



MIDWEEK CONNECTION AT MCN

March 14, 2018

Worship with Us this Sunday, March 18

The sermon title is "The Covenant Within" and the Scripture is Hebrews 5:5-10.

Hymns this Sunday

Jesus Calls Us Here to Meet Him - STJ 3
O God of Love, O Power of Peace - HWB 368
We are Often Tossed and Driv'n - STS 72

Prayers

Please pray for

- *Holly Zehr's father, Bob Kurka, who after a stent in the hospital, is being placed on Hospice and will be returning home. The family asks for prayers for comfort and wisdom.
- *Russ Oyer is a patient in the ICU at Bromenn. Visits are not encouraged at this time.
- *Joe Haney as he recovers from shoulder surgery.
- *Olivia Sonetz' family and the students at Normal West High School.
- *Safety at the Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale
- *Deborah Spacek as she recovers from heart surgery at Heartland Health Center in Normal.
- *Mary Dyck as she recovers from knee replacement surgery.
- *Jo Ropp is doing rehab after pneumonia at McLean County Nursing Home. She is in room 327, if you visit; there is book on her table to sign so she can track who has visited.

This Week At 805 S Cottage

Thur Mar 15

Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am
Apple Pie Baking 8:00 am
Jobs Partnership Gathering 5:30 pm



Fri Mar 16 Shoofly Pie Baking 5:00 am
Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale

Sat Mar 17 Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale

Sun Mar 18 Pre-Service Prayer 9:00 am
Worship 9:30 am
Christian Education for Children 10:45 am
Christian Education for Adults 11:00 am
JMYF and MYF Youth Groups 5:00 pm
Junior Choir 6:00 pm
Youth Choir 6:45 pm
Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Tues Mar 20 Financial Stewardship 4:30 pm
Youth Ministry Committee 6:30 pm

Thur Mar 22 Next Man Bible Study 6:15 am

Fri Mar 23 Family Game Night 5:15 pm

Serving This Sunday

Greeters	Rick & Annette Harnish
Welcome Table	West: Mary Jantze
Ushers	Mary Dyck
Sermon	Andy & Beth Reeser, Emmanuel & Tanya Kasongo
Worship Leader	Pastor Tim Schrag
Song Leader	Lena Driscoll
Scripture	Wayne Hochstetler
Children's Time	Sophie Charles
Accompanist	Shelly King
Technology	Lydia Hedberg
Toddler Nursery	Caleb Augspurger
Preschool Nursery	Amy Reiman
	Beth Reeser



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Jeff Overright 3/19
Gerry Schrock 3/19
Anna Driscoll 3/20
Alexa Hoffmann 3/22



The church office is looking for good, recent pictures of MCN'ers in worship and/or activities to put on the "slider" pictures on the MCN website. They should be in jpg format. Please send by email to officemanager@normalmennonite.org.



First Impressions: Connecting your congregation and community in the digital age

Roanoke Mennonite Church is hosting this training by Dustin Wyse-Fisher, on Saturday, May 12, from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

MCN would like to have representation at this training. Let the church office know if you are interested in going.

People used to form a first impression of your church when they walked through the doors on Sunday morning. Now they do it with a google search. What they discover about your church on the web will form their first impression of your church.

Will they encounter a clear and consistent message? Will they be able to sense the kind of community you are by what they see, read, and hear?

[READ MORE](#)



David and Gabriella Harnish are looking for referrals or recommendations for in-home daycare providers. Either in Bloomington-Normal or anywhere north of Bloomington as far as Flanagan. They are looking for somewhere that would accept an infant part-time as of April 1.

Please email Gabriella with ideas at gabriellamh@gmail.com.



Free Range Chicken Eggs for sale at the Ron Ropp Homestead. \$3.00 a dozen. Call Julie at 309-452-5480 if interested.



60th Annual Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale

There is still time to sign up. You may go to/call the church office to sign up. Volunteers are still needed for

Friday evening's Fish and Chicken Dinner. Also needed are volunteers for Ice Cream Friday evening, as well as check out lanes at the Dutch Market. Ben Roeschley is needing help in the finance office both Friday and Saturday.

