

Mennonite Church of Normal

805 S Cottage Ave – Normal IL 61761
Ph (309) 452-6622
church@normalmennonite.org
www.normalmennonite.org

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 – All Invited

- **Caring and Sharing** coffee time is available in the center rear Fellowship Area, all are welcome.

Mennonite Church of Normal

Vision and Mission

The Mennonite Church of Normal is a nurturing Anabaptist community that fosters the Christ-centered spiritual growth of all people. As followers of Jesus, we aspire to transform our communities and world into places of peace, healing, and hope.

Through our worship, Christian Education for all ages, fellowship, and service to others in love, the Mennonite Church of Normal lives out Anabaptist values of peace, reconciliation, discipleship, and community. Our belief in Jesus calls us to pray, share our faith, work toward peace and social justice, and create a culture of care and generosity.

Christian Education

There is no Sunday School today.

Tim Schrag, Senior Pastor
tim@normalmennonite.org

Jane Roeschley, Associate Pastor
Worship & Lay Ministries
jane@normalmennonite.org

Lynn Reha, Office Manager
officemanager@normalmennonite.org

Lauren Satchwell, Interim Administrative Assistant
Youth Ministry Leader
church@normalmennonite.org

Chris Culbertson, Children's Ministry Leader
chrisculbertson22@gmail.com

Order of Worship December 31, 2017

Let It Be.....

We marvel at the vastness of God's plan.

We celebrate in exuberant praise what God has done and will continue to do.

Community Life		Pastor Tim Schrag
Prelude		Elsa Raab
Call to Worship		Henry Dick
*Hymns	<i>Let All Together Praise Our God</i> <i>Sing a Different Song</i>	Wayne Hochstetler HWB 213 STS 27
*Prayer		
Children's Time	The Woodworker's Visit	Steve Stenger
Wonder & Wisdom		Joe Warfel, Joe Culpepper
Offering		
Our Advent Proclamation		
Congregational Prayer		
Hymn	<i>What Child is This</i>	HWB 215
Scripture Reading	Luke 2:22-40	
Sermon	<i>Steady Hope</i>	
Silent Reflection		
Confession and Words of Assurance		
*Hymns	<i>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</i> <i>Joy to the World</i>	HWB 206 HWB 318
*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.

Wireless Access MCN_Guest/mcnguest

Weekly Calendar

Today	Pre-Service Prayer	9:00 am
	Worship	9:30 am
Mon Jan 1	Church Office is Closed	
Tue Jan 2	Worship Committee	5:00 pm
Thur Jan 4	Next Man Bible Study	6:15 am

Of Note

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.

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 28,850 so we are still short \$4,150. 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.

Upcoming Events

An MYF fundraiser at Pizza Ranch, Thursday, January 4 from 5-8pm. Dine-in, Carry-out, and Delivery all help!

January 7th is the deadline for MDS Trip registration: Please sign up for the February 11-17, 2018 MDS trip to Coastal Bend, Texas by January 7. See Pastor Jane to register.

All Church Winter Retreat at Camp Friedenswald is January 26-28! Questions can be directed to Shelly/Darvis King or Marge Nester. Details & sign up coming in December.

Today

There is no Sunday School today

New Adult Sunday School Options

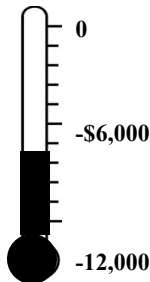
Next Week new Adult Sunday School classes will begin. There are three options available:

Exploring Your Fit Lead by Pastor Jane Roeschley, a good “fit” between *who* we are and *how* we serve God and others offers the best chance for meaning, significance and joy to result. It also reduces frustrations and disappointments. Exploring Your Gift class takes a look at how God made you - personality type, natural gifts, spiritual gifts, season of life, Enneagram, and more - in order to think about where you “best fit” in serving in the church and community.

Adult Uniform Series is entitled “Faith In Action” Lead by Darrel Miller, and explores the early churches proclamation of faith in Christ, living faith in God, and self-controlled, upright, and Godly faith.

Extreme Grandparenting Lead by Steve Stenger and Joe Culpepper, using the book Extreme Grandparenting, written by Timothy & Darcy Kimmel, as a resource and guide for discussion. 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.

We are making progress with bringing down the deficit. Please help bring it to zero in December.
—Financial Stewardship Comm.



MCN Spending Plan Status
Thank you for your offerings.
Year-to-date Income \$471,741
Year-to-date Expenses \$479,945
November Income \$42,275
November Expenses \$38,513
Attendance on December 24 was 170.



Mennonite Church of Normal

A congregation of
Mennonite Church USA

Fifth Sunday of Advent

December 31, 2017

Let it Be...

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