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am



Serving This Sunday

Greeters	South: Eric & Chellie Miller West: Marcia Rossi
Welcome Table	Wilma Dyck
Ushers	David, Abby, & Joe Warfel,



Sermon
Worship Leader
Song Leader
Scripture
Children's Time
Accompanist
Technology
Toddler Nursery
Preschool Nursery

Lauren & Meredith Satchwell
Pastor Tim Schrag
Lynette Miller
Cindy Ropp
Lynette Miller
Steve Stenger
Dorothy Loepp
Nathan Miller
Wilma Dyck
Shannon & Spring Neely

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Deborah Spacek 12/24

Mary Kauffman 12/25

Paul Watkins 12/30

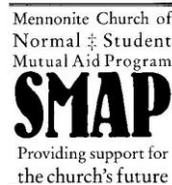
Happy 40th Anniversary to Rick & Connie Yoder on December 28

Happy 16th Anniversary to Frank & Lisa Jablonski on December 29

Happy 16th Anniversary to Randy & Holly Zehr on December 29



We hope you can join us for the Christmas Eve Service Sunday evening, December 24 at 6:30 pm. The Fellowship Committee invites you to bring a plate of Christmas cookies to share after the service. Please bring your own plate and take any leftovers home at the end of the evening. We can enjoy cookies during the time of visiting that follows the service.



The SMAP (Student Mutual Aid Program) spring term college payments are due by early January. When we include spring/summer semesters, payments total ~\$33,000. The current balance of the SMAP fund is ~\$26,500 so we are still short ~\$6,500. Please consider making a contribution or if you have made a pledge please make that payment prior to the end of the year. This program has been supported by our church for almost 40 years and we would like to be able to continue to fully support students attending Mennonite colleges.

If you have any questions please see Darvis King.



Mennonite Disaster Service trip, Feb 11-17, 2018 – Coastal Bend Area, Texas.

January 7 is the deadline for MDS Trip registration: Please see Pastor Jane to sign up for the Feb 11-17 MDS trip to Coastal Bend, Texas by January 7.



New CE Class Starting Jan. 7: Extreme Grandparenting

Lead By - Steve Stenger and Joe Culpepper

This Sunday School class will discuss the joys and challenges that arise in the world of grandparenting. Topics include grandparenting step-grandchildren, good gifting to grandchildren, and long distance grandparenting. The class will also spend significant time focusing on spiritual issues and how grandparents can give a legacy of faith to their grandchildren. The class will use the book Extreme Grandparenting, written by Timothy and Darcy Kimmel, as a resource and guide for discussion.



Snow Removal Service for Northwest Neighborhood Community Center

Is anyone aware of a dependable snow removal service that could clear the parking lot at NNCC for a reasonable fee or on a volunteer basis? Please call the office or Pastor Jane.



Friends - I would like to share the 2017 Moro Moro Scholarship Fund newsletter with you. Copies are available on the table in the narthex or from the link below. For those of you who do not know, the MMSF is a scholarship for students from my father's hometown of Moro Moro, Bolivia. Without this scholarship these students have virtually no chance to attend college. I would be honored if you took a moment to find out about the good work happening there! Thanks for all your new and continuing support

[The Moro Moro Scholarship Fund Newsletter](#)

[The Moro Moro Scholarship Fund Facebook Page](#)



Save the Date for an MYF fundraiser at Pizza Ranch, Thursday, January 4 from 5-8pm. Dine-in, Carry-out, and Delivery all help the cause!



Someone you know could be affected by a mental health related crisis. You can help them.

The Mental Health First Aid class teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to people with the signs and symptoms of a mental illness or in a crisis, and connect them with the appropriate care. Mental Health First Aid is for anyone. Are you interested in learning to be part of the solution?

Join Advocate BroMenn Medical Center for the Mental Health First Aid Class.

Dates: Tuesday, January 16th 8:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Tuesday, January 23rd 8:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

(Must attend both classes to receive certificate)

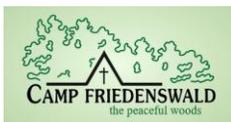
Location: Advocate BroMenn Medical Center Conference Center, Rooms 1&2

Fee: \$10.00 (includes book)

Grant money for books and course material given by Women to Women giving Circle of Illinois Prairie Community Foundation.

To register, please call Health Advisor at 1.800.3.ADVOCATE (1.800.323.8622) mention

Code: 6M19 or click [here](#).



EVERYONE is invited to a the All Church Winter Retreat at Camp Friedenswald: a weekend of fellowship and fun, January 26-28! 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 relaxation, worship, sledding, tubing, hiking, eating, cross country skiing, reading, games, fellowship, and more! Questions can be directed to Shelly/Darvis King or Marge Nester. More details and sign up are coming.



Illinois State women's basketball would like to invite you to attend their game on January 14th at 2:00 pm at Redbird Arena free of charge. The Redbirds play Southern Illinois University for the annual "Pack the Arena" game. Free admission tickets are available on the entry table.



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 Minister Michael Danner's weekly message to IMC churches.

Voice of the Day

“Christmas has lost its meaning for us because we have lost the spirit of expectancy. We cannot prepare for an observance. We must prepare for an experience.”

Handel Brown

Today's Chuckle



It had been snowing in Iowa for hours when an announcement came over the University's intercom: "Will the students who are parked on University Drive please move their cars so that we may begin plowing."

Twenty minutes later there was another announcement: "Will the twelve hundred students who went to move 26 cars please return to class."