- Apple Pie Baking begins at 8am Thursday at church
- Shoofly Pie Baking begins at 5am Friday at church
- All items for the sale must be checked in at church no later than 9am Friday, March 16.

Note if you are delivering items yourself to the Interstate Center, please notify Gerry Schrock or Deb Stenger.



Lunch this Sunday is served!

Thank you to those giving their time, talents, and efforts at the 60th Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale. Please come and let us serve you as a thank you for all your hard work. Lunch will be provided by the Fellowship Committee at church on March 18, 2018 after the Sunday School hour. Avanti's spaghetti and bread, salad, and ice cream sandwiches will be provided. Please come for a relaxing time of fellowship to celebrate the hard work of all those involved.



Midwest Food Bank Volunteer Opportunities

March 22 or May 11 or August 20

6pm - 8pm each day

Come join us in a fun evening of service to others at Midwest Food Bank! Anyone 10 yrs or older is welcome. We are limited to 20 individuals for each date. Sign up at [Signup Genius](#) or contact the church office.



Family Game Night #2

When? Friday, March 23rd from 5:15 - 7:30ish

Where? At the church

What should I bring? Your family and any game-loving friends - all ages welcome!

What could I bring? Games and snacks, fruit or dessert to share

Feel free to RSVP, but if you just show up, that's great too. If you have any questions, contact Chris Culbertson



Join us for Menno Haven's Spring Work Day

Saturday, March 24 to ready to campus for guest groups and the summer camp season! Come for a day of fun, fellowship, and teamwork. For more information, see the flyer on the camp bulletin board, or call Menno Haven at 815-646-4344. If you can't make it on March 24, call Menno Haven to have your own personal work day.



Homebuilders

Homebuilders will be 7:00 pm on Sunday, March 25 at the MRC Community Building. The speaker will be Jill Blair who is running for the Illinois House of Representatives in the 88th District. Jill is a Communications Analyst at Country Financial. All are invited.



Mennonite Church Blood Drive

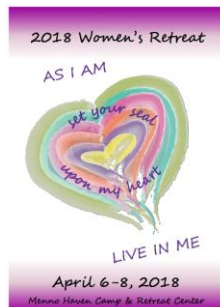
Saturday, March 31 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

For appointments please call the church office or click [here to schedule](#).

Walk-In's welcome!

Bring a photo ID or your blood donor card, or two other forms of ID.

You can save up to 15 minutes when you donate blood by using RapidPass! Visit redcrossblood.org/RapidPass for more information.



Women's Retreat @ Menno Haven Camp and Retreat Center

April 6 - 8, 2018. Featuring speaker Pastor Jane Roeschley.

Re-walk a most ancient of spiritual pathways: that we are born blessed and beloved, that we are invited to conversion and transformation through encounters with Jesus, and that God works in the world through us as we are, and as we are becoming.

Come expecting to hear stories, learn about a powerful tool for spiritual transformation, engage in creative reflection activities, and prepare to live your calling with God in the world.

[Read more...](#)



New Picture Directory

Do you ever wonder who you are sitting by in church? Have you ever heard an announcement regarding a member and wished that you could put a name with a face? Are you new to our church and wish that you had something to help you put names with faces? Well, help is on the way! We are producing a NEW pictorial directory for our church. There is no cost to you or the church to have your photographs taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8x10 color portrait and directory for participating. You will be able to view your images electronically immediately after you are photographed. At that time, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends. We look forward to “seeing you in pictures”.

EASY ways to Schedule Your Appointment!

