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Join the MYF at Pizza Ranch for a fundraiser
Thursday, January 4 from 5-8pm.
Dine-in, Carry-out, and Delivery all help raise funds
for the July 2018 SWAP trip!



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

January 3, 2017

Worship with Us this Sunday, January 7

The sermon title is *The Light that Was, and is to Come* and the Scripture is Isaiah 60:1-3 and Matthew 2:1-12.

Prayers

We give thanks for

*The Harnish family sends a warm thank you for your thoughts, prayers, cards, and kind words during the passing of Ruth, our Mom and Grandma.

*We thank you for sympathy expressed in prayers, cards and hugs following the passing of my daughter-in-law, Suzie Lane.

Wilma, Mary and Claire Dyck

*The Advent Sunday School Classes

Please pray for

*Dick & Marjie Baum's granddaughter Rachel Tolbert who had a bad car accident and is continuing to recover. We pray for her continued healing and her husband David and daughter Hannah.

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur Jan 4 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am

Sun Jan 7 Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
Worship 9:30 am



Christian Education for Children 10:45 am
Blood Pressures Taken 10:45 am
Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am
JMYF & MYF Youth Groups 5:00 pm

Tue Jan 9 Wellness Committee 5:30 pm
Church Board 6:30 pm

Wed Jan 10 Peace and Justice Committee 5:00 pm
Pastoral Council 6:30 pm

Thur Jan 11 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am

Serving This Sunday

Greeters	South: Andy & Beth Reeser West: Hazel Yoder
Welcome Table	Marcia Rossi
Ushers	Andy & Beth Reeser Ben & Caroline Roeschley
Sermon	Pastor Tim Schrag
Worship Leader	Henry Dick
Song Leader	Barry Weaver
Scripture	Henry Dick
Children's Time	Pastor Jane Roeschley
Accompanist	Denise Hedberg
Technology	Randy Zehr
Toddler Nursery	Caitlin Haab
Preschool Nursery	Andy & Beth Reeser



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Mary Alice Hertzler 1/07
Frank Jablonski 1/08
Seth Stalter 1/09
Dick Baum 1/11
Ken Shoemaker 1/11
Anna Rosa Tshiseleka 1/12

Correction:

Happy 50th Anniversary to Larry & Louise Reeser on January 6



Join the MYF at [Pizza Ranch](#) (1211 Holiday Dr., Bloomington) for a fundraiser
Thursday, January 4 from 5-8pm.
Dine-in, Carry-out, and Delivery all help raise funds for the 2018 SWAP Service Trip!



Oops! If you were given Number 127 offering envelopes, please let the church office know. We will need to reassign that number. Thanks!



Mennonite Church of Normal Cancellation Procedures 2018

If you are wondering if an all church event will be called off because of inclement weather, check these communication spots:

- Church website www.normalmennonite.org
 - Scroll down on the home page
 - Look at the first Newsroom Post
- Your email account
- WJBC radio (AM 1930, FM 98.7)
- WGLT Radio (FM 89.1)
- WEEK-TV (NBC-25) & WHOI-TV (ABC-19) Cable Channels 10 & 19
- Pantagraph online –Cancellations <http://www.pantagraph.com/news/local/weather-related-cancellations>
- Church answering machine 309-452-6622

Please note:

- Generally speaking, cancellation decisions will be made no later than 7:00 am the day of the event.
- If a small group event, like a committee meeting, is going to be cancelled, the members will be contacted directly by email or phone.

**YOUR SAFETY is the first priority. No matter what the weather or the status of cancellation, consider your safety first. Conditions around Central Illinois vary.
Please don't take chances because you have a responsibility at church. Safety first!**

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End of Year Finances

The Financial Stewardship Committee is very pleased to report that our 2017 income exceeded expenses by \$3800.

THANK YOU for all your generous donations!!!!



The Mennonite Women meeting has been cancelled for January.



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 this Sunday!



New CE Class Starting Jan. 7: Extreme Grandparenting

Led By - Steve Stenger and Joe Culpepper

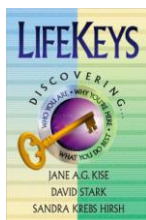
This class will discuss the joys and challenges that arise in the world of grandparenting. Topics include grandparenting step-grandchildren, good gifting to grandchildren, and long distance grandparenting. The class will also spend significant time focusing on spiritual issues and how grandparents can 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.



New CE Class Starting Jan. 7: Adult Uniform Series entitled "Faith In Action."

Led By - Darrel Miller.

This class explores the early churches proclamation of faith in Christ, living faith in God, and self-controlled, upright, and Godly faith.



New CE Class Starting Jan. 7: Exploring Your Fit

Led 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. 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.



Jobs Partnership
Offering a helping hand



Returning Citizens Care Kits, Co-Sponsored by Peace & Justice and Outreach Committees.

We are collecting Returning Citizens Care Kits for persons returning to our community from prison. Kits for men and/or women are needed to be shared with Jobs Partnership and Labyrinth Outreach Services, two organizations in our community offering reintegration services to persons formerly incarcerated. Gently used backpacks or small duffle bags are also needed in which to pack the kits. Bring to the red tub in the atrium.

Returning Citizen Care Kit - Men (New Items Only)

- 1 bottle of lotion (maximum 13-24 oz.)
- 1 bottle of shampoo (minimum 12 oz.)
- 1 large bar of soap (minimum 4 oz.)
- 1 tube of toothpaste (minimum 6 oz.)
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 disposable razor
- 1 small package of Q-tips
- 1 deodorant (minimum 2.25 oz.)
- 1 pair of underwear (briefs)*
- 1 pair of crew socks*
- 1 crewneck t-shirt*

*Note: Clothing items must be new and are accepted in two sizes: men's large and extra large. Please choose one of these sizes and purchase underwear, socks and t-shirts in the same size.

Returning Citizen Care Kit - Women (New items only)

- 1 bottle of lotion (maximum 13-24 oz.)
- 1 bottle of shampoo (minimum 12 oz.)
- 1 large bar of soap (minimum 4 oz.)
- 1 tube of toothpaste (minimum 6 oz.)
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 package of sanitary pads (18-24 count thin maxi)
- 1 package of hair ties
- 1 disposable razor
- 1 small package of Q-tips
- 1 deodorant (minimum 2.25 oz.)
- 1 pair of crew socks*
- 1 pair of underwear (briefs)*
- 1 crewneck t-shirt*

*Note: Clothing items must be new and are accepted in two sizes: women's large and extra large. Please choose one of these sizes and purchase underwear, socks and t-shirts in the same size.



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](#)



There are a number of items in the lost and found. Unclaimed items will be removed on January 17th. Thanks!



If you missed the pictures from the All Ages Advent Sunday School Classes in December, they can be viewed by clicking [here](#). Thanks to all those that participated!



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.



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.



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

"Peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal."
Martin Luther King Jr.



Building Use

HAAQG Meeting

January 4, 5:30 pm

HAAQG Retreat

January 5 & 6

Wild Ones

January 8, 5:30 pm

Today's Chuckle



Three little boys were bragging about how tough they were.

"I'm so tough," said the first boy, "that I can wear out a pair of shoes in a week."

"Well," said the second boy, "I'm so tough, I can wear out a pair of jeans in a day."

"That's nothing," said the third boy. "When my parents take me to see Grandma and Grandpa, I can wear them out in just one hour."