Visit the our Website at www.normalmennonite.org

1. Click on the “Lifetouch Portrait Sign Up” button (under Newsroom)
2. Click the green link that says click to be redirected.
3. After being redirected to Lifetouch, Select the **NUMBER** in group that will be photographed.
 4. Click on the desired **DAY** that you are available.
 5. Choose from the available **TIMES** and click the “**Book It**” button
 6. Click on “New User” or “Returning User”
 7. Enter your name, phone number and email address.
 8. Create a user name & password.
 9. Review information then click **FINALIZE** to complete

An e-mail confirmation will be sent to you immediately to confirm your appointment along with an e-mail reminder three days prior to your session. The email Reminder will include a valuable coupon toward portrait purchase.

OR

Schedule your appointment at Church!

There will be a sign up table at church starting: 3/11/18

Can't make it during our dates?

Call the toll free number (866-756-0281) and schedule at one of the following churches:

3/13-14 McLean UMC, McLean IL

4/20-21 Bethany Community church, Washington, IL

4/23,24,26-28 Grace Church Normal, IL



Meals for Northwest Neighborhood Community Center

Northwest Neighborhood Community Center (NNCC) serves meals to approximately 40 families on Tuesdays and 65 families on Thursdays. They are in need of volunteers to prepare and serve the food. The prep time begins

between 3:30 and 4 pm, depending on the meal. Midwest Food Bank provides the food; it just needs to be prepared in the NNCC kitchen. Please consider if you might be available for a one-time commitment to prepare and serve a meal on any of the open dates listed on [this link](#). Other options for providing food include donating money for the cost of a meal, or providing a meal from a local restaurant or caterer and delivering it on a selected date. Please continue to keep NNCC in your prayers as its work takes root in this community. Contact Sarah Tunall at Sarah.Tunall@nncc.org or Amy Reiman at a.reiman98@gmail.com for more information.



Ecumenical Advocacy Days 2018

Whether you're newly interested in effective advocacy from a Christ-centered perspective or you're an experienced advocate wanting to network and explore issues, join MCC at the Ecumenical Advocacy Days near Washington DC on April 20-23. The event will focus on the up-rootedness of our world, exploring ways to seek change and advance hope through prayer, worship, advocacy, training and networking. MCC Great Lakes is sending a 12-passenger van to the event and has spots available. To secure your spot or for more information, contact Susan Mark Landis at SusanMarkLandis@gmail.com. For more information on the gathering, visit advocacydays.org.



MCC Borderlands Learning Tour

Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes welcomes you to join us on a learning tour designed to bring awareness to the issues caused by the border wall along the Mexico/U.S. border. Participants will increase their understanding and knowledge of the social, economic, political and theological significance of migration in border communities, including advocacy tools and capacity building to engage others on borderlands and migration issues. The learning tour will take place on May 23-27 in Arizona and will include crossing the border into Mexico. Attendees will also have the option to participate in the Migrant Trail walk following the tour. For more information, including a tentative schedule and online registration, visit mcc.org/borderlands-tour or call Jorge Vielman at (574) 534-4133.



Partners in Healing

MCN has been asked to pray for the Medical-Oncology Specialty Unit at Advocate BroMenn in 2018. Located on 5 West, Advocate BroMenn's 39-bed Medical-Oncology Specialty Unit serves patients with conditions such as congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, pneumonia, gastrointestinal problems, cancer, open wounds and sickle cell anemia.

The staff, patients and families who serve or need the services very much appreciate your prayers. In the coming weeks, more specific prayer requests will be shared.



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

“We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Building Use

HAAQG Sewing Mentoring

March 15, 6:00 pm

Today's Chuckle



While on a road trip, an elderly couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch. After finishing their meal, they left the restaurant and resumed their trip. When leaving, the elderly woman unknowingly left her glasses on the table and she didn't miss them until they had been driving about twenty minutes.

By then, to add to the aggravation, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around in order to return to the restaurant to retrieve her glasses. All the way back, the elderly husband became the classic grouchy old man. He fussed and complained and scolded his wife relentlessly during the entire return drive. The more he chided her the more agitated he became. He just wouldn't let up one minute.

To her relief, they finally arrived at the restaurant. As the woman got out of the car and hurried inside to retrieve her glasses, the old man yelled to her, "While you're in there, you might as well get my hat and credit